

that by such association, civilian and military relief programmes can be integrated. Steps are also being taken to facilitate such integration by the Combined Boards. I hope to have something more definite to report on this matter shortly.

(4) The observations under (3) above apply also to the preparation of supply programmes. Certain of these military relief supply programmes have already been sent to the Combined Boards. I hope to secure copies of them shortly. It seems fairly clear now that the military will work through the Combined Boards in relief supply matters insofar as goods in short supply are concerned. It is not certain, however, that they will take the same course in respect of goods not in short supply. Difficulties may arise here.

I have no figures yet as to the probable total cost of military relief. On this point, however, General Hilldring said to the Senate Committee:

“With respect to the whole cost of this program in Europe, plans have been completed and have been integrated with our allies’ program and are now before a committee of the Combined Chiefs of Staff. The program has not as yet been approved by the Combined Chiefs of Staff. The United States responsibility with respect to it is now being prepared in the budget office of the War Department for presentation to the Bureau of the Budget; and I think, as you gentlemen know, until we have accomplished both of those objectives, an officer of the War Department cannot say, for a number of reasons, how much a particular project is going to cost. But I think I can indicate, Senator, in this way, that it is a simple and a modest program.”

He then stated that the U.S. Army cost of civilian relief in Italy from July, 1943 to January 10, 1944, amounted to \$21,000,000. The British Army cost—largely for coal and petroleum—cannot yet be determined but will probably be around \$5,000,000 for the same period.

(5) General Hilldring had the following observations to make on military relief distribution and payment:

“It is our policy, it is the policy of our Government, that we soldiers are following, that we will to the greatest extent possible dispose of these relief supplies in normal trade channels and with the least cost to us; and the fact that we have been able to do as well as we have in Italy has been more or less surprising to us; a little higher percentage has gone into commercial trade than we anticipated before we went in there.” (The percentage in fact has been 95%).

“General Hilldring. We have established in Italy, sir, an allied military government, as you know. It is a combined Anglo-American Government. It is the present sovereign of the territory. The shipments of relief supplies go to that government. That government has a relief agency which operates for it, which transfers, sells, these relief supplies to dealers in Italy in these various commodities. The Government itself through its financial agency keeps the books on these transactions.

“Senator Tunnell. Does the Army get any money?