

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

ACC

10000/109/1743
(VOL. II)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No.

785017

10000/109/1743
(VOL. II)

UNEXPLODED BOMBS & MINE CLEARANCE
AUG., SEPT. 1944

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

4436/CH

UNEXPLODED - BOMBS

AND

MINE - CLEARANCE

4398
4471

VOL II

UNEXPLODED - BOMBS

AND

MINE - CLEARANCE

VOL II

4398
4471

10000 / 109 / 1749

THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM AUG. 1944

TO SEPT. 1944

CATALOGUE.

CONFIDENTIAL ^{436 L}

NSA RPT ACC 752

MAIN 541

SR 322

SEP 120910Z



FOR INFORMATION ONLY ¹⁸⁰

CONFIDENTIAL
ROUTINE

12 SEP Recd

541 AND 542 ITALIAN SERVICE CODE TOTAL OF SEVEN 150 NOW LOCATED
VICINITY OF SOME AREA BELIEVED OF ARRIVAL SET TO ACC AND ARE BEING
ASSIGNED TO 752.

LIST

ADVISE - ARMY 22 (2)
INFO - A/GO
ECOM SEC
FOOD 22 (2)
O & ME
FILE (2)
FLORE

561 + 562 are acc lyps.

CONFIDENTIAL

4471

TO THE CHIEF COMSAB OF THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Rome Aug. 31

Sub: Removal of mines in Lazio.

12 SEP Recd

We have repeatedly pointed out to this Ministry the urgent need of removing in the provinces of Rome, Littoria and Grosinone, the shells and the mines left over from war actions.

These materials, besides being a serious danger to the rural population, interfere with a prompt resuming of the agricultural activities for the cultivation of the land and with the most urgent and essential utility works such as putting in operation water-works and electric lines.

The War Ministry has already being requested to send on the spots the adequate squads of engineers and *army specialists* to carry out, with the occasional assistance of local elements, a thorough and rational ~~clearing~~ ^{clearing} of the lands concerned.

Nonetheless it would be necessary that the activity of the Ministry of War, which, we are afraid, will be handicapped by the shortage of facilities at hand, should be integrated by the kind assistance of the Allied Military Government especially as regards the supply of the material and the engines needed to ~~clear~~ ^{clear} the mines.

This is the reason why I invoke V. Excellency's kindness bearing ~~you~~ ^{you} to examine with particular good will the possibility of fostering the intervention of dependent technical organs and the collaboration of said organs with the Ministry of War, in order to solve this serious problem to which the revival of these zones devastated by war is undoubtedly connected.

We shall greatly appreciate any information concerning

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Nonetheless it would be necessary that the activity of the Ministry of War, which, we are afraid, will be handicapped by the shortage of facilities at hand, should be integrated by the kind assistance of the Allied Military Government especially as regards the supply of the material and the engines needed to ~~clear~~ *clear* the mines.

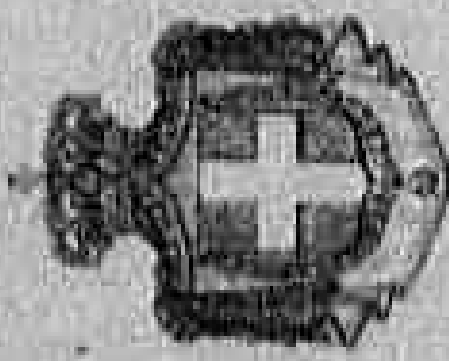
This is the reason why I invoke Y. Excellency's kindness being ~~then~~ *you* to examine with particular good will the possibility of fostering the intervention of dependent technical organs and the collaboration of said organs with the Ministry of War, in order to solve this serious problem to which the revival of those zones devastated by war is undoubtedly connected.

We shall greatly appreciate any information concerning this matter. Thanking for it in advance I express to Y.E.

My highest consideration.

The President **6670** the Council
Minister of the Interior.

CA R. 1737 ^{Mod 906} 178
Roma, 19 Agosto 44



Ministero dell'Interno

GABINETTO DEL MINISTRO

Il COMMISSARIO CAPO DELLA
COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO
LO = R O M A

Aut. N. 6041/2496

OGGETTO

Sub: Removal of mines in Lazio

E' stata ripetutamente segnalata a questo Ministero la urgente necessita' che nei territori delle provincie di Roma, Littoria e Frosinone si provveda alla rimozione di proiettili e di mine residuati delle operazioni belliche.

La presenza di tale materiale, oltre a costituire grave pericolo per l'incolumita' della popolazione rurale, e di serio ostacolo alla possibilita' di una pronta ripresa dell'attivita' agraria per la messa a cultura dei terreni e alla esecuzione dei lavori piu' essenziali ed urgenti quali la riattivazione degli acquedotti e delle linee elettriche.

Il Ministero della Guerra e' stato gia' interessato perche' disponga lo invio sui luoghi di apposite squadre di genieri e artiglieri e mezzo dei quali e, ove occorra, con la collaborazione di elementi del posto, possa addivenirsi, in breve tempo, alla completa e razionale bonifica dei territori interessati.

Tuttavia sarebbe necessario che l'opera che il Ministero della Guerra potra' svolgere, e che purtroppo teno sia molto limitata per la penuria dei mezzi di cui puo' disporre, venisse integrata dal benevolo aiuto del Governo Militare Alleato specialmente per quanto riguarda la fornitura di materiale

4469

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4469

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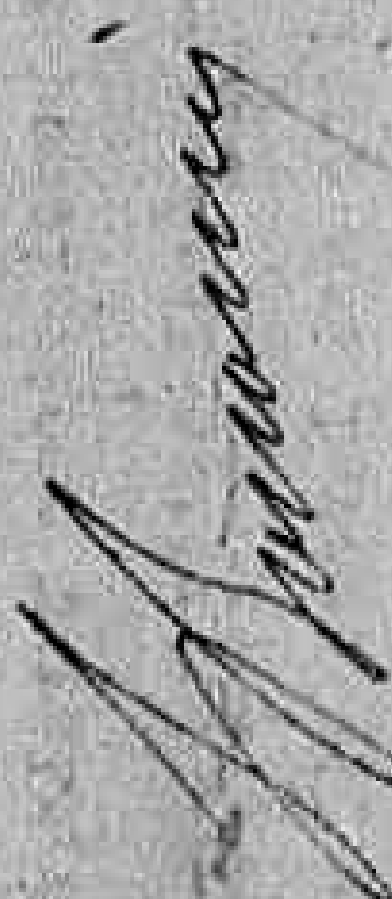
Ed   perci  che io mi permetto interessare la cortesia della S.V. ill.ma affinch  voglia esaminare con particolare benevolenza la possibilit  di promuovere l'intervento dei dipendenti organi tecnici e quelle intese che riter-

rà più opportune fra gli organi stessi e il Ministero della Guerra per risolvere questo grave problema col quale è indubbiamente connesso ogni principio di ricostruzione e di rinascita di quelle zone così duramente colpite dalla furia devastatrice della guerra.

Tomeranno assai gradite cortesi comunicazioni in proposito, in attesa delle quali anticipatamente ringrazio esprimendo alla S.V. Ill/ma i sensi della mia particolare considerazione.

IL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO

MINISTRO DELL'INTERNO



785017

così duramente colpite dalla furia devastatrice della guerra.

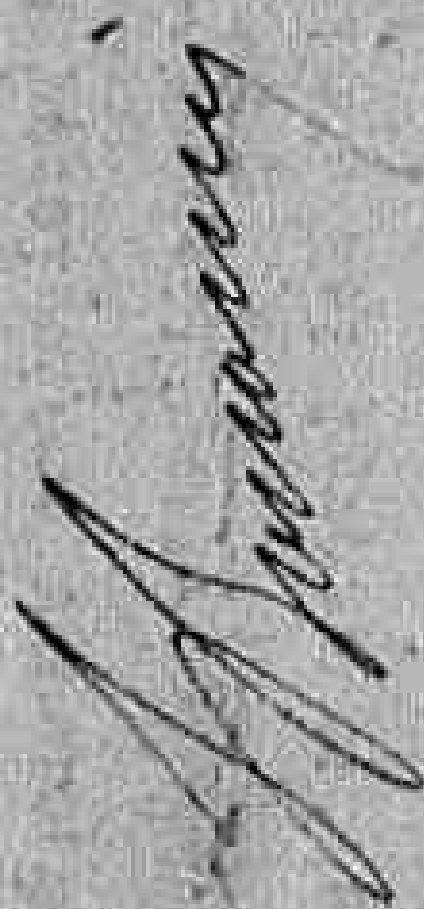
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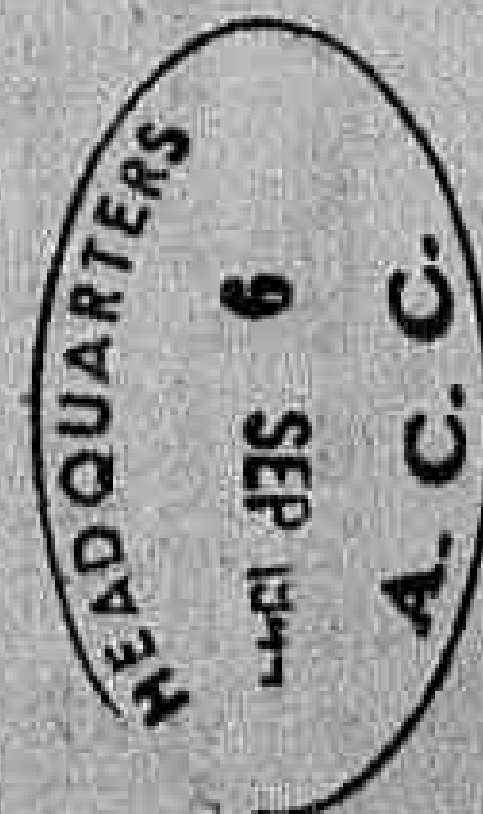
Ill/ma i sensi della mia particolare considerazione.

IL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO

MINISTRO DELL'INTERNO



8021



Phone: ~~180~~
478808
177

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.O. & M.G. SECTION
APO 324

RUF : 436/177/CA.

12 September 44

SUBJECT : Mine Clearance Companies.

TO : Admin. Section
Attention: Col. Orison.

- if 1104p.*
1. In confirmation of the conversation *today*, it is agreed that the handling of the two Rastrellamento Mine Coys should be taken over by your Section.
 2. For your information these two Coys are now working one under the command of Region IV and one under Region V.
 3. They are not functioning very satisfactorily mainly due to lack of equipment.
 4. The Files 436/CA (Vols 1 and 11) are forwarded to you for your retention. They contain reports and sketch maps from Regions showing mine-fields etc. The latest letter on this subject from MNIA is at folio 175. No action has been taken on this or folios 176 and 179.

L R
NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

4468

5107

RESTRICTED

436

176

4975

HQ ACC FOR RC AND MGS

AMG 5 ARMY FOR HUME

3681

SEP 111410B

HEADQUARTERS
11 SEP 1948
A. C. C.

44/11

RESTRICTED

PRIORITY

11 SEP Recd

CITY OF PISA EXTENSIVELY DAMAGED AND REPORTED WIDELY MINED. APART FROM WATER SUPPLY, WHICH IS IN HAND, PRINCIPAL OBSTACLE TO THE RETURN OF POPULATION TO THE CITY IS PRESENCE OF MINES SOME OF WHICH HAVE ALREADY CAUSED LOSS OF LIFE. ARMY ENGINEERS HELPFUL BUT CAN ONLY DEAL WITH ESSENTIAL BUILDINGS. SUGGEST THIS IS IMPORTANT CASE WHERE ITALIAN MINE DISPOSAL SECTIONS SHOULD BE USED AND REQUEST THAT A UNIT BE SENT FORWARD AT AN EARLY DATE. PLEASE ADVISE HOW SOON THEY CAN BE SENT. CITE OUR 313.

DIST

ACTION - C A. Br (2)

INFO - GSO
A/CC
ADM SEC
ECON SEC
FILE (2)
FLOAT

4467

RESTRICTED

SEP 111500B

436.D 175

Subject: Rastrellamento Mine Cove - Equipment.

Army Sub Commission (MMIA)
H.Q. A.C.C.
R O M E
AG/66

To: RC & MG Section
H.Q., A.C.C.

8 Sep 44

158 9 SEP Recd

Reference 436/159/CA of 4 Sep.

1. The equipment and vehicles not available from Italian sources may be issued by HQ AAI at their discretion.
2. AAI normally issues them to and places them on the charge of the Allied unit who commands the Italian unit, the Allied unit then arranging for the use of the equipment etc by the Italian unit.
3. It will therefore be necessary for whoever is to command the Italian units to apply for such of the equipment which the Italians cannot supply, and which the Allied commanding unit considers essential.

FJN/hh

Copy to: SORE.

CLAYTON P. KERR Colonel
Army Sub Commission (MMIA)
for Major General
Army Sub Commission (MMIA)

4466

Internal correspondence.

436 * File in Line Change
File 1544
174

To :- Major Reakes - R.O.M.G. Sec - 3rd Floor Room 18.

From: Movements Liaison Officer, MIA.

8 Sep 44.

9 SEP Recd

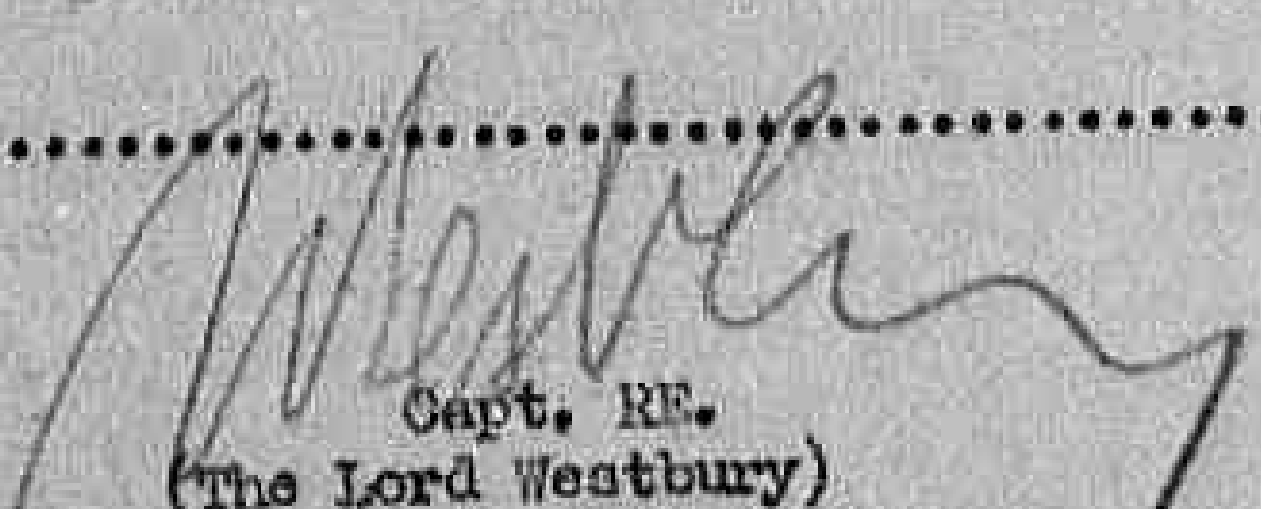
In accordance with your request I give below copy of AAI signal
Mov. 3484 dated 3 Sep 44 :-

From AAI

To (Action) (1) MOVETT (2) BENE (3) MIA (4) BARE (5) AGG
(Info) (6) MOV ORTONA (7) MOV FORCIA (8) MOVETT
(9) DEL TRAS MII. BARI (10) DISTWO (11) DEPRAIL BARI
(12) BENESEE (13) 57 AREA (14) PBS FOR MIA LO

Orig No. Mov. 3484 (.) arrange rail move 164 CP ARTIGLI D'ARMENTO 223 all
ranks in 5 tons from present location PERCARA entraining ORTONA 9
Sep to CASERTA via BENEVENTO (.) For SMRE at PIEDMONT D'ALIFE (.)
AAI. SD.1407 of 1 Sep refers

Range movements from 14
whenever the matter was
in hand. Plc 879.


Capt. RE.
(The Lord Westbury)
Movements Liaison Officer.

4465

785017

436 *to* *CAW*
173
TO : HQ ACC (R C & M G Section)
FROM : HQ REGION V - A.M.G.
SUBJECT : Mine clearance Coys.
REF : R5/501/32.
DATE : 6th September 1944.

8 SEP Recd
172

The attached copy of Signal from P.C. ANCONA is forwarded for information and necessary action if and when personnel become available please.

FOR THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER :

JHGW/mc

J. H. G. W.
Executive Officer.

Copy to: Prov. Commissioner, Ancona.
AMG Eighth Army Main.



Noted.
pk

4464

4667

4402

C O P Y

172

MELG V MBZX V HARR NR 210

QVR 1
FROM AMG ANCONA PROV 0610101

TO HQ REGION 5 AMG AQUILA

INFO AMG 8TH ARMY

MAIN AMG PESARO FOR DECKER

GR 22

HN/32 (.) GOTHIC LINE AREA NEEDS SPECIAL TREATMENT (.)

TWO PLATOONS ITALIAN MINE LIFTERS NEEDED

AT EARLIEST (.) TO REPORT TO CAPT

DECKER AT PESARO

BT

RPTN 210 1 061010 5 8 22 HN/32 CJH BBB

4463

CONFIDENTIAL

2986 171

AME PESCARA PROVINCE REPTD: REGION FIVE AGO AQUILA

HQ AGO

2986

8 Sep 44 169

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIORITY

Civil Affairs Br

REFERENCE CHARLIE PETER TERE SLANT ONE OF SIX SEPTEMBER PD PAREN TO AME PESCARA
PROVINCE REPTD REGION FIVE AGO AQUILA PAREN MOVEMENTS EAST ITALY HAVE BEEN
INSTRUCTED TO MOVE ONE SIX FOUR COY ON NINE SEPTEMBER FROM PESCARA TO ORTONA

W.R.

CONFIDENTIAL

L. T. MONTANE, Jr.
1st Lieut AGO
ADJUTANT 261

4462

4362
170
HQ REGION VIII ACC

FROM HQ ACC FROM ADMIN SEC

2951

08

RESTRICTED

ROUTINE

ADMIN SEC

8 SEP Recg

ITALIAN MINISTRY WAR PROPOSES TO SET UP MINE CLEARANCE SCHOOL FOR CIVILIAN
AND PARTISANS AT ORBITELLO PAREN TO HQ REGION EIGHT ACC FROM HQ ACC FROM
ADMIN SEC PAREN COMMENCING APPROX ONE FIVE SEP FOUR FOUR PD ALL RESPONSIBI-
LITY FOR MAINTENANCE CMA FEEDING AND INSTRUCTION WILL BE WITH WAR MINISTRY
PD HAVE ANY OBJECTION PD FULL DETAILS OF SCHEME WILL FOLLOW EARLIEST

Copy to RCMG ✓
jlc

4461

4461

CONFIDENTIAL

CAGE

4634

169

HQ ACC ROME INFO HQ REGION 5 AMG MMAT - 60 SUB AREA HQ DELEGAZIONE 'A'
SERRE CHIETI MOV ORTONA

AMG PESCARA PROV CHIETI
OPT/1

FOR INFORMATION ONLY 75/06

CONFIDENTIAL

IMMEDIATE 7 SEP Recd
JES 2

SEP 060900B

CONFIRM MOVEMENT ORDERS 164 CP ARTIERI DARRESTO PESCARA TO
CASERTA 9 SEPT. NO ORDERS RECEIVED ACC/AMG CHANNELS. AAI SD 1006 OF
1 SEPT REFERS. SUFFICIENT WORK 3 PROVINCES UNDER MY COMD FOR 2 COYS
MINE CLEARANCE FOR FURTHER 6 MONTHS PARTICULARLY AREA PESCARA - FOSSAGESI.
CASOLI - GUARDIAGLELO - CHIETI INCL LAST WINTERS BATTLEGROUND. MINE
CLEARANCE NOW PRESENTING SERIOUS PROBLEM OWING DETERIORATION WOODEN BOX
MINES. NUMEROUS CASUALTIES DAILY. IF ORDER STANDS CONSIDER ABSOLUTELY
ESSENTIAL REMAINING COY BE PROVIDED WITH TPT. SENDING FURTHER ADVICE
MOVE WILL BE CARRIED OUT.

HEADQUARTERS
7 SEP 1944
A. C. C.

DIST

ACTION - P Safety (2)
INFO - A/CC
ADMIN SEC
CA BR
FILE (M)

4460

4460

4460

CONFIDENTIAL

SEP 061815B

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. SECTION
APO 394

168
one:
478903

REF : 436/168/OA.

7 September 1944.

SUBJECT : Mine Clearance Coys.

TO : Region V.

1. Your letter R5/501/32 of 2 September 44, is acknowledged. Application has been made for additional transport for the Mine Clearing Companies to Army Sub-Commission who have been asked to approach AAI on the matter. It is hoped that some transport will be made available but you will be kept informed of the position.

157
me
NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

4459

785017

1636
167
Memo: to C.P.S.

4 SEP Recd

Bombs & Mine Disposal (Ex. Military Areas)
165 162 161

1. At Appendix "A" I give a diary of the chief records from our file up to date. Appendix "B" and "C" are notes on views of officers in RC & MP and MMIA.
2. It is not clear why the matter has come again to P.S. after having been dealt with by RC & MP since April. Much has been done of which we have no record.
3. There is no doubt in my mind that the functions of all P.S. Agencies in this question are strictly limited to reconnaissance and report.
4. In England the C.D. and P.S. personnel are not allowed to touch UXB or mines - they may only report to the Military. This in my opinion should be the principle applied in Italy.
5. The Italian army is asking for a chance to demonstrate in the war effort. This is their chance and it should be their responsibility or at least, that of the Italian Govt.
6. The Civil Defence Personnel would not be suitable, from my observations, for the work - they are either too old, too young, or too frightened. In any case they are to be found only in the towns and it might be considered bad policy to move them in case of air raids.
7. There appear to be two possible solutions to the problem.
 - (a) To request AAI for authorization of the raising of the ceiling of the Italian Army to allow for 20 companies of Mine Disposal Engineers.
This would be the most simple plan since the question of rationing, clothing, equipping, training and administration would be automatic under the existing machinery.

4458

166

(b) i. The enrollment of civilian personnel by the Italian Govt. for mine disposal.

ii. They should be formed into Companies as if they were military personnel.

iii. The Italian Army should provide Instructors.

iv. Administration, training, equipment, clothing, rations, pay and pensions would all have to be arranged for by the Italian Govt.

v. The use of "Patriots" or "Partisans" might provide the right type of personnel.

8. Of the two policies in para 7 I would advocate the first since it is by far the easiest to organize and control.

9. On formation and training the units should be placed at the disposition of the Regional Commissioners.

10. In view of the importance of having the farmers get to work on the land it is stressed that immediate and well defined action be taken.

G. H. L. EASON
G. H. L. EASON
Sigs & C.D.

7/8/44

4457

4456

APPENDIX "A"

165

File Encl.
No.

1A In Sept. 1943 an application was made by ANGOT to 15 Army Group for the services of military instructors to instruct CG.MR in bomb and mine reconnaissance and disposal. This got us nowhere.

3x On 15th Nov. 1943 a letter (3x) was received from MGS AVHQ stating that for reconnaissance civilians and CG.MR be used and that there were sufficient B.D. Squads to deal with disposal.

4a On 24 Nov. we replied that we were setting up a training Scheme for reconnaissance for CG.MR. We asked for location of B.D. Squads.

7a On 3 Dec. we repeated our statement of 24 Nov. and suggested locations where B.D. Squads would be needed.

8a On 7 Dec. M.D.S. asked for order of priority of places listed in 7A.

9a 25 Dec. order of priority was sent to M.D.S.

10a 10 Jan. Location of 4 B.D. units sent to us by M.D.S.

11a 15 Jan. Regions I and II informed of these locations.

12a 21 June. letter from Reg. I, stating that Italian Military should deal with Italian and German bombs. General BRANCA did not think CG.MR needed instructions.

13a 29 March - Letter from Region III reporting mines around Caserta. 5th Army would only remove those affecting military effort. 5th Army suggested Italian personnel. Report from Italian Liaison Officer that Italian mine company working as labourers. 5th Army refused to release personnel. We referred this letter to Army Sub-Comm. (MIN.1) who passed to MIN.4 for action.

16a 18 April. Letter from RC & MC to Army Sub-Commission stating that Italian Troops are concerned and requesting that provisional company be formed.

MIN.3. 23 April Referred 16a to Army Sub-Commission, who replied with MIN.4.

1156
2256

164

- 17a 2 June cable to RE & ME from Region IV.
- 18a 7th July cable from Region VIII to RO & ME Italian Army unit.
- 21a 15 July cable for Region IV to G.A. (British) reporting bombs and mines.
- 22a 13 July G.A. Mr. requested by cable details of bombs and mines in all Regions. Unable to promise immediate help.
- 23a 17 July Report from Reg. III that all Bombs and Mine in Region have been reported to B.D. unit and are being taken care of by them.
- 24a 21 July ^{cable} to WHIA from AAI instructing movement of Italian Mine Clearing units to Pescara.
Note. Copies of certain AAI cables not received by P.S.
- 26a 27 July cable reporting movement of Italian units to Ortona.
Note. Copy of previous cable not received by P.S.
- 27a 1 Aug. Letter to Region IV from P.S. stating that Mine Clearing units are assigned to Region IV and operating near GAKTA.
- 28a 5th Aug. Cable from WHIA instructing that the units in Region IV be placed under Italian Military Command.
- 31a 6 Aug. Cable stating that Italian mine units in Reg. V are under Region Command and not Italian Army Command. (This appears to be a different policy from that indicated in the preceding cable).

4455

163

N.B. The Italian units at present engaged on Mine Disposal are:-

Reg. IV. 13 Artieri Di Arresto Co. 7 (trained) 561 Replacement Coy.

Reg. V 164 Mine clearing Coy. (trained).
582 Replacement Coy.

4454

162

Appendix "B"

Major Phillips (SORE) MEMA

1. Responsibility for Bombs and Mines is as under:-

Army Area ----- A.A.I.

L. of C. (near Depots or Military Routes etc.) -
Districts/other parts - ACC (RC & MG Section)

2. ACC have 2 Italian Mine units attached and had 2 on loan for 1 month. These latter have now been withdrawn.

3. If further units are required ACC should apply to AAI for increase in ceiling of Italian Army. Maj. Phillips agrees that at least 20 companies of 250 men would be required.

4. Maj. Phillips also stated that some suggestion had been made for civilian "firms" to do the work but could give no details.

GIVE

44582

Appendix "a"

Major Reakes C.I.B.

1. On L. of C. Districts are responsible for the whole areas.
2. Mine companies are not responsible for B. x B's
3. 2 trained companies of Italian Army are available at present with 2 training companies. Their clothing and equipment leaves much to be desired. They are short of transport and therefore limited in their scope of action.
4. Admin. Section have taken up the matter of Mine Disposal with the Italian Govt. and asked for their proposals.
5. The Italian Govt. must decide on the action.

4451

4452

4453

4454

160
Dear Reiter,

Confirming purchase - your
letter for Royal Engineers, this will be
returned.

If the OXB is ^{an} Army area, the
draft is for SCPO to approve
the Army client.

In all other cases notification
is to the Area or Sub Area concerned.

Should there be any unavoidable
delay in the removal of the bomb
- each bomb is given a priority -
pt letters have the co-ordinates, the
reason for request for removal
at the obstruction of the Army or
giving ^{them} reason for delay and ⁴⁴⁵¹

Sabotage in D R E line

Yours Sincerely

15/
8

Frank Jones

1521

785017

5441
HEADQUARTERS
ARMED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.O. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Phone: 159
78808

Ref/436/121/OA.

14 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Mines.

TO ✓ : HQ AAI ("E" Br)

Reference this HQ letter 436/69/OA of 22 July 1944 it has been reported to this HQ that there is an UXB at GINESTRO in Comune of SIENA. The bomb is on the farm SAN GUIDO Q8213.

Johnston Reuther May
L

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,
For A/Chief Commissioner.

Copy to: Major H. Mitchell,
HQ No.17 B.D. Coy., CMP.
Region VIII (Your 8/23 of 8 Aug 44 refers)

4450

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

PHONES:
478808

158

REF : 436/158/OA.

4 September 44

SUBJECT : Mine Clearing Companies.

TO : Army Sub-Commission.

- 155
1. With reference to your letter RE 4/1 of 2 September 44, it is noted that the Minister of War has been asked to provide the Engineer Stores required for the two Rastrellamento Mine Companies operating under Regions IV and V.
 2. Being the only Sub-Commission of ACC. concerned with the Italian Army and acting in such close contact with AAI. on all matters connected with the Italian Army it is considered that it would be better if the approach to AAI. was made through your channels.
 3. Reference para 3 of your letter as there is little prospect of the bulk of the equipment asked for being made available from Italian sources (including trucks and M/Os) it will be appreciated if you will take the matter up with AAI. on behalf of ACC.

L E
NORMAN E. FLECK
Colonel, 4468
Deputy Executive,
Commissioner.

4449

785017

TO : HQ (RC & MG Section).
FROM : H.Q. REGION V- A.M.G.
SUBJECT : Mine Clearance Coys - Pescara.
REF : R5/501/32.
DATE : 2 September 1944.



I attach herewith extracts from letters by PG CHINTI on the subject of Transport for the Italian Mine Clearance Coys at Pescara.

The 2 vehicles of Region transport which are attached for duty with the Coys cannot really be spared, and it is requested that this matter be given urgent consideration in view of the statements made as to the degree of operational functions possible under present conditions.

The mine detectors were received on the 18 Aug 44 and are now in possession of the Coys.

FOR THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER :

C.H.A. French
C.H.A. FRENCH
Lt. Colonel
Executive Officer.

Copy to: HQ ACC (G-4(B))

me *See 16448*

4167

EXTRACT FROM PC CHIETI LETTER DATED AUG 44 REF CPT/141
ADDED TO GO SUB AREA.

"3. The 2 Coys, however, are unable to function more than 50% efficiently owing to the fact that they arrived in Pescara without any means of transport whatsoever, and even now only have some two requisitioned vehicles which are fully occupied drawing rations, etc. Application for the allocation of a reasonable amount of transport has been made through HQ Region 5 AMG to HQ ACC but so far without success.

5. In view of the enormous number of mines which still remain to be removed in the three above mentioned provinces, particularly Chieti through which the front line ran for so long, and the vicinity of Pescara, and which are causing casualties daily, not only to civilians but also to military personnel, I should be grateful if you could arrange to provide some transport for the use of the 2 Coys in order that their work may proceed as quickly as possible."

EXTRACT FROM PC CHIETI LETTER DATED 17 AUG 44 REF CPT/141.

"4. Owing to the lack of transport the coys are unable to function efficiently and I propose, therefore, to allot at least two vehicles which are being brought in from Teramo, for duty with each of the Italian Mine Clearance coys. Even so, it is essential that the Coys be provided with their own transport as early as possible and it is hoped that this will be taken into consideration before any more transport is withdrawn.

5. Numerous casualties amongst both civilians and Military (including both British and Italian Mine Clearance personnel) are occurring every day, not only in Pescara, but throughout all the above named provinces, particularly in Chieti Province, where the front was static for months. Many of the mines of the wooden type are now extremely dangerous owing to their ~~is~~ rotten condition. In order that the clearance may proceed as expeditiously as possible I consider that the early provision of Mine detectors and Transport is absolutely essential."

1
V. C. M. S.

4446

4447

785017

Subject:- Equipment for Mine Clearance Coys

Army Sub Commission (M-LA)
 HQ ACC
 ROME
 RE 4/1
 2 Sep 44

PC & MG Section Main ACC
 147

2 SEP Recd

Ref your 436/147/CA dated 28 Aug.

1. Instructions have been issued for four trucks and two M/Cs to be handed over to 561 Rastrellamento Mine Coy (my SD/4 dated 8 Aug refers).
 No additional trucks or M/Cs are available from Italian sources for 561 and 562 Rastrellamento Mine Coys.
2. No typewriters are available from Italian sources.
3. The Ministry of War has been asked to provide the Engineer Stores required for these two coys (my RE 4/1 dated 30 Aug refers). You will be notified as soon as possible of the stores not available from Italian sources.
4. Application to HQ AAI should be made by you for all tpt, equipment and stores unavailable from Italian sources which you consider necessary for these companies.

goh

Copy - A/Q

bot shipped.
 this is radio factory but
 have 4 is not so good.
 we shall wait. please
 pk 24/9.

R. Phillips
 Major Gen
 Army Sub Commission
 4446

Rec 158

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.O. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Phone:
478808

Ref/A36/15A/CA.

2 Sept 1944.

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing Coy.

TO : R.O. Region V.

1. Attached hereto is a signal received from AAI withdrawing from Pescara the 164 OF Artieri 8'Arresto Coy.
2. This is unfortunate but it was expected. It does however still leave one Coy at Pescara.

me

NORMAN E. FENKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

4445

785017

RESTRICTED

436 2

4262 153

CABR

Full information only

60/01

MIA ACC INFO DISTREE

MAIN AAI

SD 1407

RESTRICTED

NONE

SEP 012530B

2 SEP Recd

FOLLOWING ITALIAN ENGR COYS WILL MOVE TO PIEDIMONTE D ALIFE
TO UNDER COMD SMRE SOONEST.

FIRST. 3 CP ARTIERI 100 PERS AT CANCELLO UNDER ADM COMD 3 DIST
UNDER ORDERS MOVWIT.

SECOND. 10 CP ARTIERI 180 PERS AT CATANIA UNDER COMD SMRE
(SABAUDA DIV) UNDER ORDERS MOV AAI.

THIRD. 164 CP ARTIERI D ARRESTO 223 PERS AT PESCARA UNDER
COMD ACC TO ORTONA BY RD UNDER ARRANGEMENTS ACC AND ONWARDS BY RAIL
UNDER ORDERS MOV AAI. EACH 5 TONS STORES.

ACC DIST

ACTION - Pub Safety SO (2)

INFO - A/CC

ADMIN SEC

C A BR 443

FILE

4444

HEADQUARTERS

2 SEP 1944

A. C. C.

Coal ships
away from the west
city at Pescara.

2/9

RESTRICTED

SEP 011850B

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

REF : 436/152/GA.

1 September 1944.

SUBJECT : Unexploded Bombs and Mines.

TO : Region VIII

1. Your letter 5/32 of 28 August is acknowledged with list attached.
2. Two companies, at present are operating under ACC in Regions IV and V and will not be available elsewhere for some time.
3. The list of unexploded bombs, shells etc., should be reported to the Army who have bomb disposal units, operating in Army area. They may be able to help but it would of course depend on their commitments.

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

4443

4362
CA Br. 151

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION VIII

31 AUG Recd

28 Aug 44

RVIII/8/32

SUBJECT : Unexploded Bombs and Mines

TO : Executive Commissioner, HQ, ACC ✓
(Attention CA Branch) 110 150

1. Reference your 436/110/CA dated 12 Aug 44.
2. Attached at Appendix "A" is list of unexploded bombs and mines in PISA Province is forwarded in the hope that an Italian mine clearing company will materialise someday.

For the Regional Commissioner

J. Howard Salter
J. HOWARD SALTER,
Major, R.A.,
Adjutant.

Copy to:-

Pisa Province

Your 5190/BS dated 24 Aug 44 refers. Lists of "Ammunition and Explosives Charges" and "Guns Machine Guns and Tanks" are not being forwarded to HQ, ACC. According to para 5 of Fifth Army letter 205/17 dated 23 Jul 44, addressed to you, copy to this HQ, such stocks should be reported by the CAO direct to the nearest Ordnance Unit.

yk 49
file 152
4442

APPENDIX "A"

LIST OF UNEXPLODED BOMBS

1) Three bombs in locality CAMPO LUNGO
 2) " " " CAUTINI farm
 3) " " the cemetery of CASTELNUOVO
 4) " " locality FODERINO sopra la LECCLIA
 5) " " " FARRICA LAGONI (SASSO PISANO)
 6) " " " Farm LABATE
 7) " " " BURRAIA
 8) " " " LUCOLI Farm
 9) " " " COLOMBATA farm

CASTELNUOVO V.C.

POMERANCE

LIST OF UNEXPLODED SHELLS

1) Two shells 105 mm in STALLINO farm (MONTESERBOLI)
 2) " " in locality PAGANINA
 3) " " in locality LAGONI
 4) " " in locality PIANO a GELLO
 5) " " in locality FURACE of VECCHIERA farm
 6) " " in locality BRACCIA di SASSO
 7) " " in the wood of BRACCIA di SASSO
 8) " " in locality BUCA PALADINO = BRACCIO di SASSO
 9) " " in locality QUERCIAIA (near bridge "LA CORNIA").

POMERANCE

CASTELNUOVO V.C.

LIST OF UNEXPLODED HAND BOMBS AND ANTITANK BOMBS

1) Five antitank bombs in the CAUTINI farm
 2) " " " S. ROSA
 3) " " " VIA STANINA farm
 4) " " in the Carabinieri station
 5) " " in the S. ANTONIO farm
 6) " " in the Carabinieri station
 7) " " in the CINO BALDI's orchard
 8) Two German hand bombs in locality FROTICECO

CASTELNUOVO V.C.

POMERANCE

LIST OF UNEXPLODED MINES

1) Ninety Four mines in locality S. LORENZO
 2) " " in the powder depot
 3) " " in locality BUCIGNARA
 4) " " in locality PAGANINA
 5) " " in Carabinieri station
 6) " " in locality "LA VILLA"
 7) " " in locality FONTE MARRUCA di BRUSIANO
 8) " " in locality CAMPO la CORELLA (LECCLIA)
 9) " " along the PALACETTO road
 10) " " in the BULERA Farm
 11) " " in locality FROTICECO
 12) " " at the cross road of "LE ROCCIAE"

CASTELNUOVO V.C.

POMERANCE

S. J.

LIST OF UNEXPLODED SHELLS

1) Two shells 105 mm	in STALLINO farm (MONTECERBOLI)	POMERANCE
2) One "	in locality PAGANINA	CASTELNUOVO V.C.
3) Some "	in locality LAGONI	"
4) Some dozens shells	in locality FIANO a GELLO	"
5) Fifteen "	in locality Fumace of VECCHIENNA farm	"
6) Five "	in locality BRACCIA di SASSO	"
7) Ten "	in the wood of BRACCIA di SASSO	"
8) Seventy "	in locality BUCA DALADINO = BRACCIO di SASSO	"
9) Five "	in locality QUERCIALA (near bridge "LA CORNIA")	"

LIST OF UNEXPLODED HAND BOMBS AND ANTITANK BOMBS

1) Five antitank bombs	in the CANTINI farm	CASTELNUOVO V.C.
2) Seven "	" " S.ROSA	"
3) Thirty Four "	" " VIA PIANINA farm	"
4) Three "	in the Carabinieri station	"
5) Two hand bombs	in the S. ANTONIO farm	"
6) One "	in the Carabinieri station	"
7) One "	in the GLIO BALDI's orchard	"
8) Two German hand bombs	in locality BROTTICCO	"

LIST OF UNEXPLODED MINES

1) Ninety Four mines	in locality S. LORENZO	CASTELNUOVO V.C.
2) Seven "	in the powder depot	"
3) Nine "	in locality BUGICHIANA	"
4) Two "	in locality PAGANINA	"
5) One "	in Carabinieri station	"
6) Two "	in locality "LA VILLA"	"
7) ONE MINE FIRED	in locality FOMER MARRUCA di BRUSIANO	"
8) Three mines	in locality CAMPO LA CORNELIA (LECCIA)	"
9) One "	along the PALAGETTO road	"
10) One "	in the BULERA Farm	"
11) One "	in locality BROTTICCO	"
12) Some "	at the cross road of "LE ROCCALE"	"

UNEXPLODED AIRPLANE BOMBS

One bomb in MONTECERBOLI,	fraction of POMERANCE, Map Ref : Q4712
Two bombs in LARDERELLO	" " " " Q4611
Five " " "	(broken bridge) " " " Q4611

785017

4367

149

Subject:- Engineer Stores for Mine Clearance Coys

Army Sub Commission (MINTA)
HQ ACC
ROME
RE 4/1
20 Aug 44
31 AUG Recd

Ministry of War (Engineer Section)
copy HQ & M3 Section HQ ACC

148

1. Engineer Stores as per Appx 'A' are required urgently by 561 Rastrellamento Mine Coy GAETA and 562 Rastrellamento Mine Coy PESCARA.
2. Will you please deliver to these coys the stores available in your Depots and inform me early of the stores that are not available from Italian Army sources.

geh

Lead Shiple for info

12 5/18

G. H. Phillips
Maj Gen
Army Sub Commission

4440

118
Annex 'A' to MIA dated 30 Aug

Equipment Stores required for each of 561 & 562 Battalions into Mine Caves

Round iron 1/4"	yds	150
" 1/8"	"	90
Manilla rope 3/8" dia.	"	1000
Tape, cotton, general use 3/4" wide 500 ft roll	No.	20
Cap, blasting, special non-electric	yds	2000
Fuse, blasting, time	"	2000
Trinitrotoluene (TNT) block 1/6 lb	No.	2000
Lighter, fuse	bboxes	50
Barbed wire	yds	3000
Wire, iron 3 mm dia.	"	3000
Wood, pine 3 x 30 cm.	cu.ft.	10
Square wood 4" side each 4 m long	"	10
Wheelbarrow	No.	10
Buckets 13 quart	"	4
Nails 4" length	lbs	100
" 3"	"	100
" 1"	"	40
Shovel, general purpose, round point (type IV)	No.	100
long handle No. 2, 10 x 13 m blade	No.	2
Measure, steel w/flexible spout	No.	10
Trowel, brick (type C) 10 1/2" blade	No.	100
Pick, drifting, handled 5 lb	No.	10
Hatchet, claw, handled 4"	No.	10
Hammer, mason (type M) handled, 3 lb	No.	5
Hammer striking (type T) short pattern, handled 8 lb	No.	
Hammer carpenter (type D) nail, curved claw, ball face handled	No.	10
Hatchet half (type C) handled 3. 5/8"	No.	10
Pliers, lineman's (type N) side cutting, 8"	No.	10
Saw, hand, cross-cut 1 man (type 4) 36"	No.	2
Saw, hand, cross-cut 1 man (type M) Eastern pattern	No.	4
Pincers, Carpenters 6"	No.	4
Handle, pick, drifting 36"	No.	150
Handle, shovel, D handle	No.	150
Handle, hatchet, broad, 14"	No.	10
Handle, hammer, striking, short pattern, 36"	No.	10
Handle, sledge, 36"	No.	100
Handle, hatchet, half 14"	No.	10

4439

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED GENERAL COMMISSION
H.C. & H.G. SECTION
APO 254

Index
70803

147

23 August 44

REF : 136/427/01.

SUBJECT : Equipment for Mine Clearing Coys.

TO : Army Self-Coordination.

1. Enclosed herewith is copy letter from Region IV (Engineering Division) dated 19 August 44, setting the equipment urgently needed by the 561 Compagnie Artillerie Pionniers Lancers Mine Command. Similar equipment is required for the 562 Compagnie.

2. Please take the matter up with the appropriate authorities and see what can be done about getting this equipment or part of it made available by these Companies.

for use.
JH
NORMAN E. PIERCE
Colonel,
Deputy Executive,
Coordination.

Copy to: Admin. Section.
Reg. IV - Ref. your R/S 173 of 26 Aug. 44.

146

154
11/11 9/1138

4362
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 394

0-4506
1419
CABW 1416
R/5173
26 August, 1944

SUBJECT: Mines

TO : HQ Allied Control Commission
RC and MG Section

Enclosed is a list of equipment required by 561 Company Artillery before it can operate effectively.

For the Regional Commissioner:

A.D. Bonham-Carter
A.D. BONHAM-CARTER
Lt Colonel
Executive Officer (Provinces)



4437

785017

AUG 21 1944

HEADQUARTERS REGION IV
Allied Control Commission
Engineering Division
APO 394

19 August 1944

TO : HQ, ACC, Region IV (Economics & Supply)

SUBJECT: Requisition for mine removal supplies.

FILE N°: R4/ENG/47.6

1. There is herewith submitted a list of items which are urgently needed by the 561 Compagnia Artieri Rastrellamento Mine Comando for use in the detection and removal of mines:

Item	Unit	Quantity
Antitank mine Detector (complete with spanners)	ea	12
Round iron 1/4"	yds	150
Round iron 1/8"	yds	90
Manilla rope 3/8" diam.	yds	1000
Tape, cotton, general use 3/4 in. wide	ea	20
500 ft. Role	yds	2000
Cap, blasting, special non-electric	yds	2000
Fuse, blasting, time	ea	2000
Trinitrotoluene (TNT) block 1/6 lb	box	50
Lighter, fuse	yds	3000
Barbed wire	yds	3000
Wire, iron, 3mm diam.	cu.ft.	10
Wood, size 3 x 30 cm.	cu.ft.	10
Square wood 4 in. side each 4 m long	ea	10
Wheelbarrow	ea	4
Buckets 13 quart	lb	100
Nails 4 in. length	lb	100
" 3 " "	lb	40
" 1 " "	ea	9
2 1/2 ton trucks	ea	2
Motorcycles		
Shovel, general purpose, round point (type IV) long handle, N° 2, 10 x 13 m. blade	ea	4436

1444

<u>Item</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Measure, steel w/flexible spout	ea	2
Trowel, brick (type C) 10 1/2 in. blade	ea	10
Pick, drifting, handled 5 lb	ea	100
Hatchet, claw, handled, 4 in.	ea	10
Hammer, mason (type M) handled, 3 lb	ea	10
Hammer, striking (type T) short pattern, handled, 8 lb	ea	5
Hammer, carpenter (type D) nail, curved claw, bell face, handled	ea	10
Hatchet, half (type C) handled 3 5/8 in.	ea	10
Pliers, lineman's (type N) side cutting, 8 in.	ea	10
Saw, hand, crosscut, 1-man (type 4) 36 in.	ea	2
Saw, hand, crosscut, 2-man (type M), Eastern pattern	ea	4
Pincers, carpenter's 6-in.	ea	4
Handle, pick, drifting, 36-in.	ea	150
Handle, shovel, D-handle	ea	150
Handle, hatchet, broad, 16-in.	ea	10
Handle, hammer, striking, short pattern, 36-in.	ea	10
Handle, sledge, 36-in.	ea	100
Handle, hatchet, half, 14-in.	ea	10
Typewriter, non-portable, elite type, 18-in.	ea	1

Harry Larson
HARRY LARSON, Major C.E.

4435

see 147

436
CEA Br.

8-4098 143

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 384

R/5130

22 August 1944

SUBJECT: Mines.

23 AUG Recd

TO : Regional Control and Military Government Section
Headquarters
Allied Control Commission.

142

1. In previous letters I have referred to the state of training of the Italian Companies now at Gaeta. I now enclose for your information copy of the recommendation by an American Engineer Officer who is dealing with the Companies. His report is covered by a note from the Regional Engineer to the effect that he considers the Companies will be useless for any operational use for some little time and of no service to Region IV unless they can remain for three months.

For The Regional Commissioner:

A. D. Bonham Carter
A. D. BONHAM CARTER
Lt Colonel
Executive Officer (Provinces)

6434

Encl.

*Get all info for info
I mean go down to GAETA
tomorrow p.m. 24/8.*

You must give R. IV an answer.

25/8

*I phoned Lt Bonham 6-146
Carter & explained the
position. He knows
my is going to have a conference
with Colonel on the matter.
NFA p.m. 25/8.*

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
23 AUG 1944
A. C. C.

785017

COPY

HEADQUARTERS REGION IV
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

15 August 1944

SUBJECT: Troop Assignment
TO : Regional Engineer

1. It is requested that the assignment of the following named organizations be continued for such a period as to permit them to carry out the functions for which they were originally assigned:

13 Compagnia Artieri D'Arresto (13 Reggimento Genio)

561 Compagnia Artieri D'Arresto

2. It is understood that the 13th Company was scheduled to be relieved from its present assignment on 31 August 1944.

3. There is a most urgent need for both organizations as they are needed to remove mines. These mines are a great hazard to the restoration of water supplies for many communities, to the rebuilding of electric light and power lines, to the reconstruction of roads and bridges, and to the resumption of normal agricultural pursuits.

4. Both units will be required to undergo a certain amount of training prior to their actual employment on mine detection and removal.

/s/ Harry Larson
Major, Corps of Engineers.

4433

785017

GdeCEP/es

HEADQUARTERS REGION IV
Allied Control Commission
(Engineering Division)
APO 394

22nd August 1944

25 AUG Recd

TO : H.Q. ACC. Region IV
(Attention Lt. Col. Bonham Carter)

SUBJECT: Mine Clearance

INREPLY QUOTE: R4/EM/25.1

Reference H.Q. ACC RC and MG Section letter
436/109/CM dated 12th August received 21st August.

In reply to foot note.

A letter was sent from this Office to Comando
Genio Campania MP 120 asking for 2000 litres of Petrol
for August and 900 litres were authorized for Adminis-
trative Purposes and I am informed was drawn from
Naples.

Later when Mine Detectors were drawn from
NAPLES a small issue was made from ROME.

Issues of ~~Cert~~ P. petrol can be made from
ROME from ~~my~~ bulk allotment, meanwhile.

We have frequently in last month had to draw
from NAPLES in bulk.

The Petrol Pipe passes through FORMIA within
4 Kms where formerly there was a MILITARY Distribution
Pump and I have NOT heard of its closing.

The question of Petrol for operation of Mine
Collecting has not yet arisen as they are ~~not~~
operate.

Maj. LARSON is spending this week with them at
GABTA to endeavour to get them fit to operate. ~~243~~

It is an obvious waste of transport to draw
fuel from long distances and Authority is urged NOT
to draw from MILITARY LINE, and save this needless
waste of tyres of which they have not even one spare

785017

UNREPLY QUOTE: R4/ENC/25.1

Reference H.Q. ACG RC and MC Section letter
436/103/OM dated 12th August received 21st August.

In reply to foot note.

A letter was sent from this Office to Comando Genio Campane MP 120 asking for 2000 litres of Petrol for August and 900 litres were authorized for Administrative purposes and I am informed was drawn from Napier.

Later when Nine Detectors were drawn from
MAPLES a small issue was made from ROME.

Issues of ~~Card~~¹¹ P. petrol can be made from
BOND from ~~any~~ bulk allotment, meanwhile.

We have frequently in last month had to draw from NAPLES in bulk.

The petrol pipe passes through FORMIA within 4 Kms where formerly there was a MILITARY Distribution Pump and I have NOT heard of its closing.

The question of Petrol for operation of Mine Collecting has not yet arisen as they are not to operate.

Maj. LAMBON is spending this week with the 1st Battalion at CASITA to endeavour to get them fit to operate.

It is an obvious waste of transport to draw fuel from long distances and Authority is urged NOW to draw from MILITARY LINE, and save this needless waste of tyres of which they have not even one spare *per* truck.

Copy to:

ACC H.Q. PC & MG Section

U. Q. ACC Economic Section

(for Commerce Sub Commission)

W.A. A.C.C.V.

~~Infantry -~~ Lt. Col. H.B.

1000

3

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED OFFICIAL COMMISSION
R.O. & M.G. SECTION
APO 354

Phone:
473303

140

REF : 436/158/CA

22 August 44

SUBJECT : Mine Clearing Coys.

TO : Army Sub-Commission.

1. With reference to this HQ. letter 436/108/CA of 14 August 44, there is forwarded for your information and such action as you consider necessary, copy letter received from Region IV dated 20 August 44. With regard to para 3 thereof can you please say if an Italian officer could be attached to Region IV to supervise the training and operations of these Coys. 108 129

2. It would appear that vacancies can be obtained at British Mine Schools for Italians. Would you make enquiries on this point and ascertain when they could be made available.

3. The report on the Coys in Gesta and Rosara by the Regions concerned are disappointing. The discipline of the companies is poor indeed. We shall be glad if you will look into the matter and draw the attention of the appropriate military authorities to the state of these Coys.

pk

NORMAN R. FISKE
Colonel,
Deputy Executive,
Commissioners.

4431

Copy to: Admin. Section.
Region IV. (your R/6017 of 20 August, refers)

139

436
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

REGION IV

APC 394

20 August, 1944

R/6017

SUBJECT: Mine Lifting
TO : HQ Allied Control Commission
RC and MG Section

21 AUG Recd

1. First experience with the Italian Companies at Gaeta is very bad. Besides being so badly equipped they are now reported as being entirely untrained (previously it was stated that 60 men were trained) and without any sort of discipline. Our Officer who went to inspect them has found the Italian Officer in pyjamas in the middle of the day, the troops living in the surrounding houses, and not a single one of the orders which had been given in writing had been carried out. No work or training has been done.

2. In view of this a training programme has been drawn up to include some discipline as well as to make full use of such equipment as their is. The reporting Officer is of the opinion that the Company which is due to leave on Aug. 29 is quite unfit for work.

3. In view of this serious state of affairs assistance is requested as follows

(a) Pressure to have the Italian Officer attached to Region IV (our letter R/5047 of 14 Aug.)

(b) Pressure for release of the clothing, etc; already requested through MIAA.

(c) Attachment of 6 American or British NCO's to start training.

(d) Application for vacancies at British Mines School for Italians. Brigadier Kenchington, DMT(Br), has expressed his readiness to help in this manner.

(e) Early consideration of the proposal to employ SCAUT. (our letter R/5061 of 14 Aug.) It seems clear that the only way for the Italian Government to tackle this enormous problem is on a commercial basis.

(f) Release of more detectors and a request for any old pattern and discarded "scorpions".

For the Regional Commissioner:

A.D. Bonham-Carter

A.D. BONHAM-CARTER

Lt. Colonel

Executive Officer (Provinces)

Copy: Regional Engineer, Region IV
Provincial Commissioner, Frosinone

HEADQUARTERS

20 August, 1944

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Subject: Mine Lifting
TO : HQ Allied Control Commission
RC and MG Section

21 AUG Recd

1. First experience with the Italian Companies at Gaeta is very bad. Besides being so badly equipped they are now reported as being entirely untrained (previously it was stated that 60 men were trained) and without any sort of discipline. Our Officer who went to inspect them has found the Italian Officer in pyjamas in the middle of the day, the troops living in the surrounding houses, and not a single one of the orders which had been given in writing had been carried out. No work or training has been done.

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(f) Release of more detectors and a request for any old pattern and discarded "scorpions".

For the Regional Commissioner:

A.D. Bonham-Carter

A.D. BONHAM-CARTER

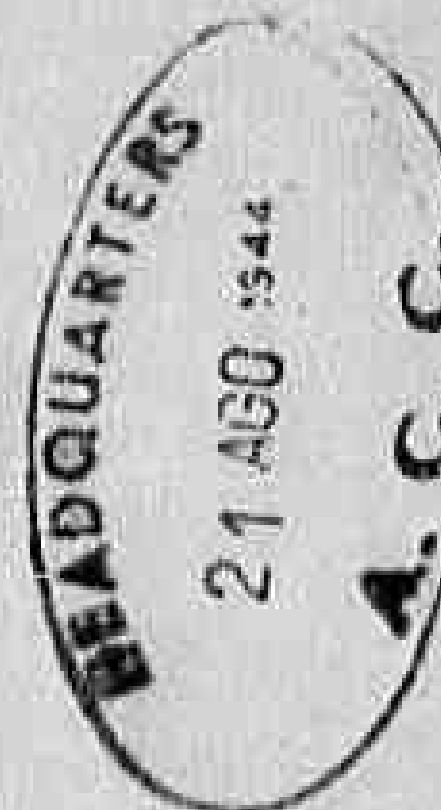
Lt. Colonel

Executive Officer (Provinces)

Copy: Regional Engineer, Region IV
Provincial Commissioner, Frosinone
Littoria

See letter - see

21/8



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

TO:

Col. Fiske, ACC

0-4007

138

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

REGION IV

APO 394

TCU DIV.

CRB/ap

5A/TCU/1500/20-4

19 August 1944

21 AUG Recd

TO: Regional Engineer
Region IV

1. Noted.

2. No information is available on the 13 Artieri
di Arresto in this office.3. The unit attached to Rome Region, 25 men of 538
(now 2675) Artieri di Arresto which was loaned to Rome
Region until needed elsewhere will be withdrawn for use
in the Florence Area this week.C. R. Birchett

C. R. BIRCHETT

Lt. Col., C.S.

Dir. TCU Div.

Copies to:

Regional Commissioner, Region IV

Col. Fiske, AGC ✓

10/2/44

6238

137

COPY OF LETTER DATED 16 AUG. 1944 - 436/128/CA
FROM: Col. N. S. Fiske, Deputy Exec. Comm., ACC
TO : R.C. Region IV

SUBJECT: Mine clearing Coys.

1. For your information there is sent copy signal received from AA1 stating that the 13 Artieri di Arresto Coy will be withdrawn after 29 August.
2. In view of this it would seem desirable that a report should be made on the 561 Coy Rastrellatori Mine as to the state of their training to date and whether this training will be completed by the time the 13 Coy is withdrawn. Would you please cause investigations on this point to be made.

NORMAN S. FISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

Copy to Admin. Section

6628

6627

785017

136

COPY OF SIGNAL FROM AAI
TO: ACC, R.C. & M.G. Section - APO 394

Allied Control Commission

INFO DISTRESS EMIA

32/15

MA IN AAI

SD 1032

RESTRICTED

PRIORITY

AUG.

CITE NONE

RESTRICTED. 13 ARTILLERY DI ARRESTO COY WILL MOVE EARLIEST AFTER
29 AUG UNDER ORDERS. MOVE AAI FROM UNDER COMD ACC AT GASTA TO
UNDER COMD SMHE AT SAN GIORGIO N 77. STRENGTH 5 OFFRS 206 ORS.
REQUEST YOU CONFIRM PRESENT LOCATION.

DISTRIBUTION

Q (MOV) ACTION
R3 :
ACC LO

ACC DIST

ACTION ARMY SC (2)
INFO SEG GEN
CA BR (2)
A/CC
FILE

4426

4427

RESTRICTED

file 436
130

1904

AQUILA

ACC HQ

1904

17 Aug 44

RESTRICTED

PRIORITY

Civil Affairs Branch

SUBJECT MINE DETECTORS PD PAREN TO AQUILA FOR AMB REGION FIVE FROM ACC HQ PAREN
BEING FORWARDED TODAY ONE SEVEN AUGUST

4425

L. T. MONTAGNE, Jr.
1st Lt AGC
ADJUTANT

4426

RESTRICTED

A

H. HARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.O. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Phon 478806

129

Ref: 136/129/CA.

17 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing Coys.

TO : Admin Section.

There is sent herewith for your perusal copy letter received from Provincial Commissioner, Pescara, dated 4 August 1944 and reports by him on the two coys at Pescara, namely 164. Compagnia Artieri d'Arresto and 562 Compagnia Rastrellatori Mine.

117/119

Jr

NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

4425

QUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.O. & H.Q. Section
APO 394

Phone: 478808

128

Ref: A36/128/QA.

16 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing Coys.

TO : R.C. Region IV.

120

1. For your information there is sent copy signal received from AAI stating that the 13 Artieri di Arresto Coy will be withdrawn after 29 August.
2. In view of this it would seem desirable that a report should be made on the 561 Coy Bastionieri Mine as to the state of their training to-date and whether this training will be completed by the time the 13 Coy is withdrawn. Would you please cause investigations on this point.

gk

NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: Admin Section.

4424

4423

Subject:- Spares for Minedetectors.

436 *C. P. B...*
169/27
Army Sub Commission (MMIA)

HQ AGO

RCMB

AQ/54

15 AUG 44

G (AR) AAI

copy RG & MG Section Main AGO

113A
16 AUG Recd

Reference my AQ/54 dated 12 Aug.

Please cancel the request for spares for
minedetectors asked for in the above mentioned letter.

It has now been confirmed that the
minedetectors released by your RS/311/1 were American
type which contain a proportion of spares.

P. Pinkley, Major
for Maj Gen.
Army Sub Commission.

two

W. H. H.
16/6

4623

RESTRICTED ¹³¹

C A B R

3071 126

ALABAMA CONTROL COMMISSION

INFO DESTROYED MEDIA

MAIN AAI

ED 1032

AUT

RESTRICTED

PRIORITY

CITE NONE

32/15

15 AUG Recd

RESTRICTED. 19 ARTIFICIAL DIARRHEA WILL MOVE EARLIEST AFTER 29 AUG UNDER
ORDERS NOV AAI FROM UNDER COMD ACC BY GATEA TO UNDER COMD SENE AT SAN GIORGIO N 77.
STRENGTH 5 OFTS 206 CRS, REQUEST YOU CONFIRM PRESENT LOCATION

DISTRIBUTION

Q(MOV) ACTION
RE:
ACC LO

HEADQUARTERS
15 AUG 1944
A. C. C.

ACQ LIST

ACTION ARMY SO (2)

INFO SEC GEN 4421
CA BR (2)
A/CB
FILIZ

all 128

4422

RESTRICTED

AUGUST 15/1944

4367 CA Br. 1754
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 394

R/506I

14 August, 1944

15 AUG Recd

SUBJECT: Clearing Mines and Others Explosives

TO : HQ Allied Control Commission.

1. Reference our letter R/5047 of 11 August, comments from Regional Engineer are enclosed. This Officer was represented at the meeting with "Scant" but was not able to be there in person.

2. The following comments are made:

(a) It is agreed that Genio Civile material cannot be included, as salvage. War material only can come under the contract.

(b) Agreement of AAI on Policy regarding explosives is the main reason for our letter to you.

For the Regional Commissioner:

A.D. Bonham-Carter
A.D. BONHAM-CARTER
Lt. Colonel
Executive Officer (Provinces)

Copy: Regional Engineer

E/506I

14 August, 1944

13 AUG Recd

SUBJECT: Clearing Mines and Others Explosives

TO : HQ Allied Control Commission.

1. Reference our letter R/5047 of 11 August, comments from Regional Engineer are enclosed. This Officer was represented at the meeting with "Scout" but was not able to be there in person.

2. The following comments are made:

(a) It is agreed that Genio Civile material cannot be included, as salvage. War material only can come under the contract.

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For the Regional Commissioner:

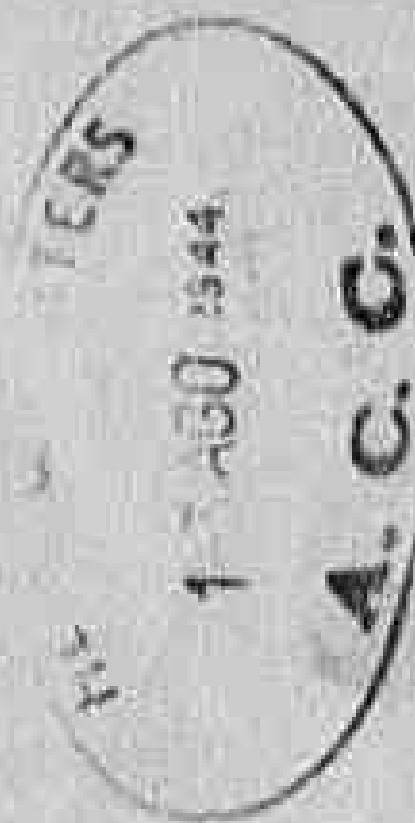
A. D. Bonham-Carter

A. D. BONHAM-CARTER

Lt. Colonel

Executive Officer (Provinces)

Copy: Regional Engineer



121
GdeCEP/so.HEADQUARTERS REGION IV
Allied Control Commission
(Engineering Division)
APO 394

12th August 1944.

TO : HQ. Region IV. (Executive Office Province).

SUBJECT: Mines and Explosives in Salvage.

FILE NO: R4/ENG/25.1.

Your R/5047 dated 11th August 1944.

1. Generally I am in entire agreement with your letter. Subject to following warning signals on details.

2. Para 4.

i) All mines and all other Salvage.

This cannot be; the Genio Civile are responsible for War Damage under Italian Government who are responsible for compensation. Some weeks ago I instructed Genio Civile to get on with Salvage of re-usable materials and several estimates have already been approved for Debris removal and Salvage. This Salvage is likely to be their main, perhaps only, source of materials for rebuilding.

ii) Retention of all materials.

a) A.A.I. must agree to policy on explosives, shells etc. and Disposal Board be responsible for supervision.

b) A similar contract for salvage of vehicles resulted in getting some vehicles on the road at a critical time of transport shortage.

It also resulted in the directors of the company earning about £. 500,000.-- each in 30 days. This is very apt to be in practice officially approved robbery. In one province a stock of tyres which had been collected by P.C. was "salvaged" from his dump. The firm concerned was discovered.

3. As regards mines and grenades Ux.B and shells, anyone who lifts them is worthy of making what he can.

Unfixed Shells are safe and valuable.

4. In the proposal you will have noticed

a) to be regarded as a soldier. This seems most reasonable but does it carry pay, rations, clothes, compensation if wounded or killed. If so the salvage should belong to Government.

b) mention is made of equipment being provided.

1. Generally I am in entire agreement with your letter. Subject to following warning signals on details.

2. Para 4.

i) All mines and all other Salvage. This cannot be; the Genio Civile are responsible for War Damage under Italian Government who are responsible for compensation. Some weeks ago I instructed Genio Civile to get on with Salvage of re-usable materials and several estimates have already been approved for Debris removal and Salvage. This Salvage is likely to be their main, perhaps only, source of materials for rebuilding.

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4. In the proposal you will have noticed a) to be regarded as a soldier. This seems most reasonable but does it carry pay, rations, clothes, compensation if wounded or killed. If so the salvage should belong to Government. b) mention is made of equipment being provided. c) transport, supplemental to that listed, is also expected.

5. The drafting of any such contract must be done by an expert and carefully reviewed by several honest men! One type of material may be very profitable, another type barely so; if the contractor is given a chance he will skim the cream and retire in euphance or try it on in a new locality.

John P. K. 13/4
Lt.Col. R.S.
Regional Engineer ACC IV.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

Phone: 123
178808

15 August 1944.

Ref: 135/123/OA.

SUBJECT: Mine Clearance Coys - Pescara.

TO : Army Sub-Commission.

117/119

There is sent herewith for your personal copy letter received from Provincial Commissioner, Pescara, dated 4 August 1944 and reports by him on the two Coys at Pescara, namely 164 Compagnia Artieri d'Arresto and 562 Compagnia Rastrellatori Mine.

pk

NORMAN E. PERK,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: Region V (Under 15/503/32 of 12 Aug 44 refers)

4419

4418

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Phone: 122
478808

Ref: 136/122/CA.

14 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Mines.

TO : Admin. Section. 113

1. With reference to the Conference on Mine Clearance held on 9 August, there is forwarded for your perusal and consideration copy letter from Region IV, R/5047 of 11 August 1944, and plan put forward by five ex-officers of the Italian Army who are seeking a contract under which they will clear all mines and salvage.

2. The plan is worthy of consideration and you might consider it worth while discussing with the Italian Government or at least forwarding to them for their consideration.

Mc
NORMAN E. FISH, Jr.
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: Region IV (Your R/5047 of 11 Aug 44 refers)

113
4418

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

Phone: 121
478808

Ref/436/121/CA.

14 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Mines

TO : HQ AAI ("E" Br)

Reference this HQ letter 436/69/CA of 22 July 1944 it
has been reported to this HQ that there is a UXB at GINESTRO in
Commune of SIERA. The bomb is on the farm SAN GUIDO 98213.

M
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,
Per A/Chief Commissioner.

Copy to: Major H. Mitchell,
HQ No. 17 B.D. Coy., CMF.
Region VIII (Your 8/23 of 8 Aug 44 refers)

106
4417

TO : HQ. AGC. (P.C. & M.G. Section)
FROM : Region 5 AGC
SUBJECT : Mine Clearance - PESCARA
REF : R5/501/32
DATE : 11 Aug. 1944

14 AUG Recd
14 AUG Recd

Reference is made to A.C.C. letter L36/94/C.A. of 4 Aug. 44.

1. Copies of a letter from P.O. Pescara and of a preliminary report made by him on the Italian Mine Clearance unit are attached for your information.
2. Information is requested about any proposal to attach the unit to No 1 District for administration purposes.

(To confirm
recent consideration
at your HQ with
Local: Ship).

FOR THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER

C. H. A. French
C. H. A. FRENCH.
Ident. Colonel.
Executive Officer

Rec 123

YK 4418615
4418

1761

SUBJECT:- Mine Clearance - PERCASA

TO:- HQ Region 5 AMG

FROM:- AMG PERCASA PROVINCE

PP/52/3

4 Aug. 44

1. Ref this HQ message PPL dated 29 Jul 44, regarding lack of clothing, equipment and transport in respect of the undermentioned Italian Coys engaged on mine clearance work in PERCASA:-

162 Compagnia Artieri D'Arresto
562 Compagnia Pastrellatori Mine

2. In view of the relative urgency of the matter, the nearest NMTA HQ, at 60 Sub Area, was contacted and asked to visit PERCASA to inspect the units concerned with a view to expediting the supply of clothing and equipment. As he was unable to visit the units for about a week, he requested that a preliminary report be made by this HQ in order that the matter might be taken up with higher authority. In the meantime arrangements are being made with the Italian I of C CHIETI to meet the requirements of the Coys as far as possible, with the exception of boots the supply of which NMTA HQ is trying to arrange.

3. Copies of reports on inspections of the above named units by HQ AMG PERCASA Dist are forwarded herewith for information and such action as is considered necessary by you.

(Signed) J.W. HOMES

Lt-Col,
Provincial Commissioner,
AMC CHIETI, PERCASA & TERNI PROVINCES.

JHM/PP

Copy to:- NMTA HQ 60 Sub Area - with copy of incident for action regarding supply of boots
HQ Italian I of C, CHIETI

1005
see

UNITED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
PROVINCE OF PESCARA

SUBJECT:-- Report on Inspection of 164 Compagnia Artieri D'Arresto

An inspection of the above named Coy was made by Capt C. E. BOYD, AMT PESCARA
Accompanied by Comd PESCARA Coy GCRB, on 3 Aug. 44.

1. O.C. - Lt F MARTELLI

2. PERSONNEL

	Establishment	Effective Strength
Officers -	5	5
NCOs -	7	6
GRs -	204	180
TOTAL -	213	191

Specialists in mine clearance - 10 only.

3. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

General condition - extremely poor, majority of all ranks being without boots and all clothing unserviceable, uniforms especially being very tattered and worn. All ranks require re-clothing.

Main deficiencies -

150 pairs of Boots for GRs without any boots
50 pairs of boots to replace those unserviceable.
200 complete uniforms to replace those unserviceable.

It is understood that the main deficiencies of clothing are being met by HQ Italian I of C Chieti, with the exception of boots.

4. ARMS AND AMMUNITION -

All GRs armed with rifle and bayonet. 4 heavy MGs held, together with reserve of ammunition.

5. TRANSPORT - NIL

Normal Establishment of Coy:-

5	3-ton trucks
3	15-cwt trucks
2	cars or PIs

6. TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT -

Small amount of engineer stores available.
No Mine detectors or tape for marking mined areas.

7. BULLETS etc

Cookhouse -

Satisfactory

Food Store -

good - Different arrangements for storing bread.

Rooms too

Officers -	5
NCOs -	7
GRs -	201
	191

TOTAL -	213
	191

Specialists in mine clearance - 10 only.

3. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT - General condition - extremely poor, majority of all ranks being without boots and all clothing unserviceable, uniforms especially being very tattered and worn. All ranks require re-clothing.

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50 pairs of boots to replace those unserviceable.
200 complete uniforms to replace those unserviceable.

It is understood that the main deficiencies of clothing are being met by HQ Italian I of C Chieti, with the exception of boots.

4. ARMS AND AMMUNITION - All GRs armed with rifle and bayonet. 4 heavy MGs held, together with reserve of ammunition.

5. TRANSPORT - NIL Normal Establishment of Tpt:-

5	3-ton trucks
3	15-cwt trucks
2	cars or PUs

6. TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT - Small amount of engineer stores available.
No Mine detectors or tave for marking mined areas.

7. BILLETTS etc

Cookhouse - Satisfactory

Food Store - good - Different arrangements for storing bread.

Sleeping Quarters - Very tidy and in good order. Rooms too crowded.

Infirmary (I&P) Satisfactory. Only 3 First Aid Boxes available for Mine Clearance Parties.

Hygiene - Satisfactory. Disinfectant required. No soap received for 2 months.

Water and Light - Water available in the building. Electricity expected within few days.

8. MESSING - Good. No complaints received about messing.

9. DISCIPLINE - Good. Officers and NCOs apparently well respected by GRs. One defaulter in Guard Room.

-2-

10.. NOTE - As far as could be judged - Good. Several ORs wish to volunteer for more active service in front line.

11. GENERAL - General condition of Coy as regards administration is very good.

When deplorable lack of clothing, especially boots, and technical equipment and transport has been remedied, the company should be capable of doing very good work.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS
Immediate supply of boots, clothing and equipment, will turn this Company into an efficient unit,

PP

(Signed) CE BOIT.

Capt,
Provincial Police Officer
AMC ESCADA DISTRICT.

REPORT OF PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

118412

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
PROVINCE OF PESCARA

SUBJECT: Report on Inspection of 562 Compagnia Rastrellatori Mine

In inspection of the above named Coy was ^{made} by Capt C.E. BUIE, AMB REGARA, accompanied by Comd REGARA Coy ODER, on 2 Aug 44.

1. O.C. - Lt STAMPAATO

2. PERSONNEL

Establishment	Effective Strength
Officers - 5	4
WOs - 9	9
GRS - 213	197
TOTAL 227	210

Specialist in Mine Clearance - NIL

3. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT - General Condition good, unit having recently been re-fitted from Allied sources.

Main Deficiencies -

Handkerchiefs and socks - 2 men without uniforms already indented for on HQ Italian L of C CHESTY

4. ARMS AND AMMUNITION -

All GEs armed with rifle and bayonet - condition good but require cleaning. Reserve of ammunition held.

5. TRANSPORT - NIL

Normal Establishment of Tpt:-

5 3-ton trucks
3 15-cent trucks
2 cars or FUs

6. TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT - NIL

7. BUILDINGS etc

Cookhouse - Satisfactory

Food Store - Fair.

Bread stored on floor covered by blankets. Instructed to keep bread on shelves exposed to free circulation of air or covered with damp cloths.

Hygiene -

Satisfactory - No soap received for three months

Water and Light -

Water supply available. No electricity for lighting.

8. MESSING -

Unsatisfactory. Bread 10 days old being used on orders of OC. Many complaints made by soldiers regarding rations. Alleged that

4413

Specialist in Mine Clearance - NIL

3. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT - General Condition good, unit having recently been re-fitted from Allied sources.

Main Deficiencies - Handkerchiefs and socks - 2 men without uniforms - already indicated for on H. Italian L of C CHIEMI

4. ARMS AND AMMUNITION - All ORs armed with rifle and bayonet - condition good but require cleaning. Reserve of ammunition held.

5. TRANSPORT - NIL - Normal Establishment of Tpt:-

5 3-ton trucks
3 15-cwt trucks
2 cars or PUs

6. TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT - NIL

7. BILLETTS etc

Cookhouse - Satisfactory

Food Store - Fair. Bread stored on floor covered by blankets. Instructed to keep bread on shelves exposed to free circulation of air or covered with dam cloths.

Hygiene - Satisfactory - No soap received for three months

Water and Light - Water supply available. No electricity for lighting.

4413

8. MESSING - Unsatisfactory. Bread 10 days old being used on orders of OC. Many complaints made by soldiers regarding rations. Alleged that officers were illegally disposing of rations to civilians. Matter being investigated by Capt of CORP who will submit a report to higher Italian authority.

9. DISCIPLINE - Judged by British standards - BAD. Apparent complete lack of respect towards Officers and NCOs.

10. MORALE - BAD. Chief cause apparently discontent about rations.

TOTAL 227 210

197

213

- 2 -

11. GENERAL

General condition of Coy - Satisfactory with following exceptions: -

Complete lack of technical equipment and transport

Lack of Discipline and Morale due to dissatisfaction of C.Rs regarding Messing, officers being blamed for the unsatisfactory state of feeding arrangements.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

Usefulness of Coy would be greatly enhanced by change of C.C. Men in Coy have proved to be good workers in PESCARA Town.

(Signed) CE BOLT.

Capt.

Provincial Police Officer.
AFC PESCARA DISTRICT.

REMARKS OF PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

L Aug. 44

Lt. Col.
Provincial Commissioner.
AFC CHIEF, PESCARA & TESSARO PROVINCES.

113510

9/84/AS

436
SECRET

Minutes of Conference "Mine Clearance", Office of A/Head, Min Section 9 Aug 44.

Present: Col Upjohn (Chair)

Col Todd
Col Cripps
Col McCarthy
Lt Col Dove
Lt Col Shipp
Major Maskery
Major Mitchell
Major Phillips
Major Fletcher

Admin Section
Industry Sub-Commission
Admin Section
Partisans Sub-Commission
HQ AAI
RC & MG Section
Industry Sub-Commission
HQ AAI
Army Sub-Commission
HQ AAI

13 AUG Reed

Meeting opened at 1435 hours.

1 Col Upjohn opened the meeting by explaining that he had called it in order to explore the problems of mine clearance, before taking the matter up with the Italian Government, as he considered that no useful purpose would be served in pressing for action by that Government without being able to state what assistance could be given from Allied sources or having a clear idea of what the problem involved. He felt sure the Government would ask for assistance and he wished to be prepared to state to what extent that could be done.

The Chairman agreed when a question was asked, that the main responsibility was, of course, one for the Italian Government.

The Chairman stated that there were two main headings under which he proposed to divide the discussion:

- (a) technical production of instruments;
- (b) organisation and responsibility of mine clearance work.

2 Col Todd stated that before he could proceed to give any opinion as to production he would like to know:

- (a) how many detectors were likely to be required;
- (b) whether he could see a blue print of the design of a detector;
- (c) whether the detector was on Secret list and the possibility of its release.

3 In reply, Lt Colonel Dove stated:

- (a) the requirements could be based upon 1 instrument to a Squad of 20 men.
- (b) He had a blue print which could be inspected by Industry. It involved certain articles already in short supply and unlikely to arrive for a considerable period, and of such a nature that it was unlikely that they could be manufactured in this country.

- (c) Detectors are on the Secret List.
- (d) Italian type detectors are useless, they are NOT designed either for this terrain or modern type of mines.

4 Some discussion then followed and it was agreed that in view of all the difficulties of manufacturing in this country, delivery at any near future date was not practicable. Recourse to the system of mine clearance by "prodding" will be the only effective method.

Major Maskery to inspect the blue print in order to see if there was any possibility of manufacture whatsoever.

5 The Chairman then asked what assistance could be given by AAI and by the Partisans Sub-Commission of trained Italian instructors.

785017

Meeting opened at 1435 hours.

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Major Maskery to inspect the blue print in order to see if there was any possibility of manufacture whatsoever.

5 The Chairman then asked what assistance could be given by IAI and IATA by way of instruction in order to build up a nucleus of trained Italian instructors. He also enquired what length of time was required to complete a course.

6 Major Mitchell replied that to train men as instructors capable of dealing with all types of mine (Allied and Enemy) would take 5 to 4 weeks each course. He considered that instructors would require the comprehensive course. Mass squads of workers could be trained in 10 days. He considered it very unlikely that it would be possible to make instructors available for Italian Schools from IAI. He stated that IAI school had just completed a course for Italian Army students but this had been done at the expense of a course for Allied Troops. The school would be filled for some time to come with Allied students.

...../

Col Upjohn
17 July 1946

-2-

7 Major Phillips (MIA) stated that some instructors were being trained for internal security hrs, and the Coy's of Italian Engineers at present working with AMG were training 2 additional companies.

8 In reply to a question Lt Col Dove stated that LAI had no mine field charts on a national basis, but that AFHQ might be in possession.

9 The Chairman concluded that he now had a basis on which to take up the matter with the Italian Government, whose main need would be instructors for squads, which he would suggest might mainly be drawn from PARTISANS. He would inform them that from an equipment point of view, the likelihood of up-to-date equipment being made available was very remote. Location by "prodding" would be the initial method. (Industry stated that the instruments can be manufactured in this country.)

As to instructors he would write:

(a) to HQ LAI asking for assistance in training an initial number of civilians as instructors;

(b) to MIA asking them to train civilians through the Italian Army.

He would ask the Italian Government to start selecting suitable men for such courses and concluded by asking Col McCarthy to see the CE Major General Cornwall - Rogers and enquire if he could render assistance in this matter.

Distribution : {2} Copies to each officer present.
 {2} File.

Ext: 608
RRC/wb

4362
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 394

12 AUG Recd

B/5048

11 August, 1944

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing Companies

TO : HQ Allied Control Commission
RC & MG Section

1. Reference your 436/IO2/CA dated 8 August, it is difficult for this HQ to give a detailed reply. If this is required it is suggested that contact be made with Region 2.

2. The undersigned is able to say, because he dealt with it personally, that directly the arrival of the Coys was advised immediate action was taken to see that the necessary arrangements were in hand for their administration. He was informed that this was an Italian Army responsibility and need be no concern of Region IV. This is what one would expect. The matter was, however, not left there and Colonel Breth of this HQ went down to Gaeta as did an Officer from the Provincial Commissioner.

3. It is not known whether the AMG Officer had any orders in advance. The Provincial Commissioner was advised of their arrival as soon as the very poor communications allowed. In actual fact the first orders from this HQ were not practical as they assumed that the Coys were reasonably equipped. However immediate steps (again bearing in mind the communication difficulty) were taken to make good administrative deficiencies, obtain further equipment, and start work.

4. It is thought that, while the report received by you may have some foundation, there is not very much depth in it. It is certain that most energetic steps are now being taken by Col. Breth and that these steps were started as quickly as possible. Work has started and will gradually develop as the administrative situation and, particularly, arrival of equipment allow.

5. In conclusion a plea is made that an Italian Military Unit should not rely on AMG for administration. Neither Provinces nor Region have the transport Personnel for such work.

For the Regional Commissioner:

A.D. Bonham-Carter

A.D. BONHAM-CARTER

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing Companies

TO : HQ Allied Control Commission
RC & MG Section

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For the Regional Commissioner:

A. D. Bonham-Carter

A. D. BONHAM-CARTER

Lt. Colonel

Executive Officer (Provinces)

*Local Division for info
in 74 m. c. g. p. 12/8*

436-2-ADP
0-314 113
9625
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 394
12 AUG 1944
11 AUG 1944

12 AUG 1944
11 AUG 1944

R/5047

SUBJECT: Clearance of Mines and other Explosives
TO : HQ Allied Control Commission, RC & MG Section

1. It is felt very strongly that the subject, which is one of National importance, is at present having attention on no more than parochial scale. The deathroll from mines and other explosives continues to mount in a most disturbing manner.

2. A start has been made by the arrival of 2 Italian Companies at Gaeta, but they are faced with considerable administrative problems, lack of equipment, and lack of training. They actually possess 3 detectors and 60 trained men. 12 more detectors have been released but have not yet been delivered.

3. With these limited resources it is proposed to start training centres at Frosinone, Littoria and Gaeta immediately, and to employ up to 2000 men in each Province. These men will have to do the greater part of the work by prodding.

Economic Sub-Commission have been asked to move immediately in the matter of making detectors and a request has been put in for an Italian Officer with technical knowledge to be attached to Region IV Engineer to look after the whole matter. It is hoped that by this means we will pick up a large number of mines. At the same time the problem remains a big one.

4. Proposals have been put forward by five ex-Officers of the Italian Army who, under the name of SCAUT, are seeking a contract under which they clear all mines and all other salvage. In return they will retain for their own commercial use all the material which they salvage.

This a most attractive proposition from many points of view, but it clearly involves a very big question of policy. It is also probable that it would delay a start being made. If the contact were on any other basis. Added advantages of this scheme are that employment for trained or partly trained men from the Patriots would be found, also that it would spread into a work of Nation wide scope.

5. The broad plan of the Scat proposal is enclosed. It is understood that they have already been in contact with War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission regarding part of their plan.

6. It is urged that the matter be given very serious consideration with all speed. The menace of mines and explosives calls for every possible means of dealing with the problem. All reconstruction work is held up to greater or a less degree in those Provinces where

SUBJECT: Clearance of Mines and other Explosives
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For the Regional Commissioner:

A.D. Bonham-Carter
A.D. BONHAM-CARTER

Lt. Colonel

Copies: Regional Engineer Region IV Executive Officer (Provinces)

1578
122

436 2
113A
Subject:- Spares for Minedetectors

12 AUG Recd
Army Sub Commission (SRIA)
HQ ACC
RME
AQ/54
12 Aug 44

O (ME) AAT
copy HQ & HQ Section Main ACC

85 VOLT

Further to my AQ/54 dated 29 Jul 44.

May the following spares for minedetectors please be issued
to HQ & HQ Section Main ACC for use by the Artieri di Arresto Coys
under command:-

Valves	24
Batteries dry	
60 volt	24
Cells dry X	
Mark II	72

pk 14/6

REP 4409

for Maj Gen
Army Sub Commission

goh

436 *CH Br*
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 394

12 AUG Recd

11 August 1944

R/5047

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing

TO : HQ Allied Control Commission
RC & MG Section

1. Reference is made to our R/5018 dated 8 August, paragraph

3.

2. It would be appreciated if Lt.Col. VINCENZO GRASSI could be attached to this Region.

This Officer has not been approached but it is known he would be particularly suitable. He is now in the Italian War Ministry assigned to the Direzione Generale Artiglieria.

For the Regional Commissioner:

A. D. Bonham-Carter
A.D. BONHAM-CARTER.
Lt. Colonel
EXECUTIVE OFFICER (Provinces)

12/8

4408

785017

4267
Subject:- Mine Clearance Companies

10 AUG Pech

Army Sub Commission (MILITARY)
H.Q., A.C.C.
ROME

AQ/66
// Aug 64

Executive Commissioner, ACC

Ref your 436/101/CA dated 9 Aug :-

1. (a) Clothing and rations for the mining companies has already been arranged.
- (b) The 2 GAETA companies have 9 vehicles, 5 of which we are having to withdraw for other work, as the Italian Army is so short of transport.
2. (a) Numbers 13 and 164 Companies came from SARDINIA. Owing to desertions and consequent loss of clothing etc. it is our policy to clothe such units at destination.
- (b) Numbers 561 and 562 were formed by us on the Mainland and despatched clothed.
- (c) Maintenance of clothing will in future be the responsibility of the local Italian Commander - at present H.Q., CAMPANIA for the GAETA companies, and 209 Div. for the PESCARA ones.
3. (a) As regards technical equipment (mine detectors mainly) - the Italian Army has practically none. So we arranged for 24 detectors to be released by AAI. These, I gather, have been issued now. This is sufficient.
- (b) We have also asked AAI to release some spare parts (batteries, valves etc) for maintaining these detectors. That will keep the companies going temporarily.
- (c) Demands for further spares or other technical equipment should be made in future on AAI through the Allied Chief Engineer of the Region concerned.

c/LB

d. Brown
4607
Army Sub Comm, ACC

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c/LB

4607

Army Sub Comm, ACC

Lead the Italian in interpretation
24 June 1946

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.O. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

Phone No.
478808

110

REF : 436/110/CA.

12 August 1944

SUBJECT : Mines

TO : Region VIII

106

1. Your letter 8/23 of 8 August is acknowledged and the areas where mines are located noted. The whole question of raising additional mine clearing Coys is at present being investigated. At present the two Coys allotted to ACC are working under the direction and control of Regions IV and V, but as soon as we can arrange it a mine clearing Coy will be sent, to you.

2. The matter of the UXB, has been reported to AAI and it is expected that this will be removed by a Bomb Disposal Unit who are specially equipped.

ME
NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

4408

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. SECTION
APO /394

109
Memo: 47808

REF : 436/109/BA

12 August 1944

SUBJECT : Mine Clearing

TO : Economic Section (For Commerce Sub-Commission).

104
1. Reference telephone conversation (Major Brerton-Major Beakes) there is forwarded to you copy letter from Region IV dated 8 August requesting permission for the Italian Mine Clearing Coy at GAETA to draw petrol from the military pipe line. May this be granted please?

2. There are at present at GAETA on loan to ACM, two Mine Clearing Coys from the Italian Army. They will be stationed for some time in this area clearing mine fields.

plc
NORMAN B. PINKS
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: Region IV, (your R5019 of 8 Aug reference - please state by return where the petrol is drawn at present.)

104

5486
4405
see 4

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

Phone:
478808

108

Ref/436/108/CA

14 August 1944

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing Companies.

TO : Army Sub-Commission.

1. With reference to the attached copy letter from Region IV dated 8 August 44 it would be of great assistance if an Italian officer, with technical knowledge and experience in mine clearing work could be attached to Region IV while the Coys are working within the Region. He is required to direct their training and operations.

2. Region IV have indicated that they would like to have Lt.Col. VINCENZO Grassi attached for this purpose. This officer has not been approached but it is known that he is suitable. It is understood that he is now in the Italian War Ministry assigned to the Direzione Generale Artigliera.

3. We shall be obliged if you will give the matter your consideration and say if an officer can be assigned to Region IV.

NORMAN E. FIERKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

448403

Copy to: Region IV (Your R/2018 of 8 Aug 44 refers)

105

HEADQUARTERS
D CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. SECTION
APO 394

107
12 August 44

REF : A36/107/0A

SUBJECT : Mines.

TO : Region IV.

- 103
1. Reference to your R/5017 of 8 August 44 the twelve additional mine detectors are being collected and should reach you in the course of the next day or two.
 2. Your other remarks are noted but it is pointed out that the mine detectors has a limited use and that it will be necessary to resort to "prodding" for mines in many cases.

JEL
NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

4403

4403

4.36
Civil Affairs
c-2930
92nd
105

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 394

R/5018

10 AUG Recd
8 August 1944

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing.

TO : Regional Control and Military Government Section
Headquarters
Allied Control Commission (2 copies)

1. The task of clearing mines is inevitably one for the Italians. Two Italian Companies are now at GAETA working under the Regional Engineer.

2. These troops are very short of equipment and, although their Q and A must be done by the Italian Army there is a full time job for an Officer on the Regional Staff in looking after them and directing their training and operations.

3. It is requested that an Italian Officer, with technical knowledge and of Field Rank, be attached or assigned to the Regional Engineer.

4. May this please be given urgent consideration.

Very Philip

For The Regional Commissioner:

12/8

D. A. Bonham Carter
D. A. BONHAM CARTER
Lt Colonel
Executive Officer (Provinces)

Copy to: Regional Engineer.

Ask Army S.C.
4402
22/8/44

R E S T R I C T E D

785017

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 394

10 AUG Recd

R/5019

8 August 1944

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing.

TO : Regional Control and Military Government Section
Headquarters
Allied Control Commission (2 copies)

1. May a decision please be given as to whether the Italian Military who are engaged in clearing mines may draw petrol from the military pipe line.

2. It is urged that this permission be granted as, situated as they are at GAETA, they are well placed for the pipe and permission to use it would undoubtedly save petrol in total.

For The Regional Commissioner:

D. A. Bonham Carter
D. A. BONHAM CARTER
Lt Colonel
Executive Officer (Provinces)

Copy to: Regional Engineer.

RESTRICTED

4401

436
Civil Affairs
D. 2949 103
9229

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 394

R/5017

8 August 1944

10 AUG Recd

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing - Detectors

TO : Regional Control and Military Government Section
Headquarters
Allied Control Commission (3 copies)

1. The Italian Companies engaged on clearing mines possess three detectors in total.
2. A request has been made for twelve more through M.I.A.A. It is not known whether or when this request will be met. *Being collected today. 10/8.*
3. Economic Sub-Commission have stated that they can make detectors.
4. A Signor Carloni (Via del Tritone 61) has approached this Region on behalf of a group of technical men who wish to tackle the job. Full details of this proposal should be available tomorrow. *This is v. doubtful.*
5. It is requested that Economic Section make full preparations to order detectors as large numbers will be required.

For The Regional Commissioner:

D. A. Bonham Carter
D. A. BONHAM CARTER
Lt Colonel
Executive Officer (Provinces)

Copy to: Regional Engineer.

see 107
RESTRICTED
Wait developments on page 4. H.Q. 11/8
OK 12/8

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

Phone:
478808

102

RCE/436/102/OA.

8 August 1945.

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing Companies.

TO : R.C. Region IV.

1. The following has been reported to this HQ :
 - (a) No arrangements had been made to receive the Coys at GAETA.
 - (b) No water rations or accommodation had been provided for them.
 - (c) According to O.C. Artieri di Arresto Coy., the AMG officer knew nothing about the Companies, nor had he any orders for them.
2. As far back as 13 July you were advised that a Coy was allocated to you and on 17 July you advised that it should report to GAETA.
If this information is false, then it is false.
3. *will you* please explain why the Provincial Commissioner was not informed and why preparations had not been made for reception of the Coys.

l P
NORMAN E. PIERCE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

see 114

4399

P/A

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

Phone:
Ext. 453.

101

Ref/436/101/CA.

9 August 1944

SUBJECT: Mine Clearing Companies.

TO : Army Sub-Commission.

1. We have been informed that the two Companies at PESCARA are short of equipment and have no transport. They are also badly in need of clothing and boots. The two Companies at GASTA are probably also in a similar plight but we have no information about them.

2. It had been hoped that the Companies would arrive fully equipped and ready to start work. It is unfortunate that lack of equipment is proving a big handicap, but your provision of 24 mine detectors has been of great assistance and is much appreciated.

3. As one Company at PESCARA and one Company at GASTA will be withdrawn at the end of this month it is of great importance that they should be fully equipped as soon as possible. We shall be obliged if you will make arrangements through the appropriate Italian Army channels for the Companies to be suitably equipped. We have no means of knowing what equipment is required but presumably they will be equipped on a similar scale to that of a British Company designed for mine clearing. As it is probably the case that the Italian Army cannot supply, would you please make the necessary application to AAI for release of the necessary equipment and transport for the Companies.

(we have in hopes)
4. I understand that the two Companies at Gasta are being placed under the administrative command of Italian Military HQ. Campania, and that you are also arranging for the Companies at Pescara to be placed under control of an Italian Headquarters. Will you please let us know in due course under whose administrative control they are placed.

5. The assistance that you have given in obtaining these Companies for use in areas in rear of the Army boundaries is much appreciated and we shall be grateful if you can give us the further assistance requested in this letter and so enable the Companies to function as efficiently and promptly as may be.

6398

NORMAN E. FISHER
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: Admin. Section.

