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AC/24.4/TN 6

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PORT OF LICATA
FEB. - MAR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

TRANSPORTATION SUB COMMISSION

PORTS & WAREHOUSE DIVISION

PORT REPORT

PORT OF LICATA

OPENED : 27 FEBR. 1945

CLOSED : 29 MARCH 1945

10000 / 148 / 3446

THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM FEB. 45

TO MARC. 45

CATALOGUE.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Transportation Sub-Commission

Port Report

Licata, Sicily

*Rate, End April 45 (affix)
Silt*

Brief Physical Description

This harbor is formed by three moles, namely, Molo di Ponente, Molo di Levante and Riga Isolata. Please note attached plan (Exh "A")

Depths

At the present time the use of the harbor is practically nullified on account of silt accumulations in the entrance channel between the outer mole and the mouth of the harbor between the terminals of the east and west moles. Please refer to Exh. "B" attached hereto, (plan of the port with depth soundings taken in 1935) The pencilled markings thereon at the entrance to the harbor indicate the main silt deposits, where the pre-war depths has diminished from approximately 20ft. to 15ft, creating an impediment to the movement of larger vessels. There is a silt deposit of approximately 3 ft. over the bottom of the remainder of the harbor with additional accumulations alongside the main wharf at Molo di Levante. Also, approximately 300 ton of stone was thrown from this dock by the invasion forces.

The river Salso discharges immediately to the east of this harbor, and carries large quantities of silt, which is washed into the entrance channel.

This harbor was dredged each month previous to the war. Attached are Exh "C", "D", "E" and "F" (pre-invasion air reconnaissance photos), indicating the following:-

- Exh "C" - Photo of harbor (note silt from River Salso to the east of Molo di Levante).
- Exh "D" - Photo east of harbor showing River Salso discharging silt.
- Exh "E" - Photo west of harbor (a considerable quantity of silt is also washed into harbor through westerly entrance). 640
- Exh "F" - Two long range photos of harbor in which silt flow is discernable.

Computations made by a local Italian engineer for the

Port Captain indicate that from 200 to 250 thousand cubic metres silt require removal to restore original depths. The bottom of the harbor is sand and mud with the exception of the 300 ton of stone alongside Molo di Levante.

Pre-War Exports

Licata was the principal port for the exportation of sulphur from Sicily. Other items were grain, beans and cotton.

Total pre-war exports amounted to 150,000 tons per annum.

Pre-War Imports

Coal, timber and phosphates. Total pre-war imports amounted to 100,000 tons per annum.

Pre-War Shipping Traffic

Approximately 150-170 steamers called at this port.

The present traffic is reduced to a few schooners and fishing boats.

Weather

Harbor is well sheltered, but during very bad weather, accompanied by strong S/W wind, vessels alongside Molo di Levante must move away from the quay.

Wharfrage

The main wharf is alongside Molo di Levante - Length 870 ft. Steamers used 775 ft. and schooners utilized the remaining 95 ft.

Electricity

3 phase, AC., 50 cycle, 150/260 volts, at present out of operating condition.

Water

No piped supply available at quay, but a small water tank barge is available.

Oil & Coal Bunkers

None

Stevedore Gear

Cargo worked with ships' appliances. An adequate supply of stevedore gear is available, owned by the stevedore firm of Silvio Brante, Licata.

Lifting Facilities

None

Tug Boats

None

Grain Elevators

None

Storage Warehouses

Eight warehouses are available with total capacity of 50,000 sq. yds.

Dry Docks

None. There is a shipway for repair of schooners up to 400 Tons

Ship. Repair Plants.

Two small plants capable of making minor repairs.

Lighters

None

Port Captain

FRANCESCO MARESCA

Tel. No : None

Telegraphic Address: CIRCOMARE, LICATA

Stevedore Contractors

Silvio Errante

Licata

This is an old firm in possession of adequate stevedore equipment.

Consorzio Agrario

This organization has operated at this port in connection with several schooner cargoes. Their work has been efficient.

I.C.B.

This organization has not yet operated at Licata.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Harbor should be dredged, if and when equipment for so doing becomes available.

S. F. FRANCE,
Port Liaison Officer

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Transportation Sub-Commission

AMMCO/lr

29 March 1945

AC/549/6/Tn.3

SUBJECT : Dredging of Licata.
TO : G-4 (Mov & Tn) A.F.H.Q.

1. The port of Licata is silting up, and the general depth is now only 16 feet. It is essential that this port is kept open for the import of phosphate rock and export of Sulphur.

2. Application is therefore made for dredging to be carried out. Particulars are as follows :

- A. The port consists of a small harbour.
- B. Quantity to be dredged is approximately 200,000 cubic meters. Bottom is sand and mud.
- C. Present depth 16 feet. Required depth 21 feet.

For the Chief Commissioner :

[Signature]
M.B. THOMAS, Colonel
Deputy Director

Copy to : AC Transportation Officer Sicilia Region
Tn. Sub-Comm., Ports and Warehouse Div.
Shipping Sub-Comm.
MWT
WSA

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION

Tel. 394
Ref. AO/24/2/Tn6

GWED/lml
28 March 1945

SUBJECT : Port of Licata.

TO : Movements Division, Shipping Branch
Attention: Major A. M. McClure

1. This Division has been informed that the Port of Licata can be dredged to give an over-all depth of 21 ft. against the present depth of 15 ft.

2. Please advise if dredging is to be taken in hand and what degree of priority.

R. M. BAZZANELLA
Chief, Port & Whse. Division
Transportation Sub-Commission

ALCON SIGILLIA

2328

23 FEB 45

PRIORITY

RESTRICTED PD

PARA ONE PD SUBJECT IS DEDDING LICATA PD YOUR LETTER MIKE TARK
SLANT ITEM LOVE SLANT NINE DATED ONE NINE FEB REVERS PD
PAREN TO ALCON SIGILLIA FOR LYNCH FROM ALCON SITE ACTET PAREN
APPLICATION WILL BE SUBMITTED BY THIS HEADQUARTERS ON RECEIPT OF
INFORMATION UNDER PARA THREE SUBROCTIONS PAREN ABLE PAREN AND PAREN
MAKER PAREN PD REPLY BY SIGNAL PD

Copy to PORT AND WAREHOUSE DIV ✓

TRANSPORTATION SO

390

635
NICHOLAS POMBINO
CWO U.S.A.
Asst. Adjutant

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: 340
Date/Time of Origin: FEB 27/1310Message Centre No: D/3632
Date/Time Rec'd: FEB 28/1100
Precedence: ROUTINEFROM: LICATA
TO: TPTN S/C ALLIED COMMISSION ROMA

IN CLEAR.

RISPOSTA TELEGRAMMA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA PALERMO CIRCA LAVORI
DRAGAGGIO PORTO ALT (A) PORT DI LICATA (G) QUANTITA DRAGAL EST
CIRCA 190 MILA METRI CUBI NATURA FONDO EST SBBIA FINE MISTA FANGO (C)
PRESENTE PESCAGGIO EST QUINDICI PIEDI PESCAGGIO RICHIESTO EST VENTIDUE
PIEDI (D) MOTIVO PER PERMETTERE MIGLIORE ET COMPLETA UTILIZZAZIONE
PORTO OGGI INOPEROSO CAUSA INSABBIAMENTO IMBOCCATURA STOP

CTE PORTO LICATA.

ACTION

DISTAction: TN S/C
Info: ECON SEC
FILE

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ac/24/24

1190