

PUBLIC RELATIONS VENEZIA GIULIA
c/o HEADQUARTERS ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
VENEZIA GIULIA

Authority
AND 75-159
By JG NARA Date 7/6/07

The man who is in charge of administering the AUSA relief program here is Stanley L. SOMMER, veteran American relief and welfare worker.

His European experience began in the summer of 1944 when he was assigned as UNRRA representative to Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force Mission to the Netherlands. He remained in this job until the war's end when he became a displaced persons liaison officer with the United States Army in Germany for UNRRA.

Mr. SOMMER later returned to his home in Washington, D.C., for a rest and further consultations with U.S. Government and UNRRA officials. These talks resulted in his next assignment and one of his most important, that of being chief of the UNRRA Relief Mission to Hungary. He arrived in Budapest in January, 1946, and immediately went to work directing the 15 million-dollar relief program for the Balkan country. Besides becoming familiar with the Balkans and Central Europe he also learned of the value of the Port of Trieste through which Hungary's UNRRA supplies were channeled.

In June of this year he returned to the United States to receive his assignment for the current AUSA for Venezia Giulia and the Province of Udine. Mr. Sommer arrived here in July.

A graduate of Georgetown University, Mr. Sommer spent 28 months in the Southwest Pacific with the American Red Cross in the early days of World War II as director of clubs and leave areas. In this work he travelled 300,000 kilometers by air throughout the South Pacific.

Mr. Sommer has already reached an agreement with Allied Military Government for the distribution of supplies under AUSA with particular emphasis on the fact that supplies will be delivered to the local population without discrimination as to race or political belief. The program is a gift from the American people and their

Sommer has been and is particularly interested in seeing that

everyone here gets their fair share of relief and not only a select few because of either their race or their political opinion.

Upon termination of Allied Military Government, Venezia Giulia, when copies of the Peace Treaty with the Italian Government are deposited in Paris by the Big Four, he will make another agreement, this time with either the Governor of the Free Territory of Trieste or the governing representatives of the Free Territory in order to continue his program. Terms of the new agreement will be the same as the present.

"The American people, their Congress, their President and I, their relief representative here, want to see everyone get a fair and just share of this relief irregardless of politics or race. America's aim is not to assist merely a special group in either the Italian Province of Udine or Venezia Giulia Zone "A." Hunger and cold has no political or racial barriers and neither has this program. The United States of America has pledged its assistance to the needy people of this area and it is my duty to see that it is allotted as quickly and as efficiently as possible," promises the AUSA Relief Chief.

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