

ACC

AC/321/TN4

10000/HW/2421

TIMBER

DEC. 1944

10000/40/2421 TIMBER FOR CAR REPAIRS
DEC. 1944 - JUL. 1945

2234

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021Subject: Timber for Car Repairs.Military Railway Service,
M.F.
Tel: Firebox 53.

File: Tn.A.2/51.

26 Feb. 45.To: Tn Sub Commission AG - att I.L.Bowie.Copy to: Tn.3 (Mech.),
H.Q. 3 Tn Stores Group, R.E.

1. Reference the timber now being despatched from Cirolla to 326 T.S.D. and 329 T.S.D. for distribution to shops engaged in repairs to I.S.R. rolling stock.
2. G. i/c 326 T.S.D. recently visited the detachment at Cirolla and in his report mention was made of his visit to Pantenolla when the timber seen was estimated by him to be approximately 40 wagon loads.
3. As this does not agree in any way with the original estimate when an availability of between 3000/4000 cu. metres was reported, it is suggested that an enquiry be made with a view to establishing the whereabouts of the missing timber.

C. J. Ellis
C.J. ELLIS, S/Capt.,
for Brigadier,
Director, Military Railway Service.

WIRE

1135 - 22 July 1945

FROM: DMH

TO (FOR ACTION) Joint Railway Control, Naples
Capt. Boddy, AC, Reggio

TO (FOR INFO) Major Watson, AC, Bldg.

CONFIDENTIAL. In addition to current car orders, JRC Naples deliver Reggio Calabria Divn twenty (20) mixed empty high side gondas and general service flats daily until 1st October at Battipaglia labelled Cosenza to protect lumber loading. Cars and urgently needed as this lumber is in line with redeployment program. All informed. CS 333 Signed London

H. H. HEADLEE
Captain, TC
774 PGP

5004

321/A

SLB/1c

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION, AC
(RAIL DIVISION)
c/o Transportation Increment
C.M.F.

5 April 1945

Tel. 843238
Ref. AG/23/Tn 4

TO : DMRS for AD. Tn 2 (Bldg).

SUBJECT : Timber for car repairs.

1. Reference your letter Tn A 2/51 dated 31 March 45.
2. The contractors in question, SAFFA, form part of the Italian Government match monopoly organisation, and as such come within the provisions of AFHQ Administrative Memorandum No 14 dated 7 March 1945.
3. It appears, however, that they have disposed of timber for purposes other than the manufacture of matches and packing cases. This aspect might with advantage be discussed with the services concerned.
4. The attitude of Industry Sub-Commission AC who are very interested in the match monopoly is that this firm should be left undisturbed, but Lieut. Col. Maskrey, Deputy Director of Industry Sub-Commission, has promised to discuss with the head of SAFFA the possibility of timber not needed for match production etc. being sold to ISR.
5. It is not clear whether or not the timber released to MRS by PBS was actually requisitioned and it will be helpful if you can clear up this point through USA channels.

Ernest Jeffrey
S. L. BAISTER, Major

TO : DMRB for AF. In AFHQ.

SUBJECT : Timber for car repairs.

1. Reference your letter Tn A 2/51 dated 31 March 45.
2. The contractors in question, SAFPA, form part of the Italian Government match monopoly organisation, and as such come within the provisions of AFHQ Administrative Memorandum No 14 dated 7 March 1945.
3. It appears, however, that they have disposed of timber for purposes other than the manufacture of matches and packing cases. This aspect might with advantage be discussed with the services concerned.
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Ernest Jeffrey
S.I. BAISTER, Major

503

Military Railway Service,
C.R.F.
Tel: Wirebox 53.

File: Tn.A.2/54.

31 Mar. 45.

Subject: Timber for Car repairs.

To: TN Sub Commission, AC (Rail)
TM.3 (Mech.)

Copy to: H.Q., 3 TN Stores Group,
326 T.S.D.

1. Subsequent to a report received from Lt.R.C. Bowie R.A. in Dec.44 of the existence of large stocks of sawn timber in the Pantenella and Cirella areas and not required for military purposes, action was taken by MRS (US) to obtain release of this timber for use in car repairs at MRS and I.S.R. controlled depots. A copy of the P.S.S. release is attached.

2. Difficulties have been constantly arising in the movement of this timber to workshops resulting from the following factors :-

- a) Shortage of transport to rail.
- b) Labour and the payment of labour by the I.S.R.
- c) Civil contractors objection to supplying this timber for MRS purposes.
- d) Interference and purchase by other military users.

3. Factors (c) and (d) are the most difficult to overcome as a ready market exists for timber for civil use and at prices in advance of those at which the I.S.R. are required to purchase. It is known that contractor S.M.A. has sold quantities to A.C. for the manufacture of citrus fruit boxes and to Dr. Ordinance for general purposes.

4. A small detachment of Dr. Tn(Stores) personnel has been stationed at Cirella to supervise loading, payment of labour, issue of P.C.L. to AC transport etc., but are of course unable to fully control the action of contractor in reselling supplies.

5. Action has been taken by MRS in an endeavour to clear up this matter with the Local U.S. Army Forestry unit and attached is a copy of their reply. You will notice that the unit suggests control is actually exercised by A.C. although P.S.S. have issued release orders.

6. O. A/c Mesles Dignot now advises that contractor S.M.A. has visited the Dr. Hirsings and Claims representative at Salerno and has persuaded him to issue instructions that no further supplies need be made available to the I.S.R. or MRS. It is questionable if Hirsings and Claims are authorised to issue such instructions and this matter is being pursued.

7. To ensure that the difficulties in connection with the supply of this timber are cleared up as quickly as possible it is requested that Lt. Bowie visits Cirella. If necessary we will arrange for a MRS Stores representative from 326 T.S.D. to accompany him to ascertain the facts and to report upon action necessary by MRS and A.C. to prevent diversion of timber to other purposes.

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existence of large stocks of sawn timber in the Sardinella and Ciruela area and not required for military purposes, action was taken by IRS (IS) to obtain release of this timber for use in car repairs at IRS and I.S.R. controlled shops. A copy of the P.E.S. release is attached.

2. Difficulties have been constantly arising in the movement of this timber to workshops resulting from the following factors :-

- a) Shortage of transport to haul to rail.
- b) Labour and the payment of labour by the I.S.R.
- c) Civil contractors objection to supplying this timber for IRS purposes.
- d) Interference and purchase by other military users.

3. Factors (c) and (d) are the most difficult to overcome as a ready market exists for timber for civil use and at prices in advance of those at which the I.S.R. are required to purchase. It is known that contractor SARTA has sold quantities to A.C. for the manufacture of citrus fruit boxes and to En. Granada for general purposes.

4. A small detachment of En. Tn(Stores) personnel has been stationed at Ciruela to supervise loading, payment of labour, issue of P.O.L. to AC transport etc., but are of course unable to fully control the action of contractor in reselling supplies.

5. Action has been taken by IRS in an endeavour to clear up this matter with the local U.S. Army Forestry unit and attached is a copy of their reply. You will notice that the unit suggests control is actually exercised by A.C. although P.E.S. have issued release orders.

6. O. i/c Naples Depot now advises that contractor SARTA has visited the En. Hirings and Claims representative at Salerno and has persuaded him to issue instructions that no further supplies need be made available to the I.S.R. or IRS. It is questionable if Hirings and Claims are authorised to issue such instructions and this matter is being pursued.

7. To ensure that the difficulties in connection with the supply of this timber are cleared up as quickly as possible it is requested that Lt. Bowle visit Ciruela. If necessary we will arrange for a IRS Stores representative from 326 M.S.D., Naples to accompany him to ascertain the facts and to report upon action necessary by IRS and A.C. to prevent diversion of timber to other purposes.

L.A. Rapley
D.R.H. JAMES, M.D.,
for Brigadier,
Director, Military Railway Service.

Encs.

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COPY.

ENGINEER SERVICE
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
APO 762

SAB/jaj

DEBING

24 December 1944

SUBJECT: Release of Timber.

TO : Director, Military Railway Service, Headquarters 774th
Railway Grand Division, APO 542, U.S. Army.
(ATTN: Capt. C. O. Ratelle)

1. Reference your letter of 15 December 1944, subject Timber Requisitions, the lumber specified below is released by P.B.S. Engineer Service to M.R.S. but will not be procured by P.B.S. Engineers :

- a. Cross ties, located at Cosenza, 6-3/4 x 9 inches x
8-1/2 to 10 feet long 2,800 ties
- b. Sawn lumber at Girolla, beech - 25 cm x 6 cm x 3
to 6 M. long 2,500 cubic
metres
- c. Sawn lumber at Pantenella, beech - 25 cm x 6 cm
x 3 to 6 M. long 3,000 cubic
metres

2. Since this lumber is to be procured by M.R.S. and not by P.B.S. Engineer Service, requisitions 230, 231 and 232 are returned and inclosed.

For the Engineer:

J.S. DAVIS
Lt. Col., C.E.
Engineer Supply Officer.

Incl: 3 Requisitions.

5001

SCW/PI

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, 800th Engineer Forestry Company, APO 782, U.S. Army, 21/Mar/45.
TO: The Director, Headquarters, 774th Railway Grand Division, Allied Force
Military Railway Service, Italy.

1. In order to clear up this situation the following information will be of assistance:
 - a. The lumber at Cirella and Pantanelli (25 miles from Cirella in mountains) is not under U.S. control. It is owned by SAFSA Inc. the Italian match monopoly and controlled by Allied Commission.
 - b. This unit shipped some 80 thousand board feet in October 1944. After we had completed our shipments, the inventories of lumber remaining on 2. October 1944 were as follows: Cirella railhead - 500 cubic meters of both beech and alder; Pantanelli (sawmill) beech 610 cubic meters, alder 176 cubic meters.
2. The only commitment made by this headquarters was the seasoned pine ties which were sent from Cosenza and apparently have arrived at proper destination.
3. It is very possible that the contractors have disposed of the timber to other agencies. It is suggested that you contact the Allied Commission on this matter.

H. C. BRIMESON.
Captain, U. S. A.,
Commanding.

Incl n/c

5000

*For File.**new file 321/2*Subject : Timber for Car Repairs.

Transportation Sub Commission (Rails),
Allied Commission,
A.P.O. 394.
Telephone : 843371.
28 Feb. 45.

To : Tn.2(Stores)Copy to : Tn.3(Mech)

1. Reference your letter Tn.A.2/51, the original estimates of timber available at PANTENILLA were given from figures supplied by the O.C., 800 A.P.F. who had a complete inventory of all timber at both CIRELLA and PANTENILLA.

2. On my second visit to CIRELLA I pointed out that the Director of S.A.F.F.A. had no desire to co-operate and had up to that time sold and despatched to BTGGIO some 27 wagon loads of timber to make boxes for citrus fruits.

3. The Director of S.A.F.F.A. visited this H.Q. on approximately 3 Feb. 45, in an effort to have the release of timber cancelled.

669.

R.B. Bowie
Lt. R.A.,
Transportation Sub Commission (Rails),
Allied Commission.

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