

ACC

AC/TN/GF

10000/148/2578
(VOL. I)

GE
APR

10000/148/2578
(VOL. I)

GENERAL FILE
APR.-JUL. 1945

0 4 8

Road Sect.

TN / GF / 16/54

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Transportation Sub-Commission
AGC 374

Our Reference : AGC Tn/30/1
Date : 2 July '44

TO : Capt. F.C. Smith,
In. Sub-Commission Rep.
Region III.

File General

SUBJECT : Transportation Sub-Commission Officer Region III - Duties.

1. It is essential that full liaison exist between this sub-commission and the Road Sub-Commission in respect of all movements to the forward areas by road, rail and water.
2. Liaison is the essential part for these movements, and in order to ensure satisfactory bidding arrangements, you are assigned to Region III, where you will work jointly with Major Taylor and thus also be in direct contact with the Region III Road Section.
3. All movements of traffic to the ACP Areas in the Field, to Base and the forward Regions must be tied up satisfactorily. The forward units concerned advise the Road Sub-Commission of their requirements. You will assist the Road Sub-Commission by using your specialized knowledge in movement by suggesting the best means of doing this. It is found, for instance, that applications for movement of commodities may come from different sources - these will all be tied up satisfactorily and one application only submitted after the best means of transport has been decided.
4. You will also assist Road Sub-Commission in regard to the movement of incoming and outgoing stocks to and from warehouses, arranging such transportation as may be necessary, and attend to details concerned with the loading of vessels to the forward areas. Col. Egg is issuing a Directive and you should report early to him.
5. Lack of road transport prevents this sub-commission arranging full transit by rail, water, and road, but you are in a position to recommend to forward areas the facilities available which will make the least demands on road transport for clearance purposes.
6. I am most anxious that the fullest use should be made of officers of this sub-commission who possess special qualifications for movement work, and your appointment to Region III for this purpose has directly been advised to Road Sub-Commission, Regional Commissioners, and SOACA concerned.
7. You will submit a weekly return giving details of work done, and mention any cases of failure to make full use of your appointment. When otherwise occupied, you will assist Major Taylor in the ordinary rail work connected with Region III.

Copy to:- Director Road Sub-Comm.
Reg. Commissioner - Region III
Region IV
Rome Region
Region VIII

SOAC 4th Army
SOAC 5th Army
Road Section
Water Section

Alt 6186

L.E. VINTRO,
Lieut-Colonel,
Director, Transportation Sub-Commission, AGC.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

Tn/GF/1120
38

Ref : Tptn/17/3

4 Jun 44

Subject : Road Haulage - Stolen Vehicle

To : The Director, Transportation Sub-Commission, HQ, A.C.C.—

1. At the S.I.T.A., garage, Potenza, on June 1st, 1944, two vehicles scheduled for maintenance were not in the garage.

2. The Manager, stated that one vehicle was being unloaded prior to receiving maintenance and the other had been out since mid-night.

3. Upon checking up regarding the latter vehicle I ascertained the following :-

(a) W.D., Vehicle No. L. 5619074.

(b) At approximately midnight May 31, June 1st, a British Officer approached S.I.T.A.'s civilian watchman outside the garage and requested transport to take persons injured in a road accident to hospital.

(c) The officer tried to take a S.I.T.A., omnibus but same was locked.

(d) He then demanded a J. Ton W.D. vehicle and drove same away and had not been seen since. This was a Road Haulage vehicle (see Para. "A") which was parked with others outside the garage and guarded by the man quoted in Para. B.

(e) Snr. Fillipi, stated that as a British Officer, had taken the vehicle away, he thought everything was in order and that R.E.M.E., had the matter in hand.

(f) The R.E.M.E., Sgt. did not know a S.I.T.A., vehicle was implicated until 12.0. o'clock on June 1st.

Action taken by self :-

(a) Phoned C.M.P., post at 12.30hrs, immediately **6183** checked the above story and obtained W.D. vehicle number.

(b) Instructed Snr. Fillipi, to make a report in writing immediately, attach a statement from the civilian watchmen and take both documents to the Provincial Commissioner.

(c) Notified the Provincial Commissioner (Major Nicholls)

2. The Manager, stated that one vehicle was being unloaded prior to receiving maintenance and the other had been out since mid-night.

3. Upon checking up regarding the latter vehicle I ascertained the following :-

- (a) W.D., Vehicle No. L. 5619074.
 - (b) At approximately midnight May 31, June 1st, a British Officer approached S.I.T.A.'s civilian watchman outside the garage and requested transport to take persons injured in a road accident to hospital.
 - (c) The officer tried to take a S.I.T.A., omnibus but same was locked.
 - (d) He then demanded a 3. Ton W.D. vehicle and drove same away and had not been seen since. This was a Road Haulage vehicle (see Para. "A") which was parked with others outside the garage and guarded by the man quoted in Para. B.
 - (e) Snr. Fillipi, stated that as a British Officer, had taken the vehicle away, he thought everything was in order and that R.E.M.E., had the matter in hand.
 - (f) The R.E.M.E., Sgt. did not know a S.I.T.A., vehicle was implicated until 12.0. oclock on June 1st.
- Action taken by self :-
- (a) Phoned C.M.P., post at 12.30hrs, immediately **5183** checked the above story and obtained W.D. vehicle number.
 - (b) Instructed Snr. Fillipi, to make a report in writing immediately, attach a statement from the civilian watchman and take both documents to the Provincial Commissioner.
 - (c) . Notified the Provincial Commissioner (Major Nicholls).
 - (d) Made a brief report to the N.C.O., i/c C.M.P., Post - Appendix "A" attached.
 - (e) The W.D. number of this vehicle was phoned by the C.M.P., post to Salerno, for circulation to check posts.

4.

HEADQUARTERS
6 JULY 1944

A. C. C.

J. F. D. Halstead
J.F.D. HALSTEAD.
Captain, R.A.S.C.,
Regional Transportation Officer.
for Regional Commissioner.

JFH/WEC.

APPENDIX "A"

Subject: - Missing Vehicle.

To: - H.C.O. i/o Det:
65 Coy C.M.P. (TC)
POTENZA.

At 1200 hrs on 1st JUNE 1944. Snr: PHILIPPS Manager
of S.I.T.I. Garage POTENZA, reported the following to me:-

(1). At approximately midnight 31st May - 1st June a British
Officer, demanded and drove away one of the W.D. vehicles
operated by S.I.T.A. for Region II A.C.C.

(2). Vehicle Particulars:- (A) 3 Ton Dodge.

(B) W.D. Number. L8619074.

(C) ^{S.I.T.A.} ALIMENTAZIONE AUTOMOBILISTICA
in red on left door panel.

(3) The officer concerned ordered the (S.I.T.A.) civilian
guard to let him have the vehicle to take injured people
from the scene of an accident to the hospital.

(4) Since midnight this vehicle has not been seen in POTENZA.

J. D. Halstead Capt.
Capt R.A.S.C.
Regional Transportation Officer
Region II A.C.C.

SECRET.

Sheet No. 1

Extracts from Memorandum prepared by
Economic & Supply Division CAS
AMG. Fifth Army.

SECTION 1 (Major Gate)

INTRODUCTION

VI. OPERATION

Plan One G.4. Fifth Army has agreed to move forward and unload 4,000 tons supplies. These are already ear-marked by Food Sub-Commission and must be loaded within 96 hours. Major Berham O i/c E.& S.Div., AMG Fifth Army, Naples Base and his staff will arrange, when notified by G4 Fifth Army :-

- (a) That supplies are handled at Warehouse.
- (b) That necessary trucks are provided and despatched to Marina Depots.
- (c) That trucks are routed to loading berth.
- (d) That guards checkers and labour are provided at the ports as required.

Plan Two. Place immediate Bid through Tr. Sub-Commission for Coasters and Schooners, also small coasters to act as Lighters.

Plan Three. (a) Request Sub-Commission to divert fully loaded Liberty Ship to a forward port.
(b) In which case also request small coasters to act as lighters.

Plan Four. Procure coasters or schooners to move forward supplies to Terracina, Gaeta and Formia, to be carried thence overland to CAS. (Involves 250 trucks, and only to be resorted to if other means fail)

Plan Five. By Road Transport from Field Section E & S Div. where it is anticipated 3/5000 tons of supplies will be available at some inland point, to be moved forward to City. This would only help the initial period, and once the 3/5000 was delivered in Rome the only means of continuing Road Transport would be from nearest available rail-head, possibly Minturno on Coast Line or Mignano on Liri Valley Line.

618

Sheet No. 2.

SECRET.

SECTION 2. (Major Derham)

Naples Base, Forwarding:-

The Food Sub-Commission has agreed to load the 4000 tons each ten-day period on the trucks for conveyance to Ships.

Reception at Beach-head:-

G.4. Fifth Army has agreed to move forward and unload the first shipment (4,040 tons) of supplies set aside for CAS. It is hoped G.4. will continue to deal similarly with like quantities each 10-day period, otherwise it will be necessary to secure at least four coasters of 1,500 tons capacity each, or a number of large schooners with equal cargo space.

SECTION 3. (Lieut Asquini)

(A) 15th Schooner Division, Baia :-

Civilian food, medical and other supplies will be shipped from Baia by schooners. Nine are available and are loaded ready to sail (total 600 tons). In the event of additional tonnage being required, the D.S.T.O. has agreed to furnish whatever is needed.

(B). It is expected that the schooners will ply between Baia and Formie/Gaeta/Terracina, and Major Toscani (Econ & Supply AMG Fifth Army Field) has offered to supply necessary trucks for movement of supplies from ship to forward dumps.

It is expected that stocks at Baia will suffice for twenty days at 100 tons per day: thereafter stocks will be moved by schooner to the three ports mentioned direct from the warehouse at Naples.

6180

Sheet No. 3

SECRET

SECTION 4. (Major Hunt.)

(para 2)
ANZIC:-

G.4. further agrees that it is their responsibility to continue to transport civilian supplies for CAS so long as Fifth Army is operating in that area.

Deputy Chief Transport A.S.I. agreed to support requests for ship transport when and if required.

Harbour Commandant agreed with G.4. Advance in all particulars and requested that a copy of all plans and amendments be sent to the Harbour Commandant at Anzio.

SECTION 5. (Major Horn)

Supplies expected to be received:-

On	D + X day		3,900 tons of supplies.
On	D + X + 10 + 20 + 30	Day	3,000 -do-
On	D + X + 40 + 50 + 60	"	4,000 -do-
On	D + X + 70 + 80 + 90	"	5,000 -do-

Transportation from Port to City:-

T.C.U., AMG Fifth Army advises that they will have an Italian Company of one-hundred 3-ton trucks with which to move the supplies from the forward dumps in to the City.

TN/GF/26

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Transportation Sub-Commission (Roads)
APO 394

JJC/re

Tn/GF/26

25 May 1944

SUBJECT: Regional Commissioners' Conference
TO : Transportation Sub-Commission
(Attn: Lt. Col. Vining)

Road Transport

- The position regarding Allied Army Trucks made available is --:

150	trucks	Region II	
169	"	"	III
119	"	"	V
29	"	"	VII
16	"		Displaced Persons Sub-Commission ACC
120	"		A.M.G. 8th Army (1001st GT Coy Ital.)
160	"		A.M.G. 5th Army
5	"		Food Sub-Commission ACC

- On advices received from AFHQ, 200 x 1 1/2 ton trucks are arriving at Bari from Middle East by June 1st, also 50 x 10 ton FIAT trucks but no advice as to the arrival of the 10 ton trucks has yet been received. It has been arranged to allocate 100 x 1 1/2 ton trucks to Region V, the balance of 100 to come into Naples area. The 50 x 10 ton trucks on their arrival will be allocated to Region V.

3. Tyre retreading plant Bari.

Negotiations are under way with Q(AE) and REME, HQ. AAI for opening the retreading type plant at Bari.

6177

4. Decreases on Haulage Rates

The Italian Government will shortly standardise, by Royal Decree, all Road Haulage Tariff rates in the territory of King's Italy. In the Military Government areas the rate is already applied in Region V, and will be made effective in Region III, on the first of June.

1. The position regarding Allied Army Trucks made available is -:

150 trucks	Region II	Displaced Persons Sub-Commission ACC
169 "	" III	A.M.G. 8th Army (1001st GT Coy Ital.)
119 "	" V	A.M.G. 5th Army
29 "	" VII	Food Sub-Commission ACC
16 "		
120 "		
160 "		
5 "		

2. On advices received from AFHQ, 200 x 1 1/2 ton trucks are arriving at Bari from Middle East by June 1st, also 50 x 10 ton FIAT trucks but no advice as to the arrival of the 10 ton trucks has yet been received. It has been arranged to allocate 100 x 1 1/2 ton trucks to Region V, the balance of 100 to come into Naples area. The 50 x 10 ton trucks on their arrival will be allocated to Region V.

3. Tyre retreading plant Bari.

Negotiations are under way with Q(AE) and RBME, HQ. AAI for opening the retreading type plant at Bari.

6177

4. Decreases on Haulage Rates

The Italian Government will shortly standardise, by Royal Decree, all Road Haulage Tariff rates in the territory of King's Italy. In the Military Government areas the rate is already applied in Region V, and will be made effective in Region III, on the first of June. The tariff rates are subject to revision.

The Italian Government is also preparing a Royal Decree to establish Road Haulage Consorzies and this decree will bring all civilian vehicles into Regional and Provincial pools under penalty of confiscation. The Italian directors of the consorzies will take instructions from ACC Transport Officers on the priority and direction of movement to be made. When the decree is ready, copies will be sent to the Regional Commissioners in Military Government areas and, they will be requested to put out an order establishing the same types of organisations. It is anticipated that through the consorzies, all civilian trucks will be brought under control and be available for transportation of essential supplies under ACC direction.

Ch. Swett - Capt

for

JAMES J. CARNES
Lt. Col., Inf.,
Director,
Transportation Sub-Commission (Roads)

6176

0158

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

6176

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
(Transportation Sub-Commission)

PRECIS OF REMARKS FOR REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE
TO BE HELD ON 14 APRIL, 1944

1. RAILWAYS.

The military authorities still retain control on the mainland and in Sardinia.

In Sicily the complete supervision of the whole of the railways became the responsibility of ACC w.e.f. 18 Mar. 44.

The volume of civil freight movement generally has increased as compared with the previous month.

Owing to shortage of coal, locomotives and rolling stock, and the heavy priority requirements of Allied Forces the facilities available for civil traffic are still barely sufficient to meet essential civil needs.

Movements east to west and south to north are particularly difficult to arrange owing to heavy military requirements.

No increase in civil passenger train services can yet be made.

On the east side the military have found it necessary to cancel most of the Basic Schedule Trains but meanwhile, arrangements have been made for as much essential civil freight as possible to be moved on military trains.

2. ROAD TRANSPORT.

The position regarding Allied Army trucks made available is :

350 trucks - have been allocated to Regions 3,5, AMG 5 Army, HQ ACC (G-4) and Displaced Persons Sub-Commission. This total includes 80 trucks comprising the 21st and 22nd QM Truck Coys. (Italian) now working with Region 3.

50 trucks - from PBS were drawn by AMG 5th Army on 11 April.

150 trucks - are awaiting allocation. These will be handed over (British) to Italian Government in near future.

The position regarding the Italian 1001 G.T. Coy. (120 trucks) is :

will be handed over to Region II fit for work in few days.
(Hope to report actual date at Conference).

6170

3. SCHOONERS.

Movements arranged through this Sub-Commission are steadily increasing.

The volume of civil freight movement generally has increased as compared with the previous month.

Owing to shortage of coal, locomotives and rolling stock, and the heavy priority requirements of Allied Forces the facilities available for civil traffic are still barely sufficient to meet essential civil needs.

Movements east to west and south to north are particularly difficult to arrange owing to heavy military requirements.

No increase in civil passenger train services can yet be made.

On the east side the military have found it necessary to cancel most of the Basic Schedule Trains but meanwhile, arrangements have been made for as much essential civil freight as possible to be moved on military trains.

2. ROAD TRANSPORT.

The position regarding Allied Army trucks made available is :

350 trucks - have been allocated to Regions 3,5, AMG 5 Army, HQ ACC (G-4) and Displaced Persons Sub-Commission. This total includes 80 trucks comprising the 21st and 22nd QM Truck Coys. (Italian) now working with Region 3.

50 trucks - from PBS were drawn by AMG 5th Army on 11 April.

150 trucks - are awaiting allocation. These will be handed over (British) to Italian Government in near future.

The position regarding the Italian 1001 G.T. Coy. (120 trucks) is :
will be handed over to Region II fit for work in few days.
(Hope to report actual date at Conference). 8170

3. SCHOONERS.

Movements arranged through this Sub-Commission are steadily increasing.

A few schooners have been allotted to specific points for local civil movements.

It is hope to secure increased allotments for regular local movements as soon as sufficient evidence of need is forthcoming.

*Copy Sted Comes for confirmation
File: noted/seen CF/23*

DRAFT.

TO : Chief Staff Officer,
Economic Section.

SUBJECT : Extracts from letter from Marshall Badoglio to the Chief Commissioner.

Your ES/44 of 11 May 44.

Letter reference Roads.

1. Above letter para 5.

720 motor vehicles have recently been issued to Regions and AMG 5 & 8 Armies

and 400 additional vehicles will be made available.

This will relieve the acute motor transport shortage in the Provinces for food distribution etc.

2. Reference para 6.

The Agriculture Sub-Commission is endeavouring to requisition 31 motor vehicles, one car for each Province - and requisitioning of cars is also being undertaken by the Transportation Sub-Commission.

Every effort will be made to furnish necessary tyres of requisitioned vehicles. The present policy of G-4 AFHQ does not permit the issue by ACC of tyres of civilian vehicles. It is however possible that this policy may be changed. At present there are insufficient tyres to meet all essential civilian services.

3. Reference para 7.

An appreciable amount of Italian transport is out of commission due to lack of spare parts, such as tyres, batteries and electrical equipment etc.

In order to meet the demand for tyres for Italian vehicles ACC has requested authority for supplies of materials for a tyre re-treading plant at Bari in Region II.

Region III is also endeavouring to open a similar plant in Naples.

A large number of new tyres are required but the re-treading of tyres will very definitely help the present situation.

Requisitioning old civilian cars in the country is limited to cars which are

617

such necessary parts, as mentioned in para

and 400 additional vehicles will be made available.

This will relieve the acute motor transport shortage in the Provinces for food distribution etc.

2. Reference para 6.

The Agriculture Sub-Commission is endeavouring to requisition 31 motor vehicles, one car for each Province - and requisitioning of cars is also being undertaken by the Transportation Sub-Commission.

Every effort will be made to furnish necessary tyres of requisitioned vehicles. The present policy of G-4 AFHQ does not permit the issue by ACC of tyres of civilian vehicles. It is however possible that this policy may be changed. At present there are insufficient tyres to meet all essential civilian services.

3. Reference para 7.

An appreciable amount of Italian transport is out of commission due to lack of spare parts, such as tyres, batteries and electrical equipment etc.

In order to meet the demand for tyres for Italian vehicles ACC has requested authority for supplies of materials for a tyre re-treading plant at Bari in Region II. Region III is also endeavouring to open a similar plant in Naples.

A large number of new tyres are required but the re-treading of tyres will very ^{817*} definitely help the present situation.

Requisitioning old civilian cars in the country is limited to cars which are not dependable on parts being forthcoming as such necessary parts, as mentioned in para 3, are not as yet available, and manufacturing facilities do not exist at present in occupied areas, though certain machine shops are used for the adaption of spare parts from Allied Force sources, for fitting of vehicles for which the required spare parts are otherwise unobtainable.

4. Reference para 10.

Certain civilian vehicles must be permitted to circulate but in cases where it is found that cars which have been granted permits to circulate are required for military needs, or for more important functions than that for which the permit was issued the permits are cancelled and the cars are requisitioned.

5. Railroad.

Reference para 8 - Transport of Lignite.

(a) Castelluccio is situated on the narrow gauge line Lagonegro - Spezzano Albanese but rail haulage is impossible owing to bridge destruction 16 Km. from Lagonegro.

(b) Presuming road transport is available to haul the lignite 40 Km. from the mines at Castelluccio to I.S.R. main railroad terminal Lagonegro little difficulty would be experienced in securing wagons for loading and transport.

6. Reference letter "Transportation by railroad and ordinary traffic". Para 1.

The entire control and supervision of the operation of the Italian State Railways is undertaken by the D.G.M.R.S. who is not for the present prepared to increase passenger or freight train service, due to of a shortage of coal, locomotives, rolling stock and spare parts, but is prepared to treat each application for increases in train service on its merits and it must be clearly shown in making out a justification for additional trains that it is absolutely essential to the needs of the country.

7. Reference para 3. - "Railroad cars for the transportation of salt and other monopoly goods".

with regard to the transportation of salt from Margherita, near Barletta. There are weekly consignments up to 34 wagons per week from Barletta to the Sud-Est and Foggia Province and the question of importing salt by schooner from Sicily ⁶¹⁷ where salt is plentiful to Castellamare or Naples is under investigation.

1000 tons has been arranged for transport by sea from Margherita to Castellamare. The other monopoly goods consists of tobacco from Benevento, Cava and Lecce have since the beginning of this year. The reason why tobacco leaf is moved

Albanese but rail haulage is impossible owing to bridge destruction 16 Km. from Lagonegro.

(b) Presuming road transport is available to haul the lignite 40 Km. from the mines at Castelluccio to I.S.R. main railroed terminal Lagonegro little difficulty would be experienced in securing wagons for loading and transport.

6. Reference letter "Transportation by railroad and ordinary traffic". Para 1.

The entire control and supervision of the operation of the Italian State Railways is undertaken by the D.G.M.R.S. who is not for the present prepared to increase passenger or freight train service, due to of a shortage of coal, locomotives, rollings stock and spare parts, but is prepared to treat each application for increases in train service on its merits and it must be clearly shown in making out a justification for additional trains that it is absolutely essential to the needs of the country.

7. Reference para 3. - "Railroed cars for the transportation of salt and other monopoly goods".

With regard to the transportation of salt from Margherita, near Barletta, There are weekly consignments up to 34 wagons per week from Barletta to the Sud-Est and Foggia Province and the question of importing salt by schooner from Sicily where salt is plentiful to Castellamare or Naples is under investigation.

1000 tons has been arranged for transport by sea from Margherita to Castellamare. The other monopoly goods consists of tobacco from Benevento, Casva and Lecce have been transported since the beginning of this year. The reason why tobacco leaf is moved between the above three mentioned places, is that different brands are grown at each place and for the purposes of blending, the leaf is transported.

8. Reference para 4 - "Railroad cars and motor vehicles for the services of the Military Commissariat."

If Military Commissariat refers to supplies for the Italian Military authorities this is arranged for with Movements by the M.M.I.A.

Reference paras 6 & 9. These have already been dealt with in paras 5 & 7 of this letter.

BM 1645

Spare copy

GF/14
file
gpc

TO : R.C. & M.G. Section AGC.
FROM : Regional Commissioner ANG Region IV.
SUBJECT: Road Haulage.
REF. : B4/Eng/267
DATE : 1st May 1944

1. Confirming conversation Lt. Col. Carnes-Col. Edwards of 1 May 1944 and reference B/267 of 17 March, it is considered necessary to form up a transport unit immediately.
2. This is essential now for:
 - (a) Training staff and creating organisation required for meeting greatly increased commitments on moving into new areas.
 - (b) Being prepared with a going concern as soon as ANG with both Areas are ready to hand over. Repairs on vehicles received are expected to be heavy.
 - (c) It is anticipated that little time will be available to create such an organisation once ARMY ANG commitments start expanding as they will have pass provinces to this Region the more rapidly.
 - (d) There is no such unit covering EIGHTH ARMY front for this contingency. Their demands being met by loan from FIFTH ARMY ANG a condition which will not persist, for FIFTH ARMY ANG present transport resources will be entirely used within CAS Area.
 - (e) This letter will leave the balance of transport needs of IAZIO still to be met, also, a duty which will fall early on this Region.
3. It is desirable to start with less vehicles than requested in the letter under reference and the number suggested is 100-3 T. lorries + ancillaries composed as shown in Appendix "A".
4. This provides a unit adequate for independent and self contained operation once vehicles have been put into running order.

Copy to: Internal Tn. Sub-Comm. AGC.
Spare 3.

[Signature]
BRIGADIER
REGIONAL COMMISSIONER.

COPY

0
Tn *info*
GF/8

Subject:- Misuse of Petrol

Headquarters,
Allied Armies in Italy,
C.M.F.
1053/7/Q1.

29 Apr. 44.

H.Q., Allied Control Commission.

The Commander-in-Chief is perturbed at reports that are reaching him of the number of civil cars which are on the road, and of the extent to which civilians can apparently obtain petrol. These reports indicate that there is a great amount of petrol being wasted on pleasure motoring, particularly in SICILY.

In view of the smallness of the official allotment for civil purposes, it is evident that large quantities of petrol are being obtained on the black market. This presumably represents petrol stolen from military dumps or obtained from military sources in other ways. It is impossible to provide enough guards to prevent all theft. Measures are required to identify and punish severely those who traffick in stolen petrol and those who use it.

The Commander-in-Chief would be grateful if you would study this matter, in consultation with the Staff at this H.Q. responsible for the allocation of petrol for Italian civilian use and with the District Commanders concerned. He will be glad to have a report from you as to the steps which you propose to take to check the present abuse.

s/ M. A. Robertson

Major-General,
Chief Administrative Officer.

BHR/emb.

- Copies to:- G.O.C., No. 1 District.
- G.O.C., No. 2 District.
- G.O.C., No. 3 District.
- C.G., Peninsular Base Section
- Petroleum Section.
- D.C.A.O.

6171

Copy to Economic Section

30 apr 44

01671