

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

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~~SECRET~~

### ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:

Chief of Logistics

**2003**  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

NO.

DATE

13 APR 1954

TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICE INITIALS	COMMENTS
		REC'D	FWD'D		
1. Chief, WH Division				[ ]	
2. [ ]				[ ]	
3. <i>Orbellini</i>				[ ]	<i>Copy to Line?</i>
4. [ ]					<i>5. Have prepared copies of this to be forwarded by Vach to Line.</i>
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					
13.					
14.					
15.					

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

To : Chief, WH Division

DATE: 13 April 1954

FROM : Chief of Logistics

SUBJECT: Utilization of tropical rations by PBSUCCESS

- REF: a. Secret memorandum dated 23 February 1954 from [ ] to [ ] Subject: Preliminary Evaluation of the Gutenko Tropical Ration.
- b. Secret memorandum dated 30 March 1954 from J. C. King, C/WH to C/LO, Subject: Food Rations, PBSUCCESS
- c. First Report of Findings of Dr. Thomas Bartram of the Pure Food and Drug Administration
- d. Second Report of Findings of Dr. Thomas Bartram of the Pure Food and Drug Administration
- e. Certificate of Analysis from Strasburger & Siegel dated 9 April 1954.
- f. Summary report dated 12 April 1954, signed by [ ]

1. On Friday afternoon, 12 February 1954, the [ ] LO was put on notice regarding the forwarding to them of a requisition for urgently needed rations, for one of your Top Priority operations. Rough procurement specifications indicated that the requested ration units were suitable for Arctic needs but would not withstand the tropic temperatures or humidity they would be required to undergo for your project. An immediate meeting with WH and Logistics representatives, with a Doctor from [ ] present for nutritional advice, was held to try to evolve a desirable substitute. None apparently being available that would meet your sterility requirements, the meeting adjourned and was resumed the following Monday morning, with both [ ] and [ ] personnel working on it over the weekend. Two substitutes had been found, one being basically dried fruits and nuts suggested by the [ ], the other a dried sausage and biscuit unit adaptable to the tropics. This latter ration (12 oz. of sausage in individual link form (12-14) and 3 oatmeal type biscuits to a unit) was decided on after samples of the sausage were submitted to [ ] of [ ] and approved as to adaptability, palatability and nutritional strength. (See Reference a.) A representative of your Division also approved proposed price per unit and delivery schedule.

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2. The contract for 16,500 rations was placed at once and partial deliveries of the rations were picked up and forwarded to the designated air field over the next 30 day period. Shortly after the last delivery had arrived in the field, this office was advised of a cable received by your Division announcing that the rations were contaminated, probably due to what appeared to be a mold forming on the sausages. Samples of rations available here (from the last delivery) were given to the Agency Medical Office at once for examination and report as to suitability for human consumption.

3. A memorandum from your office dated 30 March 1954 (See Reference b.) had attached thereto a copy of the Agency Medical Office report of 29 March. This memo, in view of the findings in the medical report, requested information as to the availability of replacement rations for the ones then in the field. This first medical report indicated apparent contamination present in some of the sausages and stated that it was the opinion of the Medical Office that the suspected sausages were unfit for human consumption.

4. You were advised by our memorandum on 1 April 1954 of the time required to procure like rations and additional precautions to be taken to safeguard the purity of the sausages were cited. On 5 April [ ], of your office, verbally advised the undersigned that Headquarters replacement of these rations would not be requested.

5. Upon receipt of the first Medical Report, conferences were held within Logistics Office and with Medical Office and [ ] representatives, and it was decided that tests by qualified bacteriological personnel outside this Agency were desirable, said tests to show the presence of any possible contamination and the fitness of this sausage for human consumption. One series of tests was started by the contractor through Strasburger & Siegel, analytical bacteriologists of Baltimore, and another series was started through the Pure Food & Drug Administration by the Special Purchase Branch. This latter test was coordinated through the Security Division and utilized cleared personnel.

6. Three self-explanatory analytical reports and a professional interpretation thereof as listed below, have been received by this office:

a. Reference (c), a summarization of a verbal report given representatives of this office and [ ] by the Pure Food & Drug Administration, covered sausages taken from the batch of sausages containing suspected contamination.

b. Reference (d), the second verbal report given [ ] by Pure Food & Drug Administration, covered a portion of the sausage tested and found by the Agency Medical Office to be apparently contaminated.

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c. Reference (e), a copy of a report by Strasburger & Siegel to the contractor, covered samples from the last batch of sausage delivered to us, some of which our Medical Office stated were apparently contaminated.

d. Reference (f), is a professional interpretation prepared by [ ] of the aforementioned analytical reports.

7. The Pure Food and Drug Administration will conduct any further tests that may be desired on these sausages and, if they can be located by Medical Office, is willing to analyze the cultures upon which the original Medical Office report was based.

8. Large numbers of these sausages were eaten by a representative of the Special Purchase Branch during different stages and times of the final packing of these rations prior to their delivery. This person also observed in numerous instances that personnel packing these rations ate the sausages. No ill effects were suffered by any of the above persons from consumption of these sausages, and a medical check of the Special Purchase representative concerned, by our Medical Office, further confirmed the fact that he had suffered no ill effects therefrom.

9. Based upon professional interpretation of results of tests conducted by recognized laboratories, it appears that these rations are fit for human consumption, and authority has been granted for final payment therefor to be made to the contractor.

[ ]

6 Attachments

Copies of References (a) thru (f)

LO [ ] :ila (13 April 1954)

Distribution:

- O&I - Addressee
- 1 - [ ] Chrono
- 1 - LO Chrono
- 1 - Medical Office
- 1 - [ ]
- 1 - SPX-54-5905
- 1 - SPX-54-6239
- 1 - Ration File (W)
- 1 - DD/A
- 1 - Signer's Copy