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PILFER
FEB. 1946

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PILFERAGE AND SECURITY
FEB. 1946 15-21 FEB. 1946

Ref. 1 - A.C. TIR/7/ 37 Feb. 21st, 1946

To 1- A.P.H. 06 Area

From 1- A.C. Transportation Officer
Venice.

Herewith translation of a statement forwarded to
Port Liaison Officer, Venice, by R. Commissariato di P.S.,
Porto di Venezia, concerning the theft of silk from Magazine
No. 12, which occurred on the night of the 24th / 25th Dec.
1945.

Copy to H.Q. 06 Area

" " Rep. Ministry of Supply.

" " H.Q. Alcom Tptn. Rome

" " S.I.B. No. 1 Section.

W. Evans. Lt.

LT. W.J. EVANS
PORT & WAREHOUSE OFFICER
TN. A.M.G. INT. SEC.

T r a n s l a t i o n .

From :- R. Commissariato P.S. Venice, 20th, Feb. 1946
Porto di Venezia.

To :- Lt. W.J. Evans, Port & Warehouse Officer
Venice.

Subj. :- Theft of Raw Silk from the Port Magazine.

On the night 24th - 25th Dec. 1945 No. 6 bales of silk were stolen from Magazine No. 12 for a value of 3 millions Lire. After a long and active investigation, this office succeeded in recovering the whole lot of the stolen silk and arrested Milesi Luigi, Notrey Bruno, Antonelli Cosimo and Tesan Leda, while a further person implicated in the theft, certain Zanvettori Luigi is still absconding. During the interrogatory it appeared, that the above mentioned persons went to S. Basilio on the night 24th - 25th Dec. about 0100 hrs. and met a British Guard at the Magazine No. 12. They agreed with him that against a reward of 10.000 Lire, a bottle of Cognac and the chance, to spend some hours with a girl, he would not only allow the pilferage to be performed, but also leave the magazine's door opened for them.

When they returned after half an hour with a barge and the girl, Tesan Leda, of rather loose morals, they gave her the bottle of Cognac and she went away with the guard. She declared, that while she spent a long time with the soldier in a sentry - box, two other soldiers of the Militayr Police appeared and she remained with them till approx 0.300 hrs.

Milesi stated, that while the woman was entertaining the soldiers he took the silk away with the help of Notrey Bruno, Antonelli Cosimo and Zanvettori and after they had brought the silk in town, they came back to fetch the girl.

Besides her and a soldier of the British Police they found a petty officer with a pistol in his hand, he was one of the fellows who spent several hours with the girl. He tried to frighten them, so they agreed to leave the girl there and to give him another sum of money. He would allow some more silk to be taken away. Milese, just to get rid of him, promised to come back at 4 o'clock, but did no more appear.

This is to inform who is concerned with further competence. As far as Italian Persons are involved, this office will give the necessary information to the judiciary Authorities for further steps.

Il Commissario di P.S.

sign. Dr. Elia Papa: 2164

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

Ref. ES/15.05/2

15 February 1946

SUBJECT: Pilferage

TO : Ministry of Treasury
Italian Government
Rome

1. It is understood that the Federazione dei Consorzi Agrari has approached the Ministry of the Treasury on the problems arising from lack of adequate guard service at dock warehouses as well as the necessity for additional guard personnel to guard the movement and storage of imported foodstuffs (Ref. Federazione's letter to Ministry of Treasury of 13 January 1946).

2. The Allied Commission, as well as UNRRA, has received an increasing number of reports of organized thefts from warehouses and from trains and trucks carrying imported foodstuffs throughout Italy. As much of this stolen foodstuff reaches the black market to the detriment of the Italian economy and at the expense of the ration system of the country, it is felt that the Ministry of the Treasury, in collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior should give this problem their most urgent consideration.

3. This office would appreciate information of the decision reached on this matter by the Italian Government as well as the steps proposed to be taken to alleviate the difficulties experienced by the Federazione and expressed in their letter of 13 January 1946.

4. This office has similarly requested the Ministry of the Interior to take up this question with your Ministry.

~~Harlan Cleveland~~

HARLAN CLEVELAND
Acting Vice President

Distribution:-

High Commissariat for Food
Federazione Consorzi Agrari

Food & Agriculture S/C, AC
Transportation S/C (Ports & Warehouses), AC ✓

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