

Classified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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NOV. 1945 - JAN. 1946

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RECORDED IN THE CIVIL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION SECTION
CITY OF VIENNA (ORMOA) ITALY
c/o H.Q. ALLIED COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION & SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSION
C.M.F.

21 January 1946.

Telegrams: ALCON POMA CITE ACTPT for ECITO ORMOA ACP/ch.

Telephone: 843.458.

Reference: PY - 408.

Subject: Timber for use of Italian State Railways.

To: Director - Allied Commission, AUSTRIA.

Copy: Th. Sub-Commission (Rail Div) - Lt. Col. Street.

1. For some considerable time past the Allied Railway Board and the Stores Sub-Committee of that Board have been very much concerned about the supply of timber necessary for maintenance and repair of railway track, passenger coaches and freight stock.
2. At the Meeting of the Board held on 6 November last, special consideration was given to this subject because of the urgent need for protection of perishable traffic during the Winter season and to improve the track in order to meet the growing demands of countries which will receive their supplies through Italian ports.
3. Allied Commission, Italy, was instructed to make enquiries into the possibilities of arranging for export or exchange of Austrian timber, and it is understood that the Italian State Railways before the War had a concession in certain Austrian forests to meet their particular needs.
4. It is desired to emphasise the extreme urgency of this matter, and in view of the traffic now beginning to pass through Austria for civilian needs it is hoped a satisfactory basis may be established where the transportation charges due to the Italian State Railways can be used as credit for the purchase of timber.
5. In this connection a copy of a letter is attached hereto which shews action taken by the Transportation Sub Commission of Allied Commission to obtain timber in exchange for sulphuric acid which is now being shipped into Austria. This letter sets out the important requirements in spruce and larch, but it is hoped you will find it possible to investigate the availability of all forms of timber essential for railway needs, and which could be usefully used in exchange for goods passing from Italy into Austria.

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6. The immediate need of the Italian State Railways is for three million sleepers if traffic to intern countries is to pass, and the over-all need is estimated to be seven million sleepers. The three million quoted is an absolute minimum necessary for satisfactory operation of the tracks over which traffic for extra-Italian territories would pass.
7. It will be appreciated if you will give urgent attention to this very important matter and be good enough to advise this Office of the results of the investigations you make.

R. W. L. FELLOWES,
Divisional Officer,
EOTTO (ORMOA) ITALY.

R.W.L.F.

The fiscal position here is not very good
and very much work still has to be done
concerning the various roads to secure the funds necessary
to start the modernization, but you will be amazed how

much can be done with the help of the Italian Government
and the Italian Railways to get things started.
The Italian Railways have been doing a great deal of work
on the roads and the Italian Government has been doing a great deal of work
on the railways, but there is still a long way to go.

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COPY.

Cable

TRANSPORTATION & SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSION, A.G.
 (RAIL DIVISION)
 c/o Transportation (Dr) Main
 G.M.F.

b6 b7c

Tel: 843191/11.

Ref: AG/Mat/2/32/Tn 4

4 December 45.

SUBJECT: Timber for ISP from Austria.

TO: Commerce Division HQ AG
Attn. Lt. Col. Tooby.

1. Reference our AG/Mat/2/51/Tn 4 dated 29 November 1945 above subject and conversation with your office of 3 Dec 45 (Major Saul - Major Long).
2. The ISR are agreeable to accept lumber from Austria on a barter basis for the 200/300 tons of sulphuric acid which is being shipped to Austria.
3. They prefer that the shipment be composed of 70% spruce and 30% larch, as near as possible of the following : thicknesses in commercial widths and lengths;

Spruce 70%

Thickness	20 cm.	25 cm.	33 cm.	43 cm.	50 cm.	60 cm.
	10%	15%	35%	30%	5%	5%

Larch 30%

Length	Thickness		
2.65	x	0.043	25%
2.80	x	0.053	50%
3.00	x	0.063	25%

4. The price per cubic meter of the lumber is approx. 3000 lire. Sulphuric acid is approx. 7500 lire per ton.

5. It is presumed that the barter will be on an equitable basis and the accounting will be approved by the Minister of Commerce.

6. The lumber should be consigned to ISR Magazzino Approvvigionamenti Vicenza.

Director.

Copy to: Chief Rail Div. - Bld.
Chief of Stores Service ISP - Bld.

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*Transportation
S/le*

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT

CF/al

Tel. 489081 - Ext. 328

15 January 1946

Ref. AC/5580/IND

SUBJECT : Release of Timber

TO : A.C. Chief Liaison Officer, Venezia,
Treviso.

1. The firms S.A. Costruzioni Meccaniche A. Cecchetti, Civitanova Marche, which operates a plant for the repair of railroad cars, has requested an allocation of :

500 cu. metres fir boards
500 cu. metres fir planks.

2. This lumber was allotted to the firm by the Comitato Industriale del Legno on 10 October 1945, and the request carries the approval of Transportation Sub-Commission A.C. (11 August 1945), Comitato Industriale dei Veicoli Ferroviari (16 October 1945), Military Railway Service, Milan (16 October 1945), Ministero delle Comunicazioni (16 October 1945) and Military Railway Service, AFHQ (27 October 1945).

3. It will therefore be seen that the release of this timber is fully supported by all the authorities concerned.

4. This Department in December requested the release of 1,000 cubic metres of timber from Udine but the reply received from Headquarters, AMG, Udine Province, dated 4 January 1946, stated that the total output of the mills in that area was taken by the military and that none was available for civilians.

5. It is believed that the timber requested is available in the Belluno area. Whilst it is appreciated that this area is no longer under Allied Military Government, in view of the urgency of this request and of the support given to it both by Allied and Italian authorities concerned, it would be greatly appreciated if you would do everything possible to facilitate the release of the timber to the firm and arrange transportation from its present location to their plant in Civitanova (Marche).

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6. We would appreciate being informed of any action taken.

By Command of Rear Admiral STONE :

Copy to :-

Transportation Sub-Commission
Ministero delle Comunicazioni
Ministero dell'Industria e
Commercio.

Charles Fewings
CHARLES FEWINGS
Major RASC
Chief,
Industry Department.

562

Allied Force
 MILITARY RAILWAY SERVICE-ITALY
 Headquarters 774th Railway Grand Division
 Office of Deputy Director

A. P. O. 512
 21 December 1945

410-AD

SUBJECT: Lumber Shipped to Italian State Railways from Engineer Depot, Leghorn.

TO: See Distribution:

1. The following carloads of lumber were shipped on 16 December 1945 to destinations indicated:

<u>Foligno</u>	<u>Bologna</u>
77214505	7301700
1118599	137740
184450	183059
5012	359295
25822	202490
193706	171541

2. The following carloads of lumber were shipped on 15 December 1945 to destinations indicated:

<u>Florence</u> <u>(Porto Fratto)</u>	<u>Florence</u> <u>(Santa Maria Novelle)</u>
7407988	410308
474271	445992
417789	479053
7449315	416099
74599	498399
2615481	1126329
62025	1016199
	16426

W. T. KELLY
 Lt Col, TC
 Deputy Director

DISTRIBUTION:

Director MRS (Brigadier Waghorn)
 Director ISR (General Di Raimondo)
 Mr. Moss, by Sub-Commission, A.C.
 Stores Section (Br)
 Stores Section (Italian)
 Engineer Tonni (LR Equipment)

561

(copy)

Subject: Timber Requirements of I.S.R.

Transportation (Br)main,
C.M.F.
Tel: Firebox 9345.

Tn.A.2/51.
24 November 45.

To: Chairman, Allied Rly. Board,
D.G.M.G. (Mov) G.H.Q., C.M.F.

Copy to: D.D.Tn.,
D.D.Tn.,
A.G. Tn. Sub-Commission,
File: Tn. A.2/1.6,
Tn. A.2/75.

Further to our Tn.A.2/51, 6 November 45 and recent conversation Lt. Col. Willis - Chepline.

2. In view of a deterioration in the already difficult timber supply situation of the I.S.R. it is considered advisable to reconstitute.

Celebrie area (former U.S. controlled zone).

I.S.R. maximum expectations are now assessed at 4,000 cubic metres.

B Falzano area (former U.S. controlled zone).

It is found that prior to decontrolling the area the U.S. Forces requisitioned all sawn timber, which is now stockpiled at Lehorn. I.S.R. state that due to the low price paid by the Allied Military, cutting in the forests has been restricted to a minimum to avoid requisitioning or forced sale when sold at an economical price. In these circumstances I.S.R. have been able only to obtain 2000 cubic metres from this source, logs are not available to cut further supplies and unless the winter proves exceptionally mild the 2000 cubic metres will be the total forthcoming from this source.

Lehorn (P.B.S. Stockpile).

P.B.S. have allocated to I.S.R. under U.S. M.R.S. arrangements 30 car loads of mixed timber, estimated at 1000 cubic metres.

5. The total expected I.S.R. receipts from all sources is 7000 cubic metres against an estimated requirement of 2000 cubic metres during period Dec. 45 to May 46, i.e. a deficit of 1500 cubic metres.

4. Allied Commission advise they are still making enquiries in regard to supplies ex Austria, although difficulties in connection with like purchases have been forecast by Economic Sub-Commission. In these circumstances we have suggested a barter basis of exchange would yield the best results.

5. Since military responsibility for prevention of disease and unrest in Italy terminated 1 Sept. 45, we are unwilling to place a military (Tn.Br.) demand on D.Z. S. at this date for supplies for the I.S.R. and consider such procedure could not be justified on military grounds.

6. It is suggested that in addition to the A.G. exploration of supplies ex Austria

2. In view of a deterioration in the already difficult timber supply situation of the I.S.R. it is considered advisable to reconstitute, Calabria area (former U.S. controlled zone).

I.S.R. maximum expectations are now assessed at 4,000 cubic metres.

B Faizano area (former U.S. controlled zone).

It is found that prior to decontrolling the area the U.S. forced requisitioned all sawn timber, which is now stockpiled at Leghorn. I.S.R. state that due to the low price paid by the Allied Military, cutting in the forests has been restricted to a minimum to avoid requisitioning or forced sale when sawn at an economical price. In these circumstances I.S.R. have been able only to obtain 2000 cubic metres from this source, logs are not available to cut further supplies and unless the winter proves exceptionally mild the 2000 cubic metres will be the total forthcoming from this source.

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3. The total expected I.S.R. receipts from all sources is 7000 cubic metres against an estimated requirement of 2000 cubic metres during period Dec. 45 to May 46, i.e. a deficit of 13000 cubic metres.

4. Allied Commission advise they are still making enquiries in regard to supplies ex Austria, although difficulties in connection with like purchases have been forecast by Economic Sub-Commission. In these circumstances we have suggested a barter basis of exchange would yield the best results.

5. Since military responsibility for prevention of disease and unrest in Italy terminated 1 Sept. 45, we are unwilling to place a military (I.M.D.) demand on D.E.S. at this date for supplies for the I.S.R. and consider such procedure could not be justified on military grounds.

6. It is suggested that in addition to the A.C. exploration of supplies ex Austria that two other courses are open.
(a) To secure I.S.R. access to the Br. zone Calabria to enable 5000 contract for limited supplies i.e. up to 13000 cub. metres for delivery Dec. 45 to May 46.

(b) That additional pressure be put upon P.B.S. to release further supplies ex Leghorn stockpile.

Any suitable action please be taken.

/S/ D. R. H. Chiplin

D. R. H. CHAPLIN, Lt. Col.,
A.D.Th. (Stores),
for Brigadier,
Director of Transportation

3PM/ef

TRANSPORTATION & SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSION, A.G.
(RAIL DIVISION)
TRANSPORTATION (BR) MAIN, C.L.P.

Tel : 843209
Ref : AC/400/Tn4

30th November 1945

SUBJECT : Timber.
TO : Director, Transportation Sub-Commission.

1. Reference is made to letter 19 November concerning timber supply for the Italian State Railways.

2. Transmitted herewith is copy of letter from the Director of Transportation 24 Nov 1945 to the Chairman Allied Railway Board, D.C.W.G. (mov) G.H.Q., C.M.F. setting forth that there has been a deterioration in the already difficult timber supply situation.

3. It is brought out in the attached letter that the U.S. controlled timber zones in Calabria and Bolzano areas have now been decontrolled. Further P.B.S. have made an allocation to the I.S.R. of 30 car loads of mixed timber. Pressure has been brought upon P.B.S. to make further allocation to the I.S.R. from Leghorn stock pile.

4. With reference to suggestions proposed in Para 6 of the attached letter, the rail division does not concur in proposal (a) that I.S.R. be given access in the British zone in Calabria. A better solution, and it is recommended that this zone, controlled by the British Military, also the zones in Northeast Italy, controlled by the British Military, be decontrolled and made available to the Italian Government and private contractors.

5. With reference to Para 4 of the attached letter. No results have been obtained in procuring timber supplies from Austria. This Division is of the opinion that a credit for Italy has been established in Austria by the following methods:

- (a) For payment of freight charges for the transportation of all military supplies to and from Austria, which would be charged to the occupation of that country.
- (b) For payment of the transportation of all civilian supplies by rail to Austria.
- (c) From payment of the transportation of troops to and from Austria which would be charged to the occupation of that country.
- (d) Credit received for materials, supplies, fruits, etc. procured in Italy and shipped to Austria. It is a known fact that

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 - (b) For payment of the transportation of all civilian supplies by rail to Austria.
 - (c) From payment of the transportation of troops to and from Austria which would be charged to the occupation of that country.
- (d) Credit received for materials, supplies, fruits, etc. procured in Italy and shipped to Austria. It is a known fact that several thousand tons of glass and fruit have been procured in Italy and sent into the British occupied zone. There is a deal pending the shipment of sulphuric Acid from Italy to Austria. The amount of these materials, supplies, fruits, etc. should be verified and proper credit established for the Italian Government in Austria.

R. P. MOSS
Chief of Rail Division

copy to : E.M.R.S.

new file

RPM/lml

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File

TRANSPORTATION & SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSION, A. C.
(Rail Division)
TRANSPORTATION (IN) MAIN, C. M. Y.

Tel. 843209
Ref. AG/400/TM

19 November 1945

SUBJECT : Timber.

TO : Director, Transportation Sub-Commission.

1. Attached is extract of Minute No. 102 of the Tenth Meeting of the Allied Railway Board, Stores Sub-Committee, held 6 November 1945.

2. This subject deals with the timber requirements for the Italian State Railways and it is brought out that there is an extreme shortage at the present moment and that this shortage will increase within the next few months.

3. It is pointed out that the U. S. Army has now de-controlled the zones in which they were cutting timber in the Calabria and Bolzano areas. Although the matter has been handled through G-4 (Mov & Tr) AFHQ to have the zones controlled by the British Military in Calabria and Northern Italy de-controlled, the de-controlling has not been accomplished to date. Further, it is pointed out that it is proposed that the Allied Commission, Transportation Sub-Commission, explore the possible sources of timber supply in Austria for the Italian State Railways.

4. It is the opinion of the Rail Division that action should not be taken to procure timber from Austria, until the British have de-controlled the Calabria zone and the zones now controlled in Northern Italy. Certainly, we are not on firm ground to take such action as long as the principal timber zones of Italy are controlled by the Military. The war in Italy has now been over for seven months, many of the military depots are carrying large stocks of timber, while the reconstruction work and rehabilitation of equipment of the Italian State Railways is being severely hampered due to lack of timber.

5. This is an important matter and it is recommended that it be handled by the Chief Commissioner with the Supreme Allied Commander to effect the de-control of the timber zones in Calabria and Northern Italy, now under control of the British Military. Please send to this Office for our file a copy of action taken.

R. P. MORRIS
Chief, Rail Division

Attachment: As stated above.

(Copy)

(Copy)

Minute No. 102TIMBER.

Chairman reported that U. S. Army had now decontrolled the Calabria and Bolzano zones, which action should ease the procurement situation for the I. S. R. The British Army had not yet been able to effect any decontrol of the DR. Zone, Calabria, and the facts in this connection were being reported to D.A.M.C.(Mov.), C.H.Q. C.M.F., for consideration. Ing. Bracci reported on the I.S.R. supply position as follows:

Calabria Supplies. I. S. R. had only been successful in obtaining 6/7000 cubic meters for delivery this season. Further contracts were being made for forward deliveries in 1946.

Bolzano. The 20,000 cubic meters promised by firms in this area had not materialized and he had sent a representative to Bolzano to clear up difficulties and ensure release. An Italian Timber Control Committee had been set up in Northern Italy and it was hoped that an allocation would be made to permit movement arranged through A. G. and P. R. S. to take place before winter set in.

Chairman pointed out that the monthly consumption of timber for all I.S.R. purposes exclusive of sleepers was approx. 5500 cubic meters and requirements for months December to May inclusive would amount to 20/21,000 cubic meters of timber. Present contracts would provide 6/7000 cubic meters leaving a deficiency of 14/15,000 cubic meters to be found if I. S. R. repair and reconstruction work was not to stop or be hampered.

Additional difficulties arise in connection with sleepers where 5 million were originally needed in 1945 but contracts let for 1,000,000 only, of which 600,000 were already delivered. 2,000,000 sleepers per year are normally required but war damage had necessitated heavy increase in requirements. Minimum requirements for 1946 were 3,000,000 sleepers, against which I.S.R. have been able only to contract for 1,000,000.

Ing. Bracci stated that Italy had always relied on the importation of certain types of timber in pre-war days.

The Chairman proposed that A. G. Italy should take up with A. G. Austria the possibilities of procurement of timber from Austrian sources for I.S.R. use. The need for urgent action by I.S.R. to cover potential deficiency in supplies was also stressed.

ACTION:- (a) A.G. Th. Sub-Commission to explore possible source of supply for I.S.R. in Austria.

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