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AQ 19 - Conferences & Interviews  
1<sup>st</sup> Cover  
September 1943 - April 28, 1944



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KCA

REPORT ON CONFERENCE HELD AT 71, SUB AREA ON 28/4/44 at 15.00 hrs.

Subject:- M.T. Spares acquired by Italian Army from  
Customs Warehouses in Brindisi.

Present were Major JONES (DALOG, 71, Sub Area), Lt. D'ETTORE  
(Motorisation Br. M of W.) and 2Lt. FORLENZA (Mesagne W/shops).

Major Jones wished to know by whose authority the Italian  
Army had acquired several cases of spare parts from Customs  
warehouses in Brindisi.

Lt. D'Ettoire stated that the spares in question belonged  
to a civilian firm which had prior to the Armistice, wanted to  
export them to civilian firms in ALBANIA. These spares, however,  
had never sailed and the spares had remained in a Customs warehouse.

Ministry of War had got to know of these spares and had  
taken action to get them requisitioned during the month of February.  
On the 10th March, the Prefect of Brindisi authorised their being  
requisitioned. M of W then took steps to get these spares removed.  
Up to date, all but 29 cases of these spares had been withdrawn.  
M of W have details of the stores contained in the cases they  
have withdrawn. 2Lt. FORLENZA stated that these spares had been  
removed and have since been distributed.

Major Jones stated that these spares had been heard of  
and had been earmarked, and were required for the maintenance  
of civilian cars requisitioned by the Allies. I was asked whether  
I knew that the Italians had any right to these parts.

I stated that the Italian Army needed spares very badly  
but in view of the fact that these parts originally belonged  
to a civilian firm, and also that the Italians had taken possession  
of these parts without any reference to M.M.A, I considered it a  
matter to be taken up on a high level for a decision to be made  
as to who were entitled to them.

Major Jones agreed and stated he would send a report to  
2 District for their decision. Major Jones asked however, that  
the remaining 29 cases be left until a decision was reached, and  
that a list of contents be given to him in order that he could find  
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Major Jones agreed and stated he would send a report to 2 District for their decision. Major Jones asked however, that the remaining 29 cases be left until a decision was reached, and that a list of contents be given to him in order that he could find out if there were any parts required by him.

This was agreed.

A copy of Major Jones's letter to 2 District will be sent to us.

7752

*Handwritten initials and scribbles:*  
JF  
JW  
a/lt  
~

*Handwritten signature:*  
Major

Major.



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

Ref/107/CA.

25 April 1944.

SUBJECT: Action on Minutes - R.Cs. Conference.

TO : Distribution below.

1. (a) It will be noted that the left margin of the minutes of the Conference held April 15 & 16, 1944, has been headed ACTION and a note made of the officers or Branch of whom action is expected.

(b) As regards the Admin and Economic Sections, it would be appreciated if V.Ps. would examine the relevant paragraphs and take such action as in their opinion they consider necessary.

2. The annotation "All concerned" may refer to some or all of the following :

- (a) Regional Commissioners.
- (b) SCAO's 5 and 8 Army AMG.
- (c) Heads of Sections.
- (d) Heads of Sub-Commissions.
- (e) Heads of Branches.
- (f) Transport Officers.
- (g) Dispatch Officers.
- (h) Headquarter Commandants.
- (i) Provincial Commissioners.
- (j) Personal Assistants.

3. You are requested to examine the minutes carefully and to ensure that where action is required it is taken promptly.

M. S. LUSH,  
Brigadier,  
Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - Ea. V.P.
- 1 - Ea. Sub-Commission Head.
- 1 - Ea. Regional Commissioner.
- 1 - P.R.O.
- 1 - 8 Army AMG.
- 1 - 5 Army AMG.
- 3 - Estab. Branch.
- 5 - C.A. Branch.
- 1 - Secy Gen.
- 1 - Ea. P.A.

7751



141  
Subject:- Assistance rendered by Capt. HITCHINGS.  
72, G.T. Coy.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.  
Main HQ. (HMIA)  
LEQUILE. (LECCM)  
AQ/9  
26 April 44.

HQ. No. 2 District.

During my journey from BRINDISI to BARI on 13 April, my car broke down and was clearly beyond immediate roadside repair.

Capt. Hitchings went out of his way not only to get my car to a workshop for repair but also to provide me with another vehicle to get me to BARI in time to complete my journey by air.

I should be grateful if you would convey to Capt. Hitchings my appreciation of his prompt and efficient assistance.

*X.B.*  
Major General.  
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

FB

7750

*Hq Army Sub-Com.  
James D. Leguire (Secy)  
149*

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
AFO 394

RED/afe

SG 321

22 April 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: All Concerned

*AQ*

SUBJECT: Classification of Conference Minutes

*25/4*

The matters contained on pages 8 and 9 (Section II A, B, and C), Reports of the Navy, Army and Air Sub-Commissions, in the Minutes of the Monthly Conference of 14 April 1944 are classified as "SECRET" and will be so treated by all holders.

For the Chief Commissioner:

*Robert E. Doe*

ROBERT E. DOE  
Major, A.C.D.  
Secretary General

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - CC
- 1 - DCC
- 1 - SG
- 1 - DSG
- 1 - ea VP
- 1 - ea Sub-Com. Head
- 1 - ea Reg. Com.
- 7 - FRB
- 1 - 3 Army AMG
- 1 - 5 Army AMG
- 4 - MGS, AFHQ

*25/4*

*CC. Note + take necessary action*

7149

*SECRET*  
*EMM DA*  
*39*  
*Palermo - Sicily*  
*Primo*

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
APO 394

MONTHLY CONFERENCE 14 APRIL 1944

The Conference was opened at 0930 hours by the Chief Commissioner, Lieutenant General Sir Noel Mason MacFarlane, who welcomed the Regional Commissioners, guests and members of the Advisory Council. General MacFarlane pointed out that the Commission is still suffering "growing pains" in the third month of its present incarnation, but stated that he is quite pleased with the manner in which the problems are being sorted out and tackled. Sincere appreciation was given for work well done, both in the Regions and at Headquarters, which show that the organization has begun to pull together as a team.

The Chief Commissioner commented that the Commission was a sort of "Cinderella" in its present position; some people had written considerable criticism of us. He stated that constructive criticism would be very gladly welcomed. A fitting end to the Cinderella story would be in the glass factory at Venice.

In closing the Chief Commissioner pointed out that the conferences gave the Commission a chance to get tabloid expression of problems and the ways ACC was trying to deal with them.

I. REPORTS BY REGIONAL CONTROL AND MILITARY GOVERNMENT SECTION.

A. Regional Commissioner, Region I (Sicily), Lt Col A. N. Hancock.

1. There has been considerable activity in the Region.
2. Marshal Badoglio visited Catania and Messina in order to institute Musotto as High Commissioner. His earnestness and sincerity impressed everyone wherever he went; it is thought he stands a good chance of becoming the "grand old man of Italy." Signor Reale was also a visitor to Sicily.
3. It is noted that the Separatist movement is not dead. Now that there is freedom of speech and press, it is necessary to frame a policy in regard to the future of this movement.
4. Dr. Fano, Minister of Telecommunications and Posts, visited the Island. Communication has been extended to the Mainland and is operating between all communes. Since 18 March Sicilian railways have been devoted to civilian transportation. Repair of railway between Catania - Messina and Messina - Palermo is recommended. This would relieve Messina from its semi-isolation.



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5. Regarding the distribution of food, the black market supply is low. Allowments of wheat are erroneous, since they are based on reports that 50% of the population grow their own, whereas only 17% are engaged in agriculture. It is recommended that the monthly allotment of wheat to Sicily be increased and price of bread raised, which would improve the present situation. The present low price is maintained by a subsidy which seems impossible to maintain because of lack of tax income. A slight rise in the price of bread would not entail hardship, and would enable the subsidy to cease.
6. Crime and public safety show slight improvement in spite of several uprisings. A plea was made to Interior Sub-Commission to give juridical powers under Italian Government to Public Health, Public Welfare and Public Safety Institutions formed by AMG together with an assurance of continuation.
7. The collaboration of sub-commissions was requested to assure closer co-operation between Ministries and High Commissioner for Sicily. Ministries have been communicating direct with the Prefects.
8. The Ministries have been duplicating public officials; that is, making appointments when AMG nominees were already in office, which is contrary to the terms of transfer.

MILITARY

Date

ITALIAN ARMY

9. The Italian press has been encouraging displaced nationals to register for eventual return to previous domicile in Tripolitania, Cirenaica, and North Africa.
10. A Royal Decree suspends for 1944 State exams for doctors, veterinary surgeons and other professions but allows candidates to practice. This was noted as a dangerous practice.
11. Sulphur exports to U.K. for the month have been 10,000 tons.
12. The first group of refugees numbering 1,034 reached Syracuse during the Easter period.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: The Chief Commissioner referred to the question of central organization with High Commissioner stating that he had spoken to Marshal Badoglio who is in favor of carrying on as formerly with AMG. General MacFarlane also asked about the disturbance connected with French troops in Trapani. There was nothing further to report at the time on this matter.

B. Regional Commissioner, Region II (Southern Italy), Lt Col G. H. McCaffrey.

1. The situation is unsatisfactory. Popular opinion is still strongly with the Allies but against the Badoglio Government. The people will neither cooperate nor help; they only do so because of our support.
2. In Matera Province the prosecution of several cases was necessary in order to force the smassing of grain. Often instructions from the Ministries will vary thereby giving excuses for delay in work.
3. There are three groups of subversive Fascists in the Region, but it is believed they are being successfully dealt with by police and counter espionage agents.
4. The Minister of the Interior has undertaken to remove three AMG Prefects, and he has also shown his desire to reinstate Fascist Prefects.
5. Regarding de-Fascistization the following removals have been made: 13 in Bari, none since December in Brindisi, none in Lecce, 50 in Taranto. After much hard work in removing Fascists under AMG, the Ministries have been putting back in office one by one those removed under AMG. This is bringing complaints from the Italian population. The Fascist youth organization GIL is being revived, only it is now called GI.
6. Policing is in good order, there having been but few disturbances and no violent ones.

7. The 200 gram bread ration has been retained. Medical supplies have been



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- 6. Policing is in good order, there having been but few disturbances and no violent ones.
- 7. The 200 gram bread ration has been retained; medical supplies have been coming in good and hospitals functioning well.
- 8. While the refugee situation has been improving, Italian families object to more people being pushed in on them, and there is further objection from the refugees themselves as to their families being split up. Good reception centers are functioning in several provinces. Morale has rapidly improved.
- 9. The crop situation looks very encouraging. The wheat crops should be favorable if proper rainfall is forthcoming. It is important to decide now on a policy in regard to amassing of wheat.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: The Chief Commissioner commented on the gloomy Fascist picture painted by Colonel McCaffrey by stating that it was the Advisory Council appointed by the Moscow Conference which suggested that the portion of Southern Italy should be handed back to Southern administration. It is ACC's job to make it run in the best possible way. General MacFarlane further pointed out that the Communist Party's acceptance of the Badoglio Government may help the present attitude toward this government by broadening its base.

Colonel McCaffrey, when asked what could be done to help this gloomy picture, replied that the broadening of the base of the government as soon as possible and the cleaning out of Fascists now in office would serve this end.



General MacFarlane then asked that all the Regional Commissioners should bring any such cases to his attention immediately so that they might be taken up with Marshal Badoglio for consideration by the Italian Government to get the desired action.

C. Regional Commissioner, Region III (Campania), Lt Col O. Poletti.

1. ACC/AMG have been doing a very fine job with progress made in all fields. There have been no disturbances of any kind; even in politics there is no state of discontent. The policy of the Chief Commissioner to allow the Giunta party meetings has proven very valuable. The people now have the sense of being able to express themselves.

2. Cleaning up garbage has been facilitated by 60 trucks now working in Naples alone, which places the city in much better shape. Constant pressure is placed on the Italians to improve the situation. 5,000 drums have been obtained for distribution throughout the city for collecting refuse and garbage.

3. Satisfactory progress has been made in public works with improvements on roads, streets, side walks and sewers.

4. The most urgent problem is that of the "black market." A reorganization of distribution of AMG food has taken place and we are now using our own transport to take food from docks to district warehouses. The police have been strengthened; individually they now have a greater appreciation of their jobs. Some of the head racketeers have been pulled in and it is hoped to bring about prosecution and sentences speedily. "Out of bounds" signs which have been dealt out in cooperation with PBS have given good results. A price list which is restricted to essential goods is to be made up for the Italians. In the communes citizen squads have been started with efforts to make the people feel that honesty can be achieved.

5. A fishing agency has been established and 5 Italian commissioners appointed. Markets have been opened and prices for fish will be fixed. Fishermen are at present opposed to this action, because it will mean a lower price for fish.

6. An attempt has been made to improve transportation.

7. The "battle" is still being fought against other regions. It is felt necessary at times to issue permits to persons so they may enter other regions to bring food into Naples. Attention of other Regional Commissioners was invited to the fact that there is quite a concentration of the population in Naples.

8. It is needful for the Italian Government to give some direction on agriculture and also on welfare. Will there be an amassing system? Millions of lire are being spent on welfare. It is desired that a program be given.

9. Colonel Poletti believes the Fascists are being cleaned out, but states

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Comments by Chief Commissioner: The Chief Commissioner explained that pressure has been put on the Italian Government to get directives on agriculture, but no such directives have been obtained. If no such directives are forthcoming in the very near future, severe pressure will be brought to bear. The Agriculture Sub-Commission also needs this cooperation.

General MacFarlane expressed his appreciation for the splendid work done by ACC together with PBS, No. 3 District, and Base Sub-Area in connection with the Westvitus emergency operations. The job was rapidly and efficiently done.

D. Regional Commissioner, Region V (Torgia & Campobasso), Colonel F. L. Whitley.

1. This Region was activated only about two months ago. This is the first report of activities.

2. The political situation is quite satisfactory, with political agitators causing only a little disturbance. The people in general stand by the turn of war; but the masses are apathetic, living from day to day. Some are seeking political advantage. One incident arose in which a political meeting of 9 March at Bari was called without notifying the Regional Commissioner. Through this occasion a vice-



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sindaco lost his post. Another case was noted where Carabinieri were endeavoring to round up absentees without permission. Military police have assisted the Carabinieri greatly. It is found they have to be watched when on their own.

Activity of the Bonito Brothers has caused several political disturbances. There was one incident at Gargano when District 2 had cut off electricity without advising the people. When a pasta factory could not turn out its product the Bonito Brothers endeavored to organize a riot. Colonel Whitley asked that in the future notification be given of any intended cut-off of utilities to avoid recurrences.

3. Regarding the food situation new ration cards are being instituted. Supply of olive oil is inadequate. Meat prices are sky high. People in the agricultural areas are to be reduced to a proper quota. 90% of the communes have 80% of the people engaged in agriculture, or 72% are thus engaged.

4. Forestry is underway on the Gargano Peninsula. A company of New Zealanders is at present logging for military purposes. There is a forest guard party to see that regard is given to conservation.

5. Herds of deer have been destroyed by Air Corps units on hunting parties.

6. Potatoes are being planted; some are spoiling due to lack of transport. Grain planting has been completed to about 90%. It is planned to amass 40% in Puglia Province and 18 to 20% in Campobasso and other provinces. 20,000 sacks are needed as well as the necessary twine in order properly to amass the grain. Care will need to be exercised by stencilling to see that the bags do not get into the black market.

7. Inland fisheries are being developed as well as the sea fishing industry throughout Puglia Province. A tariff is placed on fish exported to keep from robbing the local markets, since fish command a far higher price in other localities. Fishermen need nets and cordage. At present most of the fishing is carried on in sailing schooners. More people who have power schooners should be encouraged to enter into the fishing business.

E. Regional Commissioner, Region VI (Sardinia), Brigadier M. Carr.

1. The general situation is satisfactory. There is a lack of transportation and tires for vehicles. Too many Italian troops are still in Sardinia. Political situation is satisfactory.

2. Food situation has improved. Stocks of flour have enabled us to set up warehouses out in the provinces. The shortage of olive oil is very much felt. A consignment is on the way from the Mainland.

3. On the legal side, the civilian courts are to be reconstituted. Major Palmieri from ACC has been working on this project. 35 more judges are required. Over 5,000 cases are awaiting trial by military tribunals. The number is piling up. Situation has been improving somewhat.



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4. With reference to industry and commerce, lack of transportation has been a severe handicap. No progress has been made in obtaining small vessels for inter-island trade. Six small schooners which are lying idle in port of Cagliari have been requested. Night fishing is to begin, and if this increases the fish intake there will be a need for more transportation.

5. Wheat is in good condition with but slight damage from cold. A need exists for sulphur and fertilizer.

6. Crime has increased, especially robberies and thefts, full reports of which have been rendered.

7. Preliminary arrangements have been made for taking 10,000 refugees if there is an emergency.

8. Health situation is satisfactory, however there is an increase in prostitution and venereal disease. All available medical supplies have been distributed to the provinces and there have been complaints about shortages. It is hoped that this situation has been dealt with.

9. Throughout the month of March transportation with the mainland was sus-



pendent.)

10. There is need for a policy in regard to amassing.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: General MacFarlane remarked that the Shipping Sub-Commission could let the Conference know about the six schooners at Cagliari.

F. Eighth Army AMG, Gp Captain C. E. Benson.

1. No political problems. AMG Eighth Army has been undergoing a period of reorganization. Adriatic Coast in Campobasso Province now divided in control. Provinces of Benevento and Naples are still under administrative control of Region III. Only operation orders from Army bring AMG Eighth Army into the picture. The Northern Coast is severely handicapped as Allied Forces have not captured provincial capital.

2. Food situation is satisfactory. There is a railhead and food can be distributed by our own trucks. There is one tenancy which has been noted on which help is needed from ACC; namely, warehouses have been threatened with requisitioning for billeting purposes. These warehouses will be needed at harvest-time for storage of crops.

3. No report can be given on health, disturbances or public safety. All is going along well.

4. In Campobasso Province the food supplies are going to be built up. Stocks in Aquila have been built up with food for one month for 40,000 people.

5. A new Prefect is needed in Campobasso Province.

6. With reference to transport, we are at present lucky to have 50 trucks which were handed over by the Army. When AMG moves on it will be difficult for Campobasso to feed itself. The availability of these trucks is vital.

7. There is nothing to report concerning Benevento and Naples Provinces except labor prices. It has been found difficult to get the necessary labor to work on bridges and roads which the Army requires because of the excessive prices in provinces.

8. The campaign against disease is a troublesome problem now. Places are being cleaned up, but we are desperately short of doctors.

G. Fifth Army AMG, Brigadier General E. E. Hume.

1. Some AMG personnel of Fifth Army were reassigned to Eighth Army accompanying the military units transferred from one army to the other.

2. Arrangements were made with Region III for their administration of those communes in the rear of Fifth Army area (between rear Corps and rear Army lines);

3. No report can be given on health, disturbances or public safety. All is going along well.
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  5. A new Prefect is needed in Campobasso Province.
  6. With reference to transport, we are at present lucky to have 50 trucks which were handed over by the Army. When AMG moves on it will be difficult for Campobasso to feed itself. The availability of these trucks is vital.
  7. There is nothing to report concerning Benevento and Naples Provinces except labor prices. It has been found difficult to get the necessary labor to work on bridges and roads which the Army requires because of the excessive prices in provinces.
  8. The campaign against disease is a troublesome problem now. Places are being cleaned up, but we are desperately short of doctors.
- G. Fifth Army AMG, Brigadier General E. E. Hume.
1. Some AMG personnel of Fifth Army were reassigned to Eighth Army accompanying the military units transferred from one army to the other.
  2. Arrangements were made with Region III for their administration of those communes in the rear of Fifth Army area (between rear Corps and rear Army lines); this to include anti-malarial work.
  3. The wholesale evacuation of civilian population from the Anzio-Nettuno Area was a considerable undertaking. Care has been taken to safeguard labor requirements and the cattle in the area.
  4. Casualties of AMG personnel in the beachhead area have been: 73 officers wounded, one enlisted man disabled by wounds and shortly to be evacuated to the United States. Four Carabinieri were killed. Our supply depot was destroyed by shell fire and we have been bombed out of three separate headquarters.
  5. In regard to Carabinieri affairs it was again brought out that Carabinieri must be kept for Rome. The 200 Carabinieri taken, in spite of protests, for permanent assignment to Sicily, have been ready to depart for more than a fortnight, but are still without orders.
  6. It is suggested that some arrangement may be made whereby a part of the livestock (chiefly sheep) from the Anzio-Nettuno Area be brought out for use as food. The evacuation of the bulk of the civilian population greatly increased the problem of caring for these sheep. The Moslem troops of the French Expeditionary Corps are very desirous of having fresh mutton made available, and have their own facilities for slaughtering, etc.



7. Recent changes have reduced the commissioned personnel of AMB Fifth Army to about 25.

8. Movements within the Fifth Army area are being closely checked by military police. Civilians are evacuated from the most forward zone. Behind this is a second zone in which civilians are allowed to remain, but unauthorized movement between towns and villages is prohibited. In the rest of the Army area the 10 kilometer rule applies. In general civilians are not permitted to go north of the Volturno River. A special control officer at Capua issues passes in exceptional cases. All military personnel having official business in the forward areas should hold passes from their commanding officers stating the dates on which visits are authorized and for what purpose. The town of Sessa Arunca is out of bounds, except to pass holders.

9. A military court is sitting at Santa Maria to try cases of espionage and sabotage. So far 24 persons have been tried and 22 found guilty.

10. Food supply for Rome is to be taken forward in ships made available by G-4, Fifth Army, for the period of the Fifth Army's occupation of the city. We expect to unload all of the schooners in which we now have food stocks.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: General MacFarlane assured General Hume that it is realized that Carabinieri are needed for Rome, and he expressed the hope that they will be returned promptly when Rome is reached.

H. Refugee Branch (Italians), Lt Col L. R. Halls.

1. From 1 March to 14 April it has been necessary to move 21,000 refugees from forward areas and disperse them in Southern Provinces. This included 11,000 from the beachhead. The refugees have been made up of 15-20% men, 30-35% women and 50% children. They have been moved by lorries or by LCI's and travel has been hard. Losses among the 21,000 were 5.

2. a. Whilst the majority during March went to Region II, some have gone to Region I and III. As few as possible are being sent to Region II this month or next, which will give them a chance to digest those already sent.

b. Regions II and III are having considerable difficulties in absorbing their quotas, due to the numbers and movements of troops in their areas. They will only be able to absorb maximum numbers in the future, by working in closest contact with sub area commanders, who now know the general situation and have been directed by their district commanders to assist, and by house to house billeting.

c. Region I has set about this problem with far greater thoroughness than anywhere else. In conjunction with District 1 and IBS they have made extensive reception and dispersal plans for large numbers.

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d. Movement by sea to Sicily commenced last week. 1,000 were embarked on the MARIOT on April 5th and a further 750 on the 11th. The first voyage was made without difficulty.

3. Real troubles for refugees commence when they arrive in reception areas and are dispersed in communes. In general the Italian authorities have failed to look after these people, whose condition in certain places is deplorable. It is intended to leave no doubt in the minds of Italian Ministers that this responsibility is theirs. We recognize their difficulties, the main one being food, and intend to assist without allowing them to think that we are assuming their burden. People don't like refugees and it is very difficult to billet them. It is essential that they be kept off the lines of communication. The main requirement from the Italians is personal service. We are making it clear, that if their welfare committees will work, e.g. in setting up soup kitchens, we will make available food supplies which will give refugees a hot meal a day.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: The Chief Commissioner stated that we are now doing our best to set the Italian Red Cross on its feet, which would help the refugee problem.

I. Displaced Persons Sub-Commission, Colonel R. G. Kirkwood.

1. This Sub-Commission deals with all displaced persons and refugees except Italians, mostly with Yugoslavs. The type of Yugoslav has changed during the last month or so--previously they were received from Dalmatia but are now coming through the German lines. The latter are mostly orphans, women with children and old men and women. Refugees are now in such a condition as to require more medical attention. 90 orphans were received on one ship alone. There are two orphan homes started at present.

2. Higher headquarters estimated that the Yugoslav refugee problem would cease. There were 4,500 per month in February and March. During the first week of April 2,000 were received. They are not kept in camps. We have moved 16,249 Yugoslavs to Middle East, and of these approximately 5,000 were moved during March.

3. Organization of Sub-Commission is still on insecure foundation.

4. Method of feeding, source of feeding and accommodation stores are problems.

5. There are two hospitals at present with 100 beds in each occupied all the time. Red Cross has rendered valuable welfare and nursing assistance. There has been some support from the army, but they have been taking personnel away. Yugoslavs, Czechs, Poles and Italian Army doctors are being trained to carry on the work.

6. With reference to accommodation stores, the ACC has set up no means of supplying. Army initially supplied these, but they are becoming less and less a source of supply and we will have to make our own arrangements. We have helped ourselves as much as possible but will need some assistance in the matter of material.

7. The ration is inadequate for small children, nursing mothers, etc. This is helped somewhat by hospital comforts. The Army does not consider it their job, thus the Italian subsistence ration is all that they have to fall back on. This is a problem to be dealt with by ACC. The numbers are not great compared with the rations supplied to the Army, therefore it is not a problem of taking food from the Army.

8. It is believed that the refugees should be repatriated when possible and sent home, or they could be sent to other communities and given a chance to start life on a new footing.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: The Chief Commissioner asked whether there were able bodied Yugoslavs coming over who were capable of service in General Tito's Army. Colonel Kirkwood replied that such men were being trained and returned to Yugoslavia.



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J. Executive Commissioner, Brigadier M. S. Lush.

1. The reports by Regional Control and Military Government Section were concluded by Brigadier Lush, who stated that the picture given at this Conference is better than the one given at the last. This was attributed to the fact that the officers had obtained a grip of their jobs and also to the easing of the food situation. The grave difficulties are in regard to transportation, especially in distribution of food. The favorable crop forecast points to one remedy for the situation.

2. The problems in the forward areas at the moment are simpler than those in liberated Italy. Direct government is easier than advisory control. There is an inevitable slowing down when the Italian Government takes over. AMG with Allied officers in charge and with their resources can do much more than Italian officials who are acting under orders of a Government which itself is in no easy position and who find themselves in difficult circumstances. It is a difficult task for Regional Commissioners in liberated Italy, not only to prevent themselves entering too much into the executive form of government but also to persuade Italian officials not to lean on them too much. Italian officials must be encouraged to take initiative. The situation is easier in the Islands where there are High Commissioners than in the Mainland where Prefects are answerable directly to the Govern-



ment.

3. Experiences gained in liberated Italy would be invaluable to AMG in forward areas. It would be a help in the future in handing over Regions to the Italian Government.

4. It is very necessary to maintain close and constant contact between Headquarters and Regional Commissioners. This is brought to the attention of heads of Sub-Commissions in all aspects of their work. Headquarters also ought to know what is happening in the Regions, particularly so in the case of the Administrative Section which deals with the local government problems.

5. The Chief Commissioner had decided that Region II would be divided into two parts. Calabria would form a new Region VII. Apulia and Lucania would comprise the new Region II.

6. 309 officers had been sent to other theatres. It is hoped that there will be no further calls for officers.

7. Lists of promotions for officers (both American and British) are to be submitted to the Chief Commissioner in the course of the next few days.

A recess was called at 1125 and the Conference reopened at 1140.

II. REPORTS BY INDEPENDENT SUB-COMMISSIONS.

A. Navy Sub-Commission, Comodoro I. H. Palmer.

1. The Italian fleet during the last six months has employed 502 ships on patrol work and transporting troops from North Africa to Naples. All reports have been satisfactory. Particular praise is due to Italian sub-marines for running in food and supplies to troops during Aegean operations, while under constant bombing. Most are now employed on training duties.

2. It has been asked why so many men have left the Italian Navy. At the present time Italian officers and men are relieving our personnel starting in Sicily and working North. We are asking that they relieve us of some of the work in the port of Naples. Admiral Morgan has asked the Minister for a detailed report, after which answers to personnel questions can be given.

3. There has been some ill feeling in regard to food and pay for those doing hard labor who feel they are not on the proper status. Colonel Bain of

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3. There has been some ill feeling in regard to food and pay for those doing hard labor who feel they are not on the proper status. Colonel Bain of Labor Sub-Commission has promised aid in this matter.
4. Another problem is that the Italian Navy is getting short of clothing and boots. A supply has been requested.

### B. Army Sub-Commission, Brigadier G. C. Duchesne.

1. Major General L. Browning is now in the process of taking over the Army Sub-Commission.
2. Ration ceiling was reviewed at conference between Chief Commissioner and Hq AAI on March 31; and recommendations for future strengths include Security Police and Fire Pde in addition to Carabinieri and Guardia di Finanza. If approved, this will raise the ration ceiling to 537,000, compared with current authority for 500,000 and actual present strength 480,000.
3. Since 25 March MIA has supervised the issue of all Allied supplies shipped direct for Italian Armed Forces to the Mainland. In Sardinia and Sicily the Allied Garrison is at present supervising these issues, and MIA is organizing the accounting through Hq ACC. We should like now to initiate liaison between MIA Supply Supervisors at the various ports and those of Food Sub-Commission. The supply situation has crystallized the question of how many troops are to stay in Sardinia and how many to come to the Mainland.



4. On the Mainland Allied Armies now have 75,000 of the Italian Army under their command including 9,000 combat troops; the programme is to build this up to 194,000 including a combat division of 14,000.

The Italian Army is calling in all illegal absentees of the 1923 class plus all illegally absent motor drivers; it will continue one class at a time until all are in control.

5. With reference to Sardinia, shipping ceased but is now starting again. Practically no Italian Army troops have been brought across to the mainland during the past month, but Italian warships are now re-commencing to transport ten thousand per month. Of the garrison in Sardinia 20,000 are working for the Allies. 5,000 Italian Yugoslav soldiers are in the process of transfer to Corsica for air-field labor under the Allied garrison there.

6. In Sicily the Hq 12 Italian Corps commenced formation in Palermo in mid March. It is carrying out a census of the inclusive 1912 to 1924 age classes who are legally liable for service and will then ask for permission to call them up within the ration ceiling.

C. Air Sub-Commission, Air Commodore W.A.B. Bowen-Bascarlet.

1. There has been a continuance of operational work in the war effort. The Fighter Wing has been employed in offensive sweeps with good results along the Dalmatian Coast under the operational control of the Desert Air Force. Long range fighters have been used to give escort to I.A.F. supply dropping aircraft over Yugoslavia. The Bomber Transport Wing has been employed in dropping supplies to Partisans and Italian troops in Yugoslavia and evacuating wounded. The Coastal Wing has carried out convoy escort duties, anti-submarine patrols and air-sea rescue flights. The number of sorties carried out by each of these to date has been 1,520 for the Fighter Wing, 1,300 for the Bomber-Transport Wing and 741 for the Coastal Wing.

2. With the advent of fine weather it is hoped to work up to an aggregate of 1,000 sorties per month. Between 1st and 8th April there have been 44 supply dropping sorties, of which 37 have been successful, and 51 tons net of supplies have been dropped.

3. The maintenance and equipment position is not satisfactory. There is no proper organisation for dealing with either. Energetic steps are now being taken to put these on a proper basis. The success of these steps will depend to a great extent on the payment of civilian firms working for the I.A.F. for work carried out since the Armistice. At present the Italian Government is being extremely dilatory in making these payments, and some firms may have to close down temporarily for lack of funds.

4. A total of 10,205 I.A.F. personnel are now on loan to the Allied Air Forces. The I.S.A.A.F. has taken up by far the greater proportion of these. It



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4. A total of 10,285 I.A.F. personnel are now on loan to the Allied Air Forces. The U.S.A.A.F. has taken up by far the greater proportion of these. It is satisfactory to note that they are giving excellent service in all branches. Since future demands may prejudice the operational capacity of the I.A.F., it will be necessary in the future to reserve the right to recall those required for I.A.F. duties when this becomes essential. Technical personnel are urgently needed. There are a number of highly skilled technicians in Sardinia and also in North Africa. It is important to get the maximum number of technical personnel that can be obtained from all sources.

5. Further in regard to maintenance, we must have full access to all salvaged Italian Air Force material. There is a need for stronger orders to prevent further requisitioning of Air Force equipment.

6. A total of 515 I.A.F. Arditi personnel have been trained as a "Commando" battalion equipped with rifles, automatic rifles, machine-guns, and light mortars. They should be fit to do a combat job very shortly.

7. It is believed it would help to give a little more publicity to the good work being done by the Italian Air Force.

D. Telecommunications & Posts Sub-Commission, Colonel J. L. Henderson.

1. Internal telegraph service has been restored in and between all ten provinces of the mainland and all provinces in Sicily. There is service in Sardinia too, but no outlet from Sardinia, except for official traffic.
2. Telephone calls are limited to urban calls except for officials.
3. Work being handled at present includes the following:
  - a. Extension of internal telegraph service to include Naples, Avellino, Benevento, up to rear Army boundary.
  - b. Resumption of civil calls within provincial boundaries up to the same line.
  - c. The question of resumption of external cable service has been raised.
  - d. Repair of the main Salerno - Reggio cable is proceeding; when complete, this will give official telephone service with Catanzaro, Reggio, etc. and with Messina, Catania, and Palermo.
4. The internal and foreign mail service has been extended to include Naples and Avellino provinces up to the rear Army boundary. The extension into Benevento Province is in hand. Other special services have been worked out for the Vatican, I.R.C.C., Italian Prisoners of War, and to Italians in occupied territory.
5. Other activities have included correspondence with Military Signals over freeing of circuits for Italian Government use, and restoration of Dicat and Coast Watching circuits; correspondence with civil censorship; analysing and submitting to Economic Section proposed rates for telegraph, telephone and postal services, arranging for supplies of stamps from U. S. for Italian Government; supervising Allied Control Commission communications.

E. War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission, Colonel J. T. Zellars.

1. This Sub-Commission's work is with War Materials Disposal and War Factories.
2. In Sicily the turn over to the Italians of war materials in excess of Allied needs is progressing. As regards the Western half of the Island it is about 95% complete, and the Eastern half is not so far advanced. On the mainland and in Sardinia the turnover continues as the tactical situation permits.
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3. From available statistics and reconnaissance it was found that in Sicily prior to Allied invasion there were 60 factories producing war materials or essentials therefor. Of these 60, twelve are now producing in whole or in part either directly or under Allied supervision or by service troops themselves. Twelve to fourteen were completely destroyed by war. The remainder are producing from nothing to very little--these are mostly small factories without raw materials.
4. It was since the last Conference that this Sub-Commission has acquired the additional responsibility of War Factories. This term applies only to Italian manufacturing plants in three general categories.
  - a. Italian War Factories operated directly by or under direct supervision of Allied Forces.
  - b. Italian War Factories operated directly by or under direct supervision of the Italian War Industry.
  - c. Italian War Factories (Auxiliaries) operating in the production of War materials under supervision of Italian War Industry.
5. On the Mainland the factories are nearly all used for the maintenance and repair of our own materials and equipment. The use of these factories is unsatisfactory.

F. Public Relations Branch, Major L. Fielden.

1. The Public Relations Branch was officially established on April 1st. During January and February Major Fielden was the only PRO with ACC though there were five PROs attached to Regions III, IV and Fifth Army AAB. Regional PROs have now been abolished and the officers assigned to this branch at Headquarters ACC.

2. During March representatives of 48 newspapers or newspaper syndicates consulted this Public Relations Branch and were supplied with the information and services they required. Interviews were arranged with members of ACC as requested. Twenty-six press releases on various aspects of the Commission's work were handed out. A Press Conference was convened on March 10. Arrangements were worked out for supplying regular news to the papers controlled by the FWS. The Allied Publications Board on which the PRO sat as a representative of ACC was reorganized and Local Boards were set up to deal with applications to publish.

3. Owing partly to the reorganization of ACC and partly to the lull in the battle fronts a growing interest was shown by correspondents and this interest should soon be reflected in the Allied press.

4. A weekly resume to Regional Commissioners of ACC activities has been started in an attempt to bridge some of the present gaps in relationships. It is hoped to produce a regular ACC Journal about the work of ACC, the need for it being found in the fact that there is a great deal of expert detail which is liable to get by-passed.

5. Major Fielden pointed out that the PRO is sometimes regarded as being without clearly defined functions. It is one of the main activities of this Branch to see that the press gets the correct information, improve information being one of the chief causes for abuse in the Allied press. In order to get an accurate and comprehensive picture of the whole work of ACC to the press it will help greatly if every scrap of news regarding developments is obtained quickly.

6. Public Relations work had been concentrated at Headquarters, but in the near future men will be sent out into the Regions to get in touch with the activities there.

The morning session of the Conference adjourned at 1215 hours.

The afternoon session opened at 1430 hours.



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III. Address by Chief Commissioner, Lieutenant General Sir Noel Mason MacFarlane.

General MacFarlane commented on the political situation as being brighter than at the time of the last Conference. Then there was the threat of a strike by parties of the Left with reference to the Prime Minister's speech. After several discussions with the leaders involved, they called off the strike and held a public meeting of protest instead.

The Communist Party changed its policy and agreed to work with the Government of Marshal Badoglio. There had been little change in the 6 parties otherwise. The main objection had been the King. The King had recently crystallized his present intentions and the reaction of the parties to his declaration is awaited. The question is whether the other Parties will follow the lead given by the Communist Party or hold out for further action from the King. The lead by the Communist Party is to be warmly welcomed by us. These parties have had no constitutional method of achieving their aims, which has kept the threat of strikes and disturbances before us.

The end in view is a broader-based government as the greater the representation of the people the more they will pull together for the common cause. With the present action of the Communist Party and the statement of the King we are much nearer the goal of broadening the base of the Government.

The Chief Commissioner greeted the Advisory Council members who were present. Now that these representatives are resident in Naples we shall have the benefit of their local advice in connection with political problems.

General MacFarlane expressed his regret at the departure of Colonel McCaffrey, Brigadier Duchesne and Air Commodore Foster. A welcome was given to Air Commodore Bowen-Euscarlet, new Director of the Air Sub-Commission. There have been other changes in the high positions in ACC. Brigadiers Dunlop and Carr have changed positions. Colonel Kirkwood would take over the new Region VII. Displaced Persons Sub-Commission would be taken over by Colonel Finlay.

A welcome was also given to General De Sevin, French Representative with the Commission.

We are now approaching our ultimate ceiling in officer personnel. This ceiling represents the number with which we must tackle the whole of Italy. It will not be increased no matter how far forward we go through Italy. There will be no reinforcements. This makes it necessary to get the country sorted out as we go forward and to ensure that the Italians are capable of taking over as we go forward. Then our own personnel can be taken from the rear areas to new fields. It is hoped that the changes and transfers of the past few months will now become considerably less; however, this does not mean that a person will be permitted to be "stuck" in a job, or in an undesirable location. To prevent this periodical reviews of appointments will be made.

There is still scope for improvement in contacts between Regions and Headquarters.



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There is still scope for improvement in contacts between Regions and Headquarters. It is desired that people should get out from Headquarters, and on the other hand, visitors from Regions will be welcomed here.

General MacFarlane reminded the Commissioners again of the way in which ACC works. As we go forward we begin activities in territory with the AMGs of the Armies. This is followed up by Regional Military Government and when the time is ripe, and the Advisory Council approves, the territory is handed over to the Italians and ACC assumes advisory functions. It is essential to train the Italians, as we do not have the manpower to run the show. The time to clean up Fascism is during the AMG period. Things must be sorted out, Fascists must be sacked and the right Italians must be picked and trained while we are exercising military government. It is much more difficult to do this after becoming "advisory" and losing the executive rule. Once an Italian has been appointed by AMG, he cannot be removed without our consent. Unless the Italians can produce a man whom we feel is fit, they cannot replace our man. Therefore it is most important to train them during the AMG stage. If the right man cannot be found, then Headquarters should be advised at once. Marshal Badoglio has always cooperated when asked to provide a man.

The Regions will normally "stay put" when control passes to the Italian Government. Personnel will be reduced in numbers and functions will be advisory. This advisory job will become easy or difficult depending upon the executive period under AMG.

The Chief Commissioner stated that he did not think that Headquarters and the Regions are yet working as smoothly as they might. This is due very largely to lack of conception on the part of some people as to what is required, also lack of practical experience. On technical questions the Sub-Commissions will deal direct with Regions and Provinces in the field. When it comes down to operational directives, these must go through Regional Commissioners. They must know what is going on in order to coordinate the work. Two things must be avoided; namely, (1) working too much in water-tight compartments and (2) delay in office procedure. The "pending" trays should be abolished.

In closing the Chief Commissioner remarked that probably all realize, from this Conference and the last one, the complexity and number of tasks which the organization must face. He expressed his appreciation for the good efforts and work done to solve these complex problems.

#### IV. REPORTS BY ECONOMIC SECTION.

##### A. Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission, Colonel W. Evans.

1. A stage of advancement from survey to actual rehabilitation has now been reached which necessitates co-ordination with Services for mutual integration of salvage program, cannibalisation and restoration.
2. A visiting Commission from CC&C emphasized the importance of relief of skilled labor shortage in US and UK. Shipping space is no longer the sole overriding consideration. Importation of raw materials is preferable to manufactured products. Cloth and leather, needles and sewing thread are needed from abroad.
3. Local Resources Boards have continued excellent cooperation from Local Resources Section, HQ. S.I (Adm. Ech) but it is clear that Local Boards in Sicily and Sardinia require definite policy directives to prevent confusion. Director and Joint Vice Chairmen are proceeding forthwith to Sicily for this purpose.
4. Some of the achievements can be enumerated as follows:
  - a. 78 industrial plants have now been surveyed including many of major importance and a report on heavy industries is now in the printers' hands.
  - b. Caustic soda is now actually here and cigarette paper is en route. Thus soap and tobacco industries are being reactivated.
  - c. The screening of the requisitions for the next six months entailed considerable work. The items numbered 1746 varying from sphygmomanometers to riveting hammers.
  - d. Expert program is now being rapidly developed from Mainland.
  - e. Sulphur and coal program from Sicily and Sardinia respectively has



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c. The screening of the requisitions for the next six months entailed considerable work. The items numbered 1748 varying from sphygmometers to riveting hammers.

d. Export program is now being rapidly developed from Mainland.

e. Sulphur and coal program from Sicily and Sardinia respectively has been continued but coal output has been limited by AFHQ orders.

5. The various problems at present are:

a. Lack of transportation, especially the tire situation, is **7.4.42** instructions issued by C.I.C. and AFHQ for requisitioning tires have proven impossible to observe in practice.

b. There has been no quota of regional personnel determined for Industry and Commerce functions. At Headquarters there is an acute shortage of translators, the services of the interpreters and translators pool being inadequate.

B. Labour Sub-Commission, Colonel J. R. Bain.

1. A final draft of a Royal Decree, which is in essence a Magna Carta for Italian labor, has been completed, and is now being submitted for acceptance. This is the combination of long months of experience and study with the Italian Government, Italian Labor, and the results of AMG/ICC administration. This document, when issued may well stand as a lasting monument of Allied Occupation, and should be broadcast to other nations in the Axis sphere as concrete evidence of our aims and purposes. This will be followed by a further decree giving trade unions a charter setting forth their rights, privileges and restrictions.

2. The past month has shown that too frequently we meet with non-cooperation. Problems have been handled at too low a level. It is of the utmost importance that the Labor Sub-Commission definitely and actually be recognized as the principal authority in all labor matters for all Italian Territory, so as to eliminate interference, and decisions made by various other agencies and departments without reference to, or clearance by, the Labor Sub-Commission. Too many problems have been handled which had been picked at and made "raw" previously. Field officers should keep us advised. In this connection, it is pointed out that there are no field officers in Sardinia, Region II, Fifth Army, Eighth Army, Displaced Persons, and Italian Refugees Branch.

3. It has become more apparent than ever, particularly since the Italian Government has been given jurisdiction over certain areas, that the responsibilities and problems of the Labor Sub-Commission have more than doubled, therefore another urgent request is made for increased personnel to handle this formidable task.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: The Chief Commissioner emphasized the necessity of referring matters to the Labor Sub-Commission when labor plays a part in them, and all concerned were urged to make full use of this Sub-Commission's services. The lack of personnel is something which must be faced since we are held down to a ceiling. It will be seen what can be done about giving them more personnel in the field. One difficulty with the limited ceiling is that you cannot ensure having enough of the right people in the right places. In many cases the problem is not capable of being solved.

#### C. Agriculture Sub-Commission, Major W. A. Hartman.

1. The Italian Minister of Agriculture and the Director of Agriculture Sub-Commission conferred with Allied and Italian officials in Sicily, Apulia, Lucania, and Calabria in the interest of creating uniform agricultural organizations in the field to obtain maximum production at harvest and in amassing of wheat and other vital crops.

2. It has been endeavored to get a plan defined. The new Minister advised that a field check would be necessary before such a plan could be outlined. Such field checks have been completed in Regions I and II. The Minister at each place spoke to various agricultural officials and expressed to them what they must do with reference to organization. They have had instructions and pressure has been brought to bear, but we still have no defined plan in writing.

3. We do not have more than ten trained agricultural officers in the theatre. Also the Minister cannot locate competent men who are willing to accept responsibilities. We have suggested means to him, but he has refused to do anything about it. We have promises but no written results. The Agriculture Sub-Commission has the complete cooperation of the Ministry's staff except the Minister himself when it comes to action.

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5. Beginning April 15 Provincial officials will be making out a crop condition report. This will become a bi-monthly report. A revised forecast by 15 May will be an additional basis for completing plans to obtain maximum amassing of wheat and other crops.

6. Seed potato imports totaled about 37,000 tons, a large proportion of which arrived after latest safe planting date 15 March; about 2500 tons of late arrival had to be diverted to Army ration; sterility due to long time on boat plus other reasons necessitated diverting an additional 1500 tons for food use. With these exceptions loss of seed has been extremely small in light of obstacles that were overcome to get seed in ground.

7. A survey of fishing conditions and needs to get a maximum harvest are being completed for all occupied territory including Sardinia; fishing supplies available from local resources are being distributed to areas which assure largest fish catch. Arrangements are in process of completion to assure tuna fishing operations in season along coastal waters of Italy and North Africa; approval has been obtained to

extend night fishing operations at several points along coasts of Italy and Sardinia; a fish marketing plan has been put into effect in Naples area which will minimize black market operations and result in more equitable distribution; etc. Close working relations have been established with Fisheries Section of Italian Ministry of Agriculture on the above and all other activities of the Division.

8. Fuel wood harvest operations in Fifth Army area about 10 miles from Cassino continue to provide for all needs of hospitals and other army purposes in forward areas. About 100 civilians are employed on this job. Steps have been taken to re-activate the Italian Royal Forestry Corps to assume responsibility for necessary forestry operations. Most of the personnel do not have forestry training. It seems to have been a typical Fascist organization

D. Food Sub-Commission, Lt Col W. J. Legg.

1. The Food Sub-Commission is one of the younger sub-commissions, whose principal job is to ensure that the people receive their daily bread. This has been achieved. The ration scale and miscellaneous food issues for April are higher and more varied than for any previous month. May issues are expected to be on a similar scale. Regarding distribution, May and June will be difficult months. Of ten cereal ships, nine will be grain ships and one only will be flour. Previously these ships have been mixed cargo. The program now, however, is different; of this fact the Regional Commissioners should be informed. With only two ports accepting bulk grain, we are faced with the problem of a tonnage of 65,000 tons. Also 500,000 quintal-size sacks will be needed to handle the grain. This complicates distribution and puts a strain on the men. Further in regard to the sack problem, the Food Sub-Commission has opened up recovering depots to resack flour and grain, which involves much work.

2. There is a pressing need to take into account local resources. We have planned to take care of the supplies, both wheat and cereal crops, to which Major Hartman has referred.

3. Regional Commissioners have spoken about Regional resources and trade. Free trade should be encouraged but requires coordination and control. A civil supply Italian group is working closely with Minister Lucifero and by this means it is hoped to control the basic items of supplies of cereals and pulse crops of this country. Despite the changes in the Ministry of Agriculture definite progress has been made. Agriculture will provide the answer to many food problems and to the many requests for an increase in ration scale.

4. Another sore spot is ration cards and counterfeit cards. We are now actively engaged in pursuing a rationing enforcement policy. A plan was recommended to Regional Commissioners. An equal number of inspectors and Guardia di Finanza are employed. Shops for operation are selected at widely separated points. Inspectors are in shops during service hours. Inspectors and Guardia di Finanza are changed daily. Inspectors examine ration cards of all persons entering the shop. Inquiries are made for purposes of checking ownership. The following gives an indication of



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During first two days eight baker shops were taken under control. Forty-one false cards were found; 11 were found belonging to deceased persons; 13 owned by people who had left the district and the number of borrowed cards was 34. **47000** of this scheme is being circulated to Regional Commissioners for use in their own Regions.

### E. Finance Sub-Commission, Colonel E. E. Foley.

1. During March steps have been taken to establish the Banca d'Italia as the central bank for the Italian Government in the liberated area. For King's Italy the branch at Salerno has been made acting head office, and the branches in Regions III, V and VI are managed from Naples. An officer of the Finance Sub-Commission has been appointed Liaison Officer to the Bank and has his office in the Salerno Branch. This integration has enabled us to finance the Italian Government's deficit out of the existing currency reserves of the Banca d'Italia. Since April 1, no advances of 100 lire currency are being made to the Italian Government or parastatal organizations and arrangements are now being made to finance provinces and communes out of bank funds. In fact the currency reserves of the central bank now stand at such a level that we are withdrawing 1.9 billion lire from the Banca d'Italia. This withdrawal is in the form of a partial repayment of the advances made to the Italian Government or its sub-divisions by ACC/AMC. Such advances total about 5 billion lire and the re-

payment is approximately 2/5 of this amount.

2. Colonel Foley, while in Washington, arranged for the printing and preparation of new Italian Government currency. It is estimated that this currency will not be available for approximately six months from final approval of the design. When available, we can take steps in economic warfare and inflationary control.

3. Black market dealing in non-legal tender money has been developing. It is hoped to take effective action to stamp out this currency coming in and put a stop to violations of law involved in transactions in which it is implicated.

4. More drastic penalties are recommended when sentencing convicted forgers, as a number of cases involving forgery of 100 lire currency are constantly coming to light. The volume of cases is not dangerous but should be checked.

5. The present economic situation of liberated Italy is chiefly characterized by an extreme shortage of foodstuffs with consequent high black market prices. The largest single source of incomes in liberated Italy is the Italian Government's deficit, which is estimated to be 20 billion lire since 1 July 1949, and is now averaging over 3 billion lire per month. The monetary measures we are taking include an attempt to reduce the level of Italian Government spending, more drastic tax measures and a reduction in the size of the deficit by more Government borrowing from the people.

6. A Commission from Washington has visited here to see how records are being kept regarding imports. It is necessary to cost account supplies coming in. We must know what goods come in, country of origin and what disposition is made of them. The Regional Commissioners must help in this collection of supply accounting data. The Chief Accountant reports that the necessary information is very slow in forthcoming from the Regions.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: The Chief Commissioner stressed the point made by Colonel Foley regarding the furnishing of proper information to Headquarters so that the show may run properly.

F. Public Works & Utilities Sub-Commission, Lt Col L. A. Janny.

1. Work is progressing in regard to military highways but the lack of personnel and equipment is a handicap. Military authorities have asked that we extend and accelerate our organization and steps have been taken to accomplish this. Personnel will have to be increased and highway construction material must be imported from the United States. A plan has been put up to HQ AAI for review.

2. A program of procedure for utility rates was submitted and approved at a Special Economic Section meeting. Basic structure is not being altered.



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3. Colonel Jenny mentioned the incident occurring in Foggin where a pasta factory had to be shut down when their electricity supply was cut off. He explained that this rationing of electricity was an emergency measure brought about by a railroad's need for electricity. The decree for this rationing was not ready although the Minister had been pushed for it. Thus rationing was actually undertaken by us before the Decree became effective, and the demand was kept within the amount allotted by the Local Resources Board. When the Decree was published in the Gazette, we found that it did not conform to the final draft which we had approved and which was stronger and more precise than the published form. After discussing this matter with the Legal Sub-Commission we requested the passage of a new Decree in the form approved by us and cancelling the one in effect now.

4. Studies are in progress in cooperation with the Ministries of Public Works and Merchant Marine, for raising sunken ships in various harbors so as to clear harbors and make use of the ships; and five million lire have been appropriated for this. Studies are also in progress for the rehabilitation of shipyards capable of building small wooden vessels from 200 to 800 tons.

5. Officers of this Sub-Commission have visited Sicily and Sardinia and have studied P & U conditions in these two Regions. Some changes are being contemplated in Sicily.

6. ACC has just been asked to study the question of taking over and operating various plants producing essential construction materials. The armed forces have taken over many plants and materials are taken to the front areas.

7. At the last meeting a statement was made that the situation so far as electrical current for Rome was concerned was favorable. Work for restoration has been assigned to P33. Financing the project and providing labor and food for workers was assigned to ACC.

8. Army and many ACC regional engineering units have requisitioned automobiles and trucks belonging to the Italian engineer forces. This practice must cease. We are planning to issue special permits to them, with the cooperation of the armed forces, "freezing" their equipment so they can function.

9. A very large number of varied problems have been handled including repairs to buildings and building a "ricovero" for the Volturmo Building. Also the recent eruption of Vesuvius added to our tasks.

10. The Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission has a basic task to perform. It is composed of specialists in various fields but does not have enough men to handle the tasks that have been given to it to perform. A few more men are needed at Headquarters. Regions II, III, V must have personnel. Region VIII needs electrical experts to go into Rome; about four more are needed immediately.

#### G. Transportation Sub-Commission, Colonel S. A. Fitch.

1. The military authorities still retain control of railways on the Mainland and in Sardinia. In Sicily the complete supervision of the whole of the railways became the responsibility of ACC as from 18 March, and it is a little early to assess the results. The volume of civil freight movement generally has increased as compared with the previous month.

2. Owing to a shortage of coal, locomotives and rolling stock, and the heavy priority requirements of Allied Forces, the railway facilities available for civil traffic are still barely sufficient to meet essential civil needs. No increase in civil passenger train services can yet be made.

3. 550 trucks have been made available since the last meeting, of which 150 are awaiting allocation. Will be handed over to the Italian Government in the near future. The 1061 G.T. Coy. (120 trucks) will be handed over to Region II fit for work in a few days.

4. Movements arranged through this Sub-Commission for schooner transportation are increasing. The setting up of a more satisfactory organization for schooners is pending. A few schooners have been allocated to specific points for local civil movements. It is hoped to secure increased allotments for regular local movements.



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H. Shipping Sub-Commission, Mr. Robert Nicol.

1. The registration of the schooners is proceeding in a more orderly <sup>7/40</sup> rapid manner than was anticipated. They are very limited in number. Upwards of 2000 schooners are now registered, and a considerable number of these are employed under the direction of the Mediterranean Shipping Board Schooner Committee in work for the services of the Allied Nations.

2. It will now become increasingly difficult for this Schooner Committee to function unless the economic requirements of the area are presented once a month in practical form in order that the allocation of shipping may be made for its fulfilment.

3. The following is an illustration to show the necessity for producing the programme which is so earnestly desired. Since almost the total requirements of flour for the month of May are arriving from Australia in one large ship, in order to save our ocean going tonnage it is desirable that this ship should discharge at one port. Mr. Nicol together with his colleagues have enquired as to what contribution the Schooner Committee can make towards the distribution of this flour to its ultimate destination. A problem such as this can be quickly solved provided all parties perform their requisite parts.

4. The operation of other Italian ships has been a matter on which this Sub-Commission has been most closely engaged in conjunction with the Commander-in-Chief and our principals in Washington and London. The ships now being employed in useful service are the results of machinery which we have created. The Italian tonnage in service is as follows:

- a. Inside the Mediterranean--passenger type 10888 G.R.T., cargo vessels 73,232 D.M.T. and tankers 46290 D.W.T.
- b. Outside the Mediterranean--passenger type 24470 G.R.T., and cargo vessels 10329 D.M.T.

I. Acting Vice President of Economic Section, Colonel D. B. Adams (reporting in the absence of the Hon. Mr. Henry Credit).

1. The reports of the Sub-Commissions have given an overall picture of the activities. Although we feel at times that progress is slow, it is apparent from the reports already made that very substantial progress has been made in a comparatively short time.

2. This is impressive when we look back and realize that the General's first conference was held only a little over two months ago. That was the first time the Regions and Headquarters gathered together as one organization under one command with jurisdiction over all civil affairs activities in this Theatre. On the economic side it has made possible rapid progress in making effective its program in connection with wage levels, prices, food rationing and distribution, accounting, requisitions for imports for essential requirements, and in the control of local resources.

3. ACC is now establishing itself with the various services as an important section of the Allied Forces in Italy; an agency that can be depended upon to handle the many problems involving civilian labor; local resources, including food, engineer and other materials; also the handling and distribution of food imports.

4. Looking ahead, there is a tremendous amount of work to be done. One job facing us right now is the food situation. The Combined Chiefs of Staff have indicated to us their expectation that, with the coming harvest, Italy must feed itself and no longer may expect the imports of food such as we have had in past months. The responsibility for effecting this policy is placed on ACC and, of course, the Italian Government must assume its proper responsibility in this connection and has already been approached on the matter. The possibility of Italy feeding itself has already been explored and the program for the collection and amassing of the grain, reduction in food and seed retentions, price of wheat, etc., will be discussed with the Regional Commissioners while they are here. The necessity for feeding the Italian people from local resources is one of such general concern that all members of ACC should be acquainted with this policy of the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

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The Economic Section and Regional Commissioners have a primary responsibility but will need the cooperation of all of ACC, particularly Public Health and Public Safety Sub-Commissions. Also all publicity releases will have to closely support this policy.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: The Chief Commissioner commented that the Italian Government is not giving the cooperation it should. This may be due in certain cases to political insecurity of certain Ministers. It will presumably show improvement with the coming of a broader-based and more secure government. We must realize however the manner in which the Italian Government came into being. Marshal Badoglio with but one clerk initiated this government. They did not bring experienced personnel from Rome. Thus we are dealing with an administrative machine which has been built up with difficulty. We must get everything possible out of them as rapidly and efficiently as possible. It is no surprise that they are not functioning as one would expect a government to function. That does not mean we should not try by all means one method to get the 'goods' from them.

. . . . . process was called at 1630 and the conference reopened at 1645.

## REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION.

A. Interior Sub-Commission, Colonel R. G. E. Spicer.

1. There has been the misconception that Interior Sub-Commission is bracketed with Public Health, whereas it deals with the Minister of the Interior outside the sphere of Public Health, Public Welfare and Public Safety. There is almost daily contact with Minister Reale or his staff. Multifarious matters concerning Prefects, Sindaci and other extraneous matters come up.
2. A course in local government was held between 16-22 March. Officers attended from HQ ACC and Regions I, II, III, and V. The interest shown was gratifying and the Interior staff learned much from the students. A second course is in progress.
3. Colonel Spicer with his staff officer has visited Benevento, Avellino, Campobasso, Caserta, San Vittore, and AMG N.2. Corps Med in HQ Liaison Officer. In each place the senior officer was interviewed and with his permission, whenever possible, the Prefects. It was a surprise to find that the Giunta Comunale is actually functioning in Region III and 5th Army areas, even north of the Volturno.
4. Captain R.R. Temple of the Sub-Commission has been on tour in Sarinina since 1st April.
5. Local Government on the lines approved by the Chief Commissioner is alive in Region III. The first meeting of the Giunta Provinciale Administrative in Salerno Province was attended by officers of the first course as guests. An immense amount of business was done and the citizen members set for the first time. It is firmly believed that these appointments and opportunities are producing and will produce a better and real feeling of responsibility in the rehabilitation of their country by the man of the people as opposed to career officials, and will play no mean part in stabilizing affairs.
6. The Royal Decree in regard to the reconstitution of Local Government is still under discussion with the Minister of the Interior. The Legal Sub-Commission has been consulted and has advised certain amendments.

B. Public Safety Sub-Commission, Colonel P. C. Kirk.

1. Conferences of Regional and Public Safety Officers have been held and uniform policies adopted.
2. Rations for Public Safety organizations have been an important item.
3. Regional Commissioners, Police and Public Safety officers are all interested in the clothing and equipping of the police.
4. Contact with the Carabinieri is daily.

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5. There have been growing accounts of misconduct of allied troops.
6. Replacement pools for Carabinieri have been established at Naples & Bari.
7. A tour of inspection is being conducted from a disciplinary point of view in the Guardia di Finanza.
8. Fire control and civil defence are still static.
9. Licensing is going forward with a uniform system.
10. A scheme for de-fascistization in AMG areas has been proposed and will be considered at the meeting tomorrow.

C. Public Health Sub-Commission, Brigadier G.S. Parkinson.

1. The Typhus Board was dispersed. Hygiene Advisory Board has been set up. The first meeting has been held with discussions of venereal disease, malaria control and sanitation of towns and villages.
2. The Italian Government has been asked to set up a VD Department and to take more vigorous action in dealing with pimps and clandestine prostitution. More

hospital beds have been provided for prostitutes. There has been a slight fall in the VD rate among troops in Region I.

3. Malaria control is headed by Colonel Russell of the Rockefeller Foundation. A malaria survey of Sardinia has been made, as well as of other known malaria areas. Meetings have been held to ensure uniformity of action and cooperation. We are trying to get the Italians to cooperate as much as possible.

4. The increased rations in hospitals have been much appreciated.

5. A veterinary survey of Sicily has been made which shows that the Italian veterinary service is getting back to peace conditions and that biologicals are being produced in quantity. Directives have been sent out on the immunization of live stock.

6. Medical supplies are coming in regularly and distribution is better. Additional storehouses have been set up in convenient places. More clothing was received and distributed. There is a shortage only of certain items rather than insufficient consignments of supplies.

7. There has been a certain amount of pilfering of Red Cross clothing. Investigations are being made. Drugs have also been stolen in hospitals.

8. Close liaison with the Italian Government has been maintained with the view of eventually setting up a Welfare Department to meet the requirements of the Italian people.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: General MacFarlane inquired regarding forage for Army mules in Sardinia. It was not definitely known, but reported that forage had to be shipped from the Mainland.

The Chief Commissioner commended the work of Colonel Russell and the Rockefeller Foundation Institute on the fine results brought forth in dealing with the typhus epidemic.

I. Legal Sub-Commission, Colonel G. R. Ufford.

1. The allied military courts have been requested to give to Regional Commissioners the right to review all cases of imprisonment. This is a most important duty, and it is hoped the Commissioners will do part of the reviewing themselves.

2. The Chief Legal Officer in a Region is a key man who can help the C-Os to administer justice. It is noted that a sentence in a country district may not be adequate in a place like Naples, thus good legal advice is necessary in the Regions. As a further aid a book will be distributed shortly, "Justice without Tears" which will be void of technical language.

3. There are 26 legal officers on loan in Naples. 4000 cases were tried



8. Close liaison with the Welfare Department to meet the requirements of the Italian people.

Comments by Chief Commissioner: General MacParlane inquired regarding forage for army mules in Sardinia. It was not definitely known, but reported that forage had to be shipped from the Mainland.

The Chief Commissioner commended the work of Colonel Russell and the Rockefeller Foundation Institute on the fine results brought forth in dealing with the typhus epidemic.

D. Legal Sub-Commission, Colonel G. R. Ufford.

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3. There are 26 legal officers on loan in Naples. 4000 cases were tried last month. It has been discussed with the Italian Government whereby they will take over more of the legal work in Naples, as these officers cannot be left in this city.
4. The policy of putting across what we desire through decrees has proven satisfactory. The Italian Government is to reproduce in a week to ten days some decrees which we want in occupied territories.
5. The Italian Government has done useful work in getting a pool of judges as they come through the lines. A substantial number must be kept for Rome but we can help Brigadier Carr somewhat.
6. Fascist legislation has been reviewed. Many excellent laws were passed under Mussolini's regime. The bad Fascist laws are being weeded out.
7. A further directive from AFHQ is being awaited as to the requisitioning of Papal property. This is a very difficult question. Previous directives were very conflicting, as soon as instructions are forthcoming they will be embodied in a directive to the field.

E. Educat on Sub-Commission, Lt Col F. V. Smith.

1. The High School youth organization has shown splendid work and has been very active. A concert to raise funds to further their organization was held in Salerno.
2. An investigation has begun in universities to see what kind of standards are operating underneath the routine.
3. A survey of schools was instituted in Regions III and IV trying to get a picture of what was here when we came and what is now. We are trying to be constructive in the Italian system.

F. Property Control Sub-Commission, Lt Col C. R. Harris.

1. In Region I the process of taking custody of all Allied property is nearly complete. Also this is true in Region IV.
2. We have reached an agreement with the Italian Government as to the steps necessary to legalize the activities of the Property Control Sub-Commission under Italian Law.
3. A satisfactory agreement on the financial side of properties has been reached whereby the Italian Government will advance necessary funds where the income is insufficient. They also agreed to advance funds in cases where war damage has been caused to properties.

G. Monuments and Fine Arts Sub-Commission, Major E. T. de Wald.

1. The reorganization of personnel has been somewhat of a problem but it is hoped that it will be satisfactorily solved.
2. There was supervision of activities in the field which Sub-Commissions had undertaken. In Regions I, II and III there were a number of monuments and churches needing attention as a result of war damage. Work in Region I is finished and is practically finished in Region II; the difficult problems are in Region III. These are of two kinds: (1) Repair of churches bombed. In the last German raid a very famous Renaissance church was struck and partly demolished. Due to efficient cooperation with Italian officials, repairs were completed in two weeks. (2) Buildings such as the Royal Palace which suffered damage due to looting or mishandling by troops. A commission was established to take care of such items.
3. Action taken on the recommendations of the Collier report, including the following:



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3. Action taken on the recommendations of the Collier report, 1938 the following:

- a. Care of National Museum, Royal Palace, San Martino, Pompeii, etc.
- b. Preparation of draft regarding the Protection of Property of Historical and Educational Importance in Italy; submission of it to H.C. 41 (adm Tech); their issuance of it as Administrative Instruction No. 10.
- c. The preparation of lists of protected monuments as required by the Administrative Instruction No. 3. Lazio and Abruzzi now in hands of printer. South Italy follows immediately and also Tuscany.

d. The preparation of a book publication on Art in Italy.

4. Inspection trips to the most important areas were made by the Director and Deputy Director.

5. In regard to the future we are ready for action as the armies move forward.

6. This Sub-Commission came into being through the President of the United States and cultural sources in the U.S. and U.K. We are to give first aid to war damage where it happens but we are not just a sweeping up squad. It is our first duty to try to avoid there being damage to works of art.

H. Vice President of Administrative Section, The Rt Hon The Viscount Stansgate.

1. Lord Stansgate stated his belief that all profit greatly by the conferences. He expressed his desire to be more fully informed about the activities of the Economic Section since they are the backbone of the whole program.
2. Comment was made on the close contact which could be had with the Italian Ministries due to their advantageous location. We do know what is happening, even though we may know not what the man in the street thinks.
3. Lord Stansgate remarked that he would like to regard the Regional Commissioners as our "eyes and ears." It is necessary to hear from them more than just in the monthly reports. We need their impressions. The Headquarters is trying to build up the morale of the Italian people. The Regional Commissioners should fully inform the Sub-Commissions of the state of affairs as they note them. Lively daily contact is needed.
4. Reference was made to the fact that some directors object to the actions of Ministers in removing prefects. This is another item which should be brought to Headquarters attention.
5. Regarding visits to the field, 43 individuals have been in the field 165 days. We should be very glad to have men from the Regions in to visit Headquarters.
6. It is hoped that we may do something in the direct war effort. We must help the Anglo-Italian relationships and get the Italians' hearts into the war effort.

VI. Closing Address by Deputy Chief Commissioner, Captain Ellery T. Stone, USNR.

Captain Stone stated his belief that it had been a very constructive meeting because many had had numerous critical things to say. This is a healthy sign. Since ACC was created to take the business of government off the shoulders of the C-in-C, if everything were running smoothly there would be no need for us.

Feeling the Italian people was the first big problem. When they are fed they can tackle the cultural and other problems. A comparison of the children to be seen during our first days in Italy with those of today will show what ACC has done of worth.

Cooperation and coordination is needed in the Sub-Commissions. The fault here has been one of the omission rather than commission. There is a need for greater personal contact between those whose problems are similar, and between ACC officers and their Italian opposites.

The work of de-Fascistization is coming along with a decree being passed for the punishing of Fascist crimes.



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The work of de-Fascistization is coming long with a decree being passed for the punishing of Fascist crimes.

The Communist Party's stand for cooperation with the King and Marshal Badoglio gives us hope for a broader-based government.

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The Conference adjourned at 1300 hours.

  
ROBERT E. DCE  
Major, A.G.D.  
Secretary General

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - CC
- 1 - DCC
- 1 - SC
- 1 - DSG
- 1 - ec. VP
- 1 - es Sub-Com. Head
- 1 - es Res. Com.
- 3 - PHE
- 1 - 8 .ATTY .AMG
- 1 - 5 .ATTY .AMG
- 4 - MES, .AFFG

REAR HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

QS/mms

08259

18 April 1944

SUBJECT: Reception of PW.

TO : Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C. Main HQ (MMIA) LEQUILE (LECCE).

Recent signals show that PW are starting to flow back into Italy. Some are invalids. A few have been returned by arrangements between Chief Commissioner and the Commander in Chief, A.F.H.Q.; another batch of 170 appears to be on its way by hospital ship. When information comes in to HQ. AA1 (Adm Ech) they appear to pass the matter on to A.C.C. Main HQ. who invariably pass it to me.

As stated in my QS241 of 13 April I am uncertain of the machinery of reception. It is assumed that there are three aspects:-  
of the reception:-

- a. Medical aspect: isolation may be necessary or ambulance transport.
- b. Security aspect: presumably, GSIB will look to see them even though they may have been screened before starting.
- c. Reception by Italian authorities: i.e. routing railway war rants meals, pay etc.

It appears that only (c) above concerns A.C.C. A.C.C. action also appears to be limited to informing the Italian C.G. for CAMPANIA via Army Sub-Comm. Main HQ. L.O.. It is not known whether Italian authorities have access to the docks for purposes of meeting prisoners. It may also be that medical attention for PW is the responsibility of the Italian Army and not as would at first appear, a matter for 3 District. May I have your remarks, please?

*G. W. Quinsmith* Lt. Col.  
(G. W. QUINSMITH)  
Army Sub-Commission  
Advanced Headquarters

Copy to: Army Sub-Comm.,  
L.O., Naples.

u/1

138

134

1157



Report on Visit to NAPLES, CASERTA, CASTELLANARE and BARI, between  
18th and 21st April 1944, by Lieut. Colonel H.B. FINCH, MC, A.D.C.

1. Visited Lt. Col. OPFENHAUER, Senior Liaison Officer, Naples.

a. Repaired clothing and GCO clothing in to be delivered by American's PBI into Italian Depots in NAPLES.

b. Requests have been made by Major WIRTH, Assist. PBI, and also by Col. LAMBY (ref AC/12 of 10 by M) for instructions regarding pricing of clothing and rations. I took this matter up with Col. POLLY (American Treasury Official) Joint Commissioner of Finance Sub Comm ACC. (I found that Col. GRAFFY SAUER was away in ENGLAND). I was informed that we were not concerned with the pricing.

c. A Capt. PROBITZ of Italian S.I. requested that his Unit be issued with cigarettes. They had been drawing rations from a British DID behind the Combat Zone. I explained that, at present, and until Italian Cigarette Factories started functioning, this would be impossible.

d. Col. OPFENHAUER stated that they had experienced considerable difficulties at the Port because supplies destined for the Italians were arriving in some ships completely unmarked III. He made a special request that it be represented to higher authority that all cases, sacks, etc., for the Italians be marked plainly with a broad splash of distinctive coloured paint. This would enable ready reception, and prevent supplies being sent to wrong destinations.

e. Lieut. TOMBS explained that in two ships, viz "J. HILLINGIER" and "J. THORNTON", the whole consignment of supplies had been wrongly despatched, and none of it had been received by the Italians. The reason was that it was unmarked III, and it was not till <sup>27/4/44</sup> discharge that the III code was noticed on the manifests.

f. Lieut. TOMBS also reported that there had been a discrepancy of 1,032, 522 lbs of flour from the "LORRAINE". Some of this had been traced to the ACC Depot, and Major MORRIS (American), the ACC Rep, had acknowledged that he had received a surplus, and would be prepared to hand over to the Italian Military Depot whatever surplus quantities he had received.

2. Saw Col. BAIR, MC, PBI with Major G. I. H. Assist. PBI.

3. Showed Col. BAIR Schedule of Discrepancies of Supplies discharged at

difficulties at the Port because supplies destined for the Italians were arriving in some ships completely unmarked IIT. He made a special request that it be represented to higher authority that all cases, sacks, etc., for the Italians be marked plainly with a broad splash of distinctive coloured paint. This would enable ready reception, and prevent supplies being sent to wrong destinations.

e. Lieut TOMKS explained that in two ships, viz "T. BILLINGSLEY" and "J. THURLOW", the whole consignment of supplies had been wrongly despatched, and none of it had been received by the Italians. The reason was that it was unmarked IIT, and it was not till 27/9/56 discharge that the IIT code was noticed on the manifests.

f. Lieut TOMKS also reported that there had been a discrepancy of 1,032, 822 lbs of flour from the "LONGFELLOW". Some of this had been traced to the ACC Depot, and Major ROXBOROUGH (American), the ACC Rep, had acknowledged that he had received a surplus, and would be prepared to hand over to the Italian Military Depot whatever surplus quantities he had received.

2. Saw Col BAIR, MA, PAB with Major BAIR, Assist MA, PH.

a. Showed Col BAIR Schedule of Discrepancies of Ships discharged at WAPLES.

b. Col BAIR recommended that truck lists should be checked to see where the remainder of the consignments had been despatched. He agreed that if it could be proved that the differences had been sent to his Depots he would have such stocks back to the Italian Army Depots.

It TOMKS stated that he had already tried to trace back Truck lists but that it had proved a failure, ~~as it had failed~~ chiefly because of inaccuracies made by Port Checkers.

3. Visited Major ROSE, Transportation, PH.

a. Handed over a copy of Italian translation of Drivers Test Chapter in American Transportation Manual.

b. Showed Schedule of Discrepancies of Ships, and explained that stores destined for Italians were being wrongly despatched at the Port.

He promised to look into it, and to assist in this problem.

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

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- 4. I tried to see Lt. Col FORBES, G-4, EIS, but he was away.
- 5. Visited Col POLLEY (American) Joint Commissioner, Finance Sub Com, ACC.

a. Explained situation with regard to schedule of discrepancies off ships discharged at NAPLES. He expressed great concern. Said that he would like to have private enquiries made into private bank balances of all personnel connected with the port. He stated that he could, himself, take no action, but would like to see the whole case investigated, and a copy of the report to higher authority submitted to him.

b. He expressed the opinion that a better check on stores, as they were discharged from the ship, could be made.

- 6. Saw Major ROBERTS (American), NAPLES Port Liaison Officer for Food Sub Com, ACC.

a. He stated that he realized that some of the surplus flour he had received into his Depot, ex "LA MILANO", should have gone to Italian Army Depot. He was prepared to hand over any surplus found, but could not say that he had the whole of the 1,034,512 lbs that were short by the manifest.

b. He explained that he also experienced difficulties by having stores requested for the Food Sub Com, ACC, being wrongly acknowledged by the Port Authorities. He suggested that the only feasible check to prevent this happening, was to do a daily check up on manifests of ships expecting to discharge that day.

c. He stated that, once vehicles carrying stores had been wrongly consigned, unless a back check was made immediately, it became almost impossible to trace lost loads. He stated that he had all green truck lists listed on to a daily schedule, which he had checked against the port records every day.

- 7. Visited Lieut. Col de MAJIO at HQ, Commissariato, NAPLES.

a. Requested Col de MAJIO to form two more Italian Port Dets to compete with the extra shipping being handled in NAPLES Port. I explained that the formal request for this had already been

*Private School Notes*

*17/12/47*

had received into his Depot, ex "LONGMILLON", should have gone to Italian Army Depot. He was prepared to hand over any surplus found, but could not say that he had the whole of the 1,000,512 lbs that were short by the manifest.

b. He explained that he also experienced difficulties by having stores destined for the Food Sub Comm, HQ, being wrongly assigned by the Port authorities. He suggested that the only feasible check to prevent this happening, was to do a daily check up on manifests of ships expecting to discharge that day.

c. He stated that, once Vehicles carrying stores had been wrongly consigned, unless a back check was made immediately, it became almost impossible to trace lost loads. He stated that he had all green truck lists listed on to a daily schedule, which he had checked against the Port records every day.

7. Visited Lieut. Col de MAJIO at HQ, Commissariato, MALTA.

a. Requested Col de MAJIO to form two more Italian Port Dets to compete with the extra shipping being handled in MALTA Port. I explained that the formal request for this had already been submitted to the Ministry of War.

b. Explained that Italians should make a daily schedule of green truck lists which he, in conjunction with Lt ROMA, should check against the Port records. He stated that frequently Allied drivers came without any truck lists at all. This made a check difficult except against the tally as submitted by the Italian Port detachment.

c. He complained that 5th Army drivers of Vehicles had been coming to the Depot to draw rations for Italians working with them. They demanded the rations on odd bits of paper, unsigned, and there was never an Officer in charge who could sign the receipt.

This matter was reported to Lt. Col OFFICINA, who agreed to see that due remedies were taken.

8. Reported to FILIP, S. SAKKA, and saw Lt. Col BAIN, ADST Transport, and Lt. Col SMITH, ADST (Supplies).

a. Gave Col BAIN a copy of Italian translation of Italian Drivers Test.

*Handwritten notes:*  
Col de MAJIO at HQ  
Commissariato MALTA



3.  
B. (continued)

b. Col BAIN stated that Staff, FILIPPO, had turned down the request for a Cadre for Training School at POLLIGNANO. He stated that, at present, the temporary Cadre had been provided by DISANO, but that he considered that POLLIGNANO School should be under command of ADST, ALIA. He would look into the question and let me know.

c. He stated that 1003 Italian of Coy were near BARI (CONVINGANO) and for the time being would be under the command of DISANO.

9. Called into No 3 District and saw Col GALLER, DEET, also Lt. Col JEFFERS, ADT, and Lt. Col W.C. KELLEY, ADS.

a. Col KELLEY explained that there were many detached Italian Units working with Allied Units and drawing rations from Allied Bids. I explained that this was seldom really necessary, and that both the Italian Ministry of War and ALIA were against this practice.

b. Col JEFFERS said that 6 running Ambulances had been handed over to Italians and were being maintained by 43 AAC.

10. Called into No 2 District and saw Col MARSH, DEET, also Lt. Col BERRILL, ADT, and Lt. Col PRAY, ADS., Capt LUKER, 10 ALIA, and Capt SALLERS, Fort Det L.O.

a. Was informed that 1003 Italian of Coy was now located at CONVINGANO. It was commanded by Capt. TOMPELLI, and was fully up to strength, complete with clothing, personnel, and Unit Equipment except Vehicles and technical equipment. So far, no Cadres have been found for this Unit. DISANO did not wish to mix 1003 with personnel at POLLIGNANO. They prefer to train personnel at POLLIGNANO, and will take action with 1003 when it is ascertained what the future policy with regard to 1003 is likely to be.

b. A signal had been received by DISANO L.O. that Major GRAY is to be posted back to A.A.I., and report to Officer Commanding 2675 Hgt.

c. There had been a shortage in the discharge of Rice from a recent ship. The Quartermaster, Adriatic Base Section, however, had made up the deficiency, and had sent the equivalent quantity to the Italian Army Depot.

*Delivered to [unclear] by [unclear]*

*Original sent to [unclear]*

b. Col JEFFERS said that 8 running ambulances had been handed over to Italians and were being maintained by 45 MAC.

10. Called into No 2 District and saw Col WARREN, DDP, also Lt. Col BURRILL, ADP, and Lt. Col TULL, ADG., Capt MURDALL, 10 AMIA, and Capt SALLERS, Port Det I.O.

a. Was informed that 1003 Italian GI Coy was now located at CERVIGNANO. It was commanded by Capt. TORRELLI, and was fully up to strength, complete with clothing, personnel, and Unit Equipment except Vehicles and technical Equipment. So far, no Cadres have been found for this Unit. DUNNO did not wish to mix 1005 with 1003 personnel at POLIGNANO. They prefer to train personnel at POLIGNANO, and will take action with 1005 when it is ascertained what the future policy with regard to 1003 is likely to be.

b. A signal had been received by DUNNO I.O. that Major GRAY is to be posted back to A.A.I., and report to Officer Commanding 2575 Rgt.

c. There had been a shortage in the discharge of Rice from a recent ship. The Quartermaster, Adriatic Base Section, however, had made up the deficiency, and had sent the equivalent quantity to the Italian Army Depot.

11. Visited Colonel LAZZARO, at HQ Commissariato, BARI. That Officer appeared very satisfied with all that was going on and had no complaints or matters he wanted to raise.

12. Visited Headquarters, Adriatic Base Section, BARI.

a. Saw Capt WILLIAMS (Transportation) and asked if there had been any complaints and difficulties. He explained that there had been a considerable shortage of Rice discharged recently but that the Manifest had been made good by an equivalent transfer from the Quartermaster Depot.

*Handwritten signature*

Lt. Col. RASO,  
ADP, Army Sub Comm, ACC.

23rd April 1944.

Distribution: Original to: Comdr (then to Col OSTENHAUSEN)  
Copies to : C(SD)

Policy File (SD)  
Circ File (then to Capt THORPE, DISEM LO)



CONFIDENTIAL

BF for AQC

~~North~~  
Fildy

To: D.A.D.C.S.

Copy to: A/Q

From: Laj. D.S.L. GREGSON.

Subject: Visit to LA ROCCA Depot, BARI on 21st April 44.

As requested I today visited the above Depot and found them taking in quantities of Clothing ex S.S. "SAMANNAN" & "EMPIRE DUCHESS" now discharging at BARI.

I give below the articles and quantities checked into the Warehouse at 1600 hrs today. These, of course, only represent a portion of the total Shipment:

- Coats, Mackinaw, CCC 42,000
- Drawers, Wollen 46,600
- Shirts, Khaki 6,100
- Caps, spruce green, CCC 1,100
- Comforters, Cotton 12,200

A Sample of each of the above and one of the Pullovers from a previous Shipment were brought back to this HQ and are available for inspection.

A point that struck me at once is the most excellent quality of the Stores, especially the Shirts & Cotton Comforters. I consider that the Comforters are exceptional & far superior to anything issued to Allied troops. If you agree with this opinion, it might be worth considering the possibility of issuing them to Allied troops and giving Blankets to the Italians.

The bales themselves in which the Stores were wrapped, appeared to be of excellent quality & I am confident can be put to some useful purpose.

O.C. Depot informed me that he had sufficient storage space for an intake up to Midnight 22/4 but that after this time

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Comforters, Cotton 12,200

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The bales themselves in which the Stores were wrapped, appeared to be of excellent quality & I am confident can be put to some useful purpose.

O.C. Depot informed me that he had sufficient storage space for an intake up to Midnight 22/4 but that after this time further space would be required. He had applied both to IX CORPS and the WAR MINISTRY for additional storage and was confident that it would be forthcoming in time.

No difficulty was being experienced as regards Transport and it was interesting to note that, as suggested by you, Horse Drawn Vehicles were being used.

Owing to the intake of these Stores it was impossible to check the figures of Returns previously submitted by the Depot.

I met Major CAREW-HUNT in BARI. He is now at the Convalescent Home, FASANO and hopes to be back at HQ within a week.

*Bulkyman*  
Major.  
Army Sub Comm. A.C.C.  
(D.S.L. GREGSON)

To  
CD SHIPLEY

In the Field.  
21 April 44



*Army Sub-Commission Liaison*

SUBJECT:- CAO's Conference.

HQ, ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

AAI/3001/A(O).

17 Apr 44

HEADQUARTERS  
18 APR 1944  
A. C. C.

1. The CAO is holding a conference on Friday, 21 Apr 44 at 1730 hrs in the Lecture Room at this HQ.

2. This will be attended by all available officers of the Adm Staff and Services, including officers at present with the Rear Adm Ech in NAPLES.

3. Addressees will report number of officers who will be attending to this Branch.

4. The Lecture Room is situated on the third floor of the West Wing of the Palace,

ARMY BRANCH  
Date AO/9  
TO  
ITALIAN ARMY

*[Signature]*  
Brigadier,  
DAG.

JLT/GG.

List "A", less serials 1-3, 5, 7-17, 26, 27, 29, 32, 54, 55, 60-65, 71-75, 80-85.

*[Signature]*  
9/4/44

MINUTES of a Conference held at S.T. Commission, A.C.C. (Main Hq.) M.I.A.

on  
**S.T. LIAISON OFFICERS.**

The Conference started at 1500 hrs.

The following were present :

- |                              |   |                                   |   |               |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Lieut Colonel H.B. FINCH     | - | A.D.S.T.                          | - | In the Chair, |
| Lieut Colonel G.H. MORIARTY- |   | Chief Liaison Officer,            |   |               |
| Lieut Colonel SHIPLEY        |   | G - 4 ex-FLAMBO.                  |   |               |
| Major CAMN                   |   | D.A.D.S.T. M.I.A.                 |   |               |
| Major PAPINEAU               |   | D.A.D.S.T. CALABRIA Sector,       |   |               |
| Major BROWN                  |   | O.C., Cadre to 1001 It. G.T. Coy  |   |               |
|                              |   | (PALO del COLLE)                  |   |               |
| Major CHRISTMAS              |   | O.C., Cadre to 1002 It. G.T. Coy  |   |               |
|                              |   | (BRINDISI)                        |   |               |
| Major TAYLOR                 |   | O.C., Cadre to 1001 It. G.T. Coy. |   |               |
|                              |   | (TARANTO)                         |   |               |
| Captain BENATTI              |   | S/Capt. NAPLES Sector             |   |               |
| Captain CRAIC                |   | S/Capt. M.I.A.                    |   |               |
| Lieutenant FREELAND          |   | S/Capt. LECCE Sector.             |   |               |

1. OPENING REMARKS.

Lieut Colonel FINCH opened the Conference by explaining the purpose of this first meeting of S.T. Liaison Officers. AMST said that although reports were submitted to his branch it was a better plan for the Liaison Officers to call and discuss their reports in person so that any matters not quite clear or which needed clarification could be done on the spot. Personal discussion was better as the risk of misunderstanding by writing was eliminated.

2. SUBMISSION OF REPORTS.

Stressing the importance of reports by Liaison Officers, A.D.S.T. explained that it was essential that the report contained all details of the working and general state of the sector under supervision by the LCOs. He added that it was of greater value to have an over-written report than one out-

12/12  
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Captain	BENATTI	S/Capt. NAPLES Sector
Captain	CRAIG	S/Capt. MMIA.
Lieutenant	FREELAND	S/Capt. LECCE Sector.

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Lieut Colonel FINCH opened the Conference by explaining the purpose of this first meeting of S.T. Liaison Officers. AMST said that although reports were submitted to his branch it was a better plan for the Liaison Officers to call and discuss their reports in person so that any matters not quite clear or which needed clarification could be done on the spot. Personal discussion was better as the risk of misunderstanding by writing was eliminated.

2. SUBMISSION OF REPORTS.

Stressing the importance of reports by Liaison Officers, A.D.S.T. explained that it was essential that the report contained all details of the working and general state of the sector, under supervision by the LOs. He added that it was of greater value to have an over-written report than one outlining barely the activities of the various sectors. In clarification of the method in which reports should be rendered Lt Col FINCH paid special tribute to those of Major PAFINEAU, said that his reports contained all the required information. These reports were co-ordinated, extracts made and included in MMIA A.Q. Weekly Admin Bulletin by Capt CRAIG.

3. CHECKING FEEDING STRENGTHS - LOS SUPERVISION.

In order that a close check could be kept on the alleged feeding strengths supplied by Distribution Depots, A.D.S.T. said that he wanted the Supervising LOs to personally go round one Depot and obtain from the Comd of that Depot the complete list of units rationed. In a small Depot 20 - 30 units were supplied with rations, and it was to these units that A.D.S.T. wanted the LOs to tour, obtaining the following information:

- (a) Actual ration strength of units.
- (b) System of recording rations issued.
- (c) System of agreeing parade states with ration strengths.

A.D.S.T. made it clear that unless close supervision was kept on such Units and Depots a system of swindling would come into being and as proof of this he quoted a recent discovery. Comd of a certain Italian unit submitted a ration indent for strength 500. This figure was a true figure but on days when bread and meat was issued the ration strength of this unit soared to 800, and on days

CHECKING ARMY STRENGTHS - IOs SUPERVISION. (contd.)

days/ when Biscuits etc were issued the figure dropped to 200. Thus this Unit had, on days when pasta was issued, 300 rations of meat and bread and only 200 pasta etc though in the decade the rations in total added up correctly.

4. SYSTEM OF DISCIPLINE.

After questioning the IOs on the state of discipline in their various areas it was stated by Major X that there was an instance in a certain Unit where a Corporal complained about the food. The Italian officer commanding this unit heard about this complaint, sent for the NCO and awarded him 14 days CB for gross indiscipline.

Major TAYLOR doubted the fact that the Corporal in question would, in fact, be confined to Barracks, said that many men were awarded 40 days imprisonment one day, but the day after their trial they were out driving lorries. He expressed the belief that all such awards were merely "paper transactions".

Lt.Col. MORIARTY explained that he had recently visited the Ministry of War on the matter of discipline and they were looking into it, but added that the present system of discipline in the Italian Army was one of long standing and stamping out or altering of it would be difficult.

ADST agreed, said that the Italian does not understand our system of discipline.

Capt BENATTI said that there was an interesting change in Italians who were trained Drivers from the POLIGNANO driving school. These men were on the strength of 22 and 25 Truck Coys being formed for A.C.C. They were excellent soldiers and well disciplined. Their appearance was smarter because of the new battledress and equipment which had recently been issued.

Lt. FREELAND also praised a unit of 500 soldiers stationed in LECCE, said that they were all clean and appeared to be well disciplined.

5. PRO-FORMA FOR TOURS OF INSPECTION.

It was agreed by Major PAPINEAU and Capt BENATTI to submit to ADST a pro-forma of tour of inspection of all depots day by day. ADST explained that this was required so that he could tell at a glance how long it would take to tour and inspect a whole sector. This was also designed to plan the most economical tour in knowing exactly where the Depots were situated and to eliminate any unnecessary journeys.

6. SPECCHIOS - STOCK SHEETS.

Furnishing each IO with a specchio ADST said that the checking up and expediting of these by Supervising IOs would help enormously in the checking of stocks by this office. Lt.Col FINCH asked Supervising IOs to make their own specchio out as then they would be able to keep an even closer check on stocks.



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#### 7. CLOTHING & BOOTS.

In a brief review of the clothing situation in their areas, IOs were agreed on the need for more clothing and boots to be supplied to the Italians. ADST said that he was already familiar with the need of these items but explained that there was at present about 50% of each item available for issue and divided the priority of issue into two groups. These were:-

- (a) Operational Troops.
- (b) Those actively engaged in directly assisting the Allies.

Socks, explained ADST, were difficult to get and issues would be made as and when these stocks became available.

Major BROWN said that we expected Italian soldiers to do a hard day's work like British soldiers, but we were not able to supply them with the equipment and clothing they badly needed. This lack of equipment, said Major BROWN, was probably the cause of their falling down on the job.

In reply to a question from Major TAYLOR, about the issue of summer clothing Lt.Col FINCH said that he understood that a stock of such summer clothing, originally designed for Italians in N.AFRICA, was available in ITI Depots. Such summer clothing would be issued by the Italians. There is only a very little available.

3.  
8. STOCKS IN DEPOTS - REDUCTION OF.

ADST instructed LOs to check up on holdings of rations in Distribution Depots, and reduce stocks to not more than 20 days. A close check was needed too, on flour stocks, all LOs agreed to take stock of all Flour stocks in all their Depots and report any irregularity to ADST. Flour was the commodity to be checked during the next month.

9. REINFORCEMENTS - SPECIALISTS - TRADESMEN.

Major BROWN asked for reinforcements in artificers and specialist tradesmen who were urgently needed. Clerks, blacksmiths, engineers were all badly needed, and Major BROWN asked if it was possible to have these men.

Replying ADST said that in the 5 Italian CT Coys now formed there was a great shortage of skilled men and there was no likelihood of getting such reinforcements.

Lt. Col MORIARTY pointed out that all men who were any good at all were sent to N. AFRICA and were now PW. In this part of Italy at present we were finding our reinforcement difficulty of skilled personnel because of this. All Italian Labour Bns had been combed out and had produced only a few.

10. UNLOADING OF ITI SUPPLIES.

Unloading and distribution of rations designed for the Italians was raised by Capt BENVETTI who said that boxes arriving in NAPLES and not marked ITI were being sent into American depots in NAPLES. Subsequently these rations never reached the Italians and unless these crates were marked correctly there would be a serious shortage of ITI stocks in the future.

ADST proposed a greater liaison with NAPLES Port Authorities in this connection, stressed the importance of advanced planning with regard to unloading and distribution of food. A complete report with actual figures on the loss of food was requested from Capt BENVETTI and ADST said that the matter would be investigated thoroughly and taken up with Higher Authority.

11. ISSUE OF ANTI MALARIAL EQUIPMENT.

Major BROWN asked what steps had been taken to supply Anti Malarial equipment. Asserting that steps had been taken in this

7  
31



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7131

10. UNLOADING OF ITI SUPPLIES.

Unloading and distribution of rations designed for the Italians was raised by Capt BEMATTI who said that boxes arriving in NAPLES and not marked ITI were being sent into American depots in NAPLES. Subsequently these rations never reached the Italians and unless these crates were marked correctly there would be a serious shortage of ITI stocks in the future.

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11. ISSUE OF ANTI MALARIAL EQUIPMENT.

Major BROWN asked what steps had been taken to supply anti malarial equipment to ITI soldiers. Asserting that steps had been taken in this direction, Major GANN said that a policy had been worked out, agreed and that the entire matter of anti malarial equipment for Italian soldiers settled.

The meeting ended at 1700 hrs.

*Handwritten signature/initials*

Lieut. Colonel,  
ADST, Army Sub Comm. ACC.

16 Apr 44.  
DISTRIBUTION: Comdr. Original to: Comdr.  
Copies to : G(SD)

- ST
- Circ File.
- Major BROWN +
- Major CHRISTMAS. +
- Major TAYLOR. +
- L.O. NAPLES.
- L.O. BARI.
- L.O. CATANZARO.
- L.O. SALERNO.

+ by DO letter.

MEGB V MEAV 550 IMPORTANT T A LRAR  
FROM FILPOT 181200B  
TO MMIA  
QOX GR18

9 ELS nr 341/18 16/18

153

Red [Signature]

AD9  
19 April 44

Q/A CAED 4188 REF YOUR AQ 981 DATED 17.  
AGRED TO VISIT OF YOUR A/Q ON ~~THURSDAY~~ THURSDAY  
20 APR  
THI 1255

~~REPTN 5500 LRAR 181200 18 CAED 4188 AQ981 17 A/Q 20  
1255~~

ACM B 18/4/44

7.00



REPORT ON VISIT TO SARDINIA

9 - 13 April 1944

AB 2/26  
10 APR 1944

1. OBJECT

To investigate methods of handling, supervising, and accounting the issue of supplies to the Italian Armed Forces and to recommend any measures necessary to give better effect to the policy laid down in A.F.P.Q. instructions of 9 January or subsequent instructions from A.A.I.

2. FORCES CONCERNED.

It is difficult to check the effective strength of the Italian garrison for supply purposes but, after allowing a reasonable margin for transients, absentees and categories under consideration, it can be taken as:-

Army	180,000	(incl attached) spread throughout the island.
Navy	10,000	(3,500 based on CAGLIARI, and 6,500 at MADDALINA)
Air	10,000	at CAGLIARI and other airfields.
TOTAL	200,000	(decreasing by some 15,000 per month.)

3. MAIN FACTORS.

- a. The importance of rapid port clearance.
- b. The acceptance of supplies by the Italians at the earliest possible stage.
- c. The keeping of accurate and agreed records of quantities.
- d. Allied supervision of distribution and consumption.
- e. The prevention of misuse or dishonesty.
- f. The maintenance of efficiency in the Italian Forces.

7129

4. PRESENT SYSTEM.

An Italian Supplies Committee, with representatives of the three <sup>Services</sup> ~~sources~~, under the chairmanship of Colonel BORDA is responsible for handling all supplies from the shipside, and is the agency through which A.G.S. deals.

Supplies arrive in mixed cargoes and those for the Italian Forces (marked I.T.I.) are identified at shipside and taken by Italians in Italian transport to the Committee's depot two miles away. An invoice giving the number of packages (but not necessarily contents) accompanies each load and is receipted by the Italians. Consignments are subsequently checked by the Committee at the depot and receipts given for quantities which actually arrive in the depot. The check is therefore entirely Italian and any discrepancies due to short loading, loss, damage or dishonesty are borne by the Allies.

- 2 -

The subsequent warehousing, and distribution is good but here again there is no positive check on carelessness or dishonesty.

In effect therefore, though the Allies hand over the supplies to Italian care at the shipside, there is no record of the quantities until checked in by Italian representatives at the depot.

5. POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION. (See corresponding conclusion in para 6)

- a. There is no allied supervision of handling, counting, warehousing or subsequent distribution from the time supplies leave shipside.
- b. The need for speedy dock clearance makes accurate accounting impossible at shipside.
- c. The present basic ration is unsatisfactory because:-
  - i The locally procured elements are not in fact being provided regularly by the Italian supply organizations.
  - ii The 2 oz. of canned meat is nearly always stew or hash containing only about 3/4 oz. of meat.
  - iii Tinned salmon is not appreciated.
  - iv The claims for the extra 2 oz. of meat for heavy labor are difficult to authenticate.
  - v Sea going naval personnel demand the combat scale not at present allowed.
- d. Local purchase of vegetables etc. involves dealing in black market and consequent losses in quantity where a money issue is made to units.
- e. A large number of military civilians are attached to the armed forces and claim rations because they are doing the same work.
- f. Clothing is now arriving, the demand for winter clothing is over and quantities of summer clothing are insufficient. There is an urgent need for boots, underclothes and cotton trousers.
- g. Clothes and boots for repair are available if repair arrangements could be made.
- h. Medical Stores are rapidly diminishing and none have arrived from Allied sources. Malarial and V.D. stores are badly needed also reserve stocks of other medicines.
- i. Condemned supplies are only noted after distribution, the questions of replacement and accounting need consideration.

6. CONCLUSIONS. (See corresponding points in para 5).

- a. Allied Supervisory and Liaison Detachments (and their Italian counterparts) are urgently needed, and should be provided at once.
- b. An acceptance point preferably inside the dock area should be established at once where supplies are counted and receipted. Up to this point they should be an Allied responsibility; after it an Italian one.
- c. One ration scale for all armed forces is essential and should be outlined (suggested scale at App. A.)  
*agreed.*



- 3 -

- d. Local purchase should be assured by A.C.C. control of prices and if necessary transfer of commodities from areas of plenty. (Wine and oil from Italy.)
- e. Military civilians should NOT receive supplies but obtain their quota through civilian channels.
- f. Clothing issues should be decided by A.C.S. (if necessary as restricted by MMIA) a definite policy issued.
- g. Repair facilities for boots and clothes should be established at once. Factories and labor are available if A.A.I. will supply materials and dyes (green and blue).
- h. Medical Supplies should be provided on demand from Italian Medical Depot at Taranto (through MMIA). Immediate supplies of Atabrine and V.D. drugs are essential.
- i. Unservicable supplies should be compensated by a small percentage over issue. Major cases should be investigated and dealt with on merits.
- j. Costing should not be a local responsibility but should be done by A.C.C. Accountants.
- k. Manifests in advance and more careful marking and loading would do much to ease the docks situation and should be emphasized to A.F.H.Q.

7. I am taking up verbally the details of above points, and some minor questions as well, with officers concerned.

*W.P. Dudley*

Colonel  
Attached MMIA

14 April 1944

To:-

M.M.I.A. (2 copies) ✓

Copies to:

A.A.I. Adm Ech (G-4)  
Allied Garrison Sardinia  
File (2 copies)

7727

Cond base: --- Sand Forces  
(Lecce)

17 AM  
16 AM

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

Ref/107/14/CA.

30 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Regional Commissioners Conference.

TO : See Distribution Below.

ATTACHED

1. Reference memorandum 107/13/CA of 29 March 1944.
2. The precis of remarks requested in para. 2 (c) of above-quoted memorandum is required by the Secretary General by 1200 hrs on day previous to meeting.
3. Will you please make the necessary amendment.

MILITARY MISSION.

Date 1/4/44 AP/9  
to  
ITALIAN ARMY.

*[Signature]*  
27026

NORMAN E. FISKE  
Colonel,  
Deputy Executive  
Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:  
List C & Group 2 (except Region VI)



*Land Force (Legation)*

MILITARY DIVISION  
1/4/44 *Ag/9*  
ITALIAN ARMY

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

29 March 1944

Ref: 107/13/CA  
SUBJECT: Regional Commissioners Conference

TO: See Distribution.

1. This is to confirm that as arranged at the last Regional Commissioners Conference the next conference will be held at Hq. ACC, Provincia Building, Naples on Friday April 14 and Saturday April 15, 1944.

2. The Chief Commissioner will preside at the Friday meeting which will commence at 0900 hours.

The agenda will be:

- a) Address by Chief Commissioner.
- b) Reports by Regional Commissioners and SCAO's AMC Armies.
- c) Reports by Head of Sub-Commissions (to be so prepared that they can be delivered in a maximum of 5 minutes) and Vice Presidents of Sections. (Officers making reports are requested to furnish the Secretary General with a précis of their remarks immediately before the meeting).

*12-00 hrs on day*

3. The Executive Commissioner will preside at the Saturday meeting which will commence at 0930 hours. Attendance of heads of sections and Sub-Commissions may be required by agenda items, at times to be notified before the meeting.

4. Regional Commissioners and heads of Sub-Commissions are invited to submit suggestions for inclusion in the agenda of the Saturday meeting. The suggestions should be accompanied by a brief statement on the points to be discussed, which will be circulated to all concerned before the meeting. Suggestions should be in the hands of the Deputy Executive Commissioners, R.C. & M.G. Section by 4 April 1944 latest.

5. Officers attending from outlying stations should assemble in Naples at least one day prior to the opening of the conference. R.C. & M.G. Section should be notified of expected time of arrival in order that accomodation and transport may be arranged where necessary.

6. The Secretary General will act as Secretary on the Friday Meeting.

A staff officer of the C.A. Branch R.C. & M.G. Section will act as secretary of the Saturday meeting.

NORMAN E. FISKE  
Colonel  
Deputy Executive  
Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION:  
List C & Group 2

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

ARMY FORM C2128 (Pads of 100)

**MESSAGE FORM**

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN  
OUT

9

No. of Groups  
GR.

Serial No.  
CHECK DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO: **FATIMA to OFFENHAUER**

FROM: **MMIA**

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

**PTG 970**

**15**

**Confidential  
Conference  
CASERTA**

**Q  
Q MOV  
PALACE**

**Bidding  
Conference  
1100**

**21 - 30  
Room  
hrs**

**May  
File  
18**

**Q  
floor**

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT WIRELESS

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER IF LIKELY TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

7124  
751545B

SIGNED

*[Signature]*  
SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

T.H.I.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

\*Originator may delete "except" and insert "including."





ACTION SLIP

This slip will NOT be removed

To: Folio 101 refers

To see	Q. ST LABOUR <i>JL</i>	SORK	7:22
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Ad/9  
MILITARY MISSION.

Date 14 Apr 44

CONFIDENTIAL

HQ No 2 District CMF  
1535 Q

to  
ITALIAN ARMY.

7 Apr 44

NOTES ON DISTRICT COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE NO. 5

Ref Conference Notes issued under this HQ ref 1535 Q dated 24 Mar 44. The following action has been taken.

ITEM 1

Para 1(c)

DRO 216 of 1944 has been published on the subject of holding of surplus stores and eqpt.

Para 1(e)

DRO 182 of 1944 has been published on the subject of censorship.

Para 1(g)

The correct interpretation of the dist policy in contained in the following D/O letter to 151 Sub Area from Col i/c Adm No 2 Dist -

"We all appreciate that the ration for issue to civilian workers is not satisfactory, and have, as you know, done all we can to try and get it altered in composition and in price. In that, as you also know, we have failed.

The fact that the labour won't take this meal when satisfactory arrangements are made to serve it in as palatable a form as possible, goes to show that they cannot be very much in need of it.

At the present moment, no useful purpose would be served by pressing for any alteration either in the price or composition of the ration as ACC have definitely won their argument with the local resources board and are supported by employers of labour in WEST ITALY.

I can only suggest that you should make it clear that no other ration will be issued, nor will any change in cost be agreed to. Provided facilities for issue are available if it is wanted. 7121  
employers obligations are fulfilled, and they can be satisfied that, in fact, their employees are not underfed."

This subject is again under discussion by the Allied Force Local Resources (Italian) Board.

ITEM 2

120

101

We all appreciate that the ration for issue to civilian workers is not satisfactory, and have, as you know, done all we can to try and get it altered in composition and in price. In that, as you also know, we have failed.

The fact that the labour won't take this meal when satisfactory arrangements are made to serve it in as palatable a form as possible, goes to show that they cannot be very much in need of it. At the present moment, no useful purpose would be served by pressing for any alteration either in the price or composition of the ration as ACC have definitely won their argument with the local resources board and are supported by employers of labour in WEST ITALY.

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This subject is again under discussion by the Allied Force Local Resources (Italian) Board.

ITEM 2

Para 3

All but two of the brs on the rd TERMOLI VASTO are under reconstruction. Work is to commence on the br over the BIFERNO at H8574 when the rains have stopped and the water has receded sufficiently to allow a temporary diversion to be made. The br over the TRIGNO at H6379 is not being replaced at present owing to the magnitude of the work involved. Traffic on the rd TERMOLI VASTO continues to be controlled by CMP (TC) personnel. DPM is satisfied that resources are adequate to meet requirements.

Para 4

An SCF has been posted to 60 Sub Area wef 31 Mar 44.

Para 5

Provincial Commissioner BARI Province has confirmed that the Pet Dop is now a Military Zone.

Para 6

The Italian Ministry of Justice has issued a directive designed to expedite and make effective all trials of Italians for offences against Allied personnel and property. Copies of this directive have been fwded to Sub Areas.

Para 9

A temporary arrangement has been made whereby hosps at BARLETTA give ORs a full week's pay before discharge. If the proposed new layout of transit camps is agreed, 199 Transit Camp will be situated at BARLETTA and will be able to carry out the duty of paying men discharged from hosp.



- Para 10 Necessary anti-malarial eqpt is being issued in accordance with GRO 219 of 1944.
- Para 21 It has been recommended to AAI (Adm Ech) that all WD vehs driven by Italians should carry a detachable distinguishing sign. No answer has yet been received.
- Para 24 Infm has been received that 30 Som LI is coming from SICILY to carry out gd duties on trains and in marshalling yards. Dilution with Italian personnel is to be permitted on certain train gd duties.
- Para 25(b) The tentage situation does not at present permit any departure from the AFHQ policy that maximum use will be made of covered accn.
- Para 28 The Internees & Displaced Persons Sub Commission ACC has been asked to ensure that Yugo Slavs declare their loyalties prior to arrival at TARANTO. The Sub Commission has stated that everything possible is being done to ensure this, but that loyalties are apt to be the subject of last minute changes.
- ITEM 3
- Para 31 The draft list of duties of OC British Cadre for an Italian gen tpt coy has been published for the guidance of all concerned pending approval by AAI (Adm Ech)
- ITEM 5
- Para 38 AAI (Adm Ech) have been asked to place 202 Transit Camp permanently under comd No 2 Dist but no reply has yet been received.
- Para 39 Representations have been made to AAI (Adm Ech) regarding the application for WEs for 'A' and 'X' Transit Camps.
- ITEM 7
- Para 46(a) A proposal has been submitted to AAI (Adm Ech) for an increase in the WE of Pro Branch HQ No 2 Dist to meet the requirements of an anti-pilferage HQ. A co-ordinated scheme is being produced by Pro.
- Para 47 Pending authorisation by ACC for box trucks for civilians between BARIETTA and BOGGIA, an arrangement has been made to use the trucks

7120

ITEM 3

Para 31

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ITEM 5

Para 38

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ITEM 7

Para 46(a)

A proposal has been submitted to AAI (Adm Ech) for an increase in the WE of Pro Branch HQ No 2 Dist to meet the requirements of an anti-pilferage HQ. A co-ordinated scheme is being produced by Pro.

Para 47

Pending authorisation by AOC for box trucks for civilians between BARLETTA and FOGGIA, an arrangement has been made to run one wagon for this purpose to and from FOGGIA with the daily military personnel train wef 7 Apr. Further progress on the subject of pilferage is to be discussed as an item on the agenda for conference No 6.

ITEM 9

Para 53

Sub Areas have been asked through Lab channels to prepare maps showing numbers and dispositions of civilian lab available and employed. A meeting is being held between Mov and all interested services to discuss the best use which can be made of existing rail facilities for the daily tpt of civilian lab.

Para 56

AAI (Adm Ech) have stated that 3 Rd Punishment Centre is to move to GUGLIEMISI when 25 Rd Punishment Centre is called fwd by Eighth Army.

*Col i/c Adm*  
Colonel  
Col i/c Adm

Distribution.....



Distribution

52 Area  
6 Base Sub Area  
60 Sub Area  
71 Sub Area  
151 Sub Area  
AII (Adm Ech)  
Army Sub Commission ACC

Internal

Comd	DDOS
Col i/c Adm	DDME
GSO 1	DEM
GSO 2 (SD)	DADAFS
AG	DDL
AGMG (1)	DAD (Sal)
AGMG (2)	Col Q (Mov)
CE	DDTr
OSO	AMGLO
ACC	LO to Army Sub Commission
DDST	ACC
DDMS	Coal Sec

0117

### MESSAGE FORM

ARMY FORM C2128. (Pads of 100)

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN  
OUT

Serial No.  
OFFICE DATE STAMP  
No. of Groups  
GR. *Full*

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO

**FATIMA for OPPENHAUER**

FROM

**MMIA**

Originator's Number

**AQ 402**

Date

**12**

In Reply to Number

**CONFIDENTIAL (.) BROWNING**  
by **air**  
to **meet (.)**

and  
**1600 hrs**  
**Arrange**

**DUCHESNE**  
**13 Apr (.)**  
**accomodation**

**arrive**  
**Send**  
**SHRENA**

**NAPLES**  
**ORF**  
**13 - 14 Apr**

WL 10885/86-1 300000-02 S.S. Ltd. Tu-4-70

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS (EXCEPT WIRELESS)

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS  
Signed *[Signature]*

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

**IMMEDIATE**

TIME OF ORIGIN

**1220 R**  
**T.H.I.**

Signed

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

\* Originator may delete "except" and insert "including."



*Cruciate*  
*CS*

SECRET

REPORT ON MEETING BETWEEN GEN. OXILIA AND  
BRIG MILES, COMD FORCE 266 - 7 APRIL AT HQ 2 DISTRICT

(a) General

The meeting lasted ten minutes.

(b) Gen OXILIA stated that:

- a) He had been recommended to meet Brig MILES by Major HUNTER, BMM to Marshal TITO.
- b) He was anxious to know the channels of provision and method of demanding supplies and stores for ITALIAN tps in MONTENEGRO, especially GARIBALDI Div and Partisans att to it.
- c) He wanted to ensure that such stores and supplies i.e. money, replacement of certain technical eqpt, Easter parcels etc actually reached the ITALIAN tps for whom they were intended and were not bypassed by Partisans before delivery.

(c) Brig MILES replied that:

- a) This was a political question on which he, as a soldier, could not give a decision.
- b) He would notify AFHQ under whose direct comd Force 266 came, and his Branch in CAIRO of what Gen OXILIA had discussed with him.
- c) The amount of supplies available and their method of transport to MONTENEGRO were decided by AFHQ after consultation between the YUGOSLAV Gov't and his Branch in CAIRO.
- d) The allotment of stores and supplies as they arrived in MONTENEGRO was made by the local comd according to needs of ITALIANS and Partisans as a whole.
- e) The question should be referred to Chief Commissioner A.C.G.

(d) Decisions

- a) Gen OXILIA would write a personal letter to Gen MACFARLANE whom he had known in BUDAPEST as Military Attache.
- b) Gen OXILIA would put up his case officially to HQ Allied Control Commission through IMIA.

*7/18*

*B. J. Lancaster*

- b) give a decision. He would notify AFHQ under whose direct comd Force 266 came, and his Branch in CAIRO of what Gen OXILIA had discussed with him.
- c) The amount of supplies available and their method of transport to MONTENEGRO were decided by AFHQ after consultation between the YUGOSLAV Gov't and his Branch in CAIRO.
- d) The allotment of stores and supplies as they arrived in MONTENEGRO was made by the local comd according to needs of ITALIANS and Partisans as a whole.
- e) The question should be referred to Chief Commissioner A.C.C.

(d) Decisions

7718

- a) Gen OXILIA would write a personal letter to Gen MACFARLANE whom he had known in BUDAPEST as Military Attache.
- b) Gen OXILIA would put up his case officially to HQ Allied Control Commission through MMIA.

*B. Macfarlane*

Ms.j

8 Apr 44

2. MEETING BETWEEN BRIG DUCHESNE AND GEN OXILIA  
on 8 APRIL 44

- (a) Gen OXILIA stated that the GARIBALDI Div had to live on local resources in arrangement with the Partisans who attached supply officers to them for the purpose of requisitioning supplies.
- (b) At present he was only anxious to ensure that parcels of stores of Italian (as opposed to Allied) origin sent by air through Force 266 and specifically addressed to GARIBALDI Div duly reached them: quantities were small.
- (c) Anything he writes will be through, or with copy to, Marshal MESSE to avoid duplication.

*Ed. Duchen*

Brigadier,  
Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

ABC 9 APR 44



1114

MEETING HELD AT FLAMBO 27 MARCH 1944.

Brigadier General HAMBLEN Presided, Present:- Reps of Services, "Q" PBS, FINANCE, Sub Commission ACC, MMIA.

To discuss handling, issuing, and accounting for stores for Italian Army.

SUBJECT

Brig: HAMBLEN: (i) Four things to be provided for Italian Armed Forces.

- (a) Subsistence
- (b) Medical Supplies
- (c) Clothing
- (d) Fuel

Above for effective troops only.

(ii) To handle the above (a) MMIA or (b) An agency for handling and accounting to be set up be AFHQ.

Note: Brig HAMBLEN seemed against MMIA being part of ACC. Question to be discussed with Reps from AFHQ within next few days.

(iii) Docks to Italian depots to continue to be an Allied responsibility.

(iv) Ships manifests to be basis of check for accounting purposes, of issues to Italians.

See Flambo Adm Instr No 3

Col PIDSLEY: (i) Checking and handing over of all stores at depots NOT dockside? Agreed.

(ii) For accounting purposes Ships manifests will be accepted? Agreed, and laid down by CCS. Major Banning, Finance Sub Commission ACC concurred.

Brig HAMBLEN: In cases where stores (Italian) are wrongly consigned to Allied depots, services will see that such stores are redispached to Italian depots.

Col PIDSLEY: (iii) Issues for from Allied stocks in Italy. What procedure?

Brig HAMBLEN: (a) Same as above - into Italian depots (b) In fwd areas. Issues will be reported in normal manner.

1114

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Col PIDSLEY: (iii) Issues for Allied stocks in Italy. What procedure?

Brig HAMBLEN: (a) Same as above - into Italian depots (b) In fwd areas. Issues will be reported in normal manner.

Col PIDSLEY: (iv) Clothing. Any more coming?

Brig HAMBLEN: (a) On paper NO, in fact YES

Col PIDSLEY: Is a demand for such clothing to be set up, required. ✓

Brig HAMBLEN: NO

Col FOSTER(FES) Is the ~~ignoring~~ <sup>discuss</sup> dyeing and issue of serviceable U.S. clothing to continue?

Brig HAMBLEN: YES

British "Q" Accountable, because of use as shoddy?

Brig HAMBLEN: Enquiries will be made.

Col PIDSLEY: It is agreed that further issues of unserviceable Boots and clothing will continue?

Brig HAMBLEN: YES

Col PIDSLEY: Services. Will the cost of transport by M.T. from docks to depots etc be accountable?



Brig HAMBLEN : No change from docks to depots. U.S. procedure is an overall price for an article including such services.

After discussion agreed that both U.S. and U.K. prices would include such services.

Col PIDSLEY : (vi) Medical Stores. Question raised whether provision bids were necessary or suitable. Suggested demands should be made upon Allied depots to meet actual requirements, and not in advance for what may not be necessary.

Brig HAMBLEN: Not agreed. London should have guidance by a 3 month advance bid.

Med Rep : Indents so far have been met by Flambo from captured Enemy stores in Italy. Only 40 tons still remain. Indents will have to be made on London. Time lag 4 Months.

Brig HAMBLEN : On the general question of supplies for Italians, a machinery will have to be set up for transferring any surpluses that accumulate in Italian stores back to Allied stores.  
All indents should be made on Flambo.

Med Rep : Indents for medical stores should start forthwith; if pre stored stores not sufficient, deficiencies will be made up from Allied Stores.  
Later it was stated that Italian tps will be maintained on the same scale as British tps. Action MIA

Col PIDSLEY : EFI and PX Stores. Any for Italians ?

Brig HAMBLEN: NONE except cigarettes (in fwd areas only) and cigarettes only until Italians can supply.  
NO razor Blades  
NO Soap (PBS was issuing Laundry soap with rations. This has now ceased)

Col FOS (PBS) Italian food is being taken <sup>up from Italian depot</sup> for Italian tps in combat ~~area~~ Zone daily. Can this continue?

Brig HAMBLEN : YES

Col PIDSLEY: requested a strength return from PBS to support this. Agreed.

7716

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tps in combat ~~zone~~ Zone daily. Can this continue?

Brig HAMBLEN : YES

Col PIDSLEY : requested a strength return from PBS to  
support this. Agreed.

Col FOSTER : Raised query whether it was fair for L of C  
tps in combat Zone to receive Scale "A" rations.

Brig HAMBLEN : To continue, as unfair to feed two rations  
to men working side by side.

Col FOSTER : Is the 2oz P/Meat to come from Allied Sources?

Brig HAMBLEN : YES. None set up in convoys. Being remedied  
in next requisitions. Agreed by AFHQ.

Col FOSTER : Soap and insecticide essential. No provision  
yet made.

Brig HAMBLEN : Question has already been referred to AFHQ.  
no authority yet given for issue, until effective size  
of Italian Army known. Make local arrangements if  
necessary ( to PBS)

Col FOSTER : Is the dyeing and issue of unserviceable U.S.  
clothing to continue ? YES

Br OED : Dyeworks are at present fully occupied by PBS

7716

.....3



MEMO

Brig HANCOCK : What about unserviceable British B.D. ?  
After discussion, it was revealed that dye for British use is coming from U.S. Agreement will be reached on typing.

Brig HANCOCK : MIA remain ready for issue to the Italians.

Col ROZIER : Italian patients in U.S. Hospitals are treated as ordinary patients ( like British hospitals)

Brig HANCOCK : Accounting for these returns etc to be done through AGO. Suggested that AGO should have a copy of all accounts of all supplies to Italians.

British "Q" : Raised the question of estimates to be fixed forthwith by MIA and thereafter monthly, covering para I

Brig HANCOCK : Held that it was not practicable at the moment

Conclusion. Memo from AFM will among other things, consider whether MIA is to continue part of AGO or come under MII again.

Col FIDELTY to consider implications

Action Col FIDELTY

Col FIDELTY : As a suggestion for further thought and possible action, throw out the idea that all stores for Italians should be handled by the Allied Services concerned, and indents should be made upon these for supplies. Further suggested that this would be a simplification all round, including accounting.

Comment. General atmosphere suspicious, but not unfavourable.

7113

Report on Visits to NAPLES & BARI between 1 April, 1944 and 7 April, 1944  
by Lieut. Col. H. B. FINCH, MBE, RAF, *9/4*

Saw Col. Offenhauer, MAIA LO NAPLES. Also Major LEMTNER and Capt. HELLER and BIGNARDI. *116*

(a) PBS do not intend to run a Driver Training School for Italians. They intend to train them with M Groups in PBS.

(b) An agreement had been reached with regard to Italian Drivers of American Truck Coys that extra Lire 20 a day will be paid to all personnel and not only those driving.

(c) Capt. BIGNARDI had been unable to obtain extra Tents and Equipment as asked for and urgently required by Italian Truck Coys.

(d) Major LEMTNER had experienced difficulty in getting 3 District to draw Ambulances for Medical Units. They disliked taking responsibility for Vehicles over which they would have no control.

(e) Col. OFFENHAUER stated that he was unable to let Capt. BIGNARDI return to HQ MAIA LAGUILLE because of shortage of Transport and because Capt. THOMPSON had been posted away by 2675 Regt.

(f) Col. OFFENHAUER stated that in order to be able to send an Officer back to HQ MAIA to report progress every week to ten days, he needs three ST Officers attached to his Headquarters.

(g) Capt. HELLER's ship will leave NAPLES on 9 April (Sunday).

(h) Major LEMTNER reported that (MAIA) in 5033/MAIA dated 2 April had authorised the reissue to Italian Army of ALL Italian Vehicles held in RVSS and Salvage. Issue to be made through MAIA.

(i) Issues of Boots & Clothing to PBS units is held up because the authority has been given all the stocks now available are in BARI.

(j) PBS are delivering 30 cars of Clothing including a little of everything to 560 Depot and 521 Depot. This is part worn repaired clothing, and it will be delivered at the rate of 5 cars a day.

2. With Col. OFFENHAUER & Capt. HELLER visited Col. George BARK, MAIA. Exec Off PBS, also Major SMITH, Asst. MAIA PBS.

(a) Capt. HELLER arranged delivery of part worn clothing.

(b) Arranged that all Italian indents, some of which had been outstanding some time and had been duplicated, would be sorted by MAIA SMITH and an issue to fulfil all demands made.

(c) Col. BARK ~~stated~~ agreed that it was not necessary for FINCH to visit MAIA, PBS unless especially asked to do so. All matters affecting PBS would be taken up by Col. OFFENHAUER.

(d) Col. BARK stated that Brig. Gen. H. BARK was inclined to the belief that all Sups landing at NAPLES would be better discharged into *MAIA* American Depot and then a quota. In agreement with the Manifest, handed over to the Italians, would be better than present system.

(e) It would appear that when discharging a recent ship, half the Italian Supplies had been discharged before it was realised that certain quantities were marked 'IFI'. It was also a fact that the whole consignment had been destined for the Italians, only about 10 per cent of the cases had actually been marked 'IFI'.

MAIA agreement that all stocks



(j) PBS are delivering 50 cars of clothing every day. This is part worn repaired clothing, and it will be delivered at the rate of 5 cars a day.

With Col. OFFENHAUER & Capt. HELLER visited Col George BAIR, Exec Off PBS, also Major SMITH, Asst. of PBS.

(a) Capt. HELLER arranged delivery of part worn clothing.  
(b) Arranged that all Italian indents, some of which had been out- standing some time and had been duplicated, would be sorted by SMITH and an issue to fulfil all demands made.

(c) Col. BAIR ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ agreed that it was not necessary for FINCH to visit PBS unless especially asked to do so. All matters affecting PBS would be taken up by Col. OFFENHAUER.

(d) Col. BAIR stated that Brig. Gen. H. B. BARKER was inclined to the belief that all Subs landing at HARLES would be better discharged into American Depot and then a quota, in agreement with the manifest, handed over to the Italians, would be better than present system.

(e) It would appear that when discharged a recent ship, half the Italian Supplies had been discharged before it was realised that certain quantities were marked 'III'. It was also a fact that tho' a whole consignment had been destined for the Italians, only about 10 per cent of the cases had actually been marked 'III'.

(f) In the event of British & American agreement that all stocks should be cleared from ships into Allied Depots, even though destined for the Italians, then the Italians will have to take responsibility ex Allied Depots and not ex Ship. This will make MIA Port Liaison Detachments redundant.

3. Reported to Brig. HINDS, DSO, FLABO. It had the proposed personnel duplicated. I ruled out the duplicated personnel.

(a) Was shown a report from DI TWO on 1001 Ital ST Coy. This report was most informative, and my opinion a copy of it should have been submitted to MIA. I asked Brig. HINDS if this could be done.

(c) Discussed with Brig. HINDS working of ST personnel with MIA; in particular, Lieut THOMAS at BRINDISI. Explained that when no ships were off loading Italian Subs, Port Det LOS were employed at general liaison duties, visiting Italian ST Coys etc.

(d) Discussed position of ASST, MIA with regard to Italian ST Coys in relation to ST DIMELO. Explained that OSG Cadres had asked for conferences with MIA, but that this had not been agreed to by ST DIMELO. In consequence all OSG Cadres had been invited to a dance to be held at LEQUILLIS on 15th when incidentally a conference of all MIA ST Supervising IGS was being held that afternoon. Brig HINDS said he would discuss matter of conferences with Col. BARKER.

(e) Brig HINDS stated that he intended moving 1001 Italian ST Coy from TARANTO up forward. He said he was very satisfied with it.

PTO.

4. Interviewed, with Col OFFENHAUER, Col CLARSON, representing Port Comdt 6th Port Hq. FBK.  
(a) He complained regarding feeding and clothing of Italian Units attached for labour. Copy of his report is being circulated with this letter. Action with regard to I.A.(A) of this letter dated April 1st 1944 has been taken; SF/2 dated 8 April refers.  
(b) Explained to Col CLARSON that the matter of the insufficiency of the Italian Ration Scale had already been represented and it was actually sub judice at the present time. There was every hope of a universal "A" scale being authorized.
5. Visited 1001 Italian GI Coy, SALO DEL COLLE.  
(a) There was a general appearance of activity and industry. The Village square had been enclosed and mixed part wired in. A/shops had been opened up and the whole was in full swing.  
(b) Major BUSH, Cadre Comdr, was away. The Italian Comdr was also away.  
(c) A detachment of 1001 Italian GI Coy has been sent and is operating in BRINDISI.  
(d) Italian Officer complained that Unit had had to send a party of between 20 & 30 Drivers to FLES, and that the Unit was approx 100 Italian GIs short.  
(e) I visited Italian Cookhouse; found it in the same state, if anything a little dirtier than it had been when visited by Brig. DUCHESNE. There was still only a bivouac sheet to provide cover when raining. There was a large garbage heap in the corner, and the adjoining storage room now contained bales of straw for palliasses and empty wine barrels.  
(f) Men appeared much smarter and cleaner. Some were wearing overalls and the Italian Officer stated that they had now received clothing.
6. Called in to DISTRO, and saw Capt. THURUP & Major GAY.  
(a) They had experienced no difficulties or troubles other than a misunderstanding by Col LAZARO, Head of SAMI COMMISSARIATO, who explained that Lieut TOMAS had been ordering the Italian Supply Section BRINDISI to move its stocks round. I instructed Major GAY to find out details of complaint from Col. LAZARO, and go down and see Lt TOMAS and explain to him how to set about remedies without causing ill feeling.  
(b) Has handed a copy of signal regarding demands made by 1001 Italian GI Coy to complete up to strength. Copy of signal is attached to report.
7. Reported into ST DISTRO; Col WARREN was away.  
(a) Lt. Col SALTH (Suss) stated that there were little difficulties regarding Italian/British (A & B) Composite Units drawing rations. British BIDs as British BIDs had no stocks of Olive Oil, wine,



the adjoining storage room now contained bales of straw for palliasses and empty wine barrels.  
 (f) Men appeared much smarter and cleaner. Some were wearing overalls and the Italian officer stated that they had now received clothing.

6. Called in to DISTRO, and saw Capt. THURP and Major GRAY.  
 (a) They had experienced no difficulties or troubles other than a misunderstanding by Col. LAZZARO, head of BARI COMMISSARIATO, who explained that Lt. BIANCHI had been ordering the Italian Supply Depot in BARI to move its stocks round. I instructed Major GRAY to find out details of complaint from Col. LAZZARO, and go down and see Lt. BIANCHI and explain to him how to set about remedies without causing ill feeling.  
 (b) Was handed a copy of signal regarding demands made by 1001 Italian GI Coy to complete up to strength. Copy of signal is attached to report.

7. Reported into ST DISTRO; Col. MARINI was away.  
 (a) Lt. Col. SMITH (Buss) stated that there were little difficulties regarding Italian/British (AA & EE) Composite Units drawing rations from British DIDs as British DIDs had no stocks of Olive Oil, wine, fresh fruit and nuts for Italians. Drawing by DIDs of these commodities from Italian Depots involved a transport problem that could be settled more easily by the Composite Units themselves than by the DIDs. I explained that there were many convenient Italian Depots and that in no case would it be impossible for a Composite Unit to draw all its Italian Supplies from an Italian Depot because in every case there is an Italian Depot about next door to the Allied DID. It was agreed that ST DISTRO would take the matter up with DISTRO with a view to all Italian drawing from Italian Depots. This will make matters much easier for this Office, and it is in accordance with the frequently expressed wishes of the Italian War Ministry.

8. Visited Italian Driver Training School, POLIGNANO.  
 (a) There is still no Permanent Cadre as such at POLIGNANO, though a Captain has arrived.  
 (b) I saw Capt. FICHERA, the senior officer present.  
 (c) I ascertained that there are present:

Officers	6
Under officers	21
NCOs	32
Soldier Pupils	198
TOTAL	<u>257</u>

Of the above, there are 55 competent drivers. There are also 36 Vehicles all of which are running.

3.

8. (continued)

(1) I saw Capt IZAT the CE Cadre Driving School. He appeared uncertain as to whether Petrol, Oil, etc., was British or Italian and whether he would be responsible for its accounting. I explained that it was Italian as authorised through AMIA, but that he should see that it is accounted for by the Italians. He had 1.220 instead of HD.30. He had also been unable to obtain overalls. There were only 17 for the whole of the 245 Men. He had found also that all feeling existed because the pupils who were driving the Vehicles were being paid 25.70 Lire while the Instructors from a Tank Regiment, who were not driving, were only receiving 5.70 Lire.

(e) I went round the accommodation? The passages were still very dirty and the latrines filthy. I pointed this out to Capt FICORA. I also saw the Cookhouse which had been greatly improved since the visit made by Brig. DUCHESNE. I noticed however that in trimming the Vegetables considerable quantities of eatable food was being thrown away. Also the Cauliflowers were being delivered with unnecessary amount of uneatable stalk and withered leaves.

(f) I asked Capt IZAT, the Cadre Comdr, to look at these points, whereupon he stated he had received orders from DISTNO that he was not to enter the Cookhouse, and that he was to confine himself to actual instruction in Driving and Vehicle maintenance.

9. Visited 1002 Italian GI Coy, BRINDISI.

(a) Saw Major CHRISTMAS who had no particular difficulties.

(b) It would appear that Unit requires:

20 Engines immediately,

20 Engines in about one Month,

20 Engines shortly after that.

(c) He had produced a very interesting system of graphs which showed No of accidents per day, Vehicle availability, etc.

He had 72 Vehicles on the road; this figure is fairly constant.

He had, on an average, 2 accidents a day. The most was 5 accidents in one day; the least was 2 days without an accident. 14

(d) He had been experiencing trouble with regard to Drivers taking lorry loads of Flour from the Docks, and disposing of it to the Black Market.

(e) Capt SEBRATORE has at last been replaced, and is in the process of handing over.

In the Field.  
8 April 1944.

  
Lieut. Colonel.  
ADST. Army Sub Commission, ACC.

DISTRIBUTION

Original to: Comd. (then to Col. OFFENHAUSER)

Copies to : G(SD)

ST

Policy File (ST)

Circulation File (then to AMIA HQ 2 Dist)



Enclosure to Report dated 8 Apr 44.

Copy of Signal.

From: ST DISTWO

To : MMIA

Info: ST FLAMBO; GSD & Q DISTWO; 6 Base Sub Area; OC 1001(I) GT.Coy;  
MMIA LO

261. 6 Apr.

Ref your SD 482 dated 1 April 44(.) No reinforcements yet received by 1001 (I) GT. Coy (.) Present deficiencies are: 2 officers, 3 L/Sgts, 7 Cooks, 39 Drivers IC, 10 Motor Cyclists, 11 Clerks, 20 Drivers (general duties), 1 Trimmer, 7 Vehicle Mechanics (.) Am now informed that ACC will shortly be taking Coy over (.) Personnel urgently required to complete mob (.)

7713

Enclosure to report dated 8 Apr 44.

Copy.

Headquarters, 389th Port Battalion, Transportation Corps

No. 1

From: Hq. 389th Port Bn.

To : The Port Comdt 6th Port Hq.

April 1, 1944

1 In compliance with verbal instructions of the Port Commandant, the following report pertaining to the feeding and clothing of Italian units attached to this battalion for operational control is submitted.

A. The Italian ration which went into effect 25 Mar 44, has been found to be approximately half that of the ration formerly issued by the U.S. Army Quartermaster.

(1) This reduction has been felt mostly in the amount of bread and flour now being issued. The bread ration formerly issued to Italian Troops from U.S. Army Depots allowed 650 grams of bread each day. The ration as issued by the Italian depot has been reduced to 300 grams per man per day. Flour issue has been cut from 125 grams per man per day to approximately 110 grams per day.

(2) Investigation has shown that the Italian depots do not handle fresh fruits and vegetables. Wine is not available for issue. Due to fact that the above items are not available for issue, the depots allow each unit to go into the country and buy up these missing ration components. Each Italian Unit is reimbursed for such expenditures by the depots at the rate of five (5) lira per man per day. Due to the limited transportation facilities at disposal of these Italian units, the procurement of sufficient ration rations to feed men engaged in hard labour is extremely difficult.

(3) Recent occurrences among Italian soldiers working at Pier H indicate reluctance to work because of insufficient food.

(4) It has been established that the officers of the Italian Command have been exerting every effort to see that their men are well fed, but present ration reduction over which they have no control has placed added hardship on their efforts.

(5) It is felt that an increase in the bread and flour ration would help immeasurably in work output and general morale of these Italian units.

B. The clothing situation in the Italian units assigned is extremely acute.

(1) During the 5 month period that the 523rd Inf Regt (formerly 11th Inf Regt, Montova Div.) has been assigned to this Headquarters



day. The ration as issued by the Italian depot has been reduced to 300 grams per man per day. Flour issue has been cut from 225 grams per man per day to approximately 110 grams per day.

(2) Investigation has shown that the Italian depots do not handle fresh fruits and vegetables. Wine is not available for issue. Due to fact that the above items are not available for issue, the depots allow each unit to go into the country and buy up these missing ration components. Each Italian Unit is reimbursed for such expenditures by the depots at the rate of five (5) lira per man per day. Due to the limited transportation facilities at disposal of these Italian units, the procurement of sufficient ration rations to feed men engaged in hard labour is extremely difficult.

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(4) It has been established that the officers of the Italian Command have been exerting every effort to see that their men are well fed, but present ration reduction over which they have no control has placed added hardship on their efforts.

(5) It is felt that an increase in the bread and flour ration would help immeasurably in work output and general morale of these Italian units.

B. The clothing situation in the Italian units assigned is extremely acute.

(1) During the 5 month period that the 50rd Inf Regt (formerly 115th Inf Regt. Montova Div.) has been assigned to this Headquarters for duty, it has been impossible to procure any appreciable amount of clothing for the men, certainly not enough to meet minimum requirements for stevedore labour.

(2) Procurement of clothing and an increase in the bread and flour ration would be a prime factor in increasing work efficiency and output.

(3) In addition to the above, it is recommended that at least two trucks be assigned to each of the Italian units to take care of their transportation needs such as sending food to the docks, going out into the country to purchase food, and for other normal operational needs.

For: Col. Clarkson

For the Commanding Officer.

/s/ L. W. E.  
L. W. E.  
Adj.

SECRET

*A/Q*  
*Order*  
*Dirly*  
*115*

1. REPORT ON MEETING BETWEEN GEN. OXILIA AND BRIG MILES, COMD FORCE 266 - 7 APRIL AT HQ 2 DISTRICT

(a) General

The meeting lasted ten minutes.

(b) Gen OXILIA stated that:

- a) He had been recommended to meet Brig MILES by Major HUNTER, BMM to Marshal TITO.
- b) He was anxious to know the channels of provision and method of demanding supplies and stores for ITALIAN tps in MONTENEGRO, especially GARIBALDI Div and Partisans att to it.
- c) He wanted to ensure that such stores and supplies i.e. money, replacement of certain technical eqpt, Easter parcels etc actually reached the ITALIAN tps for whom they were intended and were not bypassed by Partisans before delivery.

(c) Brig MILES replied that:

- a) This was a political question on which he, as a soldier, could not give a decision.
- b) He would notify AFHQ under whose direct comd Force 266 came, and his Branch in CAIRO of what Gen OXILIA had discussed with him.
- c) The amount of supplies available and their method of transport to MONTENEGRO were decided by AFHQ after consultation between the YUGOSLAV Gov't and his Branch in CAIRO.
- d) The allotment of stores and supplies as they arrived in MONTENEGRO was made by the local comd according to needs of ITALIANS and Partisans as a whole.
- e) The question should be referred to Chief Commissioner A.C.C.

(d) Decisions

- a) Gen OXILIA would write a personal letter to Gen MACFARLANE whom he had known in BUDAPEST as Military Attache.
- b) Gen OXILIA would put up his case officially to HQ Allied Central Commission through MAIA.

*R. G. A. Stewart*



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- b) He would notify AFHQ under whose direct comd Force 266 came, and his Branch in CAIRO of what Gen OXILIA had discussed with him.
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8 Apr 44

*R. G. Lawrence*

Maj

2. MEETING BETWEEN BRIG DUCHESNE AND GEN OXILIA  
on 8 APRIL 44

- (a) Gen OXILIA stated that the GARIBALDI Div had to live on local resources in arrangement with the Partisans who attached supply officers to them for the purpose of requisitioning supplies.
- (b) At present he was only anxious to ensure that parcels of stores of Italian (as opposed to Allied) origin sent by air through Force 266 and specifically addressed to GARIBALDI Div duly reached them: quantities were small.
- (c) Anything he writes will be through, or with copy to, Marshal MESSE to avoid duplication.

ABC 9 Apr 44

*Ch. Duchesne*

Brigadier,  
Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

MESSAGE FORM

*Lu 114*

From: MMIA.

To : FATIMA rptd: ORD. MMIA.

*10/26 09 1930 B*

For OFFENHAUER (\*) Instruct CHOWN rpt CHOWN to remain NAPLES  
to assist in re-equipment (\*) GREGSON will remain LEQUILE  
for the present

This message may be sent  
AS WRITTEN by any means  
except                      wireless.

This message must be  
sent IN CIPHER if  
liable to interception.

Priority  
                    

Sgd *F. INGRAM*

Sgd                                     

T O O                     

T H I                     

tvs.FJN.

7:10



7 March 1944

113

Subject: Report on M.T. Vehicles, M.T. Workshops, & Tradesmen Personnel. Italian Army in Sardinia.

To : Commander Army Sub-Commission, Army Sub-Commission (A.C.C.)

Copy To: D.D.M.E., AFHQ Adv. Adm. Ech. Ref: EME/2  
 Land Forces Sub-Commission  
 File D.A.D.M.E.

1. I have studied the state of vehicles and workshops in Sardinia and have paid particular attention to the Nembo Division which is believed to be the best equipped on the island. From information obtained and general observation it appears that all the better vehicles of other units have been handed to Nembo Division, and this fact has been taken into consideration in assessing the whole state of the M.T. in the island.

2. From the examination of about 300 vehicles, the following is the approximate position.

<u>Total vehicles on island.....3786</u>		
Vehicles fit for 8/10,000 miles after 1st line attention	No. 1100, % 30.	
Vehicles fit for 8/10,000 miles after 2nd line attention	No. 793, % 20.	
Vehicles for scrap and cannabilisation	No. 1893, % 50.	
	Total	3786 %100
Total Motor cycles..1943	No. .	%
Good and repairable	1140	60
For scrapping and cannabilisation	803	40
	Total	1943 100%

Of the vehicles, most are load carriers and staff cars are very short (mainly due to tire shortage) and it is suggested that small SPA forward drive truck might be used in place.

3. Spare Parts. There are about 80 or 90 tons of new parts of a fairly general nature, but <sup>very</sup> quick moving items are short.

4. Tyres. Only a hundred or two of these are in stores, but most vehicles are very well shod and from the vehicles it is suggested to scrap, there should be a sufficient supply to fit up vehicles for mileages as estimated.

5. Workshops. There is only one proper workshop, 13 Parco Automobiliatico, equal to our 3rd line in size but not mobile. It is at Abbasanta, just over half way up the main post road of the island, map ref. Sassari 1/1000000.5982. Plan of workshop is attached showing layout and plant. It is not fully completed but could be worked as a good 2nd-3rd line shop in its present state.

7709

Personnel attached....71 skilled trades  
 203 semi-skilled trades  
 10 officers (including 1 Lt. Col.)  
 Mobile machinery vehicles.....six  
 Breakdown vehicles, light.....three  
 Breakdown vehicles, heavy.....two

6. Mobile Workshops. These are small and dotted about on various units. Their makeup is 1 machinery wagon, 1 recovery vehicle, all in charge of a sergeant with about 10 or 12 men. Vehicles are either heavy or light according to circumstances. On these services are:

58 mobile shop units  
 58 Non-commissioned officers-sergeants  
 633 ORs-tradesmen  
 Vehicles--41 light machinery vehicles  
 21 heavy machinery vehicles  
 12 light breakdown vehicles  
 21 heavy breakdown vehicles  
 4 recovery trailers

7. Personnel. Totals as follows:

	Technical officers	Skilled and Semi-skilled ORs
13 Parco.....	10.....	271
Mobile Services.....		691
At H.Q. of M.T.....	4.....	
Total officers	14	965

About 20 civilian tradesmen are also employed. Each regiment has two or three regimental fitters of doubtful ability.

8. General Remarks. The director of motorization, Maj. Bochari, was most obstructive and did not know anything of his department and did not seem as all worried when it was pointed out, during the inspection of workshops with him, that no work was being done there was no organization. It is suggested that this man should be removed and replaced with someone with energy and organizing ability.

9. General Impression of Vehicle Maintenance--none.  
 General Impression of Workshops...Completely organized dis-organization!

10. Outline of task system and organization of workshops to centralize at Abbasanta given, pending confirmation through Italian Ministry of War.

11. Having studied the mainland and Sardinia, it is felt that the situation in Sardinia is considerably better; vehicles and spares are better and production of 1800 or 1900 serviceable vehicles could be obtained in a fairly reasonable time with the services available on the island.





MESSAGE FORM.

*File 103.*

*AQ/g*

From: MMIA

To : *Copy 15* FATIMA BEAR for QUINSMITH  
FATIMA for OFFENHAUER. AQ 865. 30

Please meet BODLEY arriving by Italian plane GAUDO 0950 hrs

31 Mar (\*) For OFFENHAUER (\*) Please arrange for  
BODLEY to meet Gen MASON MACFARLANE

This message may be sent **AB WRITTEN** by any means except wireless.

This message must be sent **IN CIPHER** if liable to interception.

Priority

**IMMEDIATE**

*Byline with  
day*

~~TO 945A~~

THI

tvb.BGCH.

7706

*Copy Sub Area with in Area*

*101*

MILITARY MISSILE

Date 16 Mar 44 HQ/9

to  
ITALIAN ARMY

SECRET

HQ No. 2 District, C.M.F.  
1535 C

24 Mar 44

NOTES ON DISTRICT COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE  
No. 5 - 18 MAR 44

Action by

ITEM 1 Statement by CCC

1. CCC reviewed the following matters:-

(a) Reorg. of No 2 Dist

Since the last conference 60 Sub Area had passed under comd No 2 Dist from Eighth Army and there had also been an enlargement of the Air Force Enclave to include SPINAZZOLA. The bdy between 52 Area and 151 Sub Area had been adjusted so that the whole of the Air Force Enclave remained in 151 Sub Area. It was possible that POTENZA Province might be transferred to comd of No 3 Dist. This was desirable as maint of tps in the POTENZA area could best be carried out from the West.

Note: It has now been confirmed that such a change will not take place.

(b) Accon Areas

As forecast at the last conference there had been many major moves. The accon areas were at present complete only to Staging Camp scale and, although suitable for fans in transit, were not very well equipped for fans which had come out of the line to refit. For such fans a higher standard of comfort was necessary and Sub Area Comds should do their utmost to see that this was provided. It was also being proposed to AAI (Adm Ech) that one area should be reserved for such refitting fans and that necessary extra RM work should be done. The best area for this purpose was the ALTAMURA-CANTINA -

Note: It has now been confirmed that such a change will not take place.

Sub Area. It was possible that POTENZA Province might be transferred to command of No 3 Dist. This was desirable as maint of tps in the POTENZA area could best be carried out from the West.

(b) Accn Areas

As forecast at the last conference there had been many major moves. The accn areas were at present complete only to Staging Camp scale and, although suitable for fans in transit, were not very well equipped for fans which had come out of the line to visit. For such fans a higher standard of comfort was necessary and Sub Area Comds should do their utmost to see that this was provided. It was also being proposed to AAI (Adm Ech) that one area should be reserved for such refitting fans and that necessary extra work should be done. The best area for this purpose was the ALTAMIRA-CRAVINA-MANTUA area.

(c) Inspectorate of Army Regt

An Inspectorate of Army Regt had been allotted to the Dist and was coming to EMI. Its functions were to ensure that units did not hold excess stores and to consult with COs on unit G 1098s regarding items which were not required. A DRO was being published on this matter. The Inspectorate would visit Sub Areas in turn, and on its arrival in a Sub Area a meeting of unit COs and QMs should be called to introduce the OIC of the Inspectorate who could then explain the nature of his duties. Any cases in which the Inspectorate attempted to interfere with internal unit adm should be reported to Dist HQ.

(d) Courts Martial

Many cases which could be dealt with summarily by COs were now being made the subject of Courts Martial and this was leading to loss of time by all concerned. Sub Area Comds should therefore carefully screen all applications for trial by Court Martial.

7105

9(1)



Action by

(e) Censorship

There has been an increase lately in breaches of Censorship regs, especially under cover of green envelopes. To date, cases had been treated leniently but Sub Area Comds should watch this pt and if necessary warn Presidents of Districts of the seriousness of the offence. A DRC may be course of issue on this subject.

"A"

(f) Inter-unit Visits

The objects of inter-unit visits were to exchange info on unit work and to let units get a better idea of the work of other units. Sub Area Comds should consider whether such visits were possible and make the necessary arrangements, but it would not be done on the Dist level.

(g) Meeting of Civilian Lab

Proposals had been made to AMT (Admin) for an increased issue of bread in form of the hot meal, for allowances of fuel, salt and pepper and for a reduction in the charge. All these proposals had been firmly rejected. Every effort must therefore be made to implement the present scheme and Sub Area Comds must check that this is being done. Sub Area Comds might give permission for non-provision of the food where they were convinced the scheme was unworkable; all such cases would be reported to Dist HQ by 1 Air.

ITEM 2 Reports by Area and Sub Area Comds

60 Sub Area

2. Comd 60 Sub Area gave a brief survey of the history of the Sub Area up to the time it came under Comd No 2 Dist. As a result of the new survey the Sub Area had taken over VACTO, but had given up CAPTOR/SNO.

3. The most difficult problem in the Sub Area was the rd TRENCH - VACTO, on which there were two one-way bridges which were the cause of many traffic blocks. A considerable

RE  
PRO

ITEM 2 Reports by Area and Sub Area Comd's60 Sub Area

2. Comd 60 Sub Area gave a brief survey of the history of the Sub Area up to the time it came under Comd No 2 Dist. As a result of the new railway the Sub Area had taken over VASTO, but had given up CASPONES.

3. The most difficult problem in the Sub Area was the rd TRENCH - VASTO, on which there were two one-way bridges which were the cause of heavy traffic blocks. A considerable number of COT were needed to keep traffic on this rd moving.

4. An SGT was badly needed for the Sub Area.

151 Sub Area

5. Guard duties were still a heavy commitment. The Provincial Commissioner AGS for PAK Province had visited the Sub Area and no decision had yet been reached regarding declaring the Pet Day a military zone.

6. Civil trials on military charges were often greatly delayed and it was suggested that possibly military courts could be held in King's Italy under Italian Law. C-1 said that AGS had introduced a new system to speed up procedure.

7. The civil courts had been changed to 2250 hrs on the orders of Provincial AGS without consultation with Sub Area Comd. Curfew for 196 was still 2400 hrs but it was now proposed to change this to 2250 hrs.

8. The examination of prisoners was now satisfactory. The 1800 hrs curfew for soldiers had been implemented except in the Air Force Barracks. It was hoped that a host in BIRMINGHAM would be available for infected women. P&S facilities had been improved.

RE  
PRO

Ch

"G"



Action by

9. 'B' Transit Camp was working very hard but was under-staffed. To relieve the Camp Staff of the duty of paying men discharged from hosp it was suggested that hosp be authorized to give men a full week's pay before they left.

"A" *W.R.*

10. The anti-malaria campaign had been held up for want of necessary eqpt. Day courses in anti-malaria precautions were being run by the 2d Hyg Soc. It was suggested that the taking of mepracrine should be started in the Sub Area on 1 Apr and that tps in transit should be given dual containers. DMS stated that every effort was being made to get necessary eqpt released but the decision had been made that taking of mepracrine was definitely not necessary before 1 May.

Med

11 The following pts were mentioned:-

- (a) More tap was now being carried out and rifle ranges were in full use. A course was being started by DALLER to help improve the standard of unit veh maint.
- (b) An Education effr had arrived and his efforts had been very well received.
- (c) EM work had slowed down and it was probable that the RACTD would not be ready by the target date.
- (d) The rds in the area occupied by 5 Cdn Arm Div might not stand up to excessive use by tks. The discipline of this fun, both on the rds and otherwise was first class.

6 Base Sub Area

12. There had been a falling off of tonnage in the ports. This was due partly to the poor quality of the Lebanese Stovesores, but it was hoped to improve them by trf. Italian civilians were also being trained in the docks to replace military lab. Another reason for falling off in tonnage had been the changing of orders regarding loading/unloading of ships.

*afg, U4*

13. There had been an improvement in the standard of



- (b) Education effort had arrived and his efforts had been very well received.
- (c) Work had slowed down and it was probable that the RACTD would not be ready by the target date.
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6. These Sub Area

- 12. There had been a falling off of tonnage in the ports. This was due partly to the poor quality of the Lebanese Stevedores, but it was hoped to improve them by bringing Italian civilians were also being trained in the docks to replace military lab. Another reason for falling off in tonnage had been the changing of orders regarding loading/unloading of ships.
- 13. There had been an improvement in the standard of discipline, but the chief source of trouble was still the 18th Army Rest Camp.
- 14. A new BID was arriving for the Sub Area. Feeding str had increased from 55,000 to 60,000. Local purchase was going very well. One more civilian bakery had been opened.
- 15. A hosp had been handed over to ACC for the treatment of VD. The arrests of prostitutes were increasing and GRAVINA had been cleaned up in this respect before the arrival of 56. Div.
- 16. Clearance of cases of MT was improving although it was not yet entirely satisfactory. LICs had started to operate. Col (Nov) stated that the cases of MT situation at HUNDISI was now most unsatisfactory.
- 17. The Port Wksps were very overworked but RACTD were arranging to spread the work to the L of C Wksps, which to date had not been used to capacity. The Tyre Maint unit had requisitioned a civilian tyre retreading firm.

78,04

Action 10

18. The following pts were mentioned:-

- (a) Anti-Brit feeling had abated except at
- (b) CLAVIM. More vacancies could be filled on all
- (c) courses. Killage was on the increase although
- (d) sentries had wounded or arrested a record number of
- (e) offenders. There had been bad examples of
- (f) deliberate obstruction by the Italian Military
- (g) against requisitioning. Plans had been put out of adjustment
- (h) by the arrival of 56 Div and work was a little
- behind schedule. There was a shortage of HT drivers but
- 222 civilians were employed and were doing very well.
- Anti-malaria campaign was under way at
- CLAVIM. Ord depts had done very well, especially the
- arm dep.

71 Sub Area

19. The port figures had been disappointing owing to lack of ships and it was expected that this would continue. The dock improvements were practically complete and lighters would be in use within the next few days. 2,000 American troops were being disembarked at BRINDISI. Col 9 (Gen) stated that the target figure for BRINDISI was now 3,000 tons, and that more disembarkations of personnel might take place there in future.

20. All stores above water in SS "MIRILLI" had been salvaged and there was little left on board worth diving for. The ship was now beginning to break up.

21. Two Brit Gen tpt coys had left and 1002 Italian Gen tpt coy had arrived. This coy had been handicapped by starting with poor vehs. It was suggested that a special veh marking be authorised for Italian Gen tpt coys.

22. The lab situation was satisfactory but the capture team was uncertain. The last par coy was leaving

"C"

W.A. 30/3



71 Sub Area

19. The port figures had been disappointing owing to lack of ships and it was expected that this would continue. The dock improvements were practically complete and lighters would be in use within the next few days. 2,000 American troops were being disembarked at BRINDISI. Col G. (100V) stated that the target figure for BRINDISI was now 3,000 tons, and that more disembarkations of personnel might take place there in future.

20. All stores above water in SS "TIRING" had been salvaged and there was little left on board worth diving for. The ship was now beginning to break up.

21. Two British troops had left and 1002 Italian troops had arrived. This group had been handicapped by starting with poor vehicles. It was suggested that a special vehicle marking be authorized for Italian men and troops.

"C"

22. The lab situation was satisfactory but the future position was uncertain. The last paratrooper was leaving and two weeks of troops were being formed from the Italian military lab.

23. There had been no sabotage or riots. The Italian army had ordered that political meetings be held under cover and it was suggested that for BRINDISI, the order should be altered to provide for outdoor meetings outside the town.

"G"

24. The train had been reached saturation point and it was suggested that permission be given for Italian goods to be used on pack trains.

25. The following points were mentioned:-

- (a) All works were being handicapped by lack of fuel.
- (b) It was requested that tents be provided during the summer in order to get men out of BRINDISI during the hot weather.
- (c) There was still a shortage of Townsends and of Liaison staff.

C(2)



Action by

- (d) The Military Prison was filling up but evac of the building by the Indians was not yet complete as alternative accn was difficult to find.
- (e) Feeding of civilian lab was at least 80% successful.
- (f) IMI had established a very good effrs' club in NAPRESI.
- (g) An anti-malaria school was being run and was proving a great success.
- (h) To prevent pilferage, a curfew and other restrictions were being put on a suspected village.
- (j) 6,000 Yugo-Slavs were now accommodated in camps and 20,000 Italian refugees were expected soon.

SE Area

26. Difficulties of germ had been experienced, particularly with WYRZA and MATEA. CGO stated that Brit ops were now working on the POYIZA SWB and this should lead to a great improvement.

27. Two docks up coys were being formed from Italian Military lab. The potential supply of civilian lab in TALANTO was nearly exhausted and if repairs were to be brought in from the country tpt would be needed,

28. It had been found that Yugo-Slav Royalists were not delcaring themselves to be such until just prior to embarkation, and this necessitated last minute changes in embarkation plans. It was suggested that steps be taken to separate Royalists from Portugians at an early stage.

29. The following pts were mentioned:

- (a) There had been two cases of substrate of coons.
- (b) Tomatoes at port had increased.
- (c) Anti-malaria campaign was under way and the Poles were taking a very active part.
- (d) A 600 bag sea heap had arrived for use by the Yugo-Slavs.
- (e) Purchase of live animals for food of Ird.

6-10 I  
MAR 30 3

"C"

7103

21. Italian Military Lab. The potential supply of civilian lab in TABUNTO was nearly exhausted and if workers were to be brought in from the country that would be needed.

"C"

28. It had been found that Yugo-Slav Royalists were not delcaring themselves to be such until just prior to embarkation, and this necessitated last minute changes in embarkation plans. It was suggested that steps be taken to separate Royalists from Partisans at an early stage.

29. The following pts were mentioned:

- (a) There had been two cases of sabotage of comms.
- (b) Turnover at port had increased.
- (c) Anti-malaric campaign was under way and the Poles were taking a very active part.
- (d) A 60 ton heap had arrived for use by the Yugo-Slavs.
- (e) Purchase of live animals for food of Ind ops was difficult.

7103

CH I  
100 30

30. AOC's (X) stated that Italian com ops had been tried out in the Dist and it was proposed to submit to AAI (Adm Ech) the Dist proposals for the duties of OC Brit Cadre. It was considered that the OC Brit Cadre should be responsible for weapons training and com matters but could only exercise such supervision over the actual ops of the coy.

31. The draft list of duties as submitted was agreed with amendment to paras 2 and 4 and is being published for the guidance of all concerned pending approval by AAI (Gen Job).

Q (1)



Action by

- 6 -

ITEM 4

32. AMG stated that the following agreed policy had been issued by AAI (Adm Ech).

- (a) Leave Camps would be run behind army areas and would be used for specific periods of leave. Rest Centres would be run by fms to provide a short break for battle-worn men.
- (b) No leave would be allowed outside OMT. Sufficient accn would be provided for 5% of the force.
- (c) The period of leave would be six days excl travelling time, and normally not more than one period of leave would be granted within six months.
- (d) Leave Camps would be under AAI (Adm Ech) for gen control, under No 2 Dist for direct supervision and under Sub Areas for local adm.
- (e) Women officers would be allotted vacancies at Leave Camps. Provision for OMs of women's services was still under consideration.
- (f) AAI (Adm Ech) would make bulk allotments of accn to armies and fms. All other arrangements would be made between Dist and fms concerned.

33. The commitment for No 2 Dist was 250 officers and 5,000 OMs at one time. Eighth Army Rest Camp would be available to meet this commitment when the scheme was put into op. Plans must cater for vacancies for IM and AEC/A/C personnel.

The question of staffs for Leave Camps was under consideration. It was most probable that they would be provided by AAI (Adm Ech) on an authorised HE.

34. 5 Corps would be running a Rest Camp which was almost certain to be in VISTO. The Dist were asking for a Dist Leave Wing, of str 200, to be att to this Camp.

35. Eighth Army Rest Camp could cater for 155,000 between 1 Apr and 30 Sep and this should cover leave for all personnel in No 2 Dist. 6 Base Sub Area should examine the task of bringing the Rest Camp up to 5,000 capacity. It was not yet known if fms located temporarily in the Dist would qualify for "leave" or for "rest".



211

(e) Women officers would be allotted vacancies at Leave Camps. Provision for ORs of women's services was still under consideration.

(f) AAI (Adm Ech) would make bulk allotments of men to armies and fms. All other arrangements would be made between Dist and fms concerned.

33. The commitment for No 2 Dist was 250 officers and 5,000 ORs at one time. Eighth Army Rest Camp would be available to meet this commitment when the scheme was put into op. Plans must cater for vacancies for IN and ACO/ALG personnel.

The question of staffs for Leave Camps was under consideration. It was most probable that they would be provided by AAI (Adm Ech) on an authorised NT.

34. 5 Corps would be running a Rest Camp which was almost certain to be in VISTO. The Dist were asking for a Dist Leave Wing, of str 200, to be att to this Camp.

35. Eighth Army Rest Camp could cater for 155,000 between 1 Apr and 30 Sep and this should cover leave for all personnel in No 2 Dist. 6 Base Sub Area should examine the task of bringing the Rest Camp up to 5,000 capacity. It was not yet known if fms located temporarily in the Dist would qualify for "leave" or for "rest".

TABLE 5

36. AAG explained the current allocation of transit camps. Based on present availability and the assumption that the Transit Camp would be withdrawn by Eighth Army, the following proposed allocation was agreed:-

TARANTO	"A", "X" and 186 (less one wing)	Transit Camp
HERNDISI	One wing of 186	
DAI	197	
BAUMVIM	199 (less one wing)	
POGELA	One wing of 199	
60 SUBS AREA	202, (which is a 5 Corps unit)	

37. Comd 52 Area stressed that the above proposal would only work if all transit camps were brought up to their VI str and kept at that level.

38. Comd 60 Sub Area stated that a transit camp under comd of the Sub Area was definitely needed, as the 5 Corps transit camp could not be relied upon to stay.

"A"

Action by

C (SD)

39. The application for HMs for MI and MI Transit Camps had not yet been approved by AEMO.

IMV: 6

40. SO(2) (Education) stated that in the last two months his commitments had been almost doubled and his responsibilities now included education of Yugo-Slavs, examinations for Indian Army and professional examinations for all Brit tps.

41. Two more Education offers were expected and his establishment of office would then be complete. In addition, he had 6 MCO instrs as a result of a course held at EARL, and two mob teams.

42. The following progress had been made:-

- (a) MCO instrs were att to six hosps and 11 Convalescent Dep and full programmes were in force. A programme had started at 56 Military Prison.
- (b) In two months the mob teams had given 728 lectures to 37,618 men. In addition, panels of civilian lecturers and of offer lecturers had been formed.
- (c) ABA was unsatisfactory as only 150 copies of the pamphlets were being received. In future, pamphlets would be issued with GPOs and in consequence a greater number would be available. It was hoped to run an intensive series of ABA courses later.
- (d) MURKIN HAY AND PURROSH was working in hosps and the Convalescent Dep only, as no more than 15 copies of the pamphlet were available. In this connection, an essay competition had been started and was going well.
- (e) Many language classes were being run under civilian teachers.
- (f) Spgs of gramophone records of music was small, but a good number of musicians were available.
- (g) Handicraft instr was being carried out in hosps and Convalescent Deps in conjunction with the occupational therapy staffs.
- (h) Educational films were expected and on arrival would be handled by A.S.

7102



- (a) 100 instrs were att to six hosps and 11 Convalescent Dep and full programmes were in force. A programme had started at 56 Military Prison.
- (b) In two months the mob teams had given 728 lectures to 37,618 men. In addition, panels of civilian lecturers and of offr lecturers had been formed.
- (c) ABA was unsatisfactory as only 150 copies of the pamphlets were being received. In future, pamphlets would be issued with GRCs and in consequence a greater number would be available. It was hoped to run an intensive series of ABA courses later.
- (d) BRITISH VAY AND PURCHASE was working in hosps and the Convalescent Dep only, as no more than 15 copies of the pamphlet were available. In this connection, an essay competition had been started and was going well.
- (e) Many lan have classes were being run under civilian teachers.
- (f) Exp of gramophone records of music was small, but a good number of musicians were available.
- (g) Handicraft instr was being carried out in hosps and Convalescent Deps in conjunction with the occupational therapy staffs.
- (h) Educational films were expected and on arrival would be handled by JKS.
- (i) Time was devoted to education on MPTTS Radio and it was hoped to get an allocation of time on PARI No.2 Transmitter.
- (k) Text books of languages had been published and it was hoped to produce a handbook on Italy.

7102

43. It was likely that in the future there would be increases in correspondence courses, public examinations, and education of Allied tps, and the work now being carried out should be considered as preparatory for the post war period.

WVW 7

44. Col IC LGM stated that a meeting had been held to examine the present posn regarding pilferage and to see what other steps could be taken in its prevention. The remedies suggested at this meeting had been circulated. Since the meeting it had been stated by AIR that no further tps were likely to be permanently available for this purpose but that units coming from MW would be sent in adv of their vehs and could be used as anti-pilferage tps while they were waiting in the Dist.



Action by

- 3 -

45. C.1 stated that a policy letter had been received from LLI on the question of "Security Tips", and details of this were being forwarded to Sub Areas. LLI wished to know the definite number of men required for train cks, and had laid down that certain stores must be guarded.

46. The following further suggestions were agreed:-

- (a) That co-ordination is necessary, and to obtain this a combined statistical, anti-pilferage and MV HQ should be set up. All statistics regarding pilferage should come to this HQ and a DMM should be situated there to control the work of the anti-pilferage unit which it is hoped will become available. That men employed on train cks should become specialists and that they should be controlled through their own cnd from the combined anti-pilferage HQ.
- Pro - to develop co-ordinated scheme.

47. C and 151 Sub Area suggested that one wagon a day be reserved for passengers on goods trains going north from BHEM to prevent passengers riding on goods wagons.

Nov

ITEM 8

48. DMM outlined the repair and rec org in the Dist. RME wksp had been diluted on to new W's and there were in the Dist, excluding 60 Sub Area, three diluted port wksp, five service stations and two L of C wksp.

49. Service stations at first would only be able to undertake 1st Eek repair but later should be able to do 2nd Eek repairs as well.

50. The chairman of cvac in the Dist was now as follows:-  
From service stations to wksp - for 2nd cck repairs.  
From wksp to Returned Veh Pk - for 4th cck repairs.  
4th cck repairs were carried out at 12 Adv Base Wksp.

There was no provision for 3rd cck repairs in the L of C.

51. All RME units in the L of C had a rec element and it was necessary to train civilians to help with this

MOV

be reserved for passengers on goods trains going north from DELHI to prevent passengers riding on goods wagons.

ITEM 8

48. DMR outlined the repair and rec crg in the Dist. DMT wags had been diluted on to new VEs and there were in the Dist, excluding 60 Sub Area, three diluted port wags, five service stations and two L of C wags.

49. Service stations at first would only be able to undertake 1st Ech repairs but later should be able to do 2nd Ech repairs as well.

50. The chair of evac in the Dist was now as follows:-

From service stations to wags - for 2nd ech repairs.  
From wags to Returned Veh Pk - for 4th ech repairs.  
4th ech repairs were carried out at 12 Adv Base Wags.

There was no provision for 3rd ech repairs in the L of C.

51. All DMR units in the L of C had a rec element but it was necessary to train civilians to help with this work. There was a shortage of rec vchs but the routés were quite well covered. 25 Hy Rec Sec is under comd No 2 Dist but works mostly in No 3 Dist, on the rd PUGGA - WAPES.

ITEM 9

6 Def Civilian Lab

52. Comd 6 Base Sub Area stated that owing to replacement of military division lab, tpt had to be used to ferry lab in from the country. Mov were trying to make the best use of the engines available for suburban rail services.

53. Col IG Adm said that no more tpt was likely to be allotted to the Dist. C (1)  
Lab

54. DMR stated that statistics were being produced on this matter. Civilian lab was not now being used to the best advantage on the docks and before opening new installations enquiries should be made regarding possible sources of lab to be employed in running them.

Action by

55. Comd 71 Sub Area stated that to get over this difficulty he was trying to raise civilian lab coys from country dists and bringing them to live in the town.

Fd Punishment Centres

56. Comd 71 Sub Area asked whether the Fd Punishment Centre at GUGLIEMSI was to be maintained. Col IS Adm said that this question was under consideration.

"A"

ITEM 10

57. Dist Comd's Conference No 6 will be held at 1000 hrs 15 Apr. Items for the Agenda will reach HQ No 2 Dist not later than 3 Apr.

*Col Johnston*  
Colonel,  
Col i/c Adm.

DISTRIBUTION

INTERNAL:-

52 Area  
6 Base Sub Area  
60 Sub Area  
71 Sub Area  
151 Sub Area  
LAI (Adm Fch)  
Army Sub Commission ACC

Comd  
Col i/c Adm  
GSO 1  
GSO 2(SD)  
AGC  
ACMG (1)  
ACMG (2)  
CE  
GSO  
ACG  
DIST  
DEMS

DEOS  
DEME  
DFM  
DADAPS  
DEL  
DAD (Sal)  
Col (Mov)  
DDTn  
SO 2 (Education)  
ANG LO  
IO to Army Sub  
Commission ACC  
Coal Sec

7:01

10



Report on Visit to POTENZA, SALERNO, CASTELLAMARE, NAPLES and BARI,  
by Lieut. Col. H B FINCH, ADF, USA.  
21 to 25 March, 1944. AQ 19 RC

1. Visited Italian Supply Depot, POTENZA, 21 Mar, commanded by Capt. MORO, Carabinieri.  
Found that sups were still in very unsuitable storage. The repair of the building was still in hand, but it was evident that damage due to rain coming in had been caused. There was mud in one of the rooms containing sacked macaroni. The whole place was damp, and except for the fact that sups were issued almost as soon as received certain losses would have taken place. I advised Capt MORO that I was dissatisfied and asked him to expedite repairs.
2. Called in at Col QuinSmith's Office, SALERNO, 22 March.  
(a) Explained how Italian Government and Comando Supremo had to be fed either as Army or as non-Military. If they were to be considered Army we had no alternative but to obey orders and feed from Italian Stocks & Rations.  
(b) Saw Com PALMER, Navy Sub Comm. Explained situation regarding bulk issues to Navy every ten days. Asked that we should have a confirmation of Naval Feeding Strengths from one Co-ordinating Naval Authority. Navy was informed that TOTALI must be the one co-ordinating authority. Navy Sub Comm admitted that they could not deal direct with Italian Navy co-operating with either TOTALI or FOLI. Was informed unofficially that they were expecting to be done away with as they could serve no useful purpose.  
(c) Visited DIST, Three District, CASTELLAMARE (Col. GALLEY). Col. GALLEY expressed his willingness to start a School to train Italian Soldiers to become Drivers. Found out that THREE DIST consists of 57 & 59 Areas and 54 Sub Area. Col. GALLEY appeared to be very keen to obtain Italian Drivers to man his GI Coys.
3. Visited Lt. Col. OFFENHAUER on 23rd and got Capt. BENNETTI to accompany me.  
(a) Saw Lt. Col LEGG, Food Sub Comm. ACC. Room 64 Second Floor ACC Building. Found that he also had a system of Port Liaison. Major MORI MORE at NAPLES, Major KNIGHT at BARI. It would appear that there is quite a lot of duplication and that co-ordination might produce an economy of personnel.  
(b) Went to see No 21 & 22 Truck Coys at AFRAGOLA. It would appear that these are run together; Capt. COMINOTTI being in command of a group of the two Truck Coys.  
2nd Lt. FREEMAN is the Cadre or Liaison Officer (American).  
Sot/Tinenti ZUCCHINI commands one Coy and has two other officers.  
Sot/Tinenti PONCE DE LIONE commands the other, also with two other Officers.  
At the time they had 90 out of their 100 trucks on the road.  
There are 130 good drivers out of the total 300 men. Others are being trained.  
There are also:- 16 Mechanics; 14 Clerks; 10 Cooks; 8 at Control Posts.

cooperating with either TOTALI or FOLI. Was informed unobtainable they were expecting to be done away with as they could serve no useful purpose.

- (c) Visited DIST, Three District, CASTELLAMARE (Col. GALLEY). Col. GALLEY expressed his willingness to start a School to train Italian Soldiers to become Drivers. Found out that THREE DIST consists of 57 & 59 Areas and 94 Sub Area. Col. GALLEY appeared to be very keen to obtain Italian Drivers to man his 94 Coys.
- 3. Visited Lt. Col. OFFENHAUER on 23rd and got Capt. BENATTI to accompany me. (a) Saw Lt. Col. LEGG, Food Sub Comm. ACC. Room 64 Second Floor ACC Building. Found that he also had a system of Port Liaison. Major MORICORE at NAPLES, Major KNIGHT at BREI. It would appear that there is quite a lot of duplication and that co:ordination might produce an economy of personnel. (b) Went to see No 21 & 22 Truck Coys at AFRAGOLA. It would appear that these are run together; Capt. COMINOTTI being in command of a group of the two Truck Coys. 2nd Lt. FREEMAN is the Cadre or Liaison Officer (American). Sot/Tinenti ZUCCHINI commands one Coy and has two other officers. Sot/Tinenti PONCE DE LIONE commands the other, also with two other Officers. At the time they had 90 out of their 100 trucks on the road. There are 130 good drivers out of the total 300 men. Others are being trained. There are also: -18 Mechanics; 14 Clerks; 10 Cooks; 8 at Control Posts. (c) Italians asked that they may be issued with their clothing and also in particular their new boots. They had put in an indent. It was explained to them that they had indented for a complete new outfit for every man; that if every unit did the same there would be insufficient to go round. If they indented only for what was most urgently required, they would receive it. They promised to do this. (d) They also asked if they could be provided with more tentage. Capt. BENATTI said he would investigate and see what he could do. (e) They explained that the rations they were being given by the Italian Supply Depots did not compare with the rations as received from the American Depots. It was explained that they had no right to have even received excess rations. They agreed that the less said, the less received. (f) Took Capt. BENATTI and introduced him to DIST, FLAMBO, Brig. HINDE, AD Transport, Lt. Col. DAMSON, AD Supplies, Lt. Col. SMITH, also Lt. Col. ACKERLEY of MOV 5. Brig HINDE said that he had seen Italian 94 Coys and was pleased with 1000 TARANTO. He instructed that every effort should be made to clothe and equip and foster "esprit de corps" and self respect. He remarked that he had put in a few words regarding the Italian Supply Depot TARANTO. He was of the opinion that 52 Area would evacuate the Depot. Lt. Col. DAMSON gave me the draft of an order expected to be issued by G(SD) FLAMBO regarding Driver Training School POLIGNANO. Lt. Col. SMITH showed me instructions with regard to Italian Ration Equivalents.

4. Visited Comdr WATKINS RN, Chief Accts Offr NAPLES. Discussed rations to Italian Navy. It would appear that he is of the opinion that Italian Army in NAPLES has in the past drawn for Italian Navy but instead of issuing has held them, hence the query to MIA.

Agreed that all information regarding Naval strengths was a FOTALI responsibility and that FOTALI would coordinate all transactions with Italian Navy.

5. Called in at DISTWO BARI. Saw DESP, Col. WARREN and Lt. Col HEGAN. (a) Col. HEGAN asked that deficiencies from 1000 Italian GT Coy be made up from POLIGNANO School as soon as possible. I explained that if this was asked for it would be done immediately. (b) He asked what was to be done with duds and useless soldiers unlikely to be efficient drivers. I asked him to inform MIA officially so that we may communicate with SAREL and have them moved. (c) Situation at DISTWO appeared to be very cooperative, helpful and friendly.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Lieut. Col.

In the Field.  
25 Mar 44. A.D.S.T., Army Sub Comm. ACC.

Distribution: Original to: Comd and Col GuinSmith.  
Copies to : G(3D)

Circ file, and Lt. Col Offenbauer.  
ST Policy File.



ARMY FORM C-1125

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. **013**

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN  
OUT

No. of Groups  
GR. **File**  
Office Date Stamp

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO **FATIMA for OFFENHAUER.**

FROM **NCA**

Originator's Number  
**48816**

Date  
**21**

In Reply to Number

<b>BUD</b>	<b>will</b>	<b>remain</b>	<b>NAPLES</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>be</b>
<b>available</b>	<b>as</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Officer</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>COLONEL</b>
<b>PIDSLEY</b>	<b>who</b>	<b>visits</b>	<b>you</b>	<b>approx</b>	<b>twenty</b>
<b>three</b>	<b>March</b>				

This Message may be sent AS WRITTEN  
any means. Except **FATIMA**

This Message must be sent IN CIPHER  
if liable to interception or to fall into  
enemy hands.

Originator's Instructions  
Degree of Priority  
**Important**

Time of Origin  
**212130A**

Signature  
Originator may delete "Except" and insert "Including."

Signature  
(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.  
T.O.R. **7098**

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender

ST-6-40-1-571

*Handwritten:* 1019 20 Nov 41  
D.L. 3 Rep. on Visits to Italian GI Coys  
on 16th & 17th Mar 44 by Lieut. Col. R. B. FINCH, A.D.S.T.

1. Visited 52 Area TARANTO, saw Major SIMON, DAFI also Major BRUNKS Tpt Ofir, also Major KNIGHTS DAFI. Explained Supply Supervision & L U Organisation pamphlet.
2. Visited 1000 Lt. GI Coy and saw Major TAYLOR & Capt POTENZIKI.
  - (a) Capt POTENZIKI was distinctly depressed and down hearted. It would appear that Gen LOMBARDI had been victimising 1000 Lt GI Coy, and in particular its Italian Comdr. This matter has been explained to Lt. Col. MURRANT who will discuss it with Gen ARBOLDI.
  - (b) Unit appears to be progressing very favourably. Going round lines all personnel were sleeping on improvised beds. The whole appeared much cleaner and tidier. Junior Officer were taking a great interest in their men and their Units. There was a much more careful and contented appearance about the men. Boots were in poor condition.
  - (c) I found that unit was up to strength, but had no surplus personnel over the allotted 10 Ofir and 385 GIs. There is no extra Platoon.
  - (d) Gen LOMBARDI and Lt. Col. STUBBI, ADST 52 Area, had previously inspected this Unit and had reported well, so I was told.
  - (e) 117 Lora Carrying Vehicles out of 134 were actually on detail.
3. Visited Italian Main Supply Depot, MONTECATINI, commanded by Col. BALDINI.
  - (a) There were large stocks of Flour, Meat & Veg Hash, Macaroni and Rice in the large open Transit Shed.
  - (b) The large lock up Shed was still occupied by British Ordnance. I spoke to H.O./C AOD who stated that he was not moving, had received no orders to move and in fact, had been told that the move was now definitely off.
  - (c) I spoke to Lt. Col. LUBLEY, A.D.S., with regard to vacating Shed. He stated that it was a question of alternative accommodation and said that I should see Lt. Col. ROBINSON, AA & QMG 52 Area.
  - (d) I saw ARBOLDI who refused to commit himself, and said that they were making every endeavour to find other accommodation which just did not exist.
  - (e) I left convinced that 52 Area had no intention of vacating, and that the situation was just completely unsatisfactory. They appeared to be under the impression that they were in a position to settle the matter and stated that they had received no order to vacate this Depot.
4. Visited Col. MURRANT, 71 Sub Area, BRINDISI.
  - (a) Explained Supply Supervision and Liaison Organisation pamphlet. 7697
5. Visited 1002 Italian GI Coy, BASTINCO (near BRINDISI), saw Major ARBOLDI, Centre Comdr.
  - (a) Orders had been received that Capt. SERRATURI, the Italian Comdr, was to be replaced. It would appear that the officer replacing SERRATURI is in SICILY and was on a month's leave. It is unlikely that he would be reporting for some time.

3. Visited Italian Main Supply Depot, MONTICATTINI, commanded by Col. BALDINI.
- (a) There were large stocks of Flour, Meat & Veg Hash, Macaroni and Rice in the large open Transit Shed.
- (b) The large lock up Shed was still occupied by British Ordnance. I spoke to H.O.I/C ADU who stated that he was not moving, had received no orders to move and in fact, had been told that the move was now definitely off.
- (c) I spoke to Lt. Col. LUBINI, ADUS, with regard to vacating Shed. He stated that it was a question of alternative accommodation and said that I should see Lt. Col. RUBLINSKI, AA & QAG 52 Area.
- (d) I saw ARAGNO who refused to commit himself, and said that they were making every endeavour to find other accommodation which just did not exist.
- (e) I left convinced that 52 Area had no intention of vacating, and that the situation was just completely unsatisfactory. They appeared to be under the impression that they were in a position to settle the matter and stated that they had received no order to vacate this Depot.
4. Visited Col. RULLIHOUSI, 71 Sub Area, BRINDISI.
- (a) Explained Supply Supervision and Liaison Organisation pamphlet. 7097
5. Visited 1002 Italian GT Coy, BERTINO (near BRINDISI), see Major CHRISTMAS, Centre Comar.
- (a) Orders had been received that Capt. SERRAVALLE, the Italian Comar, was to be replaced. It would appear that the officer replacing SERRAVALLE is an Sicily and was on a month's leave, it is unlikely that he would be reporting for some time.
- (b) Major CHRISTMAS asked how barrack damages and charges for equipment and stores lost by Italian Personnel should be dealt with. He stated that he had had some oil & water cooking stove installed. The Italians had just pulled it to pieces and destroyed it. The Italians had also pulled down all the latrine seats and burned them. He had also obtained on loan sufficient overalls for the Unit, and these he knew, had been sold and disposed of by the Italians. Finally some of the Italians had sold items of Vehicle Equipment.
- (c) I looked at the ration Stores. The loaves of bread had not improved.
- (d) The general tidiness and cleanliness of the Camp was much better.
- (e) 72 loads Carrying Vehicles out of 162 were on duty; remainder off the road.
- (f) The Unit was 102 JAs, unable to drive, over strength.
6. Visited Driving School FOLLIGNANO. Capt. PICARA still in command.
- (a) Capt. PICARA had obviously been doing his best to improve matters and it was apparent that the officers were taking more interest in matters generally.
- (b) A Lieut. Col. of Commissariato was at the School investigating the production of loaves of bread. There were some small loaves slightly better than those previously inspected but still not really satisfactory.
- (c) I inspected the Rations and there appears to be a general improvement.
- (d) Of the 15 Vehicles available for Driver Training all were on the road ~~except~~ except three. These were being attended to by 502 Arty Coy.
7. Visited 1001 Italian GT Coy PALO DEL COLLE (near BARI).
- (a) Saw the new Italian Coy Comar, Capt. JOLICE, who is a great improvement.
- (b) He complained that he had not been able to obtain any clothing.



8. Reconciliation of Unit Strengths, Italian GT Coy 1-

	1000 Lt. GT Coy TARANTO.	1001 Lt. GT Coy PALO DEL COLLE.	1002 Lt. GT Coy RESTINCO BRINDISI.	Driving School, POLLIGNANO.
Officers	10	6	12	5
Drivers (efficient)	200 *	125	197 plus 115 #	50 * plus 50 #
Clerks	10	4	11	0
Cooks	10	4	15	4
Artificers	12	14	21	5
M/Cyclists	20	-	6	-
Regtl Duty & Spare	135	5# 86	135 plus 104 over estab.	250 available for posting.

Note: \* means approximately. # Under Training; will be efficient in 14 days.

*[Signature]*  
7/6/46  
Lieut. Col.,  
ADST, Army Sub Commission. ACC.

In the Field,  
19 Mar 44.  
DW

Distribution - Original to:- Comdr and Lt. Col. Quinsmith.  
Copy to :- 5(SU)


Cooks	10	4	15	4
Artillery	12	14	21	5
M/Cyclists	20	-	6	-
Regul. Duty & Spares	133	86	135 plus 104 over estab.	250 available for posting.

Note: \* means approximately. # Under Training; will be efficient in 14 days.

In the Field,  
19 Mar 44.  
DN

Distribution - Original to: - Comdr and Lt. Col. Quinsmith.  
Copy to : - G(AD)

G.  
ST.  
Circulation File and HMAA L.O. BARR.  
Policy File, ST.

  
Lieut. Col.,  
ADST, Army Sub Commission. AGC.

Report on Visits by Major C A HALL DDME MEIA *April 3 1949* *90*

1st Visit to 32 Veh Coy Monopoli

Serial 1204 for release of 80 4x2 3 tonners.  
 Visited 32 Veh Coy Monopoli. CO away interviewed Capt Salmon. Vehicles not available immediately but as serial 1205 and 1227 were cancelled on 16th. Serial 1204 is now first priority. To assist us delivery can be made from 5 Park Foggia. Will we please keep in touch with the Veh Coy to arrange collection as the vehs become available in small quantities. They have agreed that nothing less than class 2 will be issued and they should all be running in view of the fact that they can be collected for a forward veh park.

Serial 1308 Ambulances.  
 32 Veh Coy have no knowledge.  
 Remark: 32 Veh Coy are now handling the whole of the vehicle distribution for the mainland.  
 Italian drivers at Coy----writing us on this point.

Visit to 1001 Coy

1001 Coy Visited Coy at PALO del COLLE. Interviewed Capt EDWARDS and inspected vehicles and vehicle records.

Vehs originally issued to Coy.

VEHICLES	2	3	4	5	CLASSES	9
Austins	1	3	3	2		39
Bedford	4	19	14	2		13
Chev	2	7	4	0		3
Commet	0	2	1	0		12
Dodge	4	7	1	0		47
Ford	4	29	12	2		
20 Six cyl						
GMC 5 ton			3			
						<u>3</u>
						126
						<u>152</u>
15 cwts	6	2				
M/Cs BSA		8				
						<u>10</u>

MILITARY MISSION  
 Date 10/9, 20/11/49  
 AUSTRALIAN ARMY

7095

V.O.R. at date 16th 5 o p.m. 77

Of the total of 126 vehicles, 111 are in immediate need of new engines and various other work bringing them into a REME responsibility. Therefore the DDME 2 Dis Col CAREY was interviewed on the position with the following result:

Site vehs at a time to 607 Lt of C w/shop at CAPURSO, 12 in



MILITARY MISSION

Date NOV 19, 20 1944  
 ITALIAN ARMY

inspected vehicles and vehicle records.

Vehs originally issued to Coy.

VEHICLES	2	3	4	5	CLASSES	9
Austine	1	3	3	2		39
Bedford	4	19	14	2		13
Chev	2	7	4			3
Commet	0	2	1	0		12
Dodge	4	7	1	0		47
Ford	4	29	12	2		
20 Six cyl						
GMC 5 ton		3				
						<u>7095</u>
Total 3 ton						<u>126</u>
						<u>4x2</u>
Total 15 cwt's						<u>8</u>
						<u>2</u>
Total M/Cs						<u>10</u>

V.O.R. at date 16th 5 0 p.m. 77

Of the total of 126 vehicles, 111 are in immediate need of new engines and various other work bringing them into a REME responsibility. Therefore the DDME 2 Dis Col CAREY was interviewed on the position with the following result:

Six vehs at a time to 607 L of C w/shop at CAPURSO. 12 in hand at present, one already B.L.R.

20 vehs a week to 606 L of C w/shop at TRANI to commence Tuesday 21st.

Vehs will be treated in normal manner and repaired and re-conditioned including new assemblies at these shops, and if beyond local resources will be B.L.R. and evacuated.

NOTE: (At the present time repairs to any 4x2 vehicle is NOT permitted in 3rd or 4th line shops. 606 and 607 L of C shops are 2nd line.)

Capt EDWARDS informed of the facilities.  
 Coy at present has temporary cadre of:  
 2 officers non technical.  
 8 O R's technical.

One workshop lorry and one Stores lorry EMPTY. Workshop tools satisfactory. Vehicle tools bad. e.g. No grease guns etc. It is pointed out that in view of the difficult position of shortage of engines, spares and tools a date of completion of the Coy cannot be estimated.

Visited Lt Col HOGEN A.B.S.T. 2 Dis and advised him of the position up to date. Lt Col Hagen told us of a compensation with FLAMBO at 16.30 16th to the effect that a full British Cadre is to be supplied and all u/s vehicles were to be replaced. Confirmation not yet to hand.

(over)



*file 89*

*129*

ARMY FORM 02105 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Call | Ser. No. | Priority | Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) M. H. I. A. Originator Date-Time of Origin 17 15300 Office Date Stamp \_\_\_\_\_  
 For Action

TO 71 Sub Area (W) For Information (INFO) Message Instructions GR  
Camp Command HQUA  
 Originator's No. \_\_\_\_\_

50 783 (.) visit of Gathering Advisor would be appreciated

P.S. 4-13 6888 1-68 1-68

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN EXCEPT  UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED BY ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY  
 IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CODE

*7694*

Time	System	By
TH or TOR		
Time cleared		



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

109 88

ARMY FORM 02100 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Srl. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNAL'S USE ONLY

FROM  
(AI)

MMIA

Originator

Date-Time of Origin

6 10 10 A

OFFICE DATE STAMP

MMIA LO with FATIMA For Action

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions

GR

Originator's No.

770  
17 MAY

(\*)

Further to MMIA signal Q 769 Capt BIRD now arriving NAPLES

(\*)

Accm same

FORM 02100 (Small) 109 23-4

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN IN LABEL TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS THIS MSG. DEGREE OF PRIORITY WILL REMAIN SAME MUST BE SHOWN IN CIPHER

SIGNED

*John C. ...*

SIGNED

Time	8:10:33
TH or TOR	
Time cleared	

86

C. E. M. S. O. (att.)  
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL SUB-COMMISSION,  
ARMED OFFENSE COMMISSION.

17 Mar 1944

3 March 1944

7897

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Inspection of Military Depots in Sardinia, 19 - 25 FEB 44.  
TO: Chief, War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission.

*Mark*

A short summary on each depot together with points noted during our inspections are given below.

1. SHOEMAKERS DEPOT - CANTILE.

The Depot consists of a washing and disinfecting plant and two workshops - a shoemakers and tailors. Practically all un-serviceable boots and clothing from troops on the Island find their way into this depot.

In the shoemakers shop what has been old boots are made into new. The boots are stripped, washed and cleaned in the disinfecting plant, and every part of the uppers that can be salvaged is sent to the shoemakers shop. Here a section sorts out the different parts sufficient to make one pair of boots, adding what small amount of new leather is required. They are passed on to the next section and so on right through the shop until you see the actual wood pegs being made which are used to fix on the heels (nails being in very short supply) and then the complete re-made boot. The work is all done by hand, the output being 350 pairs per week, which will increase to 1000 in the immediate future. 50 soldier shoemakers are employed.

In the tailors shop, tunics, trousers, caps, shirts and even underwear are being re-made out of un-serviceable clothing all of which has gone through the disinfecting plant. Considering the condition of the material, very serviceable articles have been made, the caps being practically like newly made ones. Fatigue overalls are made from old tentage and were entirely satisfactory. There are 12 soldier tailors and 50 civilian women employed in the Tailors shop.

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2. MARSHALLS PRINCIPAL STORES AND WAREHOUSE.

The main food issue depot on the Island. The stocks were very small, sufficient only for requirements up to 2 March, and consisted mostly of German foods with a certain amount of American flour and hard wheat. Buildings good and depot appeared well run.

3. PARCO AUTOMOBILISTICO, MARSHALLS.

A small M.T. Workshop, consisting of two mobile workshops, a number of old German trucks out of which some 10 runners had been made.

Plan



MAGAZINE ARMIERIELA, VERDI.

4. Mainly an ammunition depot. Although a few buildings contained all sorts of odd equipment, not sorted and unlisted, it was explained that this was equipment handed in by units being disbanded. As examples, pistols and automatics were found in a box unsorted, ammunition in the open, boxes broken open and unsorted, although many of the buildings were almost empty.

One building contained a few old French guns together with :-

6 x 75mm, 1 x 65/17 mm, 2 x 75/13 mm.,  
2 x 100/17, 4 x 155/141 mm. (all serviceable)

Col. Capello was informed as to what we had seen and made a note, and hoped to inspect the depot himself very soon.

MAGAZINE CENTRO REGIONI VERDI.

5. An engineering sub-depot with a certain amount of material of which the main items of interest were:-

Signal wire - Artillery 1,200,000 metres  
" " - Infantry 600,000 "  
" " - Engineer 950,000 "  
Printboards, 7/10 line - 10  
Telephones and telegraph equip. Small quantity.  
Picks and shovels Large quantities.

MAGAZINE CHINOC PER LA SARDINIA OLIARI.

6. This depot was not visited as Col. Capello omitted to include its location on our list. The officer i/o, Major Belloli, was interviewed in Col. Capello's office and a description of the contents was given. The main item was a large quantity of gas masks, 25,000 complete and sufficient pieces to make a further 33,000. A complete stock list as at 31st January was received and is attached to our main reports.

MAGAZINE MEDICINA VERDI, SARDINIA, MARCHI.

7091

50.54  
 An engineering sub-depot with a certain amount of material of which the main items of interest were:-

- Signal wire - Artillery 1,200,000 metres
- " " - Infantry 600,000 "
- " " - Engineer 350,000 "
- Switchboards, 7/10 line - 10
- Telephones and Telegraph equip. Small quantity.
- Ficks and Shovels Large quantities.

6. DESCRIZIONE GENERALE DELLA SERRAVALLE GIULIA.

This depot was not visited as Col. Capello insisted to include its location on our list. The officer I/O, Major Fellici, was interviewed in Col. Capello's office and a description of the contents was given. The main item was a large quantity of gas masks, 25,000 complete and sufficient pieces to make a further 33,000. A complete stock list as at 31st January was received and is attached to our main reports. 7691

7. DESCRIZIONE GENERALE DELLA SERRAVALLE GIULIA.

The main clothing depot in the Island. This is the best stocked depot we have visited throughout Italy. It contained some 30,000 yards of uniform material, over 150,000 greatcoats, 43,000 tunics, and a good quantity of underclothing and socks. A good depot, all clothing well stored and good records kept. Had expanded into a large building in the depot of the 15 Regt. of Artillery. In this building there is stored a large quantity of material packed ready for shipment to the mainland.

8. DESCRIZIONE GENERALE DELLA SERRAVALLE GIULIA.

The main Artillery depot on the Island, complete with machines tool, carpenters, armourers, and blacksmith shops, also a small sand casting furnace. In this depot any type of part can be made but only in small quantities. The storehouses are good, all material binned, with stock cards.

Some 8,000 pack saddles had already been sent to the mainland from this depot. In the gun sheds there are 16 x 75/24 German A/T guns. Col. Attisani, the officer I/O of the depot, stated that these guns were bought by the Italian Government from the Germans.

Alto  
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DEPOSITO MUNICION BELGICAS DE ERATO PARCO, NICHO.

A percussion ammunition depot, the buildings well cared for and ammunition well stacked. It contained some 8,000,000 rounds of S.M.L. and a quantity of German Cerlikon ammunition. In one building a number of guns were parked, among them 8 x 75/34 German A/T guns. They are part of the ones referred to in (8)

10. DEPOSITO MAGAZINIO CAMIO DELLA SARDINIA, ABRASANTA.

The main engineer's depot in Sardinia. Has a certain amount of timber, barbed wire, etc. etc. The items of interest were rope, signal wire S.L. and Inf., signal lamps (acid required for batteries) and a certain amount of telephone equipment which could be repaired. There were 2 x 30 line exchanges and it was thought that at least one could be made serviceable. There is also one complete "Kon" bridge with a 20 metre span.

11. DEPOSITO 13 PARCO AUTOMOBILISTICO, ABRASANTA.

The principal M.T. depot and workshop on the Island. Well set out with 5 buildings, one L shaped 100yds x 50 yds, the other two about one hundred yds long. The depot is repairing approximately 120 heavy vehicles and some 30 light cars per month.

A machine shop is being installed, some of the machines being already in place. Certain machines were still to come but were short of certain types.

There is a great shortage of raw materials and the officer i/c wanted badly to install a casting foundry so that he could make spare parts. A request had already been made to higher authority for machines and raw materials necessary to carry on.

12. MAGAZINIO PARTI MUNICION MATERIALI VARI E GOMME 13 PARCO AUTOMOBILISTICO, ABRASANTA.

The spare parts depot for the M.T. workshop referred to in (11). The buildings were filled with racking and the material was all nicely binned, complete with stock cards. There are many more spares than are available on the mainland, but from reports received, they are nothing like sufficient for the work to be done. There are approximately 20000



The principal U.S. depot and workshop on the Island. Well set out with 5 buildings, one L shaped 100yds x 50 yds, the other two about one hundred yds long. The depot is repairing approximately 120 heavy vehicles and some 50 light cars per month.

A machine shop is being installed, some of the machines being already in place. Certain machines were still to come but were short of certain types.

There is a great shortage of raw materials and the officer i/c wanted badly to install a casting foundry so that he could make spare parts. A request had already been made to higher authority for machines and raw materials necessary to carry on.

12. MANTENIMIENTO PARTES MECANICAS MATERIAL VARIAS COME 13 PARCO AUTOMOVILISTICO. ADOBE-ALTA

The spare parts depot for the U.S. workshop referred to 74050 (11). The buildings were filled with racking and the material was all nicely binmed, complete with stock cards. There are many more spares than are available on the mainland, but from reports received, they are nothing like sufficient for the work to be done. There are approximately 400 vehicles on the island awaiting repairs.

13. REPARACIONES.

- (a) A shortage of food, wine and tobacco for the men in the street was evident. There is a certain amount of locally made cheese available.
- (b) The general condition of the Army and the contents of depots is better than on the mainland.
- (c) Army horses and mules are in a terrible condition owing to shortage of forage. Only sufficient forage for 14 days at 2 lbs per day exists. Animals were dying daily; apart from the humane aspect it would be better to kill the animals than starve them to death, as all animals that have died have been given to the soldiers or sold to civilians as food.
- (d) Motor Transport. - That was on the road, which is mainly that of the Armed Forces, appeared good. There is however a great shortage of the necessary raw material for spares. Very shortly

there will not be a type available other than those on the vehicles. While a certain amount of spares were inspected certain very necessary items were nil.

The suggestion in para 11 to instal a casting foundry, if put into effect, would help.

(e) The leather, nail and thread situation is bad, really critical. There are sufficient skins to make leather but not the necessary chemicals for tanning. Nails, as seen from the remarks in para 1, are urgently required if what was considered a "good war effort" is to be continued.

The same applies to thread as to nails, and when one thinks that shipping is the real reason for a delay in helping with these items, one would point out that from Sardinia pullovers are being shipped to the mainland, yet in the forecast of clothing being shipped to Sardinia some 75,000 pullovers are included.

(f) Attention is drawn to the complete RGN bridge mentioned in para 10. This, we understand, is a railway bridge but can be adapted for road traffic. It has a 20 metre span - we have no technical particulars.

(g) Every assistance was received from Col. Simons and Col. Harding of Garrison H.Q. and from the Regional Commissioner. The Italian Chiefs of Staff and Directorate were very co-operative and helpful and provided all particulars requested.

MR BA's pointer  
quite true

*Edwin*  
Major,  
C.M.S.O. (att)

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*D. Campbell*  
*18/10/44*

Major,  
C.M.H. I.O. (Adv),  
W.M.D. Sub-Commission,  
Allied Control Commission

- 1 - CM (GMSO) A.P.H.Q.
- 1 - Industry & Com Sub-Commission, A.C.C.
- ✓ 1 - Land Forces Sub-Commission, A.C.C.
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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
APO 394

*MISSION*  
*12/11/44*  
*10/19*

MONTHLY CONFERENCE 3 MARCH 1944

The Conference was opened by the Chief Commissioner, Lieutenant General Sir Noel Mason MacFarlane at 1100 hours. General MacFarlane summarized the present situation as follows:

1. Move of the Italian Government to the Salerno Area has been completed.
2. The organization of the Allied Control Commission has reached finality.
3. The regions have been altered recently. Salerno Province has been returned to Region 3, and Region 4 now has a sub-region which will deal with Rome working under AMG 5th Army when Rome is reached and so long as Rome comes within 5th Army Area.
4. There has been a reorganization in the sub-Commissions. The independent Sub-Commissions now are:
  - a. Telecommunications
  - b. Army
  - c. Navy
  - d. Air
  - e. War Material Disposal

Allied prisoners of war are now dealt with directly by ACMF.

5. The Public Relations Branch will now be centralized at Main Headquarters, and PROs will go out into the regions only as required.
6. Close contact has been established between ACC PWB and ACMF.
7. The loss of personnel, officer and enlisted, has been a severe blow, which must be faced. There is a ceiling to the allowable personnel and it is final. It is up to ACC to shift the burden to the Italians as rapidly as they can assume it efficiently in order to place Allied personnel where they can be most useful.
8. Typhus control was taken over by ACC from the Typhus Commission as from 20 February.
9. The Italian Government is now a government of ministers, rather than a government of secretaries.

*7008*

10. General Gazzera will deal with ACC in regard to PW. The Comando Supremo under General Messe would not deal with the PW.

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10. General Gazzera will deal with ACC in regard to PW. The Comando Supremo under General Messe would not deal with the service Sub-Commissions, but only with matters on a high level with the Chief Commissioner. All military matters at a lower level will be handled by Brigadier Duchesne at Lecce with General Orlando, Minister of War, and General Berardi, Chief of Staff.

(G.O.C-in-C, General Sir Harold Alexander, arrived at conference at 1113.)

11. The fusion of ACC and AMG has opened possibilities which are not fully realized by many, especially in the field, and there is a noticeable tendency not to make use of these advantages. It is important that there be a coherent chain of policy from the time AMG first takes over at the time of occupation to the time when ACC follows in its advisory capacity. As and when the Italian Government takes over, there must be an immediate reduction of Allied personnel who will move to new regions.

12. The question of promotions for American officers is being given all the attention possible.

13. Our main job is to get the maximum in war effort from Italy. AMG penetrates new ground, after which the Italian machine must be made to function under our supervision, and as soon as possible the Italians must run the job themselves with the minimum supervision.

14. The problem of defascistization continually looms up, and there are still



many people in official positions who have Fascist records. This has been necessary for the smooth running of the country. It is desired to replace these individuals as soon as possible, and for this purpose an understudy is necessary who can be trained to take over the position.

15. The food and refugee problems are still important. A large influx of refugees from the Balkans contributed greatly to this. The Red Cross has given admirable assistance. The Chief Commissioner has asked for more Red Cross personnel to work with refugees.

The only real answer to the "black market" situation, which is common to all countries, is to procure adequate supplies.

16. Executive control has been established through the Executive Commissioner and his section. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that the Sub-Commissions may and should deal with their own representatives in regions and provinces, but their instructions should go through the Regional Commissioners.

#### 17. Political situation.

The policy of the Allied Governments was for the ACC to collaborate with whatever government is in power in order to get the best war effort out of the country. Anything which may impede the war effort must be stopped. At present there is a strong opposition which has no constitutional method of articulation. ACC is keeping in close contact with this opposition giving it every opportunity to present its case to the Allied Governments, who are kept fully informed of the political situation.

The problems at present in the political field can be summed up as follows: (1) there is an intense feeling against the King; (2) the arrival in Rome is not on schedule, and (3) it is unfortunate that the opposition parties were able to organize the proposed ten minute stoppage of work. It is thought this latter problem will be settled amicably.

Political tension and excitement of any sort which would interfere with the smooth running of the government and the war effort should be avoided.

#### I. REPORTS BY REGIONAL CONTROL AND MILITARY GOVERNMENT SECTION.

##### A. Regional Commissioner, Region I, Sicily, Lt. Col. A. N. Hancock.

1. Good will has been maintained in the Region. A civil upheaval was threatened by government officials at the time of the changeover, because of objection to the Badoglio Government. These officials were advised to remain in office at least until Rome is reached. These recommendations were accepted as orders.

2. Trouble threatened by electric workers was ironed out without difficulty by ACC. Managers are asking for increase in rates.



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culty by ACC. Managers are asking for increase in rates.

3. One serious situation arose when coal was removed from the south side  
of the Island for operational purposes, leaving trains without fuel.

4. Satisfactory relations exist with Army and Navy.

5. There was an unexpected arrival of refugees, but they were taken care  
of by Italians.

B. Regional Commissioner, Region II (Southern Italy), Lt. Col. G. H. McCaffrey.

1. There was no friction or disorder at the time of changeover.

2. The food situation has improved.

3. Crime is down 25% from normal.

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4. Courts in Italy are unsatisfactory. There have been very few prosecutions against people committing crimes against the Allies.
5. Road haulage is a difficult problem because of lack of trucks and the fact that 1001 GT Coy was handed over with 60 unserviceable trucks. An attempt is being made to get Italians to shoulder more of the responsibility for this transportation.
6. The power situation is not satisfactory.
7. Reduction in personnel has created difficulties.
8. Obstacles have been encountered in moving Headquarters from Matera to Bari. Assistance will be needed from higher authority in order to get suitable accommodations and assistance.

C. Regional Commissioner, Region VI (Sardinia) Brigadier P. K. Dunlop.

1. This region never passed through the AMG stage.
2. The population of Sardinia is just over a million. It is wholly an agricultural and pastoral community. The villages are crowded with Italian soldiers. It is a very malarious region. We must get the Italian soldiers away from the Island before malaria season, or move them to the hills in bivouac if necessary.
3. The political situation is satisfactory.
4. The food situation is now well in hand. A shortage exists of olive oil and sugar. The American Army assumed the feeding of Italian Army on 26 February. Good crops appear to be in prospect.
5. There is much salt and cork ready for export and a little has already been shipped. Island trade with Sicily has been hampered by the Navy's taking over schooners.
6. Prices of consumer goods are going up.
7. There is no refugee problem at present. When there is, it will be principally a shipping problem.
8. Mr. Gredy added the comment on Sardinia that fishing and canning will soon get underway.

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8. Mr. Greedy added the comment on Sardinia that fishing and canning will soon get underway.

D. Regional Commissioner, Region III (Campania), Lt. Col. C. Poletti.

1. The transfer of Salerno Province to this region may cause difficulty in administration.

2. Benevento and Avellino have been visited. Much progress has been made and conditions on the whole in the region are good.

3. Public order in Naples is not very good. The crime rate is high. Some of the Carabinieri scheduled for Rome have been put on duty in Naples to help in dealing with this problem.

4. A squad of 100 trained men is dealing with the black market problem.

5. A public utility strike threat for higher wages and more food was quelled successfully.

6. On the political side there is the opposition to the King and a similar feeling toward the Badoglio Government. There is a feeling that the Fascists are not being cleaned out fast enough.

7. A primary difficulty in connection with the food problem is that there are too many restrictions on free movement of commerce, which curbs individual ini-



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tiative. It is desired to relax these restrictions if possible.

People are desirous of having a pasta ration in addition to bread. If necessary it would even be satisfactory to reduce the bread ration if a 42 gram pasta ration could be added.

The special rations which have been given by the services to certain groups doing hard labor have brought complaints from other groups. This will have to be ironed out.

8. Regarding crops, the people are asking which products are going to be amassed under the "Amasso System."

9. A special division has been formed for transport. It is planned to begin garbage hauling and cleaning up the debris in Naples.

10. The courts are clogged at present, both Army and Italian.

11. People are asking for a revision of pensions. (General MacFarlane advised that this was being handled by the Finance Sub-Commission.)

12. Relations with PBS have improved.

13. The prostitute situation is being cleared up. Medical treatment is being administered. Prosecutions are being sought. More stringent legislation is recommended to curb this menace.

E. Regional Commissioner, Region V (Foggia and Campobasso), Colonel F. L. Whitley.

1. Headquarters were opened in Campobasso on 15 February.

2. The Region Headquarters is extremely short of personnel, having only 4 clerks. Request the return of personnel which are out on loan to Colonel Kirkwood.

3. The political situation is very good. It is desired to remedy the Bari radio situation, as there have been numerous criticisms by the Italians of the promises made over this station.

4. Supply situation is generally good. The lack of transportation is the principal difficulty. Supply for only one or two days can be amassed in an area, but no commune has been isolated for more than one day in spite of difficulties. The main roads are all open. In this, the Italians are doing a good piece of work.

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5. The health situation is good, except in Foggia. There is not enough health personnel and no medical officer assigned. The sewage system in Foggia is very bad. Lack of transport and labor difficulty hindered the getting rid of sewage. This latter item has been overcome. The venereal rate is up. No typhus has been reported.
6. This is principally an agricultural area and planting is progressing.
7. Public safety is generally good; crime consists mostly of minor offenses.
8. Education has not been taken up so far.
9. There have been no developments in property control.
10. Legal matters are satisfactory.
11. The greatest problem is black market dealings. A roving patrol is clamping down on this matter. CAOs of other regions have been giving authority to enter Foggia to buy supplies, which has added to the problem in the region.
12. The fuel situation is not serious; there is enough wood for cooking.



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13. The salt situation is now satisfactory, but during the Fall when meat is cured, this will become a problem.

14. General MacFarlane asked when the Regional Commissioner would advise handing over this territory and Region III to the Italians. The Regional Commissioner believed it would be better to keep the region as a military area due to Air Force requirements until all of Italy is liberated.

Colonel Poletti, Region III, stated that he thought it inadvisable to transfer his region at the present time. He believed that handing back the rest of Campania should be deferred until Rome is reached.

F. Eighth Army AMG, Gp. Capt. C. E. Benson.

1. The problem of feeding the Southern part of Campobasso Area could be handled better from the Naples Area.
2. Refugees are a real problem.
3. No typhus has been reported. One small outbreak of typhoid is now under control.
4. There is a question of charging for electric power.
5. Public safety. A close check must be maintained on movements of civilians. Policemen are needed and it would be helpful if some could be borrowed from those reserved for Rome. It is desired that the movement of civilians into Campobasso be stopped.
6. There is no industry in this region, it is almost entirely agricultural. Such industry as there was is located too close to the battle area.
7. 10,000 to 12,000 civilians are working on road construction.
8. No repercussions were caused by the hand over of territory.
9. In regard to finance, banks are being opened up as quickly as possible, and as far forward as possible.
10. Legal and political situations are satisfactory.

7086

The C.O.C-in-C, General Sir Harold Alexander, was introduced by the Chief of Staff, General Alexander expressed his pleasure at being present at the con-



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The C.O.C-in-C, General Sir Harold Alexander, was introduced by the Chief Commissioner. General Alexander expressed his pleasure at being present at the conference and assured all of his great interest in the Commission's work. He extended his appreciation for the cooperation he had been receiving and the progress which has been made by the Commission.

The conference adjourned and reopened at 1430 hours.

G. Fifth Army AMG, Brigadier General E. E. Hume.

1. The chief problems are personnel and transportation. The organization has expanded, but personnel have been cut. French speaking officers are needed for liaison with the French Expeditionary Corps.
2. Transportation complicates the food problem.
3. Agriculture is progressing satisfactorily.
4. On the legal side, the principal difficulty lies in dealing with diverse types of troops.

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5. Military arrangements in regard to bridges get priority which sometimes cause civilians to suffer. The Engineers have been very cooperative in this matter.
6. With reference to transfer of territory, Region 3 overlaps the boundaries of the 5th Army, thus coming under the Army Commander as far as territory is concerned.
7. Rome. Carabinieri force already organized is to be taken along. It would be fine to have them work somewhere for the present, but they must not be dispersed, as there are no more to be recruited.

The Rome black market team is now getting training in Naples.

Transportation to Rome will be a big problem. There is none available at present.

H. Refugee Branch (Italians), Lt. Col. L. R. Hulls.

1. It has been endeavored to keep people from becoming refugees by starting at the front and encouraging them and helping them to stay where they are if possible. When they must be evacuated South, it is done as rapidly and humanely as possible. Lack of transportation has made transit camps necessary. Feeding refugees in transit is difficult. Communications difficulties often prevent word getting through to the areas receiving shipments.
2. 50,000 people have been evacuated to date, 10,000 of these during February. The evacuation of 1,000 per day is necessary in order to keep battle zones and forward lines of communication clear. It will be necessary to absorb still larger numbers in the future. It is best to keep them on the Mainland in order to minimize the shipping problem. The Italians are helping by providing military personnel to run camps.
3. The problem of dispersion is important. Improvement is necessary. Households should be obliged to take refugees. They cannot continue to be thrown together in bunches to look after themselves to the degree in which they have been in the past.
4. General MacFarlane inquired as to the assistance given by the Red Cross. Colonel Hulls replied that they have been giving good cooperation.



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I. Displaced Persons Sub-Commission, Colonel Kirkwood.

1. The biggest problem is Yugoslav refugees which were not originally taken into the plans.

2. This job is a continuous one requiring much personnel. The constant changing of personnel has been a great hindrance.

3. There are 9 camps and 2 hospitals at present. 15,000 have been received plus 1000 more on 3 March. 11,000 displaced persons have been shipped. Small groups are continually appearing all over Italy. At present no difficulty is being experienced in caring for these.

4. Only two cases of typhus have been encountered and these were not in ACC camps. Many people are ill. They all require instruction in sanitation and disinfection.

5. Request is made that CAOS be instructed not to give passes to internees. Passes will be given by camp commandants.

6. People who wish to go out into the community to live must have permission from the Provincial Commissioner, as well as the camp commandant.



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7. The matter of food payments must be settled with Regional Commissioner.
8. General MacFarlane asked Colonels Kirkwood and Hulls whether the Yugoslavs and other refugees were doing their own cooking and looking after their own sanitary problems. The reply was that they were not doing much for themselves.

The question was brought up regarding recruiting of Displaced Persons. General MacFarlane stated that Yugoslavs were not to be recruited from the Italian Army.

J. Executive Commissioner, Brigadier M. S. Lush.

1. The heads of Sub-Commissions are to keep the Regional Commissioners well informed.

2. With reference to personnel, by the end of March we shall have a stationary ceiling of 1222 officers, 611 each British and American.

It is desired that an effort be made to get more men into the field and less at Headquarters.

The Security Branch is now taking over much of the work done by field security officers.

3. Brigadier Lush suggested that "Allied Control Commission" be the name for all of ACC/AMG activities. General MacFarlane said that he would give this matter consideration.

II. REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION.

A. Interior Sub-Commission, Lt. Col. R. G. B. Spicer.

1. There have been conferences with the Minister of Interior and his staff. Liaison is good. There is an objectionable tendency on the part of the Ministry to remove Prefects and officials appointed by AMG, generally because the Minister feels that the appointees are too junior in rank.

2. A survey of Apulia in regard to local government and officials has been made.

3. Local government has flourished in Region 1. It is desired to establish more uniformity throughout the Regions.

7855

The Security Branch is now taking over much of the work done by field security officers.

3. Brigadier Lush suggested that "Allied Control Commission" be the name for all of ACC/AMG activities. General MacFarlane said that he would give this matter consideration.

## II. REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION.

### A. Interior Sub-Commission, Lt. Col. R. G. B. Spicer.

1. There have been conferences with the Minister of Interior and his staff. Liaison is good. There is an objectionable tendency on the part of the Ministry to remove Prefects and officials appointed by AMG, generally because the Minister feels that the appointees are too junior in rank.

2. A survey of Apulia in regard to local government and officials has been made.

3. Local government has flourished in Region 1. It is desired to establish more uniformity throughout the Regions.

7855

### B. Public Safety Sub-Commission, Colonel P. C. Kirk.

1. Public safety must now be conducted on a decentralized basis due to lack of personnel and communications.

2. Visits have been made and will continue to be made to the field.

3. There is a need for more police.

4. Clothing and equipment have been handled through military channels.

5. Licensing and registration of motor vehicles is being dealt with in Regions I to V.

6. General MacFarlane asked whether it would be better to have the Public Safety work more centralized. The answer to this query was "Yes and No." Some of the activities could be better directed centrally, some could not. A short discussion followed regarding the centralization of control.

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C. Public Health Sub-Commission, Brigadier C. S. Parkinson.

1. Responsibility for typhus control was handed over to ACC by the Typhus Control Commission. There have been between 1400 and 1500 cases. At present there are 700 engaged in the control of the disease. The shortage of soap is a great handicap. If caustic soda could be imported it would be possible to manufacture soap here. A meeting of the Typhus Board brought up the question of relaxation of restrictions on troops. This will be reconsidered at next meeting during coming week.

2. Venereal disease. There is the problem of what to do with prostitutes. 450 are hospitalized at the present moment. Concentration camps have been suggested. A revision of laws and their exact enforcement are needed.

3. Malaria. This Sub-Commission is endeavouring to get an expert to advise on its control. There is a malaria control board. Malaria will be a greater problem this year due to drainage situation.

4. An effort is being made to standardize food in the hospitals.

5. Malnutrition is not apparent, but investigations are being made in schools in Naples and Salerno.

6. An attempt has been made to centralize welfare head in close touch with Labour Sub-Commission. The Red Cross has helped considerably. There is a shortage of personnel in the field, especially in welfare work.

D. Legal Sub-Commission, Colonel G. R. Upjohn.

1. Up to recently the chief work has been concerned with documents concerned with the restoration of territory.

2. Italian Government has had some difficulty with Army authorities in some Regions. This Sub-Commission has been ironing out the loose ends to get the situation running more smoothly.

3. The Italian Government has been very cooperative. Decrees proposed by ACC have been made their laws.

4. A new Minister of Justice was appointed.

5. Regarding the state of Italian courts in Apulia, particularly in Taranto and Brindisi, Colonel Upjohn had asked that the procedure be expedited and heavier sentences imposed.



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6. In reviewing a large number of cases it has been found that the records are not well kept.

7. There is an urgent need for legal officers in Naples to clear up congested courts.

8. Decrees issued in Apulia were applicable in restored territory. Decrees issued in future by Italian Government could be made applicable in occupied territory if endorsed to that effect by the Chief Commissioner. The Chief Commissioner stated that ACMF was about to issue a directive defining rights of Allied Forces in restored territory.

E. Education Sub-Commission, Lt. Col. Smith.

1. Defascistization of University of Naples was being accomplished.

2. Text books are finally being received which are void of traces of Fascism.

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3. A Youth Commission is exploring to see what can be done for youth to fill the gap left by the abolition of the Fascist Youth Movement.

- a. Serving of lunches to school children was under consideration.
- b. General MacFarlane suggested a Boy Scout movement, etc.

4. Many school buildings had been requisitioned and their release was required.

F. Property Control Sub-Commission, Lt. Col. G. R. Harris.

- 1. Region XII has more Allied property than was expected.
- 2. The Commission now has a list of industrial concerns sequestered by the Italian Government.

(A question was raised by Colonel Poletti regarding the taking over of German property in newly conquered territories. General MacFarlane advised that any such cases encountered should be immediately reported to higher Headquarters.)

G. Monuments and Fine Arts Sub-Commission, Major de Wald.

- 1. There had been recent changes in personnel.
- 2. A slight reorientation of policy is necessary.
  - a. There should be certain standard rules for protecting monuments and fine arts in Italy.
  - b. The importance of their protection should be brought closely to the attention of military personnel.
    - (1) Up to now this has been done by printing of lists
    - (2) Lists are now being printed in small handbooks. These lists will indicate the monuments in Italy which are to be protected.

- c. Italian people are interested in doing what they can along this line.
- d. The Public Relations Section can help by giving information to troops.
- e. Major de Wald suggested that the officer in charge of monuments and troops should be consulted before requisitioning any property which might be of

7084

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  - d. The Public Relations Section can help by giving information to troops.
  - e. Major de Wald suggested that the officer in charge of monuments and fine arts should be consulted before requisitioning any property which might be of historic or artistic value. Military necessity is recognized as paramount.

General MacFarlane asked if it were true that a black market has started in works of art. Major de Wald said that he had no information.

H. Vice President of Administrative Section, The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Stansgate, commented briefly on the functioning of his Section. He stated that it was necessary to examine the broad outline of the Italian machine; once this was grasped, then the details would fit in easier. To get this picture, day to day information of what goes on in the regions was necessary. He stressed the value of the services being rendered to the Italian people and the corresponding importance in results which would be obtained from a happier people of a higher morale.

III. REPORTS BY ECONOMIC SECTION.A. Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission, Colonel W. Evans.

1. Industries which could be reestablished to care for essential civilian needs and not hamper the war effort have been promoted. Chief among these is the clothing industry.



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2. It has been desired to start soap manufacturing, but caustic soda cannot be obtained. This has been on requisition since September. There is no surplus in the United Kingdom.

B. Labour Sub-Commission, Colonel J. R. Bain.

1. The only real labour difficulties have arisen from the amount of food available to the workers. We cooperate with the Food Sub-Commission to determine which workers shall be given the midday meal which was authorized by AFHQ. The difficulty has been to limit such distribution. Additional groups of workers have asked for consideration. There should be no discrimination in the distribution of food. The recent trouble over the question of issuing a midday meal to the public utilities workers of Naples has been settled so that a serious threatened strike was avoided.

2. The demonstration token strike staged for Saturday, March 4, political in nature, can probably be quelled without difficulty.

3. There has been excellent cooperation with the Italian Government and a number of decrees embodying the basic principles announced by AMG and ACG have been drafted by the Italian Ministry of Labour and submitted to the Labour Sub-Commission for approval. It is believed that these matters will become Italian law very shortly.

4. The question of an increase for Government pensioners, a matter which this Sub-Commission initiated last October, is now in the hands of the Finance Sub-Commission for final determination.

5. A number of important wage studies are now being made, of which the first, the hemp industry, has been completed.

6. The experiment initiated in Sicily involving a new form of registration for unemployment is continuing and will soon be completed. In essence, the new system builds up "live registers" and links up registration with the payment of unemployment benefits.

7. A number of trips have been made and conferences held with Italian officials connected with our Regional and Provincial Labour officers.

C. Agriculture Sub-Commission, Major W. A. Hartman.

Labour must be employed in the future.

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0. Agriculture Sub-Commission, Major W. A. Hartman.

1. More labour must be employed in the future.
2. Farmers have been confused with the Fascist policy in regard to agriculture. No uniformity of good policy had ever existed up to the present time.
3. Some difficulty and change of plans may be caused by a shortage of fertilizer.
4. Emphasis was placed on making the Italians more conscious of the necessity for forecast and planning.
5. There is a problem of varying prices, which must become more uniform for the essential needs of the farmer.
6. It was stressed by Major Hartman that more than 50% of the physical resources and 50% of the labour in Italy are engaged in agriculture.

Forestry

7. All Italian personnel possible have been utilized in forestry, but it is difficult to find experienced Italians in this field.

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8. Timber is being harvested as near to where it is to be used as possible to conserve transportation, which is already a major problem.

9. The Italian Minister has been asked to get reports which will enable the planning of a timber program for the coming year. A survey of resources is being made.

Fisheries

10. This Sub-Commission is working closely with the Fisheries Section of the Ministry with a view to central control of fisheries.

D. Food Sub-Commission, Lt. Col. W. J. Legg.

1. The overall supply situation is better in the base areas. Twenty days supplies have been amassed in certain areas. There is no anxiety. The whole situation on the West Coast is favourable.

2. There is a problem in connection with the handling and safeguarding of food supplies.

3. A uniform ration scale has been approved for hospital patients.

4. The present rationing system requires modification.

5. A shortage of olive oil exists.

6. Transportation is insufficient to meet requirements.

7. Under the new ration scale it will be possible to issue a ration of pasta and raise the total ration near to the requirements set by the Public Health Sub-Commission.

8. The following improvements can be noted since the 1st of February:

- a. Bread ration has been raised.
- b. A sugar ration has been made available to Italy.
- c. There is an overall distribution of dried vegetables.
- d. It is hoped to make a distribution of cheese or meat and soap within the next month.

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E. Public Works & Mines Sub-Commission, Lt. Col. L. A. Jenny.

1. Military highways. We have relieved the armed forces as much as possible in taking over roads and bridges. We must get the Italians to do the job. Difficulties have been encountered in regard to paying civilian labor. This was taken up in conferences with the Finance Sub-Commission. 5th Army outlined a program for wages and also food menus for employees. In ACC's use of civilian labour no food is given. When groups are working side by side and being paid under two different categories, friction is bound to result. A uniform policy must be adopted.
2. Electricity rationing. We have had many conferences and the problem is well in hand. The armed forces agreed that it was their responsibility to see that the electricity was supplied but they have asked ACC for personnel to look after the matter. A decree must be issued to authorize rationing. The question was taken up with the Legal Sub-Commission. A decree is now ready to be presented to the Government. The armed forces must also reduce their requirements. Immediate results are not visible.
3. Utility rates. This is an involved problem and conditions are uncertain at the present time.

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F. Finance Sub-Commission, Colonel A. P. Crafftey-Smith.

1. Colonel Crafftey-Smith has had discussions with the Minister of Finance regarding the method of taking over Region 1 and 2.

2. Arrangements are being made for a repayment to AMFA in Sicily.

3. The revenue side is not bright. There is a general feeling that all the big tax payers have gone, and the tax-collectors are apathetic.

4. With regard to government finance, postal savings bonds will soon be on sale.

5. Banks are coming along well and bankers are cooperative.

6. Administrative Memorandum No. 95 was mentioned. The question was brought up as to whether Italian Army will pay certain agencies. A voucher system is being installed.

7. With reference to the accounting for supplies, the Finance Sub-Commission has consulted other Sub-Commissions interested. They are examining the desirability of setting up an Italian organization to work at the warehouses; the question is in regard to the Italians' capability. As for the policy to be followed in accounting for military supplies, the Finance Sub-Commission is trying to find out from AFHQ exactly what they need.

G. Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, Colonel S. A. Fitch.

1. Rail. Military authorities still have control. AOC should take over railways in Sicily as soon as possible. Movements on Mainland have been better. A bid for transportation is often made and then the interested party fails to get his goods to the railhead at the proper time. It is requested that this situation be remedied by Regional Commissioners.

2. Roads. Progress is not as rapid as desired. Transport which was handed over was not in operating condition. Also it is thought to be best to postpone for awhile the turning over of transportation to civilian agencies.

3. Schooner. A good movement of loads has been made. Registration of schooners has been an interference.

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H. Shipping Sub-Commission, Mr. Ian Campbell.

1. With further reference to the registration of schooners, this is helping check up on the black market shipping.

2. Several deep sea ships have been put into operation. It is hoped to get another six into operation in the next few days.

General MacFarlane asked whether this would help to get troops out of Gardinia. Mr. Campbell replied that broadly speaking it would.

I. Electric Power Mission, Colonel J. P. Crowdon.

1. The demand is increasing for electric power; and the supply is definitely limited.

2. Plans for supplying power to Rome are underway.

3. The theft of wire has been a serious obstacle by hampering the work.



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J. Vice President of Economic Section, Hon. Mr. Henry Grady, concluded the reports from his Section. Mr. Grady remarked that since the small schooner matter is really for Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, the Shipping Sub-Commission at present is without a field.

A study has been made of the general question of inflation and the factors bringing it about. Mr. Grady stated that he was not satisfied with the manner in which currency valuation was worked out, and he wishes to present the matter to Combined Chiefs of Staff. The whole matter requires careful study.

Regarding prices, wages and rates - these matters should not be dealt with by the Sub-Commissions as far as taking action, however they may make recommendations.

A report is being compiled on the working of the Section which will show what has taken place.

IV. REPORTS BY INDEPENDENT SUB-COMMISSIONS.

A. Telecommunications Sub-Commission, Colonel J. L. Henderson.

1. Naples and other provinces are to be included in the internal and external postal services.
2. Foreign mail services are now established which puts liberated Italy in communication with many countries. There are PW services with Great Britain, China and Russia.
3. The Italian Government has telecommunications into Naples from Salerno.
4. There is the problem of two groups of employees working side-by-side, part paid by the Government and part by the military.
5. Communications to Palermo and Cagliari have improved.

B. War Material Disposal Sub-Commission, Colonel J. T. Zellars.

A survey of Italian war material has been made and arrangements made to procure all materials which we can use.

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C. Naval Sub-Commission, Commodore M. Palmer.

1. Figures are being compiled giving the strengths required for the actual jobs being done.
2. The question has been considered of the desertion of 5 Italian sailors to the Yugoslav Navy.

D. Army Sub-Commission, Brigadier G. C. Duchesne.

1. Ceiling for Italian Army is now set at 500,000 men. We are within 3,000 of the limit. Rations for Italian Armed Forces are handled at the moment by the Allied forces issuing to them through books of the ACC. This Sub-Commission has not touched nor attempted to touch the rationing in Sicily or Sardinia.
2. Clothing and boots are beginning to come in.
3. At present the Army Sub-Commission is handling program for ACMF.
4. There are three divisions on the Mainland, one of which is a combat division.

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- 5. The problem of shipping troops from Sardinia has been taken up.
- 6. The civilians employed by the Army have their pay based on administrative instructions.

E. Air Force Sub-Commission, Air Commodore E. M. Foster.

- 1. The Italians have shown very fine cooperation.
- 2. An average of 700 sorties per month have been flown. It is hoped to get this up to 1,000 when the weather improves.
- 3. The Coastal Wing has done much useful work, especially in rescue missions. Bomber Transport Wing has been used for dropping personnel and supplies in the Balkans. There are a few aircraft for evacuating wounded. Work on the whole is satisfactory.
- 4. This Sub-Commission must rely entirely on wreckage and salvage as sources for spare and repair parts.

The conference adjourned at 1800 hours.

*Robert E. Doe*

ROBERT E. DOE  
Major, A.G.D.  
Secretary General

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- 1 - ea Sub-Com. Head
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- 1 - 8 Army AMG
- 1 - 5 Army AMG

SUBJECT:- Maintenance - Italian Forces

1009  
15 March

83

HQ ACEF (Adm Echelon)  
CAF  
25/1/44

Army Sub-Commission

Copy to:- CG., FBS  
"Q" 2 District  
"Q" 3 District  
G-4  
ST

6 Mar 44

b7

Ref para 8(b) of 25/1/Q of 10 Feb - Notes of Meeting held at this HQ on 8 Feb to discuss feeding of Italian Armed Forces.

1. Italian supplies have been arriving in this country for some time past, and it is considered that you should now be in a position to assume responsibility for the supply of rations to all Italian Armed Forces.
2. With effect from 15 March therefore:-
  - (a) Italian Armed Forces in rear of Army boundaries will cease to be supplied from Allied sources and the Italian Authorities will undertake responsibility for distribution of Italian supplies.
  - (b) FBS and ST this HQ will demand compensating supplies w.e.f. the period commencing 15 Mar 44 in respect of Italian forces forward of Army boundaries.
3. Request you confirm by signal to this HQ repeated to all other addressees of this letter that you are in a position to implement the instructions in para 2 above.

NA

de 12/3

See signal  
Q 22637  
from plants  
of 12/3

*[Signature]*  
Major General.  
Chief Administrative Officer.

1681

470

Report on visits to 1002 It. Co Coy BRINDISI 7 Mar 44.  
School POLIGNANO and 1001 It. Co Coy PAIO DEL CASALE, 8 Mar 44.  
Distribution supply Depot CASNOVILLARI, 9 Mar 44.

11/39  
JL  
§2

by Lt. Col. E. B. WILKES, AD I. M. I. A., LEANIS.

1. Saw Lt. Col. MARSHALL, GRADE 29 L of C Tpt Coln, BRINDISI.
  - (a) He stated that the general progress of 1002 It. Co Coy was satisfactory.
  - (b) He asked that an Italian Medical Officer be detailed for duty with 1002 It. Co Coy.
  - (c) He stated that he had received orders from DISTRO that he could not approach MIA direct when experiencing difficulties with Italians.
  - (d) Accidents appear to have become fewer. Italians had had 13 in three weeks.
  - (e) He stated that General Comandante, Caserno Presidio had made an inspection of the Coy.
  - (f) Returns were being submitted more correctly and more punctually.
  - (g) He informed me that two other It Coys had each a Pln driven by Italian civilians and that in these there had been no accidents and no trouble.

2. Visited 1002 Italian It Coy.

- (a) The CO, Major CHRISTMAS, was away on duty. 21/c Cadre, Capt. MAGGIANI, and Capt. SERAVARI 0.4/c Italian Coy accompanied me round.
- (b) When asked if feeding was satisfactory Capt. SERAVARI stated it was excellent and that the Pln who complained to Cadre Cadre was only a grave breach of discipline. It would appear that an Italian Pln had complained about being insufficiently fed to Brit. Cadre Cadre and that for this "grave breach of discipline" Capt. SERAVARI had awarded him, so he said, 14 days forfeiture of pay.
- (c) It would appear that out of 132 Load Carrying Vehicles 80 only were on the road.
- (d) Cookhouse was inspected and it was observed that:
  - Italian leaves were in some cases belly made, hard and small.
  - That cauliflowers had too many leaves unfit for human consumption.
  - This matter has been frequently observed and it has been represented. In effect it means that the Italian soldier does not receive his full entitlement of Areal and Vegetables. This is because the Comandante does not insist upon the production of a full sized, well made loaf, up to full weight, and does not enforce the Contractor producing the Vegetables the whole of which should be fit for human consumption. Separate letters to the Ministry of War are being submitted on this account.
- (e) Samples of the midday meal - vegetable stew and salad - were tried and found to be most delicious.

3. Visited Italian Driving School POLIGNANO with Brig. DUBONNET.

- (a) Steps had been taken to clean up an art things in order.
- (b) In Unit Food Store a loaf very small hard and belly made was taken from a consignment all of which was of very poor quality.
- (c) It was observed that vegetables were also with considerable quantities of unfit for human consumption outside leaves.



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Brit. Cadre Comdr and that for this "grave breach of discipline" Capt. SERRAIONI had

awarded him, so he said, 14 days forfeiture of pay.

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3. Visited Italian Driving School POLICIANO with Brig. DURBIN.

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(b) In Unit Food Store a loaf very small hard and badly made was taken from a consignment all of which was of very poor quality.

(c) It was observed that vegetables were also with considerable quantities of unfit for human consumption outside leaves.

(d) There were six British issued 3 Ton Lorries in the yard. Only one of these was running. Five had been robbed of sparking plugs and parts of distributors etc and were non-runners. It is understood that 562 Army Coy had been approached ~~by~~ the matter in hand. It was also stated that the remaining 9 Vehicles were out on the road carrying out driver training.

(e) It would appear most essential that there should be a reliable senior Officer with a small staff to act as permanent Cadre in charge of this Driver Training School at POLICIANO. This system would prevent the robbing of parts from Vehicles, would ensure continuity and would see that officers when reporting into POLICIANO carried out their duties efficiently.

(f) Brig. DURBIN recommended ~~him~~ to the Capt in charge that every effort should be made to improve the general cleanliness.

4. Visited 1004 Italian Coy PAVO DEL CAVAL with Brig. DURBIN.

(a) Unit had been warned, Capt. CALPA was waiting for us. Capt. COMARIS, loaned by DISTRO appeared after a short wait. He was wearing dungarees and had been inspecting Vehicles.

(b) Went round accommodation, found that it had all been cleaned up and that walls were in process of being whitewashed.

(c) Went to Cookhouse. This was in a cramped yard with no overhead cover. A canvas sheet had been arranged to cover the fire in event of rain. A vegetable soup with beans was being prepared. Loaves inspected were well made and well shaped.

(d) Visited Vehicle Park where 60 Italian Lorries were "off the road". It would appear that 66 out of 127 Vehicles were off the road. Out of these 6 were in W/Shops. None of the Vehicles had lights. Capt. COMARIS was in process of inspecting the remaining 60 Vehicles.

- 40
- (e) Capt EDWARDS stated that tool kits had been issued with very deficient tools and that work was held up on this account. He also said that it was impossible to work on Vehicles when it was pouring with rain. There had been no cover available.
- (f) It was stated that this Coy had been unable to obtain Petrol & Oil. The G.I.P. source of supply was some 60 Km distant at MONTEOLI and until recently British stocks had refused to issue. The result had been that several Vehicles had been running almost deficient of oil.
- (g) The Vehicles were all old and derelict consisting of seven different types. Three types of Ford, Bedford, Chevrolet, Dodge, G.M.C. Of these off the road there were 5 Class II, 25 Class III, 11 Class IV, 20 unclassified.
- (h) Capt EDWARDS explained that the Unit had been unable to draw the extra 2 on P.Meat for hard working conditions because there was no Allied Unit who could draw it for them. This meant that the men out on duty all day could only take Salmon with their bread for the midday meal. This had proved impracticable.
- (1) Capt CALFA, the Italian Coy Comdr, appeared quite unable to cope with situation. He has twice already been reported to S.M.R.S. to be removed. It is understood that this time he will quite definitely be removed.

5. Visited No.2 Region AGO MATERA.

- (a) Comdr 2 Region, Lt. Col MACCARESE was away at NAPLES.  
 (b) Saw Assistant, Major FRICKER and explained MIA set up.  
 (c) Saw Lieut. HALSTEAD, Internal Tpt, and related Brig. DUCHESNE's action with 1001 Italian GI Coy.  
 (d) Saw Major KNIGHT, Senior Supply Officer No.2 Region, who stated that he had been using 1001 Italian GI Coy for dock clearance of BARI almost since 15th Feb. This goes to prove that AGO have in effect taken over 1001 It. GI Coy.  
 (e) Agreed with Major KNIGHT and Lt. HALSTEAD that it would be inadvisable to employ 1001 It. GI Coy in small detachments all over Italy and that they would keep it concentrated on the work of dock clearance at BARI.

6. Visited Distribution Supply Depot at CASTRO VILLIARI. 9th March.

- (a) Depot was still in existence and still being used.  
 (b) Details of Depot are as follows:-

Comdr, - Capt TUCCI RAFFAELLI  
 Asst, - S/Ten FANELLANCO JURETTI  
 Magazzino Vivere Militari  
 CASTRO VILLIARI - 1 Km along road going North at X Roads.

The stocks of ~~ammunitions~~ German captured supplies had been eaten down since 2nd Feb, but except for dried Vegetables and Spices small stocks still exist as follows:-

Tinned Meat approx 1124 lbs.

- (b) Saw Assistant, Major PRICKER and explained MIA set up.
- (c) Saw Lieut. KALSTRAD, Internal Tpt, and related Brig. BUCHSERS's action with 1001 Italian GI Coy.
- (d) Saw Major KRUEH, Senior Supply Officer No. 2 Region, who stated that he had been using 1001 Italian GI Coy for dock clearance of BARI almost since 15th Feb. This goes to prove that AGC have in effect taken over 1001 It. GI Coy.
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 Magazzino Vivend Militari  
 CASTRO VILLIARI - 1 Km along road going North at X Roads.

The stocks of ~~explosives~~ German captured supplies had been eaten down since 2nd Feb, but except for dried vegetables and spices small stocks still exist as follows:-

- Tinned Meat approx 1134 lbs.
- Res. 820 lbs.
- Flour (believed to be Gorniflour) 3 Tons.
- Packets of Dried Peas } 200 pkts. (miscelli macinati)
- Dried oatmeal } (segola macinata)

Called in to see Col. WINDLAY and Capt HUDSON AGC representatives in CASTRO VILLIARI but both were away on duty.

*Handwritten signature*  
 Lt. Col.,  
 ADST, Land Forces Sub Comm AGC.

In the Field,  
 11th Mar 1944.  
 DW

Distribution - Original to:- Comdr and Lt. Col. quinsmith.  
 Copy to :- G(SD)

9. ST.  
 Giro File and L.O. MIA, MNL.  
 Policy File. ST.



COPY FROM ADV HQ

ACC/4013/3/L

Minute of meeting L. 1d  
6 March 1944.

ES

Place; Palazzo di Giustizia, Office of the Legal Sub-Commission.

Present: Col. Upjohn & Lt. Col. Wilmer. " "  
Major Hannaford " "  
Major Thackrah ----- for the Legal Sub-Commission  
Sgt Stein (Interpreter) "

Lt. Col. Cousins, RCLO, Region 2  
Lt. Col. Quin-Smith ----- for Army Sub-Commission

Comm. Giannantonio ----- For the Ministry of Justice  
Consigliere Cureio " "  
Judice Bonelli " "  
Ten. Giullii " "  
Maj. Gen. " "

Meeting opened at 1415.

Major Thackrah explains that the object of this conference is to establish a more effective machinery under prevailing Italian law for a rigorous prosecution of trials against Italian civilians and soldiers who committed or will in the future commit crimes against Allied interests. Gen. MERCALLI emphasises the willingness on the part of the Military authorities to cooperate with the Allies in every possible way. He states that the prosecution in Military Tribunals is hampered by lack of judicial personnel as reported to him by Procuratore Generale Militare. In his Opinion Art. 15 of the Penal Military Code of War gives the Military Tribunals jurisdiction over the type of cases previously mentioned by Major Thackrah. Lt. Col. Cousins points out that the Procuratore at the Naval Court of Taranto is of the same opinion as the General. After a thorough discussion of the problems arising out of the procedure whereby cases will be referred to civil or military courts. The following points are agreed upon:-

1. For the purpose of Art. 15 Italy will be considered as a State "associated in war" with the Allies. Thus interpreted, the Article confers jurisdiction upon Italian Military Tribunals to try offenses against the Allied Forces.

2. Offenders will be handed over by the Allied Police to the Carabinieri. At the same time or as soon as possible thereafter the Allied Police will transmit to the Carabinieri a statement setting forth the crime charged, the result of a search and other evidence obtained, by the Allied authorities. This statement does not prejudice the right of the Italian authorities to deal with the case in pursuance of Italian law.

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3. The Carabinieri will report the charges to the Procuratore del Re who will order further investigation if he deems it necessary and will provisionally classify the case as belonging to a civil or military court respectively (Final decision as to the jurisdiction is with the judge). He will inform at once the ACC Liaison Officer of the result of the classification. The Allied authorities requested to do so will cooperate in gathering evidence.

4. Trials of all such cases, be it in civil or military courts, will be given precedence. The intervention of an interested civil party will not be permitted to cause any delay. The result of the trial will be communicated by the Procuratore del Re to the ACC Liaison Officer.

5. The Minister will draft a directive to all Procuratori del Re in accordance with the above and send the draft to the Legal Sub-Commission for approval.

6. The General will procure a letter of confirmation of the above from the Ministry of War as far as it concerns the military authorities.

COPY FROM ADV HQ

SUBJECT: Italian Clothing Depot - BARI.

*file 80*

Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.  
Main HQ (MMIA)  
LEQUILE (LECCB)  
AQ/9  
9 Mar 44.  
-----

Ministry of War.  
-----

On March 8th I visited the clothing depot at BARI. One of the warehouses has large holes in the roof through which rain is pouring on to Allied boots and clothing recently made available. The roof is not difficult to mend and if you are in need of materials for it I will help but it is mainly a question of getting someone quickly on the job with tiles.

Would you please take immediate action and let me know.

*C. J. ...*

Brigadier.  
Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

tvb.

copy to: MMIA LO 2 District.  
-----

7678



REPORT ON VISITS TO BARRAGE BARR AND BLANCO, BARCELONA ON 27-1 - 28th MARCH 1944  
BY LT. COL. L. B. DAVIS

6/10/49  
7/11/49

1. Reported to Col. Warren Dorr, District Staff.
  - (a) Introduced me to Capt. Adriano formerly Adj. 12 L. of 0 1st Para and explained that he was being sent for one month to the 1001 Italian C.A. Coy on the Alps. He would be assisted by a limit. Reported as 'residual' officer and captain Captain. Would I give him his orders.
  - (b) I was instructed to telephone Flauto Brig. Milano, DAVI, and also so. Dada, Milano asked me if I was satisfied with Capt. Dada who would be joining me.
  - (c) I was informed that a limit. Reported as 'residual' officer and captain Captain. Would I give him his orders. Instead was the 1001 representative to whom 1001 Italian C.A. Coy was to be sent over.
  - (d) I proceeded to give Capt. Dada his orders. I was informed by DAVI, Warren that 1001 Italian C.A. Coy no longer belonged to him as he had definitely handed it over in accordance with the letter no. 3621/43 dated 28th Feb 44, to the 1001 Lt. Instead stated that he had been ordered to refuse to take the unit in its present state by his superior Lt. Col. Mansfield of No. 2 Region, 1001. I gave Capt. Adriano a copy of my orders and told him to proceed with the preparation of this 1001 Italian C.A. Coy so that Lt. Mansfield of 1st Para could be satisfied. I told him to communicate with me at 1001 Italian C.A. Coy when he got into difficulties.
2. Inspected the supply depot at BARCELONA.
  - (a) Found that the distribution supply depot was not quite a separate department from the deposit supply depot under different name.
  - (b) Went to deposit supply depot or main supply depot. Found that all the trucks off DAVI had been discharged and that all accommodation was nearly full. It was therefore necessary to obtain further accommodation.
  - (c) Stocking had been done hurriedly but considerable difficulty it had been done well. I saw one instance of pillaging. This in expedition. Trucks were well systemised and properly arranged. Difficulties had been experienced due to their being only one narrow entrance.
  - (d) There had been difficulties at the port on account of transport terminal and the Italians had been unable to come off the ship as high were landed on the quay. The American C.A. Operations had also partly disagreed with the figures as shown by the Italians.
3. Visited Col. Misso, Head of Italian Land-Operations.
  - (a) He complained that he required more communication and that Italians had been refused it by DAVI.
  - (b) He complained that he had received orders from Ministry of War that he must check them as they were limited. That the 1001 Operations had not possessed this and that the figures could not be increased.
  - (c) He requested that he should be given more notice of the arrival of trucks because he said that all available labour had already been taken by 1001 and British, and that he experienced great difficulty and required time to obtain the necessary labour to handle his stores.
  - (d) While I was talking to Col. Misso a message from the 1001 arrived saying that the 'James Whitcomb Riley' had just docked and would be discharging immediately. Col. Misso said that this was the first information he had received, he would require

... went to ... to visit Supply Depot. Found that all the ... were ...  
 Davis had been discharged and that all accommodation was nearly full. It was  
 therefore necessary to obtain further accommodation.  
 (c) Stacking had been done hurriedly but considering difficulties it had been done  
 well. I saw one instance of pilferage. This is exceptional. Crew were well  
 systemised and properly arranged. Difficulties had been experienced due to their  
 being only one narrow entrance.  
 (d) There had been difficulties at the port on account of transport (movement and  
 the Italians had been unable to check off the ship as they were landed on the quay.  
 The American port operations had also mutually disagreed with the figures as shown  
 by the Italians.

3. Visited Col. Misso, Head of Italian Administration.  
 (a) He complained that he requires more accommodation and that Italians had been ...  
 refused it by HQ.  
 (b) He complained that he had received orders from Ministry of War that he must  
 check crew as they were landed. That the 888 Dock Operations had not permitted this  
 and that the figures could not be reconciled.  
 (c) He requested that he should be given more notice of the arrival of cargo  
 because he said that all available labour had already been taken by him and that  
 and that he experienced great difficulty and required time to obtain the necessary  
 labour to handle his stores.  
 (d) While I was talking to Col. Misso a message from the Dock arrived saying that  
 the James Whitcomb Riley had just docked and would be discharging immediately.  
 Col. Misso said that this was the first information he had received. He would require  
 5 hours to find the labour and he could not fully holding up the port.

4. I took Col. Misso to HQ and saw Lt. Col. Foster, C-4  
 (a) Col. Foster agreed to make accommodation available to the Italians/888  
 found it outside the Port Area. They agreed to do this.  
 (b) Col. Foster stated that the Port would not produce any figures and could be used  
 look into the matter. I said that I would do my best to obtain a list of Italian  
 Port etc.  
 (c) Col. Foster promised to obtain earlier information regarding arrival of ships.  
 (d) I find that HQ now have an Italian Col and Capt as in the ...  
 5. I took Col. Misso to HQ and saw Col. Barrett (British) and Lt. Col. Clough/Marion  
 who have taken place of Col. Paribon.  
 (a) I explained necessity and urgency for additional staff for HQ, and arranged as  
 follows:-

- ✓ Major Grey
- ✓ Capt. Barwani
- ✓ Cpl. Larrutin
- ✓ Clerk (Inspector)
- ✓ Clerk B (Inspector)
- ✓ Clerk E.

- ✓ Lt. Misso
- ✓ Senior HQ (HQ)
- ✓ Junior HQ (HQ)
- ✓ Clerk
- ✓ Lt. Rayles Port
- ✓ " " "
- ✓ " " "
- ✓ " " "

*[Handwritten signature]*

- (4) For ST. IO. to Port De BARI.  
One Junior NCO. Clerk (QM) American as ST. IO. BARI. Port.
- (c) Lt. Col. Clough stated that those marked \* had been allotted and should report in a day or two. He stated that the remainder would be difficult if not impossible to find: However he promised to do his best.
- 6. Visited Flambo and saw Capt. Thrupp. MMIA. IO.
  - (a) Explained Italian difficulties at Port as per 3, a, b, c, d, above and told him that Lt. Piggio should report to Capt. Monaco on Monday 6th March as ST. IO to ~~MMI~~ Naples Port.
  - (b) Asked Capt. Thrupp to ensure getting figures for the actual stocks off-loaded ex "John Morehead" and "Davie" and "James Whitcomb Riley". vide ST letter ST/1/2 dated 28th Feb which gave details of duties to be performed by Port Detachment.
- 7. Reported to Brig. Hinde DDST Flambo.
  - (a) DDST moved conclusively that SD Flambo had covered with appropriate authority all moves of 1001 Italian GT Coy.
  - (b) I explained that what ever orders might be given 1001 Italian GT Coy could not operate without an Allied Cadre and with insufficient personnel. I showed a copy of recent Inspection Reports. Brig. Hinde said that 1001 Italian GT Coy had an establishment in accordance with their own Italian system and was as far as Flambo was concerned, returned back to the Italian Army. I explained that an Italian Coy was not self contained like a British GT Coy and that it required the remainder of its Reparto; also it was to be operated under Allied conditions and work through designed on Italian organisation which was not suitable or befitting. He agreed that things were unsatisfactory and for that reason Capt. Edwards and two other Officers had been attached to me for one month. I asked for some Other Ranks in addition to be loaned for the TARANTO GT Coy. This he refused. I put forward a suggestion that as all the Italian GT Coys were experiencing difficulties would he agree to the Cadres coming under my command in a similar manner to the Port Det. He disagreed to this.
  - (c) I asked about extra Staff as previously promised; He stated that:-  
Major Papineau as DADS should have reported.  
a S/Capt. Sups had been earmarked but his posting was postponed.
  - (d) With regard to previous arrangements the following was asked for:-  
For HQ. MMIA. LEQUILE.  
One Major RASC as DADS (Inspector)  
One Capt. RASC S/Capt (Inspector)  
Two Clerks RASC Clerks ST.
  - (e) For Ports BARI. BRINDISI. TARANTO each.  
One Capt or Sub. RASC as ST. IO. Port Detachment.  
One Senior NCO RASC  
One Junior NCO RASC  
One Clerk, each for BRINDISI and TARANTO only.

This makes a total of 3 Officers 3 Senior NCOs 3 Junior NCOs 2 Clerks for Port Detachments.  
Hinde said that he had done nothing in this matter because he understood



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- Two Clerks RASC Clerks ST.

- (e) For Ports BARI. BRINDISI. TARANTO each.
- One Capt or Sub. RASC as ST. IO. Port Detachment.
- One Senior NCO RASC
- One Junior NCO RAOC
- One Clerk, each for BRINDISI and TARANTO only.

This makes a total of 3 Officers 3 Senior NCOs 3 Junior NCOs 2 Clerks for Port Detachments.

(f) Brig. Hinde said that he had done nothing in this matter because he understood that a Civilian Firm might be performing the duties of Port Det. He also stated that no orders had been given by the Staff and that until such orders were received he could not post people.

*Stanley M. Hinde*  
 Lt. Col. RASC.  
 ADST,  
 Army Sub Comm. A.C.C.

In the Field.  
6th March 1944.

Original to:- Comd - to be sent on please to Lt. Col. Quinn Smith.  
 Copy to:- G(SD)  
 Q  
 ST  
 Cir. File - (to be sent on to MMIA IO. MAPLES.)  
 Policy File ST.

COMMISSARIAT ORGANIZATION

Item.	SUPPLIES.			ORDNANCE.		
	Present Staff.	Additional		Present Staff.	Additional	
		British.	American.		British.	American.
<u>Central Supervision Office.</u>						
Major D.A.D.	Lt. Col. FINCH.	⊙ Major PAPINSKI.	⊙ Maj. GUY.	Maj. SHANN.	⊙ Maj. GIBSON.	
Capt S/Capt.	Major GARD.	⊙ .....	⊙ Capt. BANWELL.		⊙ Capt. HILL.	
Senior NCO's.	Capt CRAIG.				⊙ Sgt. HILL. (a)	
	S/Sgt WELLS.				⊙ Sgt. BULLOCK. (a)	
Junior NCO's)	(Chief Clerk)					
Clks	Cpl. GANNELL.	⊙ .....	⊙ Cpl. LAMBERT.	I/O DAVIDSON.		
		⊙ .....				
		⊙ .....				
<u>Port Detachments.</u>						
Capt or Sub.		⊙ .....	⊙ Lt. RIGGOLD.			
		⊙ .....				
Senior WO or NCO.		⊙ .....	⊙ .....			
		⊙ .....				
Junior NCO.		⊙ .....			⊙ Cpl. COOPER.	
		⊙ .....			⊙ Cpl. JENNINGS.	
Clarks.		⊙ .....	⊙ .....		⊙ .....	
		⊙ .....			⊙ .....	

⊙ Found by SE FLANDO.

⊙ Found by AM, ACC.

(a) Employed

Enclosure to Report by ANS, ASST. ADM. SEC. AND S/G 100

ORGANIZATION

EMPLOYEES	ORDNANCE				R. E. H. E.	
	Present Staff	Additional		Present Staff	Additional	
		Initials	Positions		Initials	Positions
1. GREY. 2. BARNETT. 3. LAMBERTA.	No. 1. CROWN. L/C DAVIDSON.	No. 3. CROWN. Capt. HILLER. Sgt. HALL (a). Sgt. SWANSON (a).		Major HALL.		
4. HIGGINS. ..... .....		Cpl. GOODWIN. Cpl. JENNINGS. ..... .....	..... ..... .....			

767

Form by ANS, ASST.

(a) Employed as Junior HND's with Fort Det.



REPORT VISITO STATE TOBACCO FACTORY. - BARI

Full  
MBA. 78

On Thursday 2 March I had an interview with the director of the State Tobacco Factory BARI - Cav. Celentano Salvatore. Also present was Major K.C. WILSON of the Industry and Commerce Sub Commission, A.C.C. Major WILSON represents the Sub Commission in PUGLIE and the factories in that area come under him. I have made arrangements with him that a copy of all reports dealing with the production of the factories in the area is sent to us.

I obtained the following information :

PRODUCTION.

Factory's present day cigarette production - 17,000 kgs weekly.  
Factory's maximum production - 35,000 kgs weekly.

The figure for present day production is due to lack of stocks of tobacco. The present stock at present rate of production will last up to mid-April only.

CIGARETTE PAPER.

The present stocks of paper are about 400,000 kgs. This will last for about 5 months at the present production rate.

If stocks of tobacco can be brought to the factory the rate of production will go up but it has been decided that the factory will receive a 4-hour period of electricity per day only. This will keep the production figure at present day rate. The director stated that he might increase this figure if coal at the rate of one ton a day could be supplied to run his own electric plant. Should this be done and stocks of tobacco be brought in, the factory could produce 100,000 kgs a month. Consideration should be given, however, to the paper situation.

Major WILSON, who is conversant with the fact of cigarettes for the Italian Forces pointed out that the weekly request of cigarettes for Italian Forces at the rate of 21,000 weekly is out of the question on present day production. Tobacco stocks for the factory have to come from LECCE Area and SALERNO Area in order to produce right blends. This might not be possible in quantities required for maximum production figures owing to transport difficulties.

LECCE Factory.

This factory is about half the size of the BARI factory and produces about 8 - 10,000 kgs a week. Almost the entire production is destined for Italian Forces - mainly 1st Mob Bde.

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LECCE Factory.

This factory is about half the size of the BARI factory and produces about 8 - 10,000 kgs a week. Almost the entire production is destined for Italian Combatant troops, mainly 1st Mob Bde.

It could produce at the rate of 75,000 kgs a month.

Its paper stocks are 150,000 kgs, allowing a two months supply at max. prod<sup>76675</sup> rate.

Major WILSON who is the authority to be seen for cigarette production can be found at :

Palazzo di Citta (opp the Prefettura) BARI.  
Tele. 11071.

twv.

*Wilson*  
Major.

Report by Maj LENTZNER

Returning from NAPLES & BARI 2 Mar

77  
HQ  
4139

1. 1001 G.T. Coy PALO DEL COLLE

- (a) Agree with report as submitted by ACC Tn officer (ACC TN/39 of 25 Feb).
- (b) Interviewed 2 District who would not move without FLAMBO.
- (c) Visited FLAMBO and after considerable talking and trouble G(SD) produced instruction 2553/G(SD) of 28 Feb.
- (d) ST, 'A' and Ord of FLAMBO despite instruction did not want to act. Visited each branch and am satisfied that action will be taken as per G(SD) instruction.
- (e) Visited 2 District and gave them copy of G(SD) instruction as guide. They produced an instruction to rectify complaints (4410/2/ST of 27 Feb).
- (f) BRIG LUSH, COL ADAMS, and LOS MONICO and THURPP (BARI) all informed and asked to watch brief.
- (g) CC of 1001 Coy did not impress but men appear keen. The CG 130 Water Tank Coy (who organised 1001) was satisfied with the 2 weeks' work which half the vehs carried out in clearing AOBs. Biggest complaint - lack of punctuality.

2. General Notes

- (a) FLAMBO very disinterested as regards 1001 Coy as working for civilians. Definitely do not understand UNIA's terms of ref i.e. state that we are part of ACC and as such should take executive action to look after Coy.
- (b) Definitely against Army personnel working for ACC which they consider a civilian organisation. They further consider that ACC should be self-contained and look after all its own services.

3. FBS Truck Coy Approx 10 kms NORTH of NAPLES

- (a) Original order for 30 vehs very misleading as GM Truck Coy has approx 56 load carrying vehs.
- (b) FBS considered that orders issued by FLAMBO in their 36/21/03 of 8 Feb signed by Brig HAMBLEN did not give them sufficient authority to draw necessary capt, stores etc for formation of the Coy. Working on this basis I considered it best to go direct to the GM Gp controlling the Coy instead of asking FLAMBO for more detailed instructions (which FLAMBO cannot give



2. General Notes

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- (b) Definitely against Army personnel working for ACC which they consider a civilian organisation. They further consider that ACC should be self-contained and look after all its own services.

3. PBS Truck Coy Approx 10 kms NORTH of NAPLES

- (a) Original order for 80 vech very miscelaneous as QM Truck Coy has approx 56 load carrying vech.
- (b) PBS considered that orders issued by FLAMBO in their 36/21/03 of 8 Feb signed by Brig HAMBLEN did not give them sufficient authority to draw necessary eqpt, stores etc for formation of the Coy. Working on this basis I considered it best to go direct to the QM Gp contriciling the Coy instead of asking FLAMBO for more detailed instructions (which FLAMBO cannot give PBS anyway).
- (c) Discussed Coy with Col i/c 22 QM Gp who was very helpful (this was done accompanied by Maj BORDASS of Int In ACC).
- (d) Visited the unit and arranged the following:
- (1) Coy would be equipped with as many tools for vech <sup>26</sup> as would be found. Expect 1 set per 2 Vech.
  - (11) 2nd Ech Wksp is partly provided and the Col instructed the officer to try to make it up to strength.
  - (111) Inspected the vech and in my opinion they are very roadworthy and generally in good condition. They have no canopies which are NA.
  - (1V) The American offr will be left for three weeks with the Coy although he has handed it over to an offr of ACC.
  - (V) The American QM Gp Wksp are at the disposal of the Italian Coy.
  - (VI) The 80 vech and personnel are split up as follows:  
 Capt (with small HQ)  
 Two Coys each 40 trucks with 3 Lts & approx 150 men each.
- (e) Every man being trained to drive and hope to have 10 mechs per Coy.
- (f) 22 QM Gp are issuing : extra blanket per man  
 American type cookers on American scale.  
 3 pyramidal tents on loan.
- (g) Question - Who is to provide Wksp accn for 2nd Ech work? issue of overalls for mechanics? Have asked MONICO to try.

Sheet 2

(h) Att for ST slip showing rations issued for 1 day by Americans. Anticipate trouble when Italians fed by Italians as this unit struck when previously fed by Italians.

(i) Conclusion These Coys will work and will get a very square deal from the Americans.

4. Both 1001 and PBS Coys want to know if they will get extra 20 Lire a day and are they going to get the extra 2 oz of meat?

ABC

4 Mar 64

Taken down by me  
*J. Lentzner*  
for  
J Lentzner Maj

7673

REPORT ON VISIT TO 1002 ITALIAN GI COY. 8400 BELINDIA  
ON 2 2 PMO 1944 BY LT. COL. T. B. FORD, AMM.

4/13  
Hans #76  
See #76

1. Visited Lt. Col. Marshall GRASS 29 L of C Tpt Coln. He stated that he had difficulty with regard to finding interpreters.
  - (a) Italian Officers of 1002 Italian GI Coy would not get up in the mornings.
  - (b) When this Italian GI Coy was given details to perform, no attempt was made by them to carry some of these details out. They just made excuses and were thoroughly unreliable.
  - (c) They were experiencing great difficulty in obtaining returns and information that could be taken in any way as being accurate.
2. Saw Major Christmas O.C. Ordre (163 GI Coy).
  - (a) He also complained of lack of interpreters.
  - (b) He explained that the Italians were complaining of having to live in tents. That British troops had previously been living in the same accommodation. He considered that the Italians did not use to their best advantage the accommodation available.
  - (c) There were no lights. The Sub Area Comdr had previously inspected and had provided the Italians Hurricane Lamps. Hurricane Lamps had been despatched from Ordre but were not available.
  - (d) Major Christmas inquired if there were any resources from which a P.A.I. could be started. He stated that a wireless for the Italians was considered most necessary.
  - (e) The Italians were complaining about the quantities of their rations. He had tried to get them to use Oil and Water cooking. This they had refused to do preferring to use branches dragged off the neighbouring trees as firewood.
  - (f) The Italians would not use the British latrines and were continually fouling the ground round and in the vicinity of the camp.
  - (g) He had experienced difficulty in getting the Italians to take over from 163 Italian GI Coy. Two Lieutenants had worked hard, but the Captain in command had not appeared. The Captain did not arrive till three days after the remainder.
  - (h) The Italian GI Coy. had been operating one week. Major Christmas had experienced great difficulty in getting the Italian Captain and the men moved from BELINDIA over to BELINDIA. He was still uncertain as to their exact numbers.
    - (1) The Italians were very short of clothes. They had refused to work in the work-shops until they had been provided with overalls. This had been done by obtaining from another British GI Coy as none were available from Italian sources.
    - (2) He had found it impossible to get any sort of availability states or details of returns either accurately or up to time. The officers did not get up in the morning, and were adopting an aloof attitude, instead of assisting in getting things done they were avoiding responsibility and making excuses.
3. Saw Capt. STRAPONE. O.C. 1002 Italian G.I. Coy.
  - (a) He stated that 145 of his men were from GABRIOLA.
  - (b) His men had complained because they had to live in tents and had no palliasses.
  - (c) He said that the men had not been very content but that he was irritating them and they were improving gradually.
  - (d) He admitted that at first the men had been making the camp dirty but they had grown some this. He excused them by saying that they did not understand the British system.



(f) The Italians would not use the British latrines and were continually fouling the ground round and in the vicinity of the camp.

(g) He had experienced difficulty in getting the Italians to take over from 168 Italian S.F. Coy. Two Lieutenants had worked hard, but the Captain in Command had not appeared. The Captain did not arrive till three days after the reminder.

(h) The Italian C.F. Coy. had been operating one week. Major Christmas had experienced great difficulty in getting the Italian Captain and the men moved from POLIGNANO over to BRINDISI. He was still uncertain as to their exact numbers.

(1) The Italians were very short of clothing. They had refused to work in the workshops until they had been provided with overalls. This had been done by obtaining from another British S.F. Coy as none were available from Italian sources.

(j) He had found it impossible to get any sort of availability status or details of returns either accurately or up to time. The Officers did not get up in the morning, and were adopting an aloof attitude, instead of assisting in getting things done they were avoiding responsibility and making excuses.

3. Saw Capt. SEBASTIANI, O.C. 1062 Italian G.S. Coy.

(a) He stated that 143 of his men were from SARDINIA.

(b) His men had complained because they had to live in tents and had no palliasses.

(c) He said that the men had not been very content but that he was berating them and they were improving gradually.

(d) He admitted that at first the men had been making the camp dirty but they had become this. He excused them by saying that they did not understand the British system. He appeared greatly surprised when informed that they were still making the camp very dirty.

4. Went round camp with O.C. Lt. Col. Coy. and O.C. British Cadre Coy.

(a) Camp was not tidy or clean.

(b) Men appeared quite normally comfortably accommodated.

(c) It was pouring with rain so that things were at a disadvantage.

5. Further discussion with O.C. Cadre disclosed:-

(a) 5 accidents had happened the first day. This had given the Cadre Clerical Staff much extra work.

(b) Vehicles were not in good order necessitating much workshop attention. Civilian Artificers were being employed but these had struck work because they would not work with soldiers. It would appear that they objected to paying 7 lire a day for their midday meal.

6. Called in at 71 Sub Area Head Quarters and explained:-

(a) That some Intelligencers should be found and provided immediately. That this was half the cause of all their troubles.

(b) That if returns and details were not compiled with by the Italians it was useless bringing pressure to bear against the Cadre Cadre. This matter should be reported to **MILITARY MISSION.**

Date 7 March 1949 *Sebastiani*  
Lt. Col.,  
ASST.,  
ADJ. GEN.,  
ARMY SUB COM. AOG.

Date 11 March 44  
Distribution :- Genl. G(30). 9. 33.  
ST. Policy File. Ciro File.

to  
ITALIAN ARMY.

Handwritten notes: "S. G. 11/20/42 15" and "REPORT TO EARL ON 27th FEB 1944 Lt. Col. [unclear] USA." with a large handwritten "15" at the top right.

1. Visited school situated 10km. N. to see reported 250 Italian Drivers.
  - (a) Found that school was occupied half by an Italian M.I. Unit and half by Italian Infantry Unit. The premises appeared dirty and neglected.
  - (b) I was told that there was an Italian Captain in command but that he had gone away. I asked for an officer and was told that there were three Italian Lieutenants, and I had to wait while one was sent for. He was supposed to have gone to the sea. Thus it was some time before I was able to find any responsible person.
  - (c) I asked if they had any vehicles for training personnel. I was shown six British lorries, which were all out of running, scattered about, neglected in the yard. No attempt was being made to repair or attend to them in any way.
  - (d) I was told that there was: 1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, and between 100 and 200 men.
  - (e) I saw six men in civilian clothes and was told that they had no clothes other than those they stood up in. There was no clothing in the stores.
  - (f) The barrack rooms were dirty and empty, and from the smell and appearance the men had been unhygienic in the past. The latrines even the one for the officers was extremely dirty. The officer showing me round explained that he had no materials with which the men should clean up.
  - (g) Inspection of stores. Only a very small stock of stores was available for inspection. I saw five baskets of oranges and asked if that was all that could be bought with the cash equivalent. I was told that more was being purchased. There were six or seven canisters which I was told had been left over from the ration of the day before. This I could not understand because all the men complained that they had had insufficient to eat even of vegetables. I also saw a very small, hard, badly made loaf which should have weighed 300 grams. I was unable to weigh it, but one of the officers that it was very short of that weight. This matter of the bread I later reported to Col. Laidlaw, Head of Commissariat Base for his attention.
  - (h) I was shown a room, which I was told, outside the prison. There were twelve in it and one of them was in bed sick.
  - (i) The appearance of the men was not encouraging. The officers were very slovenly dressed, shabby and dirty. It appeared to me that the Italian M.I. personnel were being held up to ridicule by their Italian Infantry neighbours.
2. Visited Falls on Gull to see 1000 Italian G.I. Coy at 1400 hrs.
  - (a) I arrived at the Company Officer where there was one Italian soldier asleep. I was informed that Capt. Gull, Italian G.I. Coy. had just left. I could not find out where he had gone to. I asked to see an officer and after calling at several houses was contacted to a house about seven kilometers out of the village. Here I found an officer asleep in bed. I was told that there were no other officers available.
  - (b) The men of this unit were standing about in little groups with apparently nothing to do. I asked if any training was being carried out and was told that six vehicles with 30 men did driver training every day. There was no training going on presumably because it was winter.
  - (c) I asked if the men were feeding alright and was informed that they were getting very little food indeed even with regard to green vegetables.

reported to Col. Lelieno, head of *Comandamento RAI* for his attention.  
 (h) I was shown a room, which I was told, occupies the prison. There were twelve in it and one of them was in bed sick.  
 (A) The appearance of the man was not encouraging. The officers were very slowly dressed, shabby and dirty. It appeared to me that the Italian personnel were being held up to ridicule by their Italian Infantry colleagues.

2. Visited Falls di *CALES* to see 1004 Italian G.I. Coy at 4800 hrs.  
 (a) I arrived at the Company Station where there was one Italian soldier asleep. I was informed that Capt. Gallo, Italian G.I. Coy. had just left. I could not find out where he had gone to. I asked to see an officer and after calling at several houses was conducted to a house about seven kilometers out of the village. Here I found an officer asleep in bed. I was told that there were no other officers available.  
 (b) The men of this unit were starving about in little groups with apparently nothing to do. I asked if any training was being carried out and was told that six vehicles with 20 men did driver training every day. There was no training going on presumably because it was raining.  
 (c) I asked if the men were feeding alright and was informed that they were getting very little food mixed even with regard to green vegetables.  
 (d) The 7400s had been parked out in a field and there was no sign of any work being done in any way whatsoever.  
 (e) The men appeared dispirited and were unable to appear.

3. Contacted Col. *Lebbas* head of *Comandamento RAI* District.  
 (a) Accompanied him to the supply depot. Found that all was marked "X" and been stacked. There was still ample space for large quantities yet to come. Bags which should have gone to American warehouses and had been sent to Italian depot by accident had all been sent back to Americans.  
 (b) Went to American Depot *AB*. Americans are working their stock and checking up on the Manifest. They state that they would check up on Italian sums in the Italian Depot and would enter it into the figures on the Manifest. This was to Col. *Lebbas's* satisfaction.  
 (c) Visited Major *Overby* of Transportation, *Adriatic Base Station*, learned that:

*Marines* had been discharged.  
*Johnson* was still being discharged.  
*Price* still being discharged.  
 It was anticipated that:

*James (Name)*  
*A. P. Hill* were both expected to be discharged shortly.  
 Asked that *MILA* should get early information of all shipments of Italian arms with details of Manifest and breakdown.

Date: *22 Feb 44*  
 Distribution: Original to: *Comd.*  
 Copies to: *OS/100 SS; GHO File; Policy File (SE)*  
*W. J. K. Hart*  
*27 Feb 44*  
*ADJ. GEN.*  
*ANY SUB COM. ACU.*



For Lt Col NOAKES from Lt Col KINNA

120 misc. 96 C-4 14

140254

18 4

FLANDS

STONOR

10/9  
25 kb  
AF

943

Reference your AG 400-1 (Italy) GDS-100 6 Feb matter fully discussed this

HQ (.) answer being brought you by hand of Lt. Col. NOAKES A/C MIA

Distribution:- Sigs (2)  
Master  
File 31/5

Fals  
7671

*9501 base return to Q  
14/2 of A/A 73*

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
ECONOMIC SECTION  
APO 394

ES/MH/fpd

*10/9  
B.  
15 Feb 44*

16 February 1944

MEMORANDUM

Meeting in Col. D. S. ADAMS Office - 15 Feb. 44

Present:

Brig. DUCHESNE, Col. ADAMS, Col. EVANS, Col. TODD, Col. FITCH,  
Maj. BORDASS, Capt. HAY.

MAJ. BORDASS

1001 Gen. Tpt. Coy (It.) consists of:-

- 5 platoons of 24 vehicles each.
- 190 ORs of which 140 are drivers.
- 8 officers.
- 16 mechanics.
- No workshops or repair facilities.
- Each platoon has 1 - 15 cwt trucks
- has 9 - " " "
- 10 - motorcycles.

At present stationed at BARI and to remain there pending orders.  
Capt. ROBERTS (A) to go to BARI on 16 Feb. 44 with W.O. D. Garafano.

BRIG. DUCHESNE

Land Forces Sub-Commission. LECOE. Telegraphic address "MMIA LECOE".  
Land Forces Sub-Commission Liaison Officers:

BLANCO	Capt. MONICO (B)
CATANZARO	Maj. LANPZER (B)
BARI (2 Dist.)	Capt. THRUPP (B)
8 Army (rear)	Maj. FIDELMAN (B)
8 Army HQ. Corps (rear)	Capt. HERBERT
8 Army HQ. Corps (rear)	Capt. O'DONNELL
5 Army HQ. Corps (rear)	Not yet set up. Col. OFFENHAUER 7670 will be in charge.
CAMPANIA	Col. OFFENHAUER (A)
SARDINIA	Col. SIMONS (A)
SALERNO (ACC rear)	Lt. Col. QUIN-SMITH

1001 Gen. Tpt. Coy (It.) should have a British Detachment handed over with it. They are part of the Gen. Tpt. Coy. They administer the Coy and are responsible for procuring spares etc.

- 2 -

HQ. ACC, Econ. Sec. Memo dtd  
16 Feb. 44. (cont'd).

Maintenance of the vehicles is an army responsibility (Dist. 2):  
All documents from 1001 Gen. Tpt. Coy go to HQ Distwo.

FSS Transport Unit (80 vehicles)

Should have an American Detachment similar to British Detachment  
with 1001 Gen. Tpt. Coy (It.).

Italian Army Supplies

Any demands for supplies, repairs etc. of equipment, clothing etc.  
for the Italian Army should be referred to Erig, Duchesne.

Boots and equipment have been indented for by Flambe through AFHQ  
and will be supplied from sources outside Italy.

Shortage of thread and nails for boot repairs.

*Seen 28 Feb  
C.*

7069

- 2 -



MINUTES OF CONFERENCE HELD AT H.M.I.A. ON 12 FEB 44  
REGARDING EVACUATION OF ITALIAN G.I. BOYS.

Jul 72

Present

- Lt. Col. MORTLEY, G.I. (Liaison)
- Major CAREW-HUNT, D.A.A. G.S.M.G. ✓
- Major SMITH, B.A.S.S.
- " DOODS, 2nd I/c, 29, 1 of G.I. Coy.
- " COLMAN, Ex CC CADRE, 1002 G.I. COY.
- " PHIPPS, CC CADRE, 1001 G.I. COY.
- " CHRISTMAS, CC CADRE, 1002 G.I. COY.
- " TAYLOR, CC CADRE, 1000 G.I. COY.
- Capt. TRICE, S.C. S.T.

MILITARY MISSION

Date 17 February

ITALIAN ARMY.

1. Lt. Col. Mortley opened the conference, explained that with Lt. Col. Finch being suddenly called away he was rather in the dark as how to start, so he handed over to Major Carew-Hunt.
2. Major Carew-Hunt opened with a good discussion on the "G" policy with regard to Italian Units and their Units and emphasized that Nations were the responsibility of the Italians. On asking all present if any difficulties had been experienced, and everybody present said they had no difficulties up to date except that it was generally felt that the Italian Ration was inadequate.
3. The question then arose regarding the extra 2 ons of P. Meat for heavy manual labour. Major Taylor stated that 1000 G.I. Coy were getting the above extra ration on permission from Ires.
4. Major Phipps had applied for this extra ration from 6 B.S.A., but had had no reply to his letter regarding issue of extra 2 ons P. Meat.
5. It was pointed out by Major Taylor that the refugees ration scale was higher than the Italian scale.
6. Major Phipps then brought up that the men were very short of Clothing & Boots.
7. The CC of 1001 G.I. Coy had made repeated demands through Italian channels, but without success.
8. Major Carew-Hunt said we could not take direct action, and demands must still go through Italian channels, but if a D.O. letter was sent, Mission would follow the demand up.
9. Major Taylor stated that 1000 G.I. Coy had been supplied with 200 suits of overalls and 200 M.D. Jackets.
10. Major Carew-Hunt stated that a signal had been received from MIABCO that the supplies of petrol to Italian G.I. Coys was an allied responsibility.

7668

- 4. Major Phipps had applied for this extra ration from 6 B.S.A., but had had no reply to his letter regarding issue of extra 2 oss F.fleet.
- 5. It was pointed out by Major Taylor that the refugees ration scale was higher than the Italian scale.
- 6. Major Phipps then brought up that the men were very short of Clothing & Boots.
- 7. The CO of 1001 G.I. Coy had made repeated demands through Italian channels, but without success.
- 8. Major Carew-Hunt said we could not take direct action, and demands must still go through Italian channels, but if a D.O. letter was sent, Mission would follow the demand up.
- 9. Major Taylor stated that 1000 G.I. Coy had been supplied with 200 suits of overalls and 200 K.D. Jackets.
- 10. Major Carew-Hunt stated that a signal had been received from MAFHQ East the supplies of petrol to Italian G.I. Coys was an *absolute* responsibility.
- 11. Major Phipps suggested that instructions should be published by 2 Dist. that Italian Drivers should be supplied at P.S.P. as Allied Drivers, also some assistance should be given to them re repairs. Major Taylor said he had a similar instruction published in 52 Area Orders. 7668
- 12. Major Taylor raised the following points:-
  - (i) Are Civilian Interpreters on Establishment.
  - (ii) Are they to be fed and clothed.
- 13. Major Phipps said that the vehicles supplied to 1001 G.I. Coy had no tools and it was quite impossible for the men to carry out maintenance. Tools had been indentd for, but Ordnance had turned the indent down.

14.....

P10

D.A. Jones  
 What action  
 taken? Ch. 11/9  
 24/2

~~have the~~  
 JK-NA



69  
12/19

MINUTES

of a conference on the control, issue and distribution of clothing for the Italian Forces held at AFHQ Adv Adm Ech 17 Feb 44.

The following were present :-

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Lt Col C.J. Kinna        | A.Q.M.G. (3), <b>FLAMBO</b> in the chair |
| Lt Col F.W. Dennis Jr.   | O.Q.M. - PBS (US)                        |
| Lt Col R.A. Gaw.         | G-4. Flambo (US)                         |
| Lt Col F.J. Noakes.      | Army Sub Commission A.C.C.               |
| Lt Col R.G.B. Greggains. | Ord. British. Flambo                     |
| Major G.B. Thompson.     | { Movements } Flambo.                    |
| Capt. G. Flews.          | { " " } " "                              |

1. OPENING REMARKS.

AQMG(3) stated that the basis for discussion would be the AFHQ draft directive which had been forwarded to this H.Q. for publication.

2. PROPOSED RE-DISTRIBUTION OF CLOTHING.

Army Sub-commission said it was not possible to forecast the future movements of the Italian Army. In view of one proposal, viz; to move 50,000 Italians from Sicily and Sardinia to the mainland, it was not possible to lay down any exact figures for the re-distribution of clothing.

AQMG(3) agreed that the figures received from AFHQ could not be firm and it was decided that the proposed re-distribution of clothing did not conform with the distribution of the Italian Army.

3. CAPACITY OF DEPOTS.

It was agreed that existing depots at Naples and Bari were satisfactory. Army Sub-commission said that Ord(Brit) had approved the installations in Sicily and Sardinia. ACC have promised technicians to supervise in the depots.

4. MOVEMENT DIFFICULTIES.

Q(Mov) said that movement personnel would not be able to deal with keeping of records as had been suggested. Army Sub Commission (ACC) agreed that this was their responsibility and that they had machinery to

7667



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7667

5. AUTHORITY FOR CONTROL OF ISSUE.

It was unanimously agreed that control should not be exercised by CGs. of Districts and Base Sections but by the Army Sub Commission (ACC) who alone had knowledge of the requirements and commitments of the Italian Army. The Army Sub Commission (ACC) to exercise control of issue and redistribution through the normal channels.

6. PRIORITY.

After discussion it was agreed that priorities should now read

- (A) Combat troops and those troops preparing to move to combat areas.
- (B) All other Italian troops actively working for the Allied forces.
- (C) The remainder of the Italian Army.

Army Sub Commission (ACC) pointed out that there was a quantity of part worn dyed battle dress now available at Bari. This was suitable for issue to port labour but not to combat troops. It was agreed that the priority should be waived accordingly and issue made to port labour.  
LQMG(3) added a rider to the effect that priorities were liable to be changed as circumstances demanded.

FURTHER POINTS DISCUSSED.

- 7. It was decided that the issue and control of common user items from Italian Depots should be controlled by Army Sub Commission (ACC) and that technical items should be controlled by the arm of the service concerned i.e. Italian Navy or Air Force.
- 8. The shortage of dye for battle dress was pointed out and it was agreed that the Army Sub Commission (ACC) should take steps to have certain stocks of dye released.
- 9. The question of veh maintenance of military vehicles handed over to ACC was discussed. The policy concerning British vehs is covered by AFHQ letter AFHQ/2070/Q(AE) dated 13 Feb 44.

*F. D. G. M. G.*  
 Brigadier,  
 D. G. M. G.

18 Feb. 44.

D I S T R I B U T I O N .

- MOV.
- G-4.
- ORD.
- PES (OQM).
- ARMY SUB COMMISSION (ACC).

7666



MINUTES

of a conference on the control, issue and distribution of clothing for the Italian Forces held at AFHQ Adv Adm Ech 17 Feb 44.

The following were present :-

Lt Col C.J. Kinna	A.Q.M.G. (3) <b>FLAMBO</b> in the chair
Lt Col F.W. Dennis Jr.	C.Q.M. - FBS (US)
Lt Col R.A. Gaw.	G-4. Flambo (US)
Lt Col F.J. Noakes.	Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Lt Col R.G.B. Gregains.	Ord. British. Flambo
Major G.B. Thompson.	Q (Movements). Flambo.
Capt. G. Fievs.	Q " " "

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7665

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ACME(3) added a rider to the effect that priorities were liable to be changed as circumstances demanded.

FURTHER POINTS DISCUSSED.

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18 Feb. 44.

*Fileman* ↓  
 Brigadier,  
 D.Q.M.G.

DISTRIBUTION.

- MOV.
- G-4.
- ORD.
- PBS (OQM).
- ARMY SUB COMMISSION (ACC).

7004



File # 68  
AA19

NOTES ON CONFERENCE ON CLOTHING FOR ITALIAN MILITARY.

1. The basis for discussion will be AFHQ draft directive, which has been forwarded to this HQ for publication. Copy of this draft is attached.

2. Copy of following are also attached for easy reference:-

APPX B to AFHQ letter AG 400-1 (Italy) GDS-ACM dated 9 Jan.  
AFHQ Acem Memo 5 dated 25 Jan.

3. The following points require decision:-

- (a) Does the proposed re-distribution of clothing conform to the requirements and locations of Italian Forces?
- (b) Do Italian depots and organizations exist in the respective areas to deal with these allocations?
- (c) Are there any movement difficulties?
- (d) Are the authorities for control of issue, as laid down in para. 2 of the draft, agreed?
- (e) Are the priorities for issue as laid down in para. 3 of the draft agreed and sufficiently detailed?

7663



~~SECRET~~  
~~BRITISH SECRET~~

AFHQ DRAFT DIRECTIVE

1. Reference is letter this headquarters, to Acting Deputy President, Allied Control Commission, subject: Supply Organisation-Italian Military dated 9 January 1944, File AG 400-1 (Italy) GDS-AGM. The clothing listed in Appendix B of the reference letter is for the entire Italian military, except the Italian Navy, irrespective of present locations. Italian Navy requirements will be submitted to the Royal Navy. Under present instructions from the Combined Chiefs of Staff, this clothing is the total amount to be expected under the present interim policy. Issue, will, therefore, be made only on the basis of necessity and then only in minimum amounts. consideration can not be given to issues based on uniformity of appearance or complete outfitting in any one type of outer clothing.

2. That full advantage may be taken of stocks, control with authority to issue or transfer from one area to another by mutual agreement is delegated as follows:

- a. GOC., No.2 District, for Italian troops operating with British organisations or installations in Italy.
- b. CG., PES, for Italian troops operating with United States organisations or installations in Italy.
- c. Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, for Italian troops operating in Sardinia and Corsica.
- d. GOC., No.1 District, for Italian troops operating in Sicily, including those in Island Base Section area.

3. Priority of issue is as follows:

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Priority A | Combat troops                                    |
| Priority B | Line of communication troops                     |
| Priority C | Those not specified in priorities A and B above. |

7662

4. Every effort will be exerted toward the utilization of Italian Army repair facilities for the maintenance of Italian clothing and equipment as well as that issued from Allied sources. The guiding principle is that the Italian Army must sustain itself in every manner possible with existing Italian stocks supplemented by those made available from Allied sources.

W-U S.N. Cross  
Sub. Admin  
R.P. L. 10000  
Sup.

7662

b. CG., PBS, for Italian troops operating with United States organizations or installations in Italy.  
c. Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, for Italian troops operating in Sardinia and Corsica.

d. GOC., No.1 District, for Italian troops operating in Sicily, including those in Island Base Section area.

3. Priority of issue is as follows:

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Priority A | Combat troops                                    |
| Priority B | Line of communication troops                     |
| Priority C | Those not specified in priorities A and B above. |

4. Every effort will be exerted toward the utilization of Italian Army repair facilities for the maintenance of Italian clothing and equipment as well as that issued from Allied sources. The guiding principle is that the Italian Army must sustain itself in every manner possible with existing Italian stocks supplemented by those made available from Allied sources.

5. Because of changes in shipping instructions and shifting of Italian troops from one area to another, it will be necessary upon arrival of the imported clothing, to make some trans-shipments in order that distribution may be better effected.

6. Attached as Appendix A are information and trans-shipment instructions. Arrangements will be made by those concerned to ship the clothing listed in accordance with the procedure outlined in Appendix A.

7. Administrative Memorandum #5, AFHQ, dated 27 January, contains instructions for disposal of clothing on the mainland of Italy unsuitable for Army use.

a. The GOC., No.1 District, the CG., IBS., the Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, and the CG., Northern Base Section, will each implement appropriate turn-in, repair and issue facilities, comparable to those prescribed in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Administrative Memorandum #5, insofar as possible. The report required in paragraph 6 will be sent to this headquarters, copy to the Allied Control Commission for information.

b. In order to supplement the limited supply of clothing and equipment that will become available in each of the above commands, limited supply of used but repairable clothing and equipment is available from stocks in North Africa. Requests will be submitted to this headquarters, with supporting evidence of need.



US SECRET EQUALS BRITISH SECRET

Appendix 4-1-40  
AFHQ, AG 400-1 (Italy) GDS-AGM  
dated February 1944

1. The distribution by transhipment referred to in paragraph 6 of the basic letter is shown below based on approximate strengths in the several areas as of this date (see Appendix B of letter referred to in paragraph 1 of basic letter):

1. GOC., No.1 District, will tranship the following:
  - a. Of the shipment due from U.K., 100,000 battledress dyed green
    - (1) Ship to Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, 60,000 trousers and jackets.
    - (2) Ship to CG, PBS, 25,000 trousers and jackets.
  - a. Of the shipment due from U.K., 100,000 battledress dyed green
    - (1) Ship to CG., PBS, 50,000 trousers and jackets.
  - b. Of the shipment arriving from Mideast, 100,000 pairs used boots
    - (1) Ship 27,500 to CG. PBS.
    - (2) Ship 15,000 pairs to GOC No.1 District.
    - (3) Ship 30,000 pairs to Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia.
3. Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, will tranship the following:
  - a. Of the shipment of 30% of clothing from U.S.
    - (1) Ship 15,000 of each item to GOC No.1 District.
    - (2) Ship quantity required to Northern Base Section.
4. CG., PBS, will tranship the following:
  - a. Of the shipment of 150,000 pullovers from Mideast
    - (1) Ship 15,000 to GOC, No.1 District.
    - (2) Ship 60,000 to Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia.

7661

(Note: It has been requested that Mideast mark 75,000 with letters "C I T I").



a. Of the shipment due from U.K., 100,000 battledress dyed green

(1) Ship to CG., PES, 50,000 trousers and jackets.

b. Of the shipment arriving from Mideast, 100,000 pairs used boots

{1} Ship 27,500 to CG. PES.

{2} Ship 15,000 pairs to GOC No.1 District.

{3} Ship 30,000 pairs to Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia.

3. Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, will tranship the following:

a. Of the shipment of 30% of clothing from U.S.

{1} Ship 15,000 of each item to GOC No.1 District.

{2} Ship quantity required to Northern Base Section.

4. CG., PES, will tranship the following: 7661

a. Of the shipment of 150,000 pullovers from Mideast

{1} Ship 15,000 to GOC, No.1 District.

{2} Ship 60,000 to Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia.

(Note: It has been requested that Mideast mark 75,000 with letters "C I T I").

5. After completion of transhipment referred to above, the following stocks will be available in each area for issue to Italian Army:

	<u>No.1 District</u>	<u>No.2 District</u>	<u>Sardinia</u>	<u>PBS</u>
Battledress	15,000	50,000	60,000	75,000
Battledress ex Mideast			60,000 jackets 40,000 trousers	
U.S. Shipment	15,000 sets	4.9% (of total US shipment)	30% (of total US shipment)	30%
Boots, ex Mideast	15,000	27,500	30,000	27,500
Pullovers, ex Mideast	15,000	100,000	60,000	75,000

An additional 200,000 pairs of boots available in Mideast will be bid by AFHQ Adv Adm Echelon as shipping permits. Distribution will be made by AFHQ Adv Adm Echelon based on future area requirements.

US. SECRET EQUALS BRITISH SECRET

Appendix 'B' to  
AFHQ AG 400-1 (Italy) (CDS) AGM  
dated 9 January 1944.

1. The following amounts of rations and clothing have been made available for shipment to the locations indicated for use of the Italian Army:-

a. Rations.

X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X

b. Clothing

(1) From the United States:

Drawers, wool	pr.	500,000
Socks, cotton	pr.	600,000
Cap, spruce green, CCC	ea.	250,000
Mackinaw, spruce green, CCC	ea.	250,000
Comforter, cotton (Issued on basis of 1 comforter for 2 blankets)	ea.	250,000
Belt, web, waist, spruce green	ea.	200,000
Shirt, cotton, O.D.	ea.	500,000

The above clothing will be shipped 30% to CAGLIARI, 30% to NAPLES, 40% to BARI and marked "ITI", in addition to other markings. Date of shipment not yet known, but information indicates an early shipment.

(2) From Mideast:

Pullovers, wool (In lieu of undershirts, ea. 250,000  
Issue on basis of one pullover for two undershirts).

The above clothing will be shipped 30% to CAGLIARI, 30% to NAPLES, and 40% to BARI, marked "ITI", in addition to other markings. Date of shipment not yet known but information indicates early shipment.

Jackets, battledress, used	ea.	60,000
Trousers, battledress, used	pr.	40,000
		<b>7660</b>

The above clothing shipped on S.S. FORT LA TRAITTE in MKS-35, NOT marked "ITI".

Boots, used pr. 300,000



Shirt, cotton, etc.  
The above clothing will be shipped 30% to CAGLIARI, 30% to NAPLES, 40% to BARI and marked "ITI", in addition to other markings. Date of shipment not yet known, but information indicates an early shipment.

(2) From Mideast:

Pullovers, wool (In lieu of undershirts. ea. 250,000  
Issue on basis of one pullover for  
two undershirts).

The above clothing will be shipped 30% to CAGLIARI, 30% to NAPLES, and 40% to BARI, marked "ITI", in addition to other markings. Date of shipment not yet known but information indicates early shipment.

Jackets, battledress, used ea. 60,000  
Trousers, battledress, used pr. 40,000 **7660**

The above clothing shipped on S.S. FORT LA TRAITTE in MKS-35, NOT marked "ITI".

Boots, used pr. 300,000

Nine hundred fifty two (952) cases in crates shipped on S.S. FORT ST. RAFAELIS in MKS-35: one hundred sixty-eight (168) cases shipped on S.S. JUAN DE FUCA in GUS-26, NOT marked "ITI".

The remainder of the boots will be shipped shortly, date not known.

(3) From the United Kingdom:

Jackets, battledress, dyed green ea. 200,000  
Trousers, battledress, dyed green ea. 200,000

The above clothing will be shipped: 10,000 to No.1 District on KMS-36; 20,000 to No.1 District on KMS-39; 70,000 to No.1 District on KMS-40; 100,000 to No.2 District on KMS-40, and marked "ITI" in addition to other markings. Transshipment to ITALY and SARDINIA from stocks in SICILY will be made by this headquarters.

(4) The above clothing is the maximum available from all sources as of this date and is sufficient to equip only 200,000 plus limited maintenance in some items.



ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

AFO 512

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM )

January 1944

NUMBER 5 )

DISPOSAL OF UNIFORM CLOTHING  
UNSUITABLE FOR USE IN THE BRITISH AND UNITED STATES ARMIES

1. A shortage exists for meeting the minimum essential clothing requirements of the Italian military and civil population. To meet this shortage, in part at least, certain used clothing and shoes will be provided in such quantities as become available from British and United States Army sources. The Peninsular Base Section and the United States Air Forces in Italy will be the United States Army sources.

2. The British Ordnance Service has established repair facilities in NAPLES and BARI which will be augmented by the necessary civilian labour to dye and repair all items of military clothing and shoes for Italian military and relief purposes.

3. The clothing and shoes selected for this purpose will be carefully screened and will be in such condition as to be beyond economical repair for further use by the British or United States Armies; including prisoners of war in custody of these armies.

4. As the outer uniform clothing provided for this purpose will be of distinctive colour and design, all distinctive markings such as buttons, insignia of rank, etc., will be removed prior to its release. To change its appearance from that originally intended, all outer military clothing provided for use by the Italian military will be dyed a forest green colour. Outer uniform clothing, in such condition as to be beyond repair for use by the Italian military, must be dyed blue or black in order to distinguish it from its original colour and that of the Italian military.

5. It is desired that all items of uniform clothing and shoes in <sup>the</sup> class listed in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, which are accumulated in British Ordnance Depots and United States Quartermaster Salvage Depots on the mainland of Italy, be shipped to the British Ordnance Depot in NAPLES or BARI whichever is nearer, for suitable repair.

and remain will be submitted to

3. The clothing and shoes selected for this purpose will be carefully screened and will be in such condition as to be beyond economical repair for further use by the British or United States Armies; including prisoners of war in custody of these armies.

4. As the outer uniform clothing provided for this purpose will be of distinctive colour and design, all distinctive markings such as buttons, insignia of rank, etc., will be removed prior to its release. To change its appearance from that originally intended, all outer military clothing provided for use by the Italian military will be dyed a forest green colour. Outer uniform clothing, in such condition as to be beyond repair for use by the Italian military, must be dyed blue or black in order to distinguish it from its original colour and that of the Italian military.

5. It is desired that all items of uniform clothing and shoes in <sup>the</sup> class listed in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, which are accumulated in British Ordnance Depots and United States Quartermaster Salvage Depots on the mainland of Italy, be shipped to the British Ordnance Depot in NAPLES or BARI whichever is nearer, for suitable repair.

6. Monthly reports of clothing, dyed and repaired will be submitted to this headquarters and Headquarters Allied Control Commission for subsequent issue to meet Italian Military and civilian needs as recommended to this headquarters by Headquarters Allied Control Commission. (AG 421-1CDS-4CM)

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL WILSON.

Sgd J. L. TARR.  
Colonel AGD,  
Asst. Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION.  
E.



*12910*  
Subject:- Issue and redistribution of clothing to Italian Military. SECRET.

A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Ech,  
C. M. F.

*See Army  
on file*

31/5/03

18 Feb 44

A.F.H.Q. (2)

1. With reference to your letter AG 400-1 (Italy) GDS-ACM dated 6 Feb 44 and draft directive dealing with clothing for the Italian Military.
2. A conference was held at this headquarters on 17 Feb 44 and the contents of your draft letter were fully discussed and the following decisions reached :-

- (a) That the control of stocks and redistribution of them must be the responsibility of the Army Sub Commission (ACC).
- (b) That the Italian depots at NAPLES, BARI, SICILY and SARDINIA were satisfactory to deal with allocations likely to be made.
- (c) That the movement of Italian clothing within Italy and to Sardinia was a recognised commitment and that the Army Sub Commission (ACC) would make necessary arrangements for such movement through the usual channels.
- (d) That the priorities for issue would be as follows :-
  - (i) combat troops and those units about to enter the combat zone.
  - (ii) troops employed in assisting the Allies behind the combat zone boundary.
  - (iii) all other troops not included in (i) and (ii).

7658

The above priorities would be altered from time to time, as by the Army Sub Commission (ACC).



must be the responsibility of the Army Sub Commission (ACC).

- (b) That the Italian depots at NAPLES, BARI, SICILY and SARDINIA were satisfactory to deal with allocations likely to be made.
- (c) That the movement of Italian clothing within Italy and to Sardinia was a recognised commitment and that the Army Sub Commission (ACC) would make necessary arrangements for such movement through the usual channels.
- (d) That the priorities for issue would be as follows :-

- (i) combat troops and those units about to enter the combat zone.
- (ii) troops employed in assisting the Allies behind the combat zone boundary.
- (iii) all other troops not included in (i) and (ii).

7658

The above priorities would be altered from time to time, as necessary, by the Army Sub Commission (ACC).

3. The following were represented at the conference referred to in para 2 above :-

"Q" FLAMBO	Movements FLAMBO
G-4 FLAMBO	Ord (Br) FLAMBO
QM FBS	Army Sub Commission (ACC).

*[Signature]*  
 Major General,  
 Deputy Chief Administrative Officer,

Copy to :- Mov  
 G-4  
 Ord  
 FBS (QM)  
 Army Sub Commission (ACC).

} together with copy of Minutes.

*copies already distributed to ST, CID 67*

*Adm/9.*

SECRET

AFHQ Adv Adm Echelon.  
CME.

25/10  
Feb. 44. 10

*Drup*

Notes of a Meeting Held at AFHQ Adv Adm Echelon on  
8 Feb 44 to Discuss Certain Aspects of the Maintenance  
of the Italian Armed Forces.

Present - Reprs of - Q1  
Q2  
G-4  
Mov  
ST  
OS  
Pet Sec  
FA  
PES  
MMIA

**MILITARY MISSION:**

Date 12 Feb 44  
to  
ITALIAN ARMY

Action  
Required by

1. Demands for Future Imports.  
MMIA agreed to send rep to ten daily tonnage bidding if FLAUBO approved.  
Action Required by: DIG to decide whether MMIA rep should attend.
2. Reserves to be held by Italian Army.  
Agreed that certain reserves of supplies (rations) should be held under Italian control to provide for working margin, breakdown or delay in coms etc.  
MMIA recommend 30 days to incl working margin.

7057  
Q1

ITALIAN MATRONS

Pet Sec  
FA  
PES  
MMIA

Action  
Required by

1. Demands for Future Imports.  
MMIA agreed to send rep to ten daily tonnage bidding if FLAMBO approved.  
Action Required by: DMG to decide whether MMIA rep should attend.  
7057 Q1
2. Reserves to be held by Italian Army.  
Agreed that certain reserves of supplies (rations) should be held under Italian control to provide for working margin, breakdown or delay in comms etc.  
MMIA recommend 30 days to incl working margin.
3. Advice of Incoming Shipments.  
MOV agreed to keep MMIA informed as far as possible of incoming shipments.  
We want immediate information.  
Identification of Stores at Docks.
4. MMIA wish to place a small Italian Port Det at NAPLES and Bari and desire an Allied Officer to act with these depts.  
Not considered necessary or possible to provide an Allied Officer for this duty. Suggest attachment of the Italian Det to RASC Port Dets.
5. Location of Italian Depots.  
Main Italian Supply Depot is located at TARANTO. Other depots are available at Bari and NAPLES. The Bari Depot has a very limited capacity and is not capable of expansion. Search to be continued for adequate depot at NAPLES.

Q1 ST

Q2

No. 1



Sheet 2

Action  
required by

6. Ports of acceptance and Clearance of Stores.

- (a) So far as practicable ships carrying Italian stores will be berthed at TARANTO.
- (b) Supplies unloaded at NAPLES will be cleared direct to NAPLES depot to the capacity of the depot. Balance will be railed to TARANTO.
- (c) Unless otherwise requested by MIA all Italian ships unloaded at BARI will be railed direct to TARANTO.
- (d) Ships unloaded at BRINDISI will be railed direct to TARANTO.

Mov

Mov.  
PBS.

Mov.

Mov.

7. MIA consider that adequate Allied personnel must be available to inspect Italian Depots. MIA recommend establishment of an Inspectorate as follows under MIA -

A SD  
G-4

Major (2) 50 Americans  
Captains (2) 50 British  
Clubs (2)

8. Distribution of Supplies to Italian Forces.

- (a) In Army Areas.
  - (i) Italian Forces with British Forces.  
Supply will continue through normal supply channels from British Depots to RHs. ST will arrange to demand monthly on MIA for compensating supplies.

ST

(ii) Italian Forces with US Forces.

Supply will continue through normal supply channels from American Depots to RHs. PBS will arrange to demand ten daily on MIA for compensating supplies.

PBS

*uf*  
*9. 10/2*  
*NOV*  
*10/2*

*Set up*

*ST*

*10/2*

*3 made this clear, BARI to be filled, after TARANTO*

available to inspect Italian Depots, MIA recommend establishment of an Inspectorate as follows under MIA.

- Mejors (2) 50. Americans
- Captains (2) 50. British.
- Clarks (2)

8. Distribution of Supplies to Italian Forces.

(a) In Army Areas.

(i) Italian Forces with British Forces.

Supply will continue through normal supply channels from British Depots to RHs. ST will arrange to demand monthly on MIA for compensating supplies.

(ii) Italian Forces with US Forces.

Supply will continue through normal supply channels from American Depots to RHs. PBS will arrange to demand ten daily on MIA for compensating supplies.

(b) Behind Army Rear Boundaries.

The Italian Army will assume responsibility for the distribution of sups to all Italian Units, Dets, composite units, etc in rear of Army boundaries. MIA confirm that the Italian Army are able and prepared to undertake this commitment.

MIA will signal this HQ and PBS dates on which Italian Army will assume this responsibility and cease drawing from Allied Depots.

In isolated cases and in emergency it may become necessary from time to time to feed Italian Units in Dets from Allied Depots. When this becomes necessary records will be kept and replacement demanded as (a)(i) and (ii) above.

9. Rail Movement.

MIA will bid for rail tonnage to Mov for seven day periods, bids to be received in Mov by Tuesday each week for the seven daily period commencing the following Monday.

A SD 8-4

ST

PBS

MIA

MIA

PBS ST

MIA Mov



67

Sheet 3

Action required by

10. Extra Rations for Manual Labour.

Provision is made in the ration scales for the provision of 2 ozs Preserved Meat to Italians on the Basis Scale employed on heavy manual labour.

FBS  
ST  
P & L

To ensure that this ration is received in full by those actually employed on heavy manual labour, it was agreed that this extra ration would continue to be issued by the employing agency. Compensating demands on MIA can be made as in 7(a)(i) and (ii) above.

It!

11. POL.

Pet Sec stated they were in process of issuing an Adm Instruction on the supply of POL to the Italian Armed Forces and civil population.

Briefly the terms of this instructions will be -

- (a) POL supply in the fwd area will be through normal channels.
- (b) In rear of Army boundaries, Italian Units and Dets serving with Allied Formations or Units, will draw POL through Allied Unit with which they are serving. POL for other units and Dets will be included in the bulk allocation made by Pet Sec to G.I.P.

12. Accountancy.

Recent signals referring to the accounting for services rendered to the Italian Army were discussed. It was decided that it was impracticable to make a detailed check of stores received at docks or in depots.

Decided to refer to ALGIERS whether it would not be possible to debit complete shipments as set up, against the Italian Government.

7656

02

9  
Shirley  
Wes



Briefly the terms of this instructions will be -

- (a) POL supply in the fwd area will be through normal channels.
- (b) In rear of Army boundaries, Italian Units and Dets serving with Allied Formations or Units, will draw POL through Allied Unit with which they are serving. POL for other units and dets will be included in the bulk allocation made by Pet Sec to C.I.P.

12. Accountancy.

7b56

Recent signals referring to the accounting for services rendered to the Italian Army were discussed. It was decided that it was impracticable to make a detailed check of stores received at docks or in depots.

Decided to refer to ALGIERS whether it would not be possible to debit complete shipments as set up, against the Italian Government. Q2

H. MOLLEMAN Major for  
Brigadier.  
D.C.M.G.

- Distribution -
- DJIC
  - SD
  - A
  - Q1
  - Q2
  - Q3
  - G-4
  - CV(2)
  - ST(2)
  - OS
  - Pet Sec
  - PA
  - P & L
  - MMIA IO
  - CG, PES
  - " " No. 2 District (6)
  - " " No. 3 District. (4)
  - MMIA (6)

*9*  
*Shirley*  
*Wright*

*✓*

60  
draft 67

NOTES ON CONFERENCE ON CLOTHING FOR ITALIAN MILITARY.

1. The basis for discussion will be AFHQ draft directive, which has been forwarded to this HQ for publication. Copy of this draft is attached.

2. Copy of following are also attached for easy reference:-

APPX B to AFHQ letter AG 400-1 (Italy) GVS-AGM dated 9 Jan.  
AFHQ Adm Memo 5 dated 25 Jan.

3. The following points require decision:-

- (a) Does the proposed re-distribution of clothing conform to the requirements and locations of Italian Forces?
- (b) Do Italian depots and organizations exist in the respective areas to deal with these allocations?
- (c) Are there any movement difficulties?
- (d) Are the authorities for control of issue, as laid down in para. 2 of the draft, agreed?
- (e) Are the priorities for issue as laid down in para. 3 of the draft agreed and sufficiently detailed?



7055

down in para.2 of the draft, agreed?

(e) Are the priorities for issue as laid down in para.3 of the draft agreed and sufficiently detailed?



~~SECRET~~  
~~BRITISH SECRET~~

AFHQ DRAFT DIRECTIVE

1. Reference is letter this headquarters, to Acting Deputy President, Allied Control Commission, subject: Supply Organisation-Italian Military dated 9 January 1944, File AG 400-1 (Italy) GDS-AGM. The clothing listed in Appendix B of the reference letter is for the entire Italian military, except the Italian Navy, irrespective of present locations. Italian Navy requirements will be submitted to the Royal Navy. Under present instructions from the Combined Chiefs of Staff, this clothing is the total amount to be expected under the present interim policy. Issue, will, therefore, be made only on the basis of necessity and then only in minimum amounts. **consideration** can not be given to issues based on uniformity of appearance or complete outfitting in any one type of outer clothing.
2. That full advantage may be taken of stocks, control with authority to issue or transfer from one area to another by mutual agreement is delegated as follows:
  - a. GOC., No.2 District, for Italian troops operating with British organisations or installations in Italy.
  - b. CG., PBS, for Italian troops operating with United States organisations or installations in Italy.
  - c. Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, for Italian troops operating in Sardinia and Corsica.
  - d. GOC., No.1 District, for Italian troops operating in Sicily, including those in Island Base Section area.
3. Priority of issue is as follows:
 

Priority A	Combat troops + <i>4/5</i> as formed for this.
Priority B	Line of communication troops
Priority C	Those not specified in priorities A and B above.
4. Every effort will be exerted toward the utilization of Italian Army stocks repair facilities for the maintenance of Italian clothing and equipment as well as that issued from Allied sources. The guiding principle is that the Italian Army must sustain itself in every manner possible with existing Italian stocks supplemented by those made available from Allied sources. 7654

b. CG., PBS, for Italian troops operating with United States organizations or installations in Italy.

c. Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, for Italian troops operating in Sardinia and Corsica.

d. GOC., No. 1 District, for Italian troops operating in Sicily, including those in Island Base Section area.

3. Priority of issue is as follows:

Priority A	Combat troops + <i>4th is formed for this.</i>
Priority B	Line of communication troops
Priority C	Those not specified in priorities A and B above.

4. Every effort will be exerted toward the utilization of Italian Army <sup>7654</sup> repair facilities for the maintenance of Italian clothing and equipment as well as that issued from Allied sources. The guiding principle is that the Italian Army must sustain itself in every manner possible with existing Italian stocks supplemented by those made available from Allied sources.

5. Because of changes in shipping instructions and shifting of Italian troops from one area to another, it will be necessary upon arrival of the imported clothing, to make some trans-shipments in order that distribution may be better effected.

6. Attached as Appendix A are information and trans-shipment instructions. Arrangements will be made by those concerned to ship the clothing listed in accordance with the procedure outlined in Appendix A.

7. Administrative Memorandum #5, AFHQ, dated 27 January, contains instructions for disposal of clothing on the mainland of Italy unsuitable for Army use.

a. The GOC., No. 1 District, the CG., IBS., the Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, and the CG., Northern Base Section, will each implement appropriate turn-in, repair and issue facilities, comparable to those prescribed in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Administrative Memorandum #5, insofar as possible. The report required in paragraph 6 will be sent to this headquarters, copy to the Allied Control Commission for information.

b. In order to supplement the limited supply of clothing and equipment that will become available in each of the above commands, limited supply of used but repairable clothing and equipment is available from stocks in North Africa. Requests will be submitted to this headquarters, with supporting evidence of need.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020



US SECRET EQUALS BRITISH SECRET

Appendix "A" to  
AFFHQ, AG 400-1 (Italy)GDS-AGM  
dated February 1944

1. The distribution by transshipment referred to in paragraph 6 of the basic letter is shown below based on approximate strengths in the several areas as of this date (see Appendix B of letter referred to in paragraph 1 of basic letter):

1. GOC., No.1 District, will tranship the following:
  - a. Of the shipment due from U.K., 100,000 battledress dyed green
    - (1) Ship to Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, 60,000 trousers and jackets.
    - (2) Ship to CG, PBS, 25,000 trousers and jackets.
2. GOC., No.2 District, will tranship the following:
  - a. Of the shipment due from U.K., 100,000 battledress dyed green
    - (1) Ship to CG., PBS, 50,000 trousers and jackets.
  - b. Of the shipment arriving from Mideast, 100,000 pairs used boots
    - (1) Ship 27,500 to CG. PBS.
    - (2) Ship 15,000 pairs to GOC No.1 District.
    - (3) Ship 30,000 pairs to Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia.
3. Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, will tranship the following:
  - a. Of the shipment of 30,000 of clothing from U.S.
    - (1) Ship 15,000 of each item to GOC No.1 District.
    - (2) Ship quantity required to Northern Base Section.
4. CG., PBS, will tranship the following:
  - a. Of the shipment of 150,000 pullovers from Mideast
    - (1) Ship 15,000 to GOC, No.1 District.
    - (2) Ship 60,000 to Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia.

(Note: It has been requested that Mideast mark 75,000 with letters "C I T I").

- (1) Ship to CG., PBS, 50,000 trousers and jackets.
- b. Of the shipment arriving from Mideast, 100,000 pairs used boots
  - (1) Ship 27,500 to CG. PBS.
  - (2) Ship 15,000 pairs to GOC No.1 District.
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- 3. Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, will tranship the following:
  - a. Of the shipment of 30% of clothing from U.S.
    - (1) Ship 15,000 of each item to GOC No.1 District.
    - (2) Ship quantity required to Northern Base Section.
- 4. CG., PBS, will tranship the following:
  - a. Of the shipment of 150,000 pullovers from Mideast
    - (1) Ship 15,000 to GOC, No.1 District.
    - (2) Ship 60,000 to Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia. **77053**

(Note: It has been requested that Mideast mark 75,000 with letters "C I T I").

5. After completion of transshipment referred to above, the following stocks will be available in each area for issue to Italian Army:

	<u>No.1 District</u>	<u>No.2 District</u>	<u>Sardinia</u>	<u>PBS</u>
Battledress	15,000	50,000	60,000	75,000
Battledress ex Mideast		60,000 jackets		
		40,000 trousers		
U.S. Shipment	15,000 sets	40% (of total US shipment)	30% (of total US shipment)	30%
		less 15,000 sets)		
Boots, ex Mideast	15,000	27,500	30,000	27,500
Pullovers, ex Mideast	15,000	100,000	60,000	75,000

An additional 200,000 pairs of boots available in Mideast will be bid by AFHQ Adv Adm Echelon as shipping permits. Distribution will be made by AFHQ Adv Adm Echelon based on future area requirements.



US. SECRET EQUALS BRITISH SECRET

Appendix 'B' to  
AFHQ AG 400-1 (Italy) (CDS) ACM  
dated 2 January 1944.

1. The following amounts of rations and clothing have been made available for shipment to the locations indicated for use of the Italian Army:-

a. Rations. X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X

b. Clothing

(1) From the United States:

- Drawers, wool pr. 500,000
- Socks, cotton pr. 600,000
- Cap, spruce green, CCC ea. 250,000
- Mackinaw, spruce green, CCC ea. 250,000
- Comforter, cotton (Issue on basis of 1 comforter for 2 blankets) ea. 250,000
- Belt, web, waist, spruce green ea. 200,000
- Shirt, cotton, O.D. ea. 500,000

The above clothing will be shipped 30% to CAGLIARI, 30% to NAPLES, 40% to BARI and marked "ITI", in addition to other markings. Date of shipment not yet known, but information indicates an early shipment.

(2) From Mideast:

- Pullovers, wool (In lieu of undershirts, ea. 250,000 Issue on basis of one pullover for two undershirts).

The above clothing will be shipped 30% to CAGLIARI, 30% to NAPLES, and 40% to BARI, marked "ITI", in addition to other markings. Date of shipment not yet known but information indicates early shipment.

- Jackets, battledress, used ea. 60,000
- Trousers, battledress, used pr. 40,000

The above clothing shipped on S.S. FORT LA TRAITTE in <sup>MKS-35</sup> NOT marked "ITI". 1032

- Boots, used pr. 300,000



The above clothing will be shipped 30% to CAGLIARI, 30% to NAPLES, 40% to BARI and marked "ITI", in addition to other markings. Date of shipment not yet known, but information indicates an early shipment.

(2) From Mideast:

Pullovers, wool (In lieu of undershirts, ea, 250,000  
Issue on basis of one pullover for  
two undershirts).

The above clothing will be shipped 30% to CAGLIARI, 30% to NAPLES, and 40% to BARI, marked "ITI", in addition to other markings. Date of shipment not yet known but information indicates early shipment.

Jackets, battledress, used ea. 60,000  
Trousers, battledress, used pr. 40,000

The above clothing shipped on S.S. FORT LA TRAPPE in MKS-35,  
NOT marked "ITI".

Boots, used pr. 300,000

Nine hundred fifty two (952) cases in crates shipped on S.S. FORT ST. REGIS in MKS-35: one hundred sixty-eight (68) cases shipped on S.S. JUAN DE FUCA in GUS-26, NOT marked "ITI".

The remainder of the boots will be shipped shortly, date not known.

(3) From the United Kingdom:

Jackets, battledress, dyed green ea. 200,000  
Trousers, battledress, dyed green ea. 200,000

The above clothing will be shipped: 10,000 to No.1 District on KMS-36; 20,000 to No.1 District on KMS-39; 70,000 to No.1 District on KMS-40; 100,000 to No.2 District on KMS-40, and marked "ITI" in addition to other markings. Transshipment to ITALY and SARDINIA from stocks in SICILY will be made by this headquarters.

(4) The above clothing is the maximum available from all sources as of this date and is sufficient to equip only 200,000 plus limited maintenance in same items.

66

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
AFQ 512

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM )

January 1944

NUMBER 5 )

DISPOSAL OF UNIFORM CLOTHING  
UNSUITABLE FOR USE IN THE BRITISH AND UNITED STATES ARMIES

1. A shortage exists for meeting the minimum essential clothing requirements of the Italian military and civil population. To meet this shortage, in part at least, certain used clothing and shoes will be provided in such quantities as become available from British and United States Army sources. The Peninsular Base Section and the United States Air Forces in Italy will be the United States Army sources.

2. The British Ordnance Service has established repair facilities in NAPLES and BARI which will be augmented by the necessary civilian labour to dye and repair all items of military clothing and shoes for Italian military and relief purposes.

3. The clothing and shoes selected for this purpose will be carefully screened and will be in such condition as to be beyond economical repair for further use by the British or United States Armies; including prisoners of war in custody of these armies.

4. As the outer uniform clothing provided for this purpose will be of distinctive colour and design, all distinctive markings such as buttons, insignia of rank, etc., will be removed prior to its release. To change its appearance from that originally intended, all outer military clothing provided for use by the Italian military will be dyed a forest green colour. Outer uniform clothing, in such condition as to be beyond repair for use by the Italian military, must be dyed blue or black in order to distinguish it from its original colour and that of the Italian military.

5. It is desired that all items of uniform clothing and shoes in the class listed in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, which are accumulated in British Ordnance Depots and United States Quartermaster Salvage Depots on the mainland of Italy, be shipped to the British Ordnance Depot in NAPLES or BARI whichever is nearer, for suitable repair.

7031

6. Monthly reports of clothing, dyed and repaired will be submitted to the Headquarters and Headquarters Allied Control Commission for subsequent



3. The clothing and shoes selected for this purpose will be carefully screened and will be in such condition as to be beyond economical repair for further use by the British or United States Armies; including prisoners of war in custody of these armies.

4. As the outer uniform clothing provided for this purpose will be of distinctive colour and design, all distinctive markings such as buttons, insignia of rank, etc., will be removed prior to its release. To change its appearance from that originally intended, all outer military clothing provided for use by the Italian military will be dyed a forest green colour. Outer uniform clothing, in such condition as to be beyond repair for use by the Italian military, must be dyed blue or black in order to distinguish it from its original colour and that of the Italian military.

5. It is desired that all items of uniform clothing and shoes in the class listed in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, which are accumulated in British Ordnance Depots and United States Quartermaster Salvage Depots on the mainland of Italy, be shipped to the British Ordnance Depot <sup>7031</sup> ~~at NAPLES~~ or BARI whichever is nearer, for suitable repair.

6. Monthly reports of clothing, dyed and repaired will be submitted to this headquarters and Headquarters Allied Control Commission for subsequent issue to meet Italian Military and civilian needs as recommended to this headquarters by Headquarters Allied Control Commission. (AG 421-1CDS-AGM)

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL WILSON.

Sgt J.L. TARR.  
Colonel AGC.  
Asst. Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION.  
E.



81F No. 1  
600  
608  
18/2

M.L.I.A. (your Q 570 dated 15 Feb refers)

HQ No. 2 District CWP  
1555 Q  
12 Feb 44

31

ITALIAN ARMY.

NOTES ON DISTRICT COMMANDERS CONFERENCE NO 3

Reference Conference Notes issued under this HQ reference 1555Q dated 24 Jan. The following action has been taken

- (a) Receipts to bridges and road surface in hand in British Area.
- (b) Rail Service development generally is in hand and limited progress has been made.
- (c) FLAMBO state that Officers shop is expected to open early Feb '44. No opening date yet advised.
- (c) Boots  
FLAMBO authority requested to increase scale of issue of boots from 1 pair to 2 pairs for 2 District troops. To meet this liability approx 200,000 pairs of boots would be required. Reply is awaited.

Denim Overalls

Confirmation received from FLAMBO that Denim overalls can be demanded by units under C/O Regs Scale 3 footnote (b). This covers practically all units except infantry.

Para 16 Battinaglia Bridge

Now temporary bridge - class 70 - under construction by III. Expect completion 12 Feb.

Cava and Tratte Bridge

A488 have been asked to produce plans for the replacement of the existing Bailey Bridges. A43 Engineer of Public Works and Mines Sub Commission has the matter in hand and is co-ordinating it with the Italian Military. The plans when available will be handed to the CE No 3 District.

Para 17. 24 Sub Area

144 MG in (Italian) 20 Officers and 353 ORs posted to 24 Sub Area. 94 Sub Area instructed to find guard personnel for Infantry Camp from BA of Cheshire. No extra personnel available.

7650

Para 16 Lettinerlin Bridge

New temporary bridge - class 70 - under construction by  
RA. Expect completion 12 Feb.

Cava and Pratto Bridge

MASS have been asked to produce plans for the replacement  
of the existing Bailey Bridges. AIB Engineers of Public Works  
and Mines Sub Commission has the matter in hand and is  
co-ordinating it with the Italian Military. The plans when  
available will be handed to the CE 10 3 District.

Para 17. 24 Sub Area 7650

114 MS in (Italian) 20 efficient and 353 ORs posted to  
24 Sub Area. 24 Sub Area instructed to find Guard personnel  
for Internec Camp from BA of Cheshires.  
10 extra personnel available.

Para 18

(a) Italian Military labour availability has increased as a  
result of continuous pressure on SMI through MIA. Position  
still far from satisfactory and though further improvement is  
expected, it is unlikely that target figure will ever be  
achieved. Sub areas have been asked to revise and reduce their  
target figure

(b) Socks - Italian Military Labour

MIA report that socks are now priority 1, shipments  
expected from SARDINIA and elsewhere. Have requested SARDINIAN  
shipment by air. No MIA yet advised. MIA are applying to  
MIA for release of socks from Allied sources.

*NO, not in news &  
shipment from SARDINIA*

Boots - Italian Military Labour.

(i) 50,000 part worn boots were expected at MUNDISH  
(ii) 50,000 new boots arrived at 500 500 BARI and were believed to  
be the commitment in (i) above.  
MUNDISH obtained from ORI FILIBO of 10,000 pairs, these have  
been disposed of under instructions MIA as follows -

5,000	to	<del>ITALIA</del> <i>Verona</i>
5,000	to	ITALIA
40,000	to	Italian Depot BARI

(iii) FILIBO have been asked for release of balance of 40,000 pairs.

...../Para 22

*Count*



Para 22.

Guards - Petrol Area, MARLBOROUGH.

Petrol depot had two Coys of Jolthour (Inf) to patrol and guard petrol areas. Now that SAFEDONIA commitment is a USA responsibility guard personnel so released are available elsewhere in 151 Sub Area.

Application was made to AOC on 29 Dec that petrol area be made a 'Prohibited Area'. Reminders have been sent. Reply received 7 Feb to the effect that this HQ letter(s) could not be traced. A further detailed letter now despatched and reply awaited.

Para 27.

Every effort has been made to get Driver reinforcements without success. Plan being put into operation for employment of Italian civilian drivers. Slight improvement has been recorded in turn-round of vehicles at USA Depots.

Para 28.

See para 16 above.

Para 33.

Cigarettes for Refugees

AOC asked by FIMBIO to issue from Italian Cigarette/Tobacco stocks believed to exist in MARLBOROUGH in the meantime issue of cigarettes being made from British sources, number not to exceed 2,000 rations weekly.

Para 35.

Transport allotted to 74 Sub Area exceeds basic requirements by 300 tons.

8 replacement engines have been allotted, further releases expected.

Re allocation of new vehicles to make good deficiencies.

Vehicle maintenance policy - each vehicle to have 3 days off road per month.

Para 41.

Disposal instructions have been issued to 70 Military personnel held in MARLBOROUGH civilian prison.

Field Punishment Centre not available. AFHQ have been asked to provide.

Para 42.

Preparation for accommodation of all known commitments in hand. Only noted that extra field accommodation is available MARLBOROUGH area.

Para 43.

Signboards to VD have been replaced by a sign indicating the way to the RAO.



400 asked by PLANU to issue from Italian Cigarette/Tobacco stocks believed to exist in BML; in the meantime issue of cigarettes being made from British sources, number not to exceed 2,000 rations weekly

Transport allotted to 71 Sub Area exceeds basic requirements by 300 tons.  
6 replacement engines have been allotted, further releases expected.  
No allocation of new vehicles to make good deficiencies.  
Vehicle maintenance policy - Each vehicle to have 3 days off road per month.

Disposal instructions have been issued re 70 Military personnel held in PLANU civilian prison.  
Field Punishment Centre not available. AFHQ have been asked to provide.

Preparation for accommodation of all known commitments in hand. Daily noted that extra field accommodation is available PLANU area.

Signboards re VD have been replaced by a sign indicating the way to the PAC.

*W. J. Hughes*  
Colonel,  
Col i/c ADM.

DISTRIBUTION:

- AFHQ Adv Adm Vehicle
- 52 Area.
- 57 Area.
- 6 Base-Sub Area.
- 71 Sub Area.
- 94 Sub Area
- 151 Sub Area
- 21A.

Internal.

- ADD for GOC
- Col i/c ADM
- CSO I
- C (SD)
- AG
- AG(1)
- AG(II).
- CE
- Col 9 (Nov)
- DETA.
- CSO
- AG.
- DDST
- DDMS
- DDOS
- DDAE
- DEI
- DDL
- D&D(Salvage)
- Welfare
- AGLO
- IO to 21A
- Education.
- Coal Commission.

Para 35

Para 35

Para 41

Para 42

Para 43

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No. 785020

ARMY FORM C2136 (Rev. 11)

### MESSAGE FORM

Register No. 644

Call	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
------	----------	----------	---------------------------

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) M.H.I.A.

Originator

Date (DD/MM/YY)

14/2330

OFFICE DATE STAMP

109

For Action

MILITARY MISSION

TO BLANCO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Date 10/9

Message Instructions

GR

ITALIAN ARMY

Originator's No.

Your A/W/1733 of 17 (.) Agree ROMONE VISITE ALLEIS

BSGCO.  
18/2

7644

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT WIRELESS

SIGNED

*[Handwritten signature]*

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

IMMEDIATE

Time	System	Op.
<u>THI</u> or <u>TOR</u>		
Time cleared		

(GV326) WT. 9433 194 2 000 (00) Pads. 5/43 B & S Ltd 51-0745/6

Continuation of Report on Visit to NAPLES between 6 & 10 Feb 44  
 by Lt. Col. E. E. TUNNEY ADST Army COMM ACC.

Visited NAPLES Port accompanied by Capt CRAIG on 8 Feb.

- (a) Asked Port (American) Office if they were in a position to say what quantities had been discharged to Italian Depots from HR.810 s.s. "John Morehead" (vide Army Adv Adm Ech letter 1.012/S24 dated 2 Feb 44). They were unable to tell from checkers tallies. It is apparent that by the American System of discharging shipping it would be quite impossible for them to obtain any form of really accurate receipt for stores handed over by them to the Italians.
- (b) Went on the Quay. An Italian 2nd Lt. was actually checking the cases of Sups as they were loaded into Army lorries. It was noticeable that none of the cases had been tampered with and there were no signs of any pilferage.
- (c) Italian Officer appeared to understand what he was intended to do and was doing it efficiently.

## 2. Visited Italian Supply Depot, NAPLES.

- (a) Noticed that there were seven lorry loads of Sups ex docks awaiting off-loading. Only two lorries were actually being worked. The last lorry had been waiting half an hour. The Depot only having one very narrow passage through it does not permit more lorries to be worked at the same time.
- (b) It was suggested to the Depot Comdr that he should clear and clean up the ground in the immediate vicinity of the Depot, wire fence it in, and thereby provide himself with more room for expansion.
- (c) It was observed that once again green vegetables were being delivered by Contractor and that they had long uncuttable stems attached. This point was observed in my inspection 25rd Jan para 2(c) and pointed out to the Italian Representatives. The Contractor had men cutting off the unnecessarily long stems in the actual Depot. It is thought that this was being done for my benefit.
- (d) The Sups were filling up all the existing storage space in the Depot. The stacking was so congested that it would be quite impossible to take stock in the Depot.
- (e) There was an Italian 2nd Lieut checking Sups into the Depot and Italian Civilians labouring. It was remarkable that there was no pilferage observed.
- i. Visited Ufficio Commissariato Via Lom. Saw Lt. Col. de Magio.
- (a) Explained that it is necessary that more accommodation for Sups be found, if possible in the vicinity of the existing Italian Depot. Pointed out that it was not necessary to put cases under cover. It would be sufficient to clear open ground and wire fence it in.
- (b) Pointed out the importance of not keeping lorries under load. It is essential that lorries be off-loaded immediately on arrival at the Italian Depot. The further accommodation should enable this to be done.
- (c) Pointed out that it is desirable that the same officers be employed at discharging shipping in the docks and that these officers should endeavour to get acquainted with the Allied Officers they may be working with.

## 3. On 9 Feb visited Italian Supply Depot POTENZA.

- (a) Ref my inspection dated 25th Jan para 7, it was represented to British Off Boys that the accommodation provided for the Italian Sup Depot was most unsuitable and that



Contractor and that they had long unentailed stems attached. This point was observed in my inspection 23rd Jan para 2(c) and pointed out to the Italian Representatives. The Contractor had men cutting off the unnecessarily long stems in the actual Depot. It is thought that this was being done for my benefit.

(d) The Sups were filling up all the existing storage space in the Depot. The stacking was so congested that it would be quite impossible to take stock in the Depot.

(e) There was an Italian 2nd Lieut checking Sups into the Depot and Italian Civilians labouring. It was remarkable that there was no pilferage observed.

5. Visited Ufficio Commissariato Via Roma. Saw Lt. Col. de Maggio.

(a) Explained that it is necessary that more accommodation for Sups be found, if possible in the vicinity of the existing Italian Depot. Pointed out that it was not necessary to put cases goods under cover. It would be sufficient to clear open ground and wire fence it in.

(b) Pointed out the importance of not keeping lorries under load. It is essential that lorries be off-loaded immediately on arrival at the Italian Depot. The further accommodation should enable this to be done.

(c) Pointed out that it is desirable that the same officers be employed at discharging shipping in the docks and that these officers should endeavour to get acquainted with the Allied Officers they may be working with.

4. On 9 Feb visited Italian Supp Depot POMEZIA.

(a) Ref my inspection dated 25th Jan para 7, it was represented to British <sup>by</sup> ~~by~~ <sup>by</sup> ~~by~~ that the accommodation provided for the Italian Sup Depot was most unsuitable and that in consequence of the semi-destroyed building being employed the stores were becoming ~~increasingly~~ <sup>increasingly</sup> damaged by weather. British OC Troops had promised to do something.

(b) It is observed that though a fortnight had elapsed nothing has been done and the Italian Sups are still housed in the same accommodation.

5. On 10th Feb reported to ST DISTWO accompanied by Capt WHIPP.

(a) Asked EDST Col Warner if it would be possible to provide two additional clerks and six extra drivers for Army Sub Comm. This is quite impossible.

(b) It was discussed that 1001 Italian CT Coy would be placed at the disposal of ST for distribution of food to civilian population. DISTWO intended to send 1001 to 103 and completely wash their hands of them. They intended to remove the British Cadre. They intended to hand over the British Vehicles entirely to the Italians. They also intended to reduce the strength of the Italian personnel to approx 250 Italian GIs and transfer the remainder to 1002 Italian CT Coy to bring them up to strength.

These matters were all discussed and it is hoped that none of these things will happen.

(c) It would appear that training at POLIGNANO of 1002 GI Coy has come to a standstill because of lack of petrol. This matter was represented to ADST (Lt. Col. Pagan) and it was recommended that the Cadre 556 Water Tank Coy be asked to issue POL. It was later arranged unofficially with 556 Water Tank Coy that this should be done. IMA signal No. Q 530 dated 9 Feb refers.

(a) .....  
FIC.

-2-

5. (continued)

(a) DOST DISMTC wanted to know about the conference of Cadre Commanders of Italianised Units convened by Army Sub Com, to be held at LAGUILLI at 1500 hrs Saturday 12 Feb. DOST, Army Sub Com pointed out that it was an endeavour to smooth out difficulties and would discuss matters regarding clothing, pay and rations etc. DISMTC was invited to send a representative to attend. MIA signal No. 81/50 dated 4 Feb refers.

*Handwritten signature*

1st Col,  
DOST, MIA,  
Army Sub Com, AGC.

In the Field.  
11 Feb 44.  
DT

Original to: Cmt  
Copies to : C(SD)  
ST  
Circ File.  
Policy File (SM).

ARMY FORM C.2:18

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 61  
Office Date Stamp

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN  
OUT

No. of Groups  
GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO Q/1 FLAMBO.

*1995*

FROM M.M.L.A.

Originator's Number

Date

to Reply to Number

Q 574

15 1945

Rep  
queries  
of  
11

MCIA  
on  
11  
Feb

arrives  
procedure  
Feb

Thursday  
relative  
and

morning  
your  
21/2

with  
21/12A/Q1  
of

This Message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means Except Wireless

This Message must be sent IN CIPHER if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands.

Originator's Instructions  
Degree of Priority

Time of Origin

Signature

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Signature

T.H.I.

Originator may delete "Except" and insert "Including."

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

7647

T.O.R.

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender

14838 U 28991



59.

*EL. M/F*

HQ No 2 District CMF  
1535 Q  
*14 Feb 44*

NOTES ON DISTRICT COMMANDERS CONFERENCE NO 3

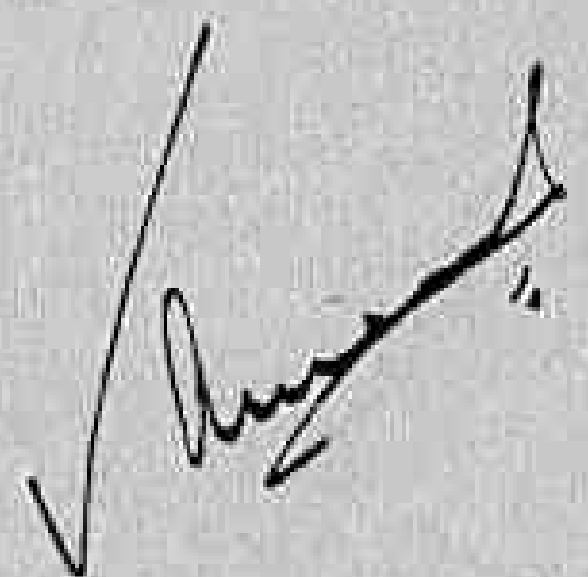
Amendment to 1535 Q dated 12 Feb 44 - 'Action taken'.

Para 13 (b) - Socks - Italian Military Labour

Line four - Delete : 'relief'  
Substitute: 'release'

Boots - Italian Military Labour

Sub-para (iii), line three -  
Delete : 'PLAMBO'  
Substitute: 'TARANTO'



Colonel,  
Col i/o Adm.

Distribution: As for 1535 Q dated 12 Feb 44

MILITARY MISSION.

Date 15 Feb 44 Ag. 9.

ITALIAN ARMY.

7645

57

SUBJECT:- Conference Clothing for Italian Military

AHQ Adv Admin Echelon  
GTF

62/8/03  
13 Feb 44

MEHA  
G-4  
Q.1  
Q(Mov)  
Ord

1. A Conference will be held in the Conference Room at this HQ on Thursday 17 Feb 44 at 1430 hrs to discuss the redistribution of clothing, arriving from Allied sources, to Italian Military Forces in Italy Sicily and Sardinia.
2. Reprs of the above branches are required to attend.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Brigadier  
D.Q.M.G.

Copy to:- MEHA L.O.  
File 31/5/03

MILITARY MISSION.

Date 15 Feb 44 AR/9

ITALIAN ARMY. 7048

PA  
Request  
15/2

978

9  
51

REPORT ON VISIT TO HEADQUARTERS WITH COL. ZILLIERS, AMERICAN  
ARMY INDEPENDENT 6th and 10th REGTS by Lt Col R. L. FINCH, ADJUTANT, MILIA.

1. Reported at 1000 hrs 7th Feb to Room 15, Second Floor, HQ A.C.C. MILIA. Present were Col. ZILLIERS, Lt Col FINCH, Major CROOK, Major HALL and Capt. CRAMER.
2. Col. ZILLIERS went in to see General MASON MACFARLANE, then returned stating that he would have to go because General MACFARLANE had ordered him back to C.M.L.M.C. He left us and Brig. GUNTERBROOK called us into his room.
3. Brig. GUNTERBROOK asked if "M" MILIA was represented. Lt Col FINCH stated that he would be prepared to act for "M" in addition to S.T.
4. Brig. GUNTERBROOK handed us a letter attached, and said:  
 (a) Sups for Italian Army would be found from several different sources.  
 (b) It was necessary to obtain a signature at Port for all commodities and quantities handed over in the first place.  
 (c) There must be some sort of supervision as to how supplies should be used and disposed of in addition.  
 (d) MILIA was chiefly concerned with Italian Army but other forces (Air Force and Navy) also came into it.  
 (e) Present system of supply for Allied forces in Italy presented no difficulties but supplies shipped direct would be difficult.  
 (f) An organization to accept stores in bulk must be set up.  
 (g) Then there must be a percentage check made periodically.  
 (h) This organization cannot come from A.C.C.  
 (i) What is to happen to receipts after they are obtained will have to be decided later. Signatures must be obtained on receipts to support accounts to be submitted later at final settlement.  
 (j) Col. FINCH to see Col. RUSSELL SMITH, Chief Accountant, top floor, and discuss type of receipts etc. required.  
 (k) Col. FINCH to see Brig Gen HAMILTON, Deputy to Gen MONTGOMERY to arrange American and British co-operation.  
 (l) Col. FINCH to see Col. FICOLI, in A.C.C. with a view to getting transport co-operation.
5. Reported to Col. GUNTERBROOK with whom was Col. CRAMER.  
 (a) Record of all transactions must be kept, but A.C.C. were not in a position to provide an auditor or accounts officer.  
 (b) A.C.C. required a statement every month of all receipts the Italians acknowledge having received during the month.  
 (c) M.M.L.A. is in a position to obtain from the Italians a statement every month of what they have received. This must be considered as final. A.C.C. would call upon Allies to provide receipts for all sups handled by them to Italians.



7644

but supplies shipped abroad would be difficult.

- (f) An organization to accept stores in bulk must be set up.
- (g) Then there must be a percentage check made periodically.
- (h) This organization cannot come from A.C.C.
- (1) What is to happen to receipts after they are obtained will have to be decided later. Signatures must be obtained on receipts to support accounts to be submitted later at final settlement.
- (j) Col. FISH to see Col. GRAFTY SMITH, Chief Accountant, top floor, and discuss type of receipts etc., required.
- (k) Col. FISH to see Brig Gen HAMILTON, Deputy to Gen ROBERTSON to arrange American and British co-operation.
- (l) Col. FISH to see Col. FISH, in A.C.C. with a view to getting transport co-operation.

5. Reported to Col. GRAFTY SMITH with whom was Col. CRANSHAW.

- (a) Record of all transactions must be kept, but A.C.C. were not in a position to provide an Auditor or Accounts Officer.
- (b) A.C.C. required a statement every month of all receipts the Italians acknowledge having received during the month.
- (c) M.M.L.A. is in a position to obtain from the Italians a statement every month of what they have received. This must be considered as final. A.C.C. would call upon Allies to provide receipts for all cups handled by them to Italians.
- (d) Discrepancy between Allied Statement and Italian Statement would have to be disposed of later.
- (e) It would have to be decided as to which figure would be acceptable.
- (f) Two statements would be necessary showing cups as provided by - One Americans - two British.
- (g) M.M.L.A. not in a position to price statements, and statements though consolidated and in bulk would be in considerable detail.

6. Reported to Col. VERN PATTEN, Quartermaster P.M.S.

- (a) Col. FISH explained situation.
- (b) Americans appear to have Services Liaison Officers in their Ports. These act similarly to British Services Port Detachments in British Ports.
- (c) Col. PATTEN stated that no staffs could be found.
- (d) American Liaison Officers in Ports could not obtain receipts for supplies as handed over to Italians.
- (e) Americans were prepared to clear Port and Dumps, Saps in Italian warehouses, but would not be responsible for quantities.
- (f) Col. PATTEN did not agree with American responsibility for correctness of quantities as handed over to the Italians. He considered that this a duty of M.M.L.A.

2/...

7. Reported to Lt Col NUTTER, C 4, P. R. S.
- (a) Was prepared to obtain a receipt on General Terms only for Italians for stocks dumped in their Depots.
- (b) Existing personnel in Port could not obtain detailed receipt and P. R. S. could not find the personnel to do it.
8. Reported to Brig Gen HAMILTON, Deputy to Gen. MERRILL.
- (a) Explained situation and showed letters, as attached.
- (b) Brig Gen HAMILTON convened a meeting for 3 P.M. 6th Feb.
9. Reported to Lt. Col. POHLL, A.D.S.S. NAHRO.
- (a) Col. POHLL did not wish to intervene a link between saps sent from America and handed over to Italians.
- (b) He agreed that a type of Port Detachment consisting of Italians with an Allied Officer and an Allied clerk would be required.
- (c) He did not agree that this should be that ~~that~~ ~~should~~ responsible to the Port and District Organizations. He considered that it should be responsible to H.M. L.A.
10. Reported to Col. ACHERMAN, NOV 5, 1946.
- (a) He stated that only one ship at a time could go to TARANTO. At present Italian saps were coming in ships loaded with Allied saps and ships had to be sent to destination where greatest part of cargo had to be off-loaded. Italian saps were only a small portion usually.
- (b) It was quite possible that Italian saps would have to be off-loaded at BRINDISI for above reason.
- (c) Most ships with Italian saps would be discharged at RAIL.
- (d) Movement of saps into Italian Depots was acknowledged a Movement responsibility, and Italian saps landed at BARI could be moved to TARANTO without difficulty.
- (e) All transactions for CRONCH case under NOV, REGGIO.
- (f) Col. ACHERMAN agreed to try and obtain details of breakdown of cargo sent direct to H.M. L.A.
11. Reported to Col. FINCH, In Civil, A.C.C. who referred the matter to Major CHAMVILLE, his Assistant T.O. 406.
- (a) Major CHAMVILLE agreed that CRONCH required a Port Officer to co-ordinate matters there. He could not provide one.
- (b) With regard to Redd Lowling from CRONCH - This would have to be bid for from No. 2 Region, NAHRO.
- (c) At present CASARETO and CRONCH case under Capt. DUNN at NAHRO.

(a) as stated that only one ship at a time could go to ... Italian ships were coming in single loads with Allied cargo and ships had to be sent to destination where greatest part of cargo had to be off-loaded. Italian ships were only a small portion usually.

(b) It was quite possible that Italian ships would have to be off-loaded at ...

(c) Most ships with Italian cargo would be discharged at ...

(d) Movement of ships into Italian Depots was somewhat a Movement responsibility, and Italian ships landed at ... without difficulty.

(e) All transactions for ...

(f) Col. ... agreed to try and obtain details of breakdown of cargoes sent direct to ...

11. Reported to Col. ... also referred the matter to Major ... his Assistant ...

(a) Major ... agreed that ... co-ordinate matters there. He could not provide one.

(b) With regard to ... This would have to be bid for from No. 2 Region, ...

(c) At present ... under Capt. ...

CONFERENCE AT 1500 hrs., 7th Feb, ... in Chair 7643

(a) Not to average for early information of breakdown to be sent as quickly as possible direct to ...

(b) ... would have to do provisionally ahead, one month in advance. S. ... will have to attend 10-Day Storage ...

(c) Present stocks arriving were presumed to have been estimated by ...

(d) No policy regarding Reserves so far laid down. ... asked for 30 days reserve including working margin.

(e) ... were asked to provide Depots for Italians in ... They complained that Italians were in a better position to find further accommodations. ... was asked to inform Italians that they must find further Depot accommodation.

(f) ... agreed to help by clearing accommodation if necessary.

(g) Nov 5 reported that they had asked that all Italian ships be despatched together in one ship to be discharged at ...

(h) In Operational Zone, Italians will be fed from Allied Stocks. Allied stocks so expended to be obtained from nearest Italian Depot in ...

(i) Italian formations of a Division, or more than 15,000 would be maintained by ... Special instructions will be issued when this becomes necessary.



Conference Contd.

- (1) In Rear of Operational Zone Italians would be ~~for~~ <sup>drawn</sup> Italian Depots.
- (j) Americans stipulated that they should draw ~~from~~ <sup>draw</sup> Italians from NAPLES. It was explained that the holding of large stocks in NAPLES depended upon Depot accommodation. They were again asked to find more Depot accommodation for Italians.
- (k) Mov asked that MILA in Ports be in a position to inform Mov directly ship carrying Italian sups dealed, the disposal of such sups.
- (l) MILA states that this could be done where Liaison Officers existed. In NAPLES a Liaison Officer existed, but Depot accommodation was small.

BARI	there is 10	.....Depot accom was small,
BRINDISI	no 10	.....No Depot accom whatsoever, and
		all stocks must go to TARANTO.
TARANTO	no 10	.....Adequate Depot accom
CROTONE	there is 10	.....Also sufficient Depot accom.

MILA was asked to provide more Liaison Officers.

- (m) MILA Liaison Officers would inform Mov amount of accommodation available. When this has been filled, additional stocks are to be railco to TARANTO.
- (n) All bids for movements in CALABRIA must be submitted by MILA for 7 day periods on TUESDAYS for movements commencing week following Monday. Copy to HQ New East Italy.
- (o) F.S.L. for Operational Zone would be found from Allied stocks, Italian forming part of Allied Units would draw through their Allied HQ whether in Operational Zone or in Rear.
- (p) Italian Units in Rear would draw from Italian P.O.L. Depots.
- (q) M.S.L.A. is asked to provide information regarding the situation in Sicily and Sardinia.
- (r) Americans stated that they did not feel that they had any responsibility with regard to furnishing figures regarding out turn of ships. They would off load ships and clear to Italian Warehouses, but could give no details.
- (s) S.L. stated that it had been found impossible to obtain out turn figures for British Sups for British Depots from British Ships. This was a matter at present being taken up with the F.O. They could not do for Italians what was found already impossible.
- (t) S.L. agreed that an Italian type of Port Detachment with one or two Allied attached was required to ensure that Italian Sups were correctly handled, sorted and despatched to Italian Depots.
- (u) A suggestion was made that the Italians should be asked to accept figures as shown on ships Manifest and that it was only fair that they should take their share of shipping losses.
- (v) Chairman decided to refer the matter back to A.F.H.Q.

periods on rumors for movements commencing week following Monday. Copy to HQ New East Italy.

- (p) P.O.L. for Operational Zone would be found from Allied Stocks. Italian forming part of Allied Units would draw through their Allied HQ whether in Operational Zone or in Rear.
- (q) Italian Units in Rear would draw from Ita Ian P.O.L. Depots.
- (r) M.L.L.A. is asked to provide information regarding the situation in Sicily and Sardinia.
- (r) Americans stated that they did not feel that they had any responsibility with regard to furnishing figures regarding out turn of ships. They would out load ships and clear to Italian Warehouses, but could give no details.
- (s) S.I. stated that it had been found impossible to obtain out turn figures for British Sops for British Depots from British Ships. This was a matter at present being taken up with the P.O. They could not do for Italians what was found already impossible.
- (t) S.I. agreed that on Italian type of Port Detachment with one or two Allied Attached was required to ensure that Italian Sops were correctly handled, sorted and despatched to Italian Depots.
- (u) A suggestion was made that the Italians should be asked to accept figures as shown on ships Manifest and that it was only fair that they should take their share of Shipping losses.
- (v) Chairman decided to refer the matter back to M.F.H.A.
- (w) M.F.H.A. asked with regard to provision of additional personnel. Chairman 12 agreed to represent the matter.

12. Reverted to Brig. RICHIE D. G.M.G. Stated that I was very disappointed that a decision had not been reached with regard to matter of accounting for stocks received in ports.

*Donald W. Smith*  
 Lt. Col.  
 A. E. S. T. M. S. I. A.  
 Army Sub Comm. A. C. C.

In the Field,  
 10 Feb 44.

Original to:- Comd  
 Copy to :- G. S. D.  
 S.  
 ST.  
 Ciro, File  
 Policy File (ST)

48  
A219

Continuation of Report on Visit to NAPLES between 6-10 Feb 44  
by Lt. Col. L. B. FINCH ADST Army Sub Comd AGO.

1. Visited NAPLES Port accompanied by Capt CRAIG on 8 Feb.
  - (a) Asked Port (American) Office if they were in a position to say what quantities had been discharged to Italian Depots from HR. 810 s.s. "John Nerehead" (vide AFHQ Adv Adm Tech letter 4012/SP1 dated 2 Feb 44). They were unable to tell from checkers tallies. It is apparent that by the American system of discharging shipping it would be quite impossible for them to obtain any form of really accurate receipt for stores handed over by them to the Italians.
  - (b) Went on the quay. An Italian 2nd Lt. was actually checking the cases of Sups as they were loaded into Army Lorries. It was noticeable that none of the cases had been tampered with and there were no signs of any pilferage.
  - (c) Italian Officer appeared to understand what he was intended to do and was doing it efficiently.
2. Visited Italian Supply Depot, NAPLES.
  - (a) Noticed that there were seven Lorry loads of Sups ex docks awaiting off-loading. Only two Lorries were actually being worked. The last lorry had been waiting half an hour. The Depot only having one very narrow passage through it does not permit more Lorries to be worked at the same time.
  - (b) It was suggested to the Depot Comdr that he should clear and clean up the ground in the immediate vicinity of the Depot, wire fence it in, and thereby provide himself with more room for expansion.
  - (c) It was observed that once again green vegetables were being delivered by Contractor and that they had long uncuttable stems attached. This point was observed in my inspection 23rd Jan para 2(c) and pointed out to the Italian Representatives. The Contractor had men cutting off the unnecessarily long stems in the actual Depot. It is thought that this was being done for my benefit.
  - (d) The Sups were filling up all the existing storage space in the Depot. The stacking was so congested that it would be quite impossible to take stock in the Depot.
  - (e) There was an Italian 2nd Lieut checking Sups into the Depot and Italian Civilians labouring. It was remarkable that there was no pilferage observed.
3. Visited Ufficio Commissariato Via Rome. Saw Lt. Col. de Nafio.
  - (a) Explained that it is necessary that more accommodation for Sups be found, if possible in the vicinity of the existing Italian Depot. Pointed out that it was not necessary to put cases goods under cover. It would be sufficient to clear open ground and wire fence it in.
  - (b) Pointed out the importance of not keeping Lorries under load. It is essential that Lorries be off-loaded immediately on arrival at the Italian Depot. The further accommodation should enable this to be done.
  - (c) Pointed out that it is desirable that the same officers be employed at discharging shipping in the docks and that these officers should endeavour to get acquainted with the Allied Officers they may be working with.
4. On 9 Feb visited Italian Supp Depot POTENZA.
  - (a) Ref my inspection dated 25th Jan para 7, it was represented to me that 41 Troops

7641 Troops



(c) It was observed that once again green vegetables were being delivered by Contractor and that they had long uncuttable stems attached. This point was observed in my inspection 23rd Jan para 2(c) and pointed out to the Italian Representatives. The Contractor had men cutting off the unnecessarily long stems in the actual Depot. It is thought that this was being done for my benefit.

(d) The Sups were filling up all the existing storage space in the Depot. The stacking was so congested that it would be quite impossible to take stock in the Depot.

(e) There was an Italian 2nd Lieut checking Sups into the Depot and Italian Civilians labouring. It was remarkable that there was no pilferage observed.

3. Visited Ufficio Commissariato Via Roma. Saw Lt. Col. de Inglio.

(a) Explained that it is necessary that more accommodation for Sups be found, if possible in the vicinity of the existing Italian Depot. Pointed out that it was not necessary to put cases goods under cover. It would be sufficient to clear open ground and wire fence it in.

(b) Pointed out the importance of not keeping lorries under load. It is essential that lorries be off-loaded immediately on arrival at the Italian Depot. The further accommodation should enable this to be done.

(c) Pointed out that it is desirable that the same officers be employed at discharging shipping in the docks and that these officers should endeavour to get acquainted with the Allied Officers they may be working with.

4. On 9 Feb visited Italian Supp Depot POTENZA.

(a) Ref my inspection dated 25th Jan para 7, it was represented to <sup>7641</sup>British Troops that the accommodation provided for the Italian sup Depot was most unsuitable and that in consequence of the semi-destroyed building being employed the stores were becoming ~~seriously~~ damaged by weather. British O3 Troops had promised to do something.

(b) It is observed that though a fortnight had elapsed nothing has been done and the Italian Sups are still housed in the same accommodation.

5. On 10th Feb reported to CR DISFNO accompanied by Capt SMITH.

(a) Asked DET Col Warner if it would be possible to provide two additional clerks and six extra drivers for Army Sub Com. This is quite impossible.

(b) It was discussed that 1001 Italian CR Coy would be placed at the disposal of AGO for distribution of food to civilian population. DISFNO intended to send 1001 to AGO and completely wash their hands of them. They intended to remove the British Coats. They intended to hand over the British Vehicles entirely to the Italians. They also intended to reduce the strengths of the Italian personnel to approx 200 Italian CRs and transfer the remainder to 1002 Italian CR Coy to bring them up to strength.

These matters were all discussed and it is hoped that none of these things will happen.

(c) It would appear that training at POLIGNANO of 1002 CR Coy has come to a standstill because of lack of petrol. This matter was represented to ADST (Lt. Col. Regan) and it was recommended that the Cadre 553 Water Tank Coy be asked to issue P.M., it was later arranged unofficially with 553 Water Tank Coy that this should be done. I.M.A. signal No. Q 530 dated 9 Feb refers.

/(d) .....

ITC.

-2-

5. (continued)

(d) DEPT DISTMO wanted to know about the Conference of Cadre Commanders of Italianised Units convened by Army Sub Comm, to be held at LESQUILLÉ at 1500 hrs Saturday 12 Feb. DEPT, Army Sub Comm pointed out that it was an encaveour to smooth out difficulties and would discuss matters regarding clothing, pay and rations etc. DISTMO was invited to send a representative to attend. LNTA signal No. 82/50 dated 4 Feb refers.

*Handwritten signature*

Lt. Col,  
ADPT, MCLIA,  
Army Sub Comm, ACC.

In the Field,  
11 Feb 44  
DH

Original to: Cml  
Copies to : G(S) ✓

SI  
Circ File.  
Policy File (SI).

Subject: Maintenance of Italian Military Forces.

SECRET.

AFHQ Adm Adm Echelon,  
CMF.

62/93

6 Feb 44.

M.M.I.A.	(4 copies)	S.T.
G(SD).		Ord.
"A"		R.E.M.E.
Q1		Works.
Q2		Labour
Q3		Salvage.
Med		

*Page 8/2*

*39.*

MILITARY MISSION.  
Date 8 Feb 44 AQ/9.  
to  
ITALIAN ARMY.

Further to this HQ letter 62/Q of 1 Feb 44.

In submitting draft appendices for the proposed Administrative Instruction, will Services please ensure that their recommendations legislate for both of the following types of units :-

- (a) Italian units.
- (b) Mixed units of British and Italian personnel, in which the Italian element may be up to, say, 50%.

*W. H. Murray*  
*for*

Major General 640  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

Copy to:- H.Q., A.C.M.F. (2 copies)  
D.Q.M.G.  
G - 4  
MMIA L.O.



2nd February, 1944.  
Bari. 46

(1). BOOT REPAIR FACTORY:- INSARO. (Gen Ref. P. 355)

Buildings.  
 An old Convent is used for the work. There is room for expansion. Another 100 men could be employed.

Machinery.  
 Sole Cutting Machines..... 1.  
 Stitching Machines..... 1. (In a small Bootmakers shop in a side street nearby).  
 Stock of Repairable & New Boots..... 12,000.  
 No. of men employed..... (Military 10, (Civilian 20).  
 Output..... 40 pairs Daily.  
 Stock of recycling material..... Sufficient for 1,400 pairs. Boots.  
 Repaired boots sent to Bari as & when demanded, owing to lack of transport.  
Remarks:-

Civilian employees aged, therefore slow. Military work whilst watched. More civilian labour could be employed if transport were available to bring them from outlying districts. In spite of the bad state of the boots sent in for repair and the difficulties to be surmounted in refreighting & reducing size of extra large new boots, the work done is far too slow. More stern and constant supervision is required. The Military personnel are disgruntled at having to work beside civilians receiving 80 Lira per diem to their 4 Lira.

LAUNDRY & CLOTHING REPAIR FACTORY:- KONARO.  
 On the upper floor in the Convent a/m as a boot repair factory a Laundry & Clothing Repair Factory has been started. It has only been in vogue for a few days so no statistics could be obtained.

Employees..... 108 women.  
 Machines (sewing)..... 100.  
 The Seamstresses are employed part-time washing and ironing & part-time at their machines.  
 The reel Laundry & Repair Factory at Bari has been requisitioned by the Allies & is now being used by A.S.D., 500 A.C.D.

(2). BOOT REPAIR FACTORY:- AGUAVIVA DI PUNZO. (Gen Ref. P. 355)

Buildings.  
 The building in use was formerly the business premises of a local Bootmaker &

LAUNDRY & CLOTHING REPAIR FACTORY:- FOSANO.

On the upper floor in the Convent a/m as a boot repair factory & Laundry & Clothing Repair Factory has been started. It has only been in vogue for a few days so no statistics could be obtained.

Employees..... 108 women.  
Machines (Sewing)..... 100.

The Seamstresses are employed part-time washing and ironing & part-time at their machines.

The real Laundry & Repair Factory at Bari has been requisitioned by the Allies & is now being used by A.S.D., 500 A.S.D.

(2). BOOT REPAIR FACTORY:- AGUAVIVA DI MONTE. (Map Ref. P. 3958)

Buildings.

The building in use was formerly the business premises of a local bootmaker & repairs. It has been requisitioned by the Italian authorities. Area 60' x 20' plus a small room at back for storing repaired boots & the boots awaiting repair

Machinery.

Finishing machines..... 1 only in use.

Stock of repairable boots..... 2,000.

No. of men employed..... (Military 24,  
(Civilian) 23.

Output..... 70 pairs daily.

Stock of repairing material..... Sufficient for 500 pairs of boots.

Repaired boots sent to Bari as fuel when damaged, owing to lack of transport.

Remarks:-

Repairing material sent monthly. No difficulty in obtaining supply at present. Some difficulty expected in near future.

Civilian employees, on the whole, good. Soldiers slow; the reason being they do not get trade rates of pay similar to the civilians & consequently do not take sufficient interest in their work. Rate of pay:- Civilians 30 Lira; Soldiers ( 4 Lira.

O.I/c Factory stated that efforts were being made to bring the civilian rate of pay up to 100 Lira per day.

In spite of lack of machinery & poor state of boots to be repaired, effort should be made to speed up output.

CLOTHING & REPAIR FACTORY:- AGUAVIVA DI MONTE

It is expected that within the next few days a small Laundry & Repair Factory/ (Contd.)

(2)

factory will be started in the town. 30 women have been earmarked for the work. The clothing is being done at Salvages Depot in Bari. The factory is being organized on the same lines as that at TOBACCO, i.e. The women to do both washing and repairing.

(5). BOOT REPAIR WORKSHOP:- LACON. (Map Ref. L. 5045)

Buildings  
 Rooms of an Elementary School situate CESARE PASTISI, VIA MARUSCO CRISTI 12.

Machinery.

-NIL-

Stock of Repairable Boots.....5,000.  
 No. of men employed..... (Military - Nil.  
 (Civilian - 32.  
 Output..... 40 pairs daily.  
 Stock of repairing material .....Soles 1,500.  
 Repaired Boots issued to Bari & locally as and when demanded - this owing to lack of transport.

Remarks:-

The Shop is controlled by Capt. E. BROTONI. This officer volunteered for this type of work, which is rather similar to that carried out by our own Ordnance B.S.D's. He did not similar work with Italian troops in the Spanish Civil War. More workers could be obtained if material and machinery warranted the expansion. Brads for Boots are being made either of very hard wood or leather as proper Brads have not been available of late.

CLOTHING & REPAIR FACTORY:- LACON.

A couple of rooms are occupied by women workers - 50 in number - who "take down" clothing & reassemble it with whole pieces. Ragged or badly worn pieces are cut up; the best portions being made into Caps, Collars etc. Small pieces of Grey cloth are used for lining of repaired Boots. Some of the repair of clothing is done by women outside the premises. The washing is also done elsewhere.

Issues of repaired clothing are made as, & when, required either to Bari or to units in the Iacono area.



The Shop is controlled by Capt. M. BONTONI. This officer volunteered for this type of work, which is rather similar to that carried out by our own Ordnance B.S.D's. He did ~~not~~ similar work with Italian troops in the Spanish Civil War. More workers could be obtained if material and machinery warranted the expansion. Brads for Boots are being made either of very hard wood or leather as proper Brads have not been available of late.

CLOTHING & REPAIR FACTORY:- LECOE.

A couple of rooms are occupied by women workers - 50 in number - who "take down" clothing & reassemble it with whole pieces. Ragged or badly worn pieces are cut up; the best portions being made into Caps, Collars etc. Small pieces of Grey cloth are used for lining of repaired boots. Some of the repair of clothing is done by women outside the premises. The remaining is also done elsewhere.

Issues of repaired clothing are made as, & when, required either to Barn or to units in the Lecoe area.

7638

R. B. MILITARY HAVE BEEN PROMISED A FOP VIRA A DAY EXTRA PAY AS TREATMENT BUT THIS EXTRA PAY HAS NOT YET MATERIALIZED. THIS IS THOUGHT TO BE THE REASON WHY THEY ARE NOT WORKING AS HARD AS THEY MIGHT.

The a/n 3 Factory premises were visited - Nos. (1) & (2) on 31 January, 1944 and No. (3) on 1 February, 1944 - by MAJOR M. CROW, MIA, CAPT. MERTON, MIA, LIEUT. LOPES, ITALIAN ARMY.

-----000-----

DISTRIBUTION:-  
1 copy to BRIG. 3/2/44.  
1 .. "Q" 3/2/44. (2).

Subject: CONTROL OF ITALIAN DEPOTS.

COPY.

42

AFHQ Adv Adm Ech,  
CMF.

62/3.

3 Feb 44.

G-4.  
====

39.

1. Ref letter 62/3 of 1 Feb enclosing Minutes of Conference held on 22 Jan 44, and to Minutes 4(b) therein.
2. May we please have your comments on the suggestion put forward by MHA that they should control issues of stores sent by the Allies for use by the Italians. It was suggested that, if this was agreed, MHA would make a bulk allocation to P.B.S. for issue from depots in the latter's area.

????????????????

Major General,  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer.

Copy to:- MHA L.O.  
File 31/5

MILITARY MISSION. **ARMY MISSION**  
 of  
 to  
 Date 5 Feb 44 Ad/9. Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 ITALIAN ARMY. **ARMY MISSION**

7637

*Circulate*

Report by Lieut. Col. H.S. FINE, A.D.S., Lt. Col. M.H. I.A.  
 on Visits to Italian Supply Depots in GABALELLA, between 1st Jan and 2nd Feb 44.

Report

41

1. Saw Major Leutenent M.M.I.A. 10. separate report submitted.
2. Visited Italian Supply Depot GAZZERA. Comdr. Major Julio Meringolo.
  - (a) Depot is feeding approx 5,000 men.
  - (b) Accommodation is ample and there appear to be considerable stocks in store. Supplies are averagely well kept. Stores clean and tidy. No Italian Nations were seen.
  - (c) Comdr made complaints that Railway Wagons arrived completely unsecured and sometimes pilfered. He found it very difficult to investigate the circumstances or to discover the extent of loss.
  - (d) A Military Bakery was also inspected. Very clean and tidy. The loaves however were small and heavy. They were made from British issue flour.
  - (e) Comdr said that sups were continually being pilfered by civilians and asked that Guards might be provided. He was instructed to apply to his Italian superiors.
3. Visited Italian Supply Depot GAZZERA. Comdr Lt. Col. Appicintali.
  - (a) Depot feeds approx 12,000 men.
  - (b) Depot clean tidy and well laid out. Considerable quantities of Italian sups were seen.
  - (c) A flour store was infested by rats and mice. Comdr explained that he could not keep cats because they were killed and eaten as hares by the civilians.
4. Visited VIG VALLENIA. Comdr Lt. Col. Ceparatti Arturo.
  - (a) Feeding approx 4,000 men.
  - (b) Excellent accommodation which contained mainly all Italian supplies.
  - (c) Some tins of biscuits had been put on one side as unfit for human consumption. Inspection showed that only some were unfit for human consumption. It was pointed out that supplies should be sorted before being put on one side and consumed.
  - (d) Some Italian Preserved Meat was also observed which had become bloated. It expressed that though Italians have Analyst Officers, these do not seem to go round and visit depots. The whole system of inspection appears weak. Stocks appear to be kept and permitted to deteriorate until they rot. It does not appear anyone's duty to ensure timely turn over.
  - (e) There were considerable quantities of empties.
5. Visited REGIO GABALELLA. Comdr Lt. Verducci.
  - (a) Depot was very untidy and generally dirty. Stocks were badly stacked and in some cases would be impossible to take stock of. Accommodation was very good and there was every reason that this should have been a good Depot.
  - (b) The Unit Comdr did not appear at all.
  - (c) Feeding approx 6,000 men.
  - (d) There were considerable stocks of British sups in this Depot.
 

300 boxes of Corps Rations.  
40 boxes of Infantry Rations.

7036

MILITARY MISSION



7036

4. Visited VIGOR VALLETTA, near DAVANU.  
 (a) Feeding approx 4,000 men.  
 (b) Excellent accommodation which contained nearly all Italian supplies.  
 (c) Some bins of biscuits had been put on one side as unfit for human consumption. It was pointed out that supplies should be sorted before being put on one side and condemned.  
 (d) Some Italian Preserved Meat was also observed which had become blown. It appeared that though Italians have Analyst Officers, these do not seem to go round and visit depots. The whole system of inspection appears weak. Stocks appear to be kept and permitted to deteriorate until they rot. It does not appear anyone's duty to ensure timely turn over.  
 (e) There were considerable quantities of empties.

5. Visited REGIO CALABRIA. Comdr Lt. Verdwood.  
 (a) Depot was very untidy and generally dirty. Stocks were badly stacked and in some cases would be impossible to take stock of. Accumulation was very good and there was every reason that this should have been a good Depot.  
 (b) The Unit Comdr did not appear at all.

(c) Feeding approx 6,000 men.  
 (d) There were considerable stocks of British Cans in this Depot.  
 Approx. 300 boxes of Campo Rations.  
 10 boxes of Letrins Papers.  
 42 cases of Heritage Oats.  
 Bigstock of Sweet Biscuits.  
 Big stock of Tinned Milk.  
 Small stock of Candles, Baking Powder and Pickles.

(e) There were also considerable quantities of empty cases awaiting disposal.

6. Visited Italian Supply Depot, CANTONE. Comdr. Capt. MARULLI.  
 (a) Feeding approx 5,000 men.  
 (b) In forage store with bales of straw, an Officer and the men were seen smoking. No fire appliances of any sort were to be seen anywhere.  
 (c) Stacks with very little attempt at stacking properly were just piled up to the roof in the various warehouses used. It would have been quite impossible to take stock. As far as turn over was concerned, it was from appearances, unlikely that stocks at the back ever were issued for less counted.  
 (d) A system of defailed issues was all mixed up with bulk issues. These appeared to be no system at all. Sacks of Soap which had a distinct odour were stacked up against flour and would undoubtedly contaminate it, making it unpleasant if not unfit for human consumption.

(e) Depot had quantities of stocks which were under line and doubtfully fit for issue. These should have been inspected by an Analyst Officer.  
 (f) Warehouses in Dock Area had men, supposed to be guarding, sleeping in with the stocks. There was every reason to think these men were holding themselves judging by the large biscuit tin of sugar seen, and other items broadcast.  
 (g) This Depot being of the first importance on account of its port and bulk Distribution Duties, should be under the command of a most efficient Officer.

Date 5 February 1949

(h) Instead the Comdr appeared indolent and uninterested. This is by far the worst Depot so far inspected.

7. Visited Italian Supply Depot, FELICIA POLICIANO. Comdr Lt OSORIO FRANCO.

- (a) Feeding 400 men.
- (b) Staff running it 4 officers and 10 O.Ss.
- (c) Whole Depot consisted of one small room and had entirely Italian Nations. The stocks in the store should have kept the 400 men supplied for a month.
- (d) It is examples of this nature that show a complete lack by the Italians of adjusting their organization to their requirements. It is believed that this Little Depot is being closed down and withdrawn.

8. Visited Italian Supply Depot, IUGASING. Lt. MARIOTTI.

- (a) Feeding between 6,000 to 7,000 men.
- (b) I was very impressed by the knowledge, interest and business shown by this very Junior Officer. He could tell the exact quantities, and full details of every stock as we came to them.
- (c) He had had a delivery of dried figs, some of which he did not consider were fit up to the correct standard. He had obviously inspected them very carefully and had selected and rejected certain portions.
- (d) Once again quantities of British Issued Mescalito had been put on one side as unfit for human consumption which should have been sorted before rejection and confection. This was pointed out.
- (e) Even that was seen during a very hasty inspection, this Depot is the best yet seen in Italy.

9. Visited Italian Supply Depot SPESIANO ALBAESI. Comdr Capt. MARTINO BASSIOLI.

- (a) Feeding 1,600 men in some 12 sub units.
- (b) Staff running Depot 2 Officers and 20 O.Ss.
- (c) Whole stock was housed in one room and could have been easily managed by a C.O.M.S. of a British Inf or Sqdr. Unit.
- (d) Depot was well cared for and neat. Officer in charge a lean smart man, who was very anxious to do a good job of work. I am of the opinion that Little Depots of this sort are uneconomical in every way.

10. Visited Italian Supply Depot CANTAVILLIARI Comdr, Capt TIOCI MARILLI.

- (a) Feeding approx 1,500 men.
- (b) Staff running Depot 2 Officers and 25 O.Ss.
- (c) Depot was neat clean and tidy.
- (d) Considerable quantities of Captured German stocks were in store.  
Salt - Tea - Dried Veg - Flour - Marmalade - Canned.
- (e) Stocks were sufficient to have kept dependant units for a month or more. It is obvious that not only are these Little depots most uneconomical, but they are also

upto the exact standard, no real cov...  
selected and rejected certain portions.  
(d) Once again quantities of British Issue Maccuits had been put on one side as unfit for human consumption which should have been sorted before rejection and confis- nation. This was pointed out.  
(e) From what was seen during a very hasty inspection, this depot is the best yet seen in Italy.

9. Visited Italian Supply Depot SPERLAND ALPINES. Comdr Capt. MARTINO PASQUALI.

- (a) Feeding approx 1,600 men in some 42 Sub Units.
- (b) Staff running Depot 2 Officers and 20 O.Ss.
- (c) Whole stock was here. In one Room and could have been easily managed by a C.O.S. of a British Inf or Equiv. Unit.
- (d) Depot was well cared for and neat. Officer in charge a keen smart man, who was very anxious to do a good job of work. I am of the opinion that little depots of this sort are uncommon in every way.

10. Visited Italian Supply Depot CASINOVILLIAMI Comdr, Capt TULLI BARRAL.

- (a) Feeding approx 1,500 men.
- (b) Staff running Depot 2 Officers and 23 O.Ss.
- (c) Depot was neat clean and tidy.
- (d) Considerable quantities of Captured German stocks were in store.  
Salt - Tea - Dried Veg - Flour - Marmalade - Onions.
- (f) Stocks were sufficient to have kept dependent units for a month or more. It is obvious that not only are these little depots most unaccounted, but they are also holding up quite large quantities of Reserve stocks in places where they are not wanted.

*Arthur Hill*  
7036  
Lt. Col.  
A.D.C.S. - H.N.I.A.

In the Field  
4th Feb 44.

Original to:- Comd.  
Copies to :- G.S.S.  
                  G.  
                  M.  
                  G.M.O. File.  
                  Policy File (M).



*FILE after circulation*

*39*

Subject:- Conference on Administrative Problems in connection with Maintenance of Italian Military Forces.

SECRET

A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Ech,  
C. M. F.

M.M.I.A. (4 copies) ✓	S.T.
G(SD)	Ord
'A'	R.E.M.E.
Q 1	Works
Q 2	Lab
Q 3	Salvage.
Med	

62/Q

1 February 1944.

*A/Q 9  
rec'd 3 Feb 44*

1. Attached minutes of Conference held on 22 Jan 44 are forwarded for your information and action as necessary.
2. Heads of Services are required to submit draft appendices for an administrative instruction to this branch by 10 Feb 44.

*[Signature]*

Major General,  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer.

Copy to :- H.Q., A.C.M.F. (2 copies)  
D.Q.M.G.  
G - 4  
M.M.I.A. L.O.

*7634  
15)*

38

**SECRET**

MINUTES of a Conference held at AFHQ  
Adv Adm Echelon on 22 Jan 44

on  
ADM POLICY - ITALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

1. The following were present :-

Brig. W.H.D. Ritchie	D.Q.M.G.	- in the chair
Brig. C.M. Paton	D.A.G.	
Brig. H.M. Hinde	D.D.S.T.	
Brig. G.O. Crawford	D.D.O.S.	
Brig. R.E. Broedhurst	D.D.M.E.	
Col. T.E. Peerman	D.D.L.	
Lt-Col. K.W. MacQueen	G(SD), H.Q., A.C.M.F.	
Lt-Col. S.M. Ingledew	G(SD)	
Lt-Col. T. Welch	A.L.G.	
Lt-Col. C.C. Parkman	A.D.W.	
Lt-Col. C.E.L.S. Dawson	A.D.S.T. (T).	
Lt-Col. Griddal	A.D.M.E.	
Lt-Col. R.E. Finch	A.D.S.T., M.M.I.A.	
Lt-Col. Shutte	G.E.M.E.C.	
Major W.H. Woodford	G(SD) U.S.	
Major Carew Hunt	D.A.A. & Q.M.G., M.M.I.A.	
Major G.J.F. Mackey	D.A.Q.M.G. (3)	
Major J.G. Jamieson	D.A.D.M.S.	
Major R.A. Chown	D.A.D.O.S., M.M.I.A.	
Capt. J.R. Monico	L.O., M.M.I.A.	
Capt. B.M. Roberts	S.G., 'Q'(3).	

2. OPENING REMARKS.

DMG stated that the conference had been called to examine the administrative problems affecting British interests in the maintenance of Italian military forces in the light of recent policy directives from AFHQ. Particular reference was made to AFHQ letter AG 400-1 (ITALY) GDS-ADM of 9 Jan, which emphasized that it was essential that the Italians assumed full responsibility for their own administration in Italy, Sicily and Sardinia, with minimum Allied assistance. DMG & QMG MMIL pointed out that MMIL were at present only concerned with the mainland, and it was decided to limit the discussion to the mainland, and to questions

- Lt-Col. G.E.L.S. Dawson
- Lt-Col. Griddal
- Lt-Col. H.B. Finch
- Lt-Col. Shutto
- Major W.H. Woodford
- Major Carow Hunt
- Major G.J.F. Meekay
- Major J.G. Jamieson
- Major R.A. Chown
- Capt. J.R. Monico
- Capt. B.K. Roberts
- Lt-Col. L.D.S.I. (1)
- Lt-Col. M.D.M.E.
- Lt-Col. K.N.I.I.
- C.E.H.E.C.
- G(SD) U.S.
- D.A. & Q.M.G., M.M.I.A.
- D...Q.M.G. (3)
- D...D.M.S.
- D...D.O.S., M.M.I.A.
- L.O., M.M.I.A.
- S.C., 'C'(3).

2. OPENING REMARKS.

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3. ITALIAN ORGANISATION.

(a) D.A. & QMG M.M.I.A. stated that under the Italian Organisation, the Ministry of War were responsible for provision and the Stato Maggiore for Distribution, but their respective responsibilities were only just becoming defined. At Corps level and above the Italians had shown themselves keen and efficient, but below Corps level their efficiency was doubtful and they were suspicious of the genuineness of Allied intentions. There were many difficulties in that their organization was very different to ours e.g. different services handled Petrol Oil and Lubricants, Supplies and Ammunition, while Signals and Engineers were a single service. The major difficulty in all cases was one of transportation.

(b) At present, with Eighth Army, HQ 209 Coast Div was acting as HQ Italian Forces and was itself responsible to Italian 9 Corps. It was proposed to split this HQ and place one part at Army Railhead. In Fifth Army there was an Administrative HQ behind the DAPINO Bde. CSOL(SD) FLAMBO stated it was the intention to organise 227 Coast Div HQ to supervise the administration of all Italian units in 57 Area and 94 Sub-Area, and 210 Coast Div HQ to do the same for all units in Fifth Army and Peninsular Base Section, which would move forward. Under the present set up both these Div HQs would be under administrative command Gen BASSO's HQ.

ACTION : G(SD)  
2/.....



4. ALLIED SUPERVISION.

(a) MIA stressed that too much supervision (i.e. British personnel in the depots permanently) would only upset the Italian temperament, and convince them that we did not trust them. It was <sup>however</sup> agreed that supervision was necessary. At present Italian depots are small and very scattered. A list of contents was being compiled, but for this they had to rely largely on Italian figures. After some discussion it was agreed that supervision might best be carried out under Sub-Area organisation, since MIA did not possess the staff for this purpose.

ACTION : Heads of services to arrange such supervision through service channels.

(b) MIA represented that they should control issues from Italian depots on both sides of the country, and make bulk allotments to Peninsular Base Section. At present, Peninsular Base Section controlled depots in Naples Area.

ACTION : 'Q' to examine with G-4.

5. RECEIPT AND STORAGE OF STORES AND SUPPLIES FROM ALLIED SOURCES.

There was considerable discussion on this as a result of which the following were the main conclusions reached :-

(a) Italians must be responsible for transporting stores sent specifically for them from the Docks to their own depots. If they were incapable of doing this MIA must inform 'Q' Flambo who must be prepared to render all assistance possible. Supervision to be carried out by Areas under direction from Heads of services concerned.

ACTION : MIA to co-ordinate with Italians.

(b) Stores specifically sent for Italians were not to be held in British depots.

(c) Satisfactory Italian depots for Ordnance stores existed at :-

NAPLES - Via Garibaldi.

BARI - Stabilimento La Roca,  
Estraurale Capruzzi.

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(c) Satisfactory Italian depots for Ordnance stores existed at :-

- NAPLES - Via Garibaldi.
- BARI - Stabilimento La Roca,  
Estramurale Capruzzi.

(d) No satisfactory Italian depots existed for acceptance of the tonnage of RASC supplies expected by 30 January.

ACTION : 'Q' in conjunction with MIA to take this matter up forthwith with No 2 District and Peninsular Base Section.

6. DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD SUPPLIES FOR ITALIANS.

(a) At present Italian troops in the forward area were supplied in the normal way from Army Roadhead or Corps P.M.C. It was decided that this system should continue until Italian formations in the forward area were large enough to warrant a special pack train of their own. In this latter event it would become necessary for MIA to submit their train requirement to 'Q' Flambo.

(b) When special Italian food supplies arrive in this country SF will demand equivalent amounts from MIA to compensate for issues made in the forward area.

(c) Delivery of supplies to Italian units in British formations in Army areas must normally continue to be a British responsibility. Italian formations must use their own transport for 2nd and 3rd line and be self supporting. At present this only applied to the Dapino Brigade.

(d) Distribution of supplies to Italian units and detachments in rear of Army boundaries must normally be an Italian responsibility.

ACTION : MIIA to inform Italians of their responsibilities.

7. DISTRIBUTION OF STORES FROM ITALIAN DEPOTS (other than Supplies).

(a) It was decided that MIIA must be responsible for the movement of stores, such as clothing, from Italian depots to Army Railhead, and must make the necessary application to MOVEIT for rail space. The Italian Administrative HQ at Army Railhead would be responsible for handling the stores on arrival at Army Railhead.

(b) Responsibility for distribution to units/in<sup>es</sup> 6(c) and (d) above.

ACTION : MIIA as necessary.

8. CLOTHING.

(a) Scale for issue of clothing supplied from Allied sources had been laid down by AFHQ, and sufficient for approximately 200,000 with reserves in certain items are in course of shipment.

(b) The chain of demand would be through Italian channels to MIIA, who would allot priorities of issue.

(c) Future provision must be a matter for AFHQ, but MIIA submitted fortnightly to Flambo an estimate of future requirements for the next four months. This estimate was being passed on to A.HQ.

(d) DDCS brought up the question of issue of Khaki Drill to Italians, but MIIA stated this would not be necessary.

(e) MIIA raised the question of special marking for battle-dress issued to the Italians, and said that they had asked if "ITALIA" could be put on the shoulder. No objection was raised to this suggestion.



(d) above.  
(b) Responsibility for distribution to units/in 6(c) and

ACTION ; MIIA as necessary.

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(b) The chain of demand would be through Italian channels to MIIA, who would allot priorities of issue.

(c) Future provision must be a matter for AFHQ, but MIIA submitted fortnightly to Flambo an estimate of future requirements for the next four months. This estimate was being passed on to AFHQ.

(d) DDOS brought up the question of issue of Khaki Drill to Italians, but MIIA stated this would not be necessary.

(e) MIIA raised the question of special marking for battle-dress issued to the Italians, and said that they had asked if "IMIIA" could be put on the shoulder. No objection was raised to this suggestion, in so far as green dyed battle-dress was concerned, so long as the Italian provided the badges. DDOS said that the small quantity of undyed battle-dress which had been issued urgently to Italians in 10 Corps had been marked with black collar and black band round legs. It was ruled that distinctive badges would NOT be put on undyed battle-dress.

ACTION ; MIIA to inform Italians of this decision.

(f) DBL asked if boots issued to Italians were to be repaired or worn out. DDOS confirmed that they were to be repaired under Italian arrangements or worn out. They had already been repaired and were below British standard. The question of provision of grindery for repair of Italian boots in Italian workshops had already been taken up with AFHQ by 'Q' and G-4.

9. ACCOMMODATION STORES AND GENERAL STORES.

There was no clear policy about provision of these. The system of demand and issue should be through MIIA as for clothing. MIIA stated they had received no very pressing demands yet for accommodation

stores, but Italian stocks were virtually NIL. DADMS pointed out that based on a bed provision of 5 1/2% a further 7,500 hospital beds were required.

ACTION : MILIA to examine the provision aspect of these stores and advise estimate of necessary requirements. Ordnance to investigate and report on provision of beds.

10. WARLIKE STORES.

(a) AFHQ had placed all Italian stores on the mainland at the disposal of the Italians after release by MILIA. Under exceptional circumstances Allied Warlike stores may be released to an Italian unit for a special purpose by the employing Allied formations. The commitment was not considered sufficient to warrant special provision action.

(b) Major requirements such as the re-equipment of Italian formations was a policy matter for AFHQ and HQ ACEF and beyond the scope of the present conference.

11. VEHICLES AND M.T. STORES.

(a) 400 Class III and IV vehicles had already been released for Italian G.T. Companies. It was emphasized that these vehicles were only for training purposes, and later the Italians would take over better vehicles or the vehicles of the British Company when they relieved. MILIA were asked to make this clear to the Italians who had apparently shown some resentment at the class of vehicles given to them. DDST stated 10 G.T. Companies were planned, of which 3 were formed and the fourth in process of formation - it did not seem likely that more could be available owing to shortage of drivers. G(SD) HQ ACEF said Freedom had refused their application for release of Prisoner of War drivers.

ACTION : DQIG to ask DCLO to reconsider this application.

(b) Issue of vehicles to Italian units with British cadres would be made to the Italian units, and the British cadre would be responsible for documentation, rendering census returns, and issue and indenting for spares etc. Issues to other purely Italian units must be made to a British unit to be nominated by the formation under whom they worked. This British unit would then be responsible for the vehicles.

(c) As regards spares DDOS said there would be no difficulty

formations was a policy matter for AFHQ and HQ ACEF and beyond the scope of the present conference.

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ACTION : DQIG to ask DCAO to reconsider this application.

(b) Issue of vehicles to Italian units with British cadres would be made to the Italian units, and the British cadre would be responsible for documentation, rendering census returns and issue and indenting for spares etc. Issues to other purely Italian units must be made to a British unit to be nominated by the formation under whom they worked. This British unit would then be responsible for the vehicles.

(c) As regards spares DDOS said there would be no difficulty provided census forms were rendered, as provision based on census was automatic.

(d) The provision of spares for Italian type vehicles was bound to present a problem, and MILA confirmed stocks were very scarce. Q(IE) were investigating what stocks of tyres etc. were available in Middle East, but a large commitment for British vehicles was foreseen. This applied equally to requirements of ANG.

(e) DADIS stated that the formation of one platoon an Ambulance Car Company for use by Italian Hospitals was necessary. G(SD) Flambo stated that at present all Italian Ambulance Car Companies being formed were for use by British, and the formation of a new unit for Italian domestic use must be considered with the existing priority list.

ACTION : 'Q' to investigate the availability of Ambulance Cars. G(SD) to examine the formation of a new unit.



11. M.T. REPAIRS.

DDME and DDST agreed that

- (a) 1st and 2nd line repairs must be done by Italian unit workshops. Isolated units without workshops must be a British commitment.
- (b) 3rd and 4th line repairs must be a British commitment.
- (c) Repairs to Italian type vehicles would not be possible, where spares were required as there were almost non-existent.

DQMG stated that repairs of AMG vehicles must further be considered a joint British - U.S. commitment.

ACTION : 'Q' to examine in conjunction G-4 with AMG.

13. ENGINEER STORES AND WORKS SERVICES.

ADW stated at present the method of accounting and recording was laid down by DA, AFHQ Technical Instruction No 13, but no authority for issue of stores or works construction existed.

DQMG stated that the necessity for certain issues and works services must be faced. He directed that MILA specified channels of demands to the Italians, and screen all their demands. Demands would then be passed through normal Area and District channels. Large projects must be authorized by 'Q' Flambo.

ACTION : 'Q' to take up in conjunction DDW with AFHQ.

14. MEDICAL STORES.

DADMS stated Italian stocks and captured stocks in North Africa were now being consumed and would not last long. Issue of necessary items were already being made from Allied sources, and they were prepared to undertake this commitment, but no authority for such issues existed. The monthly tonnage required was not expected to exceed 30 tons.

ACTION : 'Q' to take up in conjunction DDMS with AFHQ

ADM stated at present the method of accounting and recording was laid down by DM, AFHQ Technical Instruction No 13, but no authority for issue of stores or works construction existed.

DMG stated that the necessity for certain issues and works services must be faced. He directed that MIA specified channels of demands to the Italians, and screen all their demands. Demands would then be passed through normal Area and District channels. Large projects must be authorized by 'Q' Flambo.

ACTION : 'Q' to take up in conjunction DM with AFHQ.

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DADMS stated Italian stocks and captured stocks in North Africa were now being consumed and would not last long. Issue of necessary items were already being made from Allied sources, and they were prepared to undertake this commitment, but no authority for such issues existed. The monthly tonnage required was not expected to exceed 30 tons.

ACTION : 'Q' to take up in conjunction DADMS with AFHQ

15. HOSPITALIZATION.

7631  
It was agreed by MIA and DADMS that hospital accommodation for Italians was insufficient, and 7,500 more beds were required to provide 3/4 cover (see para C above). DMG directed that DDES must consider to what extent hospital sites can be released to Italians as the advance continues. It was agreed that Italian requirements of medical personnel for domestic use must have priority over those required for dilution of British medical units.

ACTION : MIA to produce a medical plan in conjunction with DDES.

16. SALVAGE.

It was agreed that all salvage must be brought back under British arrangements to British base depots, where it would be sorted, and Italian material handed back to Italians. DAD Salvage to make the necessary arrangements through MIA IO. Italian scrap metal now situated in Italian depots or under Italian Army control was to be made available for British services.

ACTION : Salvage.

6/.....

17. NATIONS.

It was stated that D/CAO had strongly recommended the adoption of one scale for all Italians, but AFHQ approval had not yet been received.

18. RE-INFORCEMENTS.

It was agreed that re-inforcements must be provided for existing units at the expense of forming new units.

ACTION : 'A'

19. PRISONERS OF WAR.

DOMG directed that requirements of special technicians should be placed through staff channel and he would raise with D/CAO the need for getting these over from North Africa. At present D/CAO had refused to allow Prisoners of War to enter Italy until the position had been clarified. An Italian Prisoner of War R.L. unit had recently arrived, and it was found that the Italians were being paid on a higher rate than the Italian army.

ACTION : DOMG to raise this point with D/CAO.

20. LABOUR.

DOMG directed that services review their requirements of Italian units with a view to using civilians in place of certain units or within the establishment of certain units.

ACTION : Services to submit recommendations to G(SD).

21. ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION.

It was agreed that services should produce draft instructions dealing with their particular aspect based on conclusions reach at this conference. Q(3) would co-ordinate and produce covering memo. When agreed an administrative instruction would be published which would form the basis for administrative action between ACF and MILA.

ACTION : All services to submit draft instruction to 'Q'.



37

REPORT BY CAPT. J.M. CRAIG ON VISITS TO 1002 ITALIAN GEN REGT COY.  
AID 562 ARTY COY R.A.S.O. ADRIATIC R.A.S.O. DEPOT BARI AND  
CAPT THRUPP LO. ISLA No. 2 DISTRICT.

- (1) Contacted Italian Officer at 1002 GI Coy and found that the present strength was:-
  - 8 Officers
  - 14 Sergeants
  - 29 Corporals
  - 221 Other Ranks.

Also he informed me that only approx 10% had had any previous driving experience and that there was no training in progress at present as they only had two vehicles which at present were being used for domestic purposes.

- (2) Contacted 562 Arty Coy and they informed me that up to date they had supplied 1001 GI Coy with 95 x 3 ton 12 x 15 cwt and 20 M/C and were expecting to obtain the remainder of the 3 tonners from R.V.S. within the next week, to make the Coy up to its full strength of 145 x 3 ton. Regarding the vehicles for 1002. they could not see any possibility of these for some time.
- (3) Contacted G.O. Adriatic Base Depot BARI and asked him if he had received any supplies or dock marked ITALIAN and he told me, up to date none had arrived ~~in~~ Bari, but he was expecting them at any moment. I give him Capt Thrupp's address and asked him if he would inform him immediately any such supplies arrived.
- (4) Contacted Capt Thrupp and told him about above conversation, and asked him to inform this HQ immediately he was advised by Adriatic Base Depot that supplies had arrived.

*J.M. Craig*  
Captain, R.A.S.O.  
I.D.S.T. - M.M.I.A.

BC In the Field  
29.1.44.

Original to:- Comd  
Copy to :- G.S.O.  
SI.  
Circ File  
Policy File (SI)

MILITARY MISSION.  
Date 29/1/44 AD/G.  
to  
ITALIAN ARMY.

29/1/44

Circulate

36

SUBJECT: - Notes on District Commander's Conference No. 3 - 15 Jan 44.

**MILITARY MISSION.**

HQ No. 2 District C.M.F.  
1535 Q.

Date 28 Jan 44 to 29 Jan 44.

to  
ITALIAN ARMY.

- AFHQ Adv Adm Ech.
- 52 Area.
- 57 Area.
- 6 Base Sub Area.
- 71 Sub Area
- 94 Sub Area
- 151 Sub Area
- MMI.

- Internal: -
- ADC for CGC
  - Col i/c Admin
  - GSO(1)
  - G(SD)
  - ALG
  - ACMG(I)
  - ACMG(II)
  - CE
  - Col Q(Mov)
  - DD, In

- ANG IO
- IO to MMIA
- E&M
- Coal Commission

- C50
- ACG
- DDST
- DMAS
- DDCS
- DDME
- DFI
- DOL
- DAD(Salvage)
- Wellfare

Amendment :-

Item 1, para 4, heading -

amend to read "Truck Clearance" NOT "Dock Clearance".

(31)

*Amended.*  
*28/1*

7029

LO to MIA  
Eln  
Coal Commission

ACG  
BEST  
DDMS  
DDOS  
DDWE  
DEA  
DEL  
DAD(Salvage)  
wclive

Col i/c Admin  
CSO(1)  
G(SE)  
AAG  
ACMG(I)  
ACMG(II)  
CE  
Col Q(20w)  
DD.Pn

Amendment :-

Item 1, para 4, Heading :-

amend to read "Truck Clearance" NOT "Dock Clearance".

*Amended*  
*28/11*

1029

Major General,  
Ccmd. No. 2 District.

TGO .....

*Repet*

MILITARY MISSION.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

to  
ITALIAN ARMY.



ARMY FORM C2136 (Small)

**MESSAGE FORM**

Register No.

Call  Srl. No.  Priority  Transmission Instructions

35

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM  
(A)

Originator

Date-Time of Origin

OFFICE DATE STAMP

M M I A

27 1740 A

For Action

M M I A LO REAR EIGHTH ARMY.

(Info)

40/9.

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions

GR

Originator's No.

~~0451~~ MONTAGNY and Col FISKE of A C C will visit you afternoon SATURDAY 29 Jan staying till Monday (.) FISKE wishes study your organisation before forming parallel one with Americans

7621

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT  WIRELESS

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Time System Op.

TNI or TOR

Time cleared

SIGNED

SIGNED

Important

(GV286) WT. 933/194. 2,000,000 Pads. 5/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-6745/6

A019. 34

23rd Jan.

1. Contacted Lt. Col. de Maggio head of the Commissariat Naples Area.
2. Visited Naples Italian Supply Depot, Caserma "Generale Giacomo Sardi" commanded by Major Buonanno. Commander.
  - (a) Depot ample and in very good accommodation. Capable of holding at least 2,000 tons of Supplies, but further expansion would be difficult. Depot is very conveniently located in the Docks.
  - (b) Depot had an ample Bakery installation consisting of 4 ovens capable of producing 40,000 lbs of Bread i.e., working night and day. Ovens however were lacking special tubes which might be very difficult to replace.
  - (c) Saw an interesting incident with regard to deliveries of Fresh Vegetable Contract. Cauliflower was being delivered, weighed and accepted. Unfit outside leaves and unnecessarily long stalks were being accepted and included in weight. This would mean less actual vegetable for consumption by the troops. It tends to reduce the ration for Italian troops still further and goes to prove that the Italian soldier must provide for himself and not rely entirely upon his ration.
  - (d) Very small stocks of British Issue Sups were seen. Italian sups negligible. This goes to prove that if deliveries were interrupted through Enemy action or otherwise, the Italians would have no Reserve to fall back upon. The fact that they have 18 days Reserves in BENEDETTI Area and none in NAPLES Area shows mal-distribution and bad supervisory control. This may be blamed to lack of Transport.
  - (e) Whole Depot appeared well kept and clean. It had recently been taken over from the Americans. The Italians were very much afraid of being turned out again.
  - (f) Depot was distributing in bulk to 6 Min Depots and also feeding about 20,000 men.
  - (g) They were very anxious to make bread in the local Bakery. At present bread was being made by a Civil Bakery. The resulting loaf is the best seen so far and approached more nearly in size and texture to those produced of British Baking.
3. Visited MADDALONI. Forage Factory commanded by Col. Le Ferle.
  - (a) It would appear to contain about 6,000 tons of forage frozen by Flambo and P.E.S. ~~Handed~~ unfit for Human consumption now in hands of A.M.C.
  - (b) Italians complained very much about Americans who were accommodated in the Depot and with some justification. Stocks are frozen and cannot be touched by Italians. On other hand certain stacks showed signs of weevil infestation, which unless moved and consumed before May or June, would mean serious damage or complete destruction. At present Allies appeared to be doing little about it. American troops were also sleeping and smoking between stacks of forage. Several stores were also observed in close vicinity of soaked bran. Italians complained that the risk of fire was very serious.
  - (c) Contacted Major E.R. Keller acting comdr. No. 242 Q.M. Pn. American Army and explained the whole situation. He promised to investigate matters and when possible find remedies.

7026

supervisory control. This may be blamed to lack of transport.  
(e) Whole Depot appeared well kept and clear. It had recently been taken over from the Americans. The Italians were very much afraid of being turned out again.  
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(g) They were very anxious to make bread in the local bakery. At present bread was being made by a Civil Bakery. The resulting loaf is the best seen so far and approached more nearly in size and texture to those produced of British Baking.

3. Visited MADDALONI. Forage Factory commanded by Col Le Ferla.  
(a) It would appear to contain about 6,000 tons of forage frozen by Flambo and P.R.S. which had been taken over immediately Germans left. There was also some grain handed <sup>over</sup> for Human consumption now in hands of A.M.G.  
(b) Italians complained very much about Americans who were accommodated in the Depot and with some justification. Stocks are frozen and cannot be touched by Italians. On other hand certain stacks showed signs of weevil infestation, which unless moved and consumed before May or June, would mean serious damage or complete destruction. At present Allies appeared to be doing little about it. American troops were also sleeping and smoking between stacks of forage. Several stores were also observed in close vicinity of sacked bran. Italians complained that the risk of fire was very serious.

7026

(c) Contacted Major B.R. Keller acting comdr. No. 242 Q.M. Pn. American Army and explained the whole situation. He promised to investigate matters and when possible find remedies.  
(d) Later contacted D.S.T. Flambo and asked that MADDALONI Depot be handed back to Italians for use as a Bulk holding Supply Depot. D.S.T. could not agree to this as it had been earmarked for British use.

4. Visited CASERTA Supply Depot commanded by Lt. Col CASPARA.  
(a) Depot was situated in Former Prison well accommodated and moderately well kept. Plenty of accommodation for expansion. <sup>but</sup>  
(b) There were observed to be a huge stack of <sup>but</sup> trezles approx 4,000 prs.  
(c) Saw excellent examples of well made and baked loaves of bread.  
(d) Italians complained that Americans had taken their Forage Depot and in it stacks of fire wood. Americans were observed using the fire wood. They would not permit Italians to remove it.  
(e) Depot was feeding about 4,000 men.

24th Jan.  
5. Visited AVELLINO Supply Depot comdr Lt. Col COURCI.  
(a) Accommodation was very small indeed. Stocks negligible.  
(b) Depot Comdr impressed one for efficiency and keenness. Everything was neat, well kept and in excellent order.  
(c) Feeding approx 4,500 men.

MILITARY MISSION.

Date 24 Jan 1945

17 AUGUST ARMY.



6. Visited BARBERS Supply Depot Comdr Lt. Col Paulini Melio.  
 (a) A very small store with very small stocks.  
 (b) Complain that flour was always short-weight in cases, also that quantities of tinned saps were unfit for human consumption. This matter is being taken up with the relative R.F.O.s.  
 (c) Feeding approx 4,000 men.

25th Jan.  
 7. Visited PERMERA Supply Depot Comdr Capt. Hero.  
 (a) Depot was situated in very bad accommodation - a semi destroyed house where roof has fallen in in parts, rain comes in. Saps have been damaged by weather. Took the matter up with local Brit. Comdr Major Nichols of A.S.G. who stated that he would endeavour to find better alternative accommodation. This Officer<sup>W</sup> experienced difficulty in obtaining his 40 day allotment of supplies practically due to lack of transport facilities. He has practically nothing over and above his British issue of saps and therefore no reserves to fall back upon.  
 (b) The Depot was miserably well kept.  
 (c) Feeds approx 1000 men.

26th Jan.  
 8. Visited BARBERS Supply Depot Comdr Capt. De Mita Luigi.  
 (a) Depot is situated in Fort and in excellent accommodation with plenty of room to spare for expansion.  
 (b) There were large quantities of empties stored away. Italians had taken cases to pieces and are packed them flat to save space. The matter of returning empties to British Depots has been taken up with Mamba. He also showed small quantities of P. Meat and Ed. Fish unfit for human consumption.  
 (c) Depot excellently kept, in very neat tidy clean condition.  
 (d) Feeding approx 7,000 men.

9. Visited TRANI Supply Depot Comdr Lt. Col Giannotti Francesco.  
 (a) Comdr a very forceful, strong characterd man who was doing an excellent job of work, and does not care a damn for anyone.  
 (b) Depot accommodation has been burned by the Germans and only a part of it as yet has been cleared and repaired.  
 (c) Saps were excellently kept and whole depot was very neat clean and tidy.  
 (d) Considerable quantities of firewood have been accumulated and stacked by stacking down empty British issued wooden cases. These might have been returned to British D.L.O.  
 (e) Feeding approx 2,500 men.

10. Visited MELETTA Supply Depot Comdr Capt Melicelli Augusto.  
 (a) Very small depot with very small stocks - negligible.  
 (b) Saw again large quantities of empties seen.

7025

(a) Depot is situated in Fort and in excellent accommodation with plenty of room to spare for expansion.

(b) There were large quantities of empties stored away. Italians had taken excess tin pieces and are packed them flat to save space. The matter of returning empties to British Depots has been taken up with Flambo. He also stored small quantities of P. Meat and Ed. Fish unfit for human consumption.

(c) Depot excellently kept, in very neat tidy clean condition.

(d) Feeding approx 7,000 men.

9. Visited ZEMMI Supply Depot Genral Lt. Col Gianvito Francesco.

(a) Genral a very forceful, strong character man who was doing an excellent job of work, and does not care damn for anyone.

(b) Depot accommodation has been burned by the Germans and only a part of it as yet has been cleared and repaired.

(c) Dumps were excellently kept and whole depot was very neat clean and tidy.

(d) Considerable quantities of firewood have been accumulated and stacked by/breaking down empty British issued wooden cases. These might have been returned to British P.L.P.

(e) Feeding approx 2,500 men.

10. Visited MUISTRA Supply Depot Genral Capt Molealli Augusto.

(a) Very small depot with very small stocks - negligible.

(b) Once again large quantities of empties seen.

(c) Nearly all holding was Italian.

(d) Depot is a poor affair, badly kept, everything dirty.

(e) Feeding approx 2,000 men.

7025

11. Conclusion.

(a) Italians do not appear to do much in the way of inspections of their depots.

(b) Some depots are good, very few are excellent many are bad.

(c) There are many small depots, necessary because of lack of transport most unsound in housing accommodation and personnel. It is suggested that some of the smaller ones be closed down.

*Genral M. A. M. A.*  
 Lt. Col.  
 A.D.C. to H.Q. I.A.A.

In the Field  
 27.1.44.

Original to - Genl.  
 Copy to - G. S.  
 G.  
 ST.  
 Circ File.  
 Policy File (ST).

ARMY FORM C3136 (Small)

**MESSAGE FORM**

Register No.

Call

Sel. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

33

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM  
(A)

Originator

Date-Time of Origin

OFFICE DATE STAMP

M M I A

27 1740 A

For Action

A2/G

M M I A LO REAR HIGHWAY ARMY.

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions

GP

Originator's No.

~~0 466~~ ~~MONUMENT~~ and Col ~~PIKE~~ of A G O will visit you afternoon SATURDAY  
29 Jan staying till Monday (.) ~~PIKE~~ wishes study your organization  
before forming parallel one with Americans

(GPO) Wt. 953 194. 3,000,000 Pads. 5/43. B. & S. Ltd. SI-6745/6

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IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Time System Op.

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SIGNED

Time cleared



22 Jan 44 A/Q Conference

General

- 1. Essential to get Italian adm Hqs in 5 and 8 Army areas fully functioning as soon as possible.
- 2. Rations for Italian Army due early Feb at BARI and NAPLES to go to Italian Depots direct. Allied assistance with tpt.
- 3. Allied Personnel to inspect Italian Depots. Method still under discussion between ST FLAMBO and ADST MIA.
- 4. Italian fms (Ike.) DAPINO RCT) in Combat Zone to use their own 2nd Line tpt as now. Dispersed Italian units under Comd Allied Armies to remain Allied responsibility.
- 5. Possible sites for ration depots are - West, MADDAICNI, East, TARANTO. ADST investigating.

Clothing and Equipment

- 6. MIA to provide estimated figures for 4 monthly provision after taking into account clothing due to arrive early Feb.
- 7. Clothing ex convoys to be received into Italian Depots NAPLES and BARI.
- 8. DDGS FLAMBO will warn Ord Port Dets re handling on arrival at Ports.
- 9. Small nucleus of British personnel necessary at two a/m Depots to help sort out stores: inevitable that UKG and Italian stores will find their way into wrong depots owing to shipping stowage.
- 10. Clothing and eqpt for Italian units in Combat Zone to be sent up by weekly pack train when necessary. MIA to notify FLAMBO of requirements.
- 11. Rear IFHQ to be at RH to deal with distribution.

Accommodation Stores

- 12. Italian Army to assess deficiencies of accn stores and notify MIA for FLAMBO.

Action by

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OS

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ST

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OS

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Accommodation Stores

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Warlike Stores

13. Present issue from Allied stocks for Italian Combat tps to continue in essential cases.

14. DAPINO to continue to demand arms and amm through SARE as now. G(SD) authy for release.

Arms and MT Spares

Agreed that an Allied parent unit will be nominated by Allied fmn concerned to be responsible for charge and census of Allied...

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Notes on Visit to NAPLES by DAA & [redacted] (21 to 24 Jan)

32

22 Jan 44 A/Q Conference

Action by

General

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Accommodation Stores

7623



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Med

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Warlike Stores

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Vehs and MT Spares

15. Agreed that an Allied parent unit will be nominated by Allied fmn concerned to be responsible for charge and census of Allied...  
G  
ST

vehs used by Italian units.

16. AFHQ state that to make up indispensable deficiencies 600 new vehs may be shipped.

17. MT Spares. 15 truck loads of Italian spares at CALTA MISSETTA SICILY were due to be handed over to Maj MASSIMO PARETI, rep of Ministry of War in SICILY on 23 Jan. Type of spares unknown. Future supply very doubtful. FLAMMO is trying to get tyres and spares from MIDEAST.

Workshop Facilities

18. Italian military facilities are virtually NIL.

19. 1st and 2nd line repair to be carried out by unit whps. 3rd and 4th ech repair where practicable to be an Allied commitment.

20. Maint of AMGO vehs to be carried out by Allies.

Med Stores

21. British responsibility for provision on data sent through MMIA to continue. Demand being met partly by captured stocks ex N. AFRICA.

Hospitalisation

22. Have the Italians got the personnel to man a pl of ambulances when these are found from Allied sources? Vehs to be affiliated to Allied parent unit as in para 15 above.

23. MMIA to produce a Med plan for 3 1/2% Italian military personnel in rear of Combat Zone, taking into account existing accn, accn stores, personnel, est and eqpt.

24. DMS will adjust his demands for Italian Med units on ACMF SD priority list accordingly.

Salvage

25. To be cleared through Allied Depots from Combat Zone as now.

26. Italian org is now in operation behind Combat Zone.

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24. DMS will adjust his demands for Italian Med units on ACMF SD priority list accordingly.

Salvage

25. To be cleared through Allied Depots from Combat Zone as now.

26. Italian org is now in operation behind Combat Zone.

27. Raw material in hands of Italians especially metal, (copper at GALLIOLI) to be used by Allies if required.

Rations

28. Hope to have all Italians soldiers on one scale soon (present operational scale) plus supplement for heavy manual work.

Rfts for existing units

29. SD FLAMBO and ACMF to be informed (a) what effect of bringing present units up to strength will have on fmn of future units of same type. (b) What units scheduled for fmn in January will in fact be completed. (c) Of any unforeseen alteration of priority in fmn. (d) Possibility of forming a trg centre for dvrs.

BD - Distinctive marking

30. Khaki BD on temporary issue to urgent cases is already marked with black collar and ring round trouser leg. Distinctive marking other than stars on collar and badge of rank will not be worn.

Med

Med

Med

Med

RE

7622

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3  
31. Italian Army may use distinctive marking at its own discretion on dyed BD and other clothing from Allied sources. SMRE to be informed.

23 Jan 44. MISCELLANEOUS Points

MS ACMF

32. Correct channel of comm for AMIA re staff appts is direct to MS AFHQ copy to ACMF.

33. Keep Maj ROBERTSON informed periodically of how our postings compare with WE.

FLAMBO (Q(AE))

34. No skid chains available for use Italian 31 CORPS.

35. Have Italian Army got sufficient stocks and resources for provision of soap?

MOV FLAMBO

36. Italian rfts for 8 Army area to go to Italian Reception Camp TERMOLI.

37. Notify detraining sta for all moves.

38. Comms from SUPERTRASPOMI asking for moves to be arranged have taken up to 18 days to reach FLAMBO. Can SUPERTRASPOMI use British W/T net to pass such messages.

SD FLAMBO

39. IAF Port labour to return to Air Force duties and to be replaced by Army at rate of 800 a month.

FATIMA signal to Air Div FATIMA A245 dated 21 Jan refers.

Gen BASSO

40. Wants ARDITI to come to mainland urgently. They have been waiting 3 weeks for shipment from SARDINIA.

24 Jan 44

Petrol Section FLAMBO

Q  
A/Q  
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Q  
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36. Italian rfts for 8 Army area to go to Italian Reception Camp  
TERMOGLI. Q
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24 Jan 44

Petrol Section FLAMBO

41. Agreed that Italian Army POL demands shall include all vehs on  
mainland and AA.SS CALABRIA unless vehs used by DDW on timber  
haulage. 7021
42. Confirmed that future releases for CALABRIA to be made from  
CIP within the Province. "
43. MMIA to confirm to Ministry of War that a monthly allocation to  
Italian Army must not be exceeded without either prior authy of  
explanation in special circumstances. Q
44. Ministry of War to say in future stock statements how POL (less  
oil) is packed. SF
- MC ADV Rfts Sec POMICI
45. Stated that rfts Pool is now being reviewed and that there is  
no hope for some time of any but 5 and 8 units being reinforced. Camp  
MMIA to beg borrow and steal.
- 2 DISTRICT
46. Release of vehs for MMIA to make up deficiencies against present  
WB. ACOMP have released allotment to DISTWO for us. Left letter  
for THRUFP to contact G(SD) and let MMIA know where vehs can be  
collected.

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*Bigelow*

26 January 1944

Military Mission to Italian Army...

Distribution :  
Comd  
G  
A/Q (2)  
Circulator

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31

MILITARY MISSION.

SECRET

HQ No 2 District CMF  
1535 Q

24 Jan 44

Date 15 Jan 44 to 19/19  
ITALIAN ARMY.

NOTES OF DISTRICT COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE  
No 3 - 15 JAN 44

ITEM 1 Statement by GOC

1. GOC gave a brief review of the main features affecting No 2 District since the last conference. These were -

(a) The intensification of the build-up. Several major formations have arrived, sometimes with very short notice, and consequently it had been difficult to make proper arrangements for reception. Sub Areas had compacted extremely well in meeting the heavy and numerous demands made on them. For the future it had been agreed that the District commitment of formations would be limited to two Corps HQs and Corps Tps, and four Divs and the quartering plan together with the necessary Works Services would be based on this assumption.

(b) Development of Installations. This is well on the way to being cleared up, but it had become obvious that the Works Services could not complete the various demands made on it by the required dates. There were too many first priority tasks, and those had ceased to have much meaning. The review of the situation had shown a high proportion of the available labour to be employed on low priority work, including maintenance, and this would have to be controlled in future.

- 2. Food
- 3. Labour

This continued to be a major problem, which required to be organised on a basis of the minimum essential requirements of Depots, Depots, Works Services, Roads and essential General Duties.

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to be controlled in future.

2. Tpt

This continued to be a major problem, which required to be  
organised on a basis of the minimum essential requirements of Docks,  
Docks, Works Services, Roads and essential General Duties.

3. Labour

In spite of all endeavours the required numbers were not yet  
forthcoming, but certain steps had been taken and it was probable that  
there would be an improvement. The provision of food and clothing <sup>7620</sup>  
played an important part and certain action had been taken in this  
respect. It had also been decided to return from North Africa the  
more efficient Italian Officers who, up to the present, had been  
retained there. It seems probable that an acceptance of a lower total  
figure of better organised and more efficient soldiers, would be the  
solution. //

Intake  
Clearance

4.

This still gave cause for anxiety and required continuous and  
careful watching. The RBs at EARL and BARRIS presented the most  
difficult problem, but this will improve when the schemes for mail  
service are implemented. The unloading of coal also presents a  
problem.

Sheet 2

One difficulty in connection with truck clearance was to get at the real facts, and C (Mov) were preparing certain figures which it was hoped would give the true picture. In brief, these figures will show in the case of each of the major Depots what trucks had to be dealt with during a period of 24 hours, and the trucks which still remained uncleared at the end of that period. These figures would be compared with an assessed figure of maximum capacity for each Depot and it would be necessary to examine and take appropriate action in any case where the target figure had not been reached. The target figure itself would require periodical review.

5. Routes

Maintenance of routes is of the highest importance. This applies particularly to the road PORTA - HARLES which is having to compete with an increasing load.

6. Cranes

Attention was drawn to the existence and functions of the District Cranes Control Committee.

7. Displaced Persons and Refugees

CCC directed that a copy of the minutes of the meeting held at District HQ on 7 Jan 44 should be circulated to areas and Sub Areas.

8. Food

It was announced that orders had been received from AFHQ Adv Idm Eaklon restricting drastically, the purchase of foodstuffs. All tanks are forbidden to purchase food in restaurants; this provides an additional reason why we must improve our own clubs and canteens.

9. Operational

It was announced that certain tests of Sub Area plans for dealing with enemy raids, involving the assistance of certain elements of the civilian population, would be carried out by the District Commander. First test would take place in 6 Base Sub Area prior to the 28 Jan.

10. Information

The passing of information from areas and Sub Areas to District HQ was not yet sufficiently good. In a large District this is vital.

2707



7. Displaced Persons and Refugees

GOC directed that a copy of the minutes of the meeting held at District HQ on 7 Jan 44 should be circulated to Areas and Sub Areas.

8. Food

It was announced that orders had been received from AFHQ Adv Adv. Rehelem restricting drastically, the purchase of foodstuffs. All rations are forbidden to purchase food in restaurants; this provides an additional reason why we must improve our own clubs and canteens.

9. Operations?

It was announced that certain tests of Sub Area plans for dealing with enemy raids, involving the assistance of certain elements of the civilian population, would be carried out by the District Commander. First test would take place in 6 Base Sub Area prior to the 20 Jan.

10. Information

The passing of information from Areas and Sub Areas to District HQ was not yet sufficiently good. In a large District this is vital. Daily sitings have not, up to date, been called for, and reliance is placed on the receipts of District of prompt information of incidents as and when they occur. It is obvious that Area and Sub Areas must organize their own system of obtaining timely information from all sources.

ITEM II

Reports by Area and Sub Area Commanders

Action by

11. 57 Area

Commander gave a brief picture of some of the problems peculiar to his Area.

- (a) Ports operated entirely by American Tugs who employ slightly different methods of work i.e. get broken during the 24 hours, no queuing dumping. USA insist on discharge of ships direct to lorry. This causes mixed loads in Depots, delay in vehicle turnaround and congestion in Depots.

Sheet 2

Action by

(b) Depots sital long way from docks.  
(c) No Depots will served.

(d) Very heavy road congestion (particularly around NAFLES) and bad state of road surface.

12. Pilfering very high, and large Black Market exists.

13. Transit Camps worked very well, dealt with 28,000 personnel during month.

14. Typhus epidemic - NAFLES still out of bounds for troops on leave - Rest Centres closed.

15. The following points were mentioned -

- (a) Repairs required to bridges and road surfaces } CE
- (b) Improved rail service } Ord
- (c) Officers Shab required } Ord
- (d) Issue of fresh meat very meagre (twice during month)
- (e) Brit the require second pair of boots and issue of denim

16. 24 Sub Area

All Works generally have been slightly retarded during past month. Suggest that repairs of certain bridges be handled over to AIG

17. Number of personnel for guard duties insufficient. Troops arriving from the East with no escorts or guards. No guards available for new internment camp nearly complete. G

18. Italian military labor supplied still only 50% of target. Boots and socks are urgently required. Q I

19. Hospitals settled in and working well. VD still high. Strongest action being taken against prostitutes and gangs.

(1) Issue of fresh meat very scarce (twice during month)  
(c) Brit try require several pair of boots and issue of denim

Ord

16. 24 Sub Area

All Waris generally have been slightly retarded during past month. Suggest that supply of certain bridges be handed over to AIC

CE

17.

Number of personnel for guard duties insufficient. Troops arriving from the East with no escort or guards. No guards available for new barrier camp nearly complete.

G

18.

Italian military labour supplied still only 50% of target. Boots and socks are urgently required.

Q I

19.

Hospitals settled in and working well. VE still high. Strongest action being taken against prostitutes and gangs. Anti Malarial scheme in hand.

7619

20.

Main lot difficulties arise from constant demands at short notice made by 10 units.

21. 151 Sub Area

Commander gave brief outline of present set up of Air Force Enclave within the Sub Area. Guards presented one of the main problems. Aid scheme for Enclave in hands of USA

G

22.

Stocks of petrol reached 30,000 tons, deficiency last month 5,000 gals - possibly more. Insufficient guards to cover petrol area which extends some 15 miles. Only reconnaissance that area be proclaimed 'military zone'.

ST

23.

VE Work is heavy. Effort and work slow due mainly to lack of tps. Prices higher - 3rd process. Much plus for RA Signal complete estimated that 4 pl of tps will be required by HQs



Sheet 4Action by

24. Accommodation reached saturation point
25. 6 Base Sub Area  
 Considerable extra commitments on PE Services due to gale - PEs now back on priority jobs. Tilers and tiles for roof repair, short supply and demand expected for other roofing materials
26. P.D scheme had been tightened up. Subversive Anti British propaganda been disclosed, strong measures being taken.
27. Big deficiency in unit drivers. Suggestion that GT Coys are left to operate on set jobs and not moved here then absolutely necessary. Turnround of vehicles to USA Depots very slow Q 1
28. Italian military labour still 40% short of target. Working fairly well, lack of boots retards further progress. Q 1
29. Local Resources - Fresh fruit and veg in good supply. Local bakery now producing 70,000 lbs of bread daily.
30. VAV now operating at temporary site.
31. No improvement in numbers of VD cases. VD patients' accommodation at 98 Cam Hosp very poor, but is being improved.
32. 71 Sub Area  
 Post development progressing and tonnages had been increased. Heavy strain had been imposed on host depots especially the BSD. Special Forces Depots now established. USAIF Depots now working.
33. HQ 4 Beach Group have been organised to deal with the 11,300 refugees who had arrived since 30 Dec. Refugees organised into communities under their own leaders. All well disciplined and orderly and working well.  
 It is strongly urged that an issue of cigarettes is made at an early date.

d1118

28. Italian military labour still 40% short of target. Working fairly well, lack of boots retards further progress.

61

29. Local Resources - Fresh fruit and veg in good supply. Local bakery now producing 70,000 lbs of bread daily.

30. VAF now operating at temporary site.

31. No improvement in numbers of VD cases. VD patients accommodation at 92 San Hosp very poor, but is being improved.

32. 74 Sub Area

Fort development progressing and tonnages had been increased. Heavy strain had been imposed on most depots especially the BSD. Special Forces Depots now established. USMF Depots now working.

33. HQ 4 Beach Group have been organized to deal with the 11,300 refugees who had arrived since 30 Dec. Refugees organized into communities under their own leaders. All well disciplined and orderly and working well.

It is strongly urged that an issue of cigarettes is made at an early date.

61

34. Italian military labour still well below target, civilians being used in lieu. An appreciable drop in availability of civilians anticipated shortly when work on lava commences.

35. Recent cut in top seriously affected progress in RE Works particularly asset substitutions, condition of vehicles bad. Cut of total strength of 44 vehicles, number off road equal 85 (62 in Workshops and 23 on maintenance).

61  
ST

36. Not possible to find further accommodation except by evacuation of Italian Naval and civilian personnel not essential to area.

37. Sub Area - Three cases Imperial with, eight cases of cutting of telephone wires with lengths of cable being removed in six instances.

61

Sheet 5

38. 52 Area

Comdr stated period under review was from 31 Dec when area took over from Wt Sub Area.

Action by

39. PAD scheme as taken over had been amplified. Local Civil Fire Service work in conjunction with Army Fire Bde. Defence scheme in force tying up AA with local guards special attention being given to Swing bridge.

Deck lighting controlled by master switch from Gun Operations Room.

40. Serious civilian food shortage exists with large Black Market. Local purchase of fresh fruit, veg etc proceeding well.

41. Discipline good on whole, although some 70 military being held in local civilian prison.

Comdr asked that Field Punishment centre be established.

42. Quartering - Medical Area. Arrangements satisfactory. Corps type and Dey Camps were well prepared. There was unlimited field accommodation if this was required.

Q2

ITEM III

43. Statement by Roy A SANDILANDS

Considered that the signs displayed re VD were bad, particularly for Native Troops. He felt that the method of approach was entirely wrong and that more effective results would be obtained by appealing to the moral sense of the individual rather than stressing the material aspect. He was tackling the problem on these lines and would continue to do so.

More attention to unit welfare would be invaluable.

GOJ stated that the Boards would be replaced by a sign clearly indicating the way to the PAC.

Med

ITEM IV

Education Officer stated only a very limited staff was

74.7



42. Quarters - Medical Area. Arrangements satisfactory. Corps ops and Det Camps well prepared. There was unlimited field accommodation if this was required.

92

ITEM III

45. Statement by Rev. A. SANDILANDS

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Med

More attention to unit welfare would be invaluable.

GOC stated that the Boards would be replaced by a sign clearly indicating the way to the FIC.

7018

ITEM IV

44. Education Officer stated only a very limited staff was allowed him on WH compared with the task on hand.

45. Aims

(a) To put over to the troops information as to causes and effects of the war, how and what the Allies and Enemy were doing and views on the post war period. The methods of carrying this out are -

(i) APO. (The Regimental or Unit Educational Officer) by pamphlet.

(ii) British War and Purpose (Courses)  
These courses are to be run by each Educational Officer and WFO also by unit Education Officer.

(iii) Weekly News Sheets.

Sheet 6

Action by

- (b) A very important point is to not allow the men brains to grow rusty, this can be achieved by -
  - (i) Correspondence Courses (not very practical at moment)
  - (ii) Preparing men for examinations. (matriculation exam is being held at 57 Area shortly)
  - (iii) Teaching of languages (large number of applications received already)
  - (iv) Learning something of the history etc of the Country in which we are stationed.
  - (v) Music.

46. The particular task of Education in this Country is stated to be the preparation of the soldier for the very difficult demobilisation period.

47. Comdr 6 Base Sub. has suggested that broadcast lectures, and educational films were popular. GOC mentioned talks by American officers about their Country and ways of living would be beneficial and interesting.

ITEM V

of agenda not discussed. Order authorising the establishment of Local Labour Sub Committees to be issued is approved by Local Resources Board.

ITEM VI

48. Col i/c. Main gave a short review of the IT situation - Distinct transport shortage. As the last transport adjustment made by 2 Coy. in Anichen, 2 District was 2 Coy. CF Companies versus 1; with 2 Coy. on the front. 30 will with additional commitments generally the position tended to become acute...

47189

The system of allotment of tpt to Areas and to Sub Areas is on the basis of the Areas normal commitments and functions

46. The particular task of Liaison in this Country was stated to be the preparation of the Soldier for the very difficult demobilisation period.

47. Comdr 6 Base Sub rec suggested that broadcast lectures, and educational films were popular. GOC mentioned talks by American officers about their Country and ways of living would be beneficial and interesting.

ITEM V  
ITEM VI  
of Agenda not discussed. Cases arising the establishment of Local Labour Sub Committees to be issued if approved by Local Resources Board.

48. Col 1/c Main gave a short review of the IT situation - Distinct transport shortage. On the last transport adjustment made by Maj Gen de Belcher, 2 Districts was 24 of Companies were off; with Depots on the increase and with additional commitments generally the position tended to become acute.

49. The system of allotment of tpt to areas and to Sub Areas is on the basis of the Areas normal commitments and functions, and for any additional task imposed, extra tpt will be allotted where possible from the 2 District Pool.

ITEM VII  
on agenda not dealt with.

ITEM VIII

50. 'G' instruction had been issued and Commanders were invited to comment in writing.

ITEM IX

51. Col 1/c Main gave a brief summary on the main points discussed at conference on RE Works priorities held at AEGHQ by Gen Belcher on 15 Jan. In the past the system of allotment of priorities was not satisfactory and a new method has been adopted. In future all works and constructions will normally come within one of the undermentioned 3 priorities -



Sheet 7

Action by

- Priority I - Work of urgent nature requiring completion by certain date.
- Priority II - Work requiring completion as soon as possible but not immediately essential.
- Priority III - Work of a less urgent nature still, refinements to projects already working or for employment of labour surplus to requirements of priorities I and II.

RE Works will be divided into priorities within the above classes.

52. In addition to priorities mentioned there would be a priority 'X' - This would be used very sparingly for absolutely vital or urgent work and would take precedence over Priority I and II above mentioned.

53. AMHQ Adv Adm Echelon to lay down priorities. Up to 40% of total RE Services would be at the disposal of the CE for District projects or domestic work. All plans for works required West Italy would be prepared by DM# AMHQ Adv Adm Echelon and passed to CE completed.

The drill for East Italy projects would be as before.

54. Every endeavour would be made to co-ordinate RE and Tr Works; this has not been the policy heretofore.

ITEM X NIL.

ITEM XI

55. District Commander's Conference No 4 will be held at 1000 hrs 19 Feb. Items for the agenda will reach 2 District HQ not later than 7 Feb.

10012

projects or domestic work. All plans for works required West Italy would be prepared by DMW AFHQ Adv Adm London and passed to CE completed.

The drill for East Italy projects would be as before.

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ITEM X Nil.

ITEM XI

55. District Commander's Conference No 4 will be held at 1000 hrs 19 Feb. Items for the agenda will reach 2 District HQ not later than 7 Feb.

*Cliff Buel 17617*  
Colonel,  
Col i/c Admin

T.O.C. 0900

DISTRIBUTION -

AFHQ Adv Adm Echelon  
52 Area  
57 Area  
6 Base Sub Area  
71 Sub Area  
94 Sub Area  
151 Sub Area  
MIA

Internal

ADC for GOC  
Col i/c Adm  
GSO I  
G (SD)  
A G  
ACMG (I)  
ACMG (II)  
CE  
Col Q (Adv)  
DDTh  
CSC  
JCG

DDST  
DDMS  
DDCS  
DDMF  
DDM  
DDL  
DAD Salvago  
Welfare  
ARGLD  
IO to MIA  
Education  
Civil Commission

Notes on Visit to NAPLES by DIA & USMC (21 to 24 Jan)

30

File 1019

22 Jan 44 A/C Conference

Action by

General

- 1. Essential to get Italian admin Hqs in 5 and 8 Army areas fully functioning as soon as possible.
- 2. Rations for Italian Army due early Feb at BARI and NAPLES to go to Italian Depots direct. Allied assistance with tpt.
- 3. Allied Personnel to inspect Italian Depots. Method still under discussion between ST FLAMBO and AUSA MILA.
- 4. Italian TAMS (i.e.) BARI (ECT) in Combat Zone to use their own 2nd Line tpt as now. Dispersed Italian units under Comd Allied Armies to remain Allied responsibility.
- 5. Possible sites for ration depots are - West, MADDALONI, East TARANTO. ADEF investigating.

ST

ST

OS

Clothing and Equipment

- 6. MILA to provide estimated figures for 4 monthly provision after taking into account clothing due to arrive early Feb.
- 7. Clothing ex convoys to be received into Italian Depots HARLES and BARI.
- 8. DOTS FLAMBO will warn Ord Port Deta re handling on arrival at Ports.
- 9. Small nucleus of British personnel necessary at two a/m Depots to help sort out stores; inevitable that UKC and Italian stores will find their way into wrong depots owing to shipping stowage.
- 10. Clothing and eqpt for Italian units in Combat Zone to be sent up by weekly pack train when necessary. MILA to notify FLAMBO of requirements.
- 11. Rear ITHQ to be at TH to deal with distribution.

Accommodation Stores

- 12. Italian Army to assess deficiencies of occn stores and

7616



4. Italian 2mo (Lke.) DAPINO REG) in Combat Zone to use their own 2nd Line tpt as now. Dispersed Italian units under Comd Allied Armies to remain Allied responsibility.
5. Possible sites for ration depots are -- West, MADDALONI, East TABARNO. ADDET Investigating.

Clothing and Equipment

6. MIA to provide estimated figures for 4 monthly provision after taking into account clothing due to arrive early Feb.
7. Clothing ex convoys to be received into Italian Depots MARONE and BARI.
8. DDB FLAMBO will warn Ord Port Beta re handling on arrival at Ports.
9. Small nucleus of British personnel necessary at two a/m Depots to help sort out stores; inevitable that UKC and Italian stores will find their way into wrong depots owing to shipping stowage.
10. Clothing and eqpt for Italian units in Combat Zone to be sent up by weekly pack train when necessary. MIA to notify FLAMBO of requirements.
11. Rear IFHQ to be at RH to deal with distribution.

Accommodation Stores

12. Italian Army to assess deficiencies of accn stores and notify MIA for FLAMBO.

Warlike Stores

13. Present issue from Allied stocks for Italian Combat tps to continue in essential cases.
14. DAPINO to continue to demand arms and am through SARRA as now. G(AB) authy for release.

Vehs and M Spares

15. Agreed that an Allied parent unit will be nominated by Allied for concerned to be responsible for charge and census of Allied...

ST

OS

7616

Med

vehs used by Italian units.

16. AFHQ state that to make up indispensable deficiencies 600 new vehs may be shipped.

17. MT Spares. 15 truck loads of Italian spares at CALIA MISSENA SICILY were due to be handed over to MAJ. JASPER LHO PARTI, rep of Ministry of War in SICILY on 23 Jan. Type of spares unknown. Future supply very doubtful. PLAINES is trying to get tyres and spares from MIDEAST.

Workshop Facilities

18. Italian military facilities are virtually NIL.

19. 1st and 2nd line repair to be carried out by unit workshops. 3rd and 4th ech repair where practicable to be an Allied commitment.

20. Maint of AMCOB vehs to be carried out by Allies.

Med Stores

21. British responsibility for provision on data sent through AMIA to continue. Demand being met partly by captured stocks ex E. AFRICA.

Hospitalization

22. Have the Italians got the personnel to man a pl of ambulances when these are found from Allied sources? Vechs to be affiliated to Allied parent unit as in para 15 above.

23. AMIA to produce a Med plan for 3 1/2% Italian military personnel in rear of Combat Zone, taking into account existing stores, accn stores, personnel, est and eqpt.

24. DDS will adjust his demands for Italian Med units on AMAF SD priority list accordingly.

Salvage

25. To be cleared through Allied Depots from Combat Zone as now.

Italian org is now in operation behind Combat Zone.

03  
M.E.

OT

RAE

Med

Med

Med

Med

7615

21. British responsibility for provision on data sent through  
MAIL to continue. Demand being met partly by captured  
stocks ex H. AREA.

Hospitalisation

- 22. Have the Italians got the personnel to run a pl of  
ambulances when these are found from Allied sources? Vchrs  
to be affiliated to Allied parent unit as in para 13 above. Med
- 23. WETA to produce a Med plan for 3 1/2% Italian military  
personnel in rear of combat zone, taking into account  
existing accn, accn stores, personnel, eat and eqpt. Med
- 24. DMS will adjust his demands for Italian Med units on  
ARMY SD priority list accordingly. Med

Salvage

25. To be cleared through Allied Depots from Combat zone as  
now. 7615

26. Italian org is now in operation behind Combat Zone.

27. Saw material in hands of Italians especially metal, (copper  
at GALLIOLI) to be used by Allies if required. RE

Rations

28. Hope to have all Italian soldiers on one scale soon  
(present operational scale) plus supplement for heavy  
manual work.

Rfts for existing units

29. SD PLAMBO and ARMY to be informed (a) what effect of  
bringing present units up to strength will have on fin  
of future units of same type. (b) What units scheduled  
for fin in January will in fact be completed Feb. (c)  
Of any unforeseen alteration of priority in fin. (d)  
Possibility of forming a trg centre for AVTS. 0

SD - Distinctive marking

30. Khaki SD on temporary issue to urgent cases is already  
marked with black collar and ring round trouser leg.  
Distinctive marking other than stars on collar and badge  
of rank will not be worn.



31. Italian Army may use distinctive marking at its own discretion on dyed BD and other clothing from Allied sources. AMRE to be informed.

23 Jan 44. PISCIZIAHOUR Points

MS ACMF

32. Correct channel of comm for MILA re staff appts is direct to HQ AFHQ copy to ACMF.

33. Keep Maj ROBERTSON informed periodically of how our postings compare with NE.

FLAMBO (G(AS))

34. No skid chains available for use Italian 31 C RPS.

35. Have Italian Army get sufficient stocks and resources for provision of soap?

ROY FLAMBO

36. Italian rfts for 8 Army area to go to Italian Reception Camp FERROLI.

37. Notify detrainng sta for all moves.

38. Comms from SUPERTRASPORTI asking for moves to be arranged have taken up to 18 days to reach FLAMBO. Can SUPERTRASPORTI use British W/T net to pass such messages.

SD FLAMBO

39. IAF Port labour to return to Air Force duties and to be replaced by Army at rate of 800 a month.

40. PALINA signal to Air Div PALINA A-45 dated 31 Jan refers.

Gen Basso

40. Wants AMBITI to come to mainland urgently. They have been waiting 3 weeks for shipment from SARDINIA. 7614

24 Jan 44

Percol Section FLAMBO

37. Notify detrainning sta for all moves.

38. Come from SUPPLEMENTARY asking for moves to be arranged have taken up to 18 days to reach FLAMBO. Gen SUPERMARCHETTI use British W/T net to pass such messages.

SR FLAMBO

39. IAF port labour to return to Air Force duties and to be replaced by Army at rate of 800 a month.

40. MILIA signal to Air Div FALIMA A245 dated 21 Jan refers.

Gen Basso

40. wants AMBISI to come to mainland urgently. They have been waiting 3 weeks for shipment from SARDINIA. 7614

24 Jan 44

Petrol Section FLAMBO

41. Agreed that Italian Army POL demands shall include all vehs on mainland and AA.55 CALABRIA unless vehs used by DMF on timber haulage.

42. Confirmed that future releases for CALABRIA to be made from CIF within the Province.

43. MILIA to confirm to Ministry of War that a monthly allocation to Italian Army must not be exceeded without either prior authy of explanation in special circumstances.

44. Ministry of War to say in future stock statements how POL (less oil) is packed

RAADY Rfts Sec FERRICI

45. Stated that Rfts Pool is now being reviewed and that there is no hope for some time of any but 5 and 8 units being reinforced. MILIA to beg borrow and steal. Camp

2 DISTRICT

46. Release of vehs for MILIA to make up deficiencies against present list. ACMP have released allotment to DISTRICT for us. Left letter for HQADY to contact G(AB) and let MILIA know where vehs can be collected.

*Siglausthumb.*

26 JAN 27 1944

MAJOR  
DIA & CIG,  
Military Mission to Italian Army...

Distribution :  
0 Comd  
2/3 (2)  
Circulator  
File

6107  
2107



79 ~~1000~~

Report by Lt. Col. H. C. F. ~~Smith~~ A.D.S.T. M.E.I.A. on visit to Italian Naval Installations in Taranto and other visits on 17 Jan 1944.

1. Visited Mir War LEASE, Lt. Col. Lanicolfi (SusiENZA). Col Lanicolfi was worried because Italian Units drawing in BANINDISI had not been issued their quota of P. Meat, Sugar and Coffee. The Italian Navy had also been unable to draw their allotment from HEINDISI. Both had been told to apply to TARANTO.
2. Called in at 13 BPO BRINDISI (Lt. Col. White). Reason for above is:-
  - (a) Bulk Supply Depot at TARANTO is closing down and every effort is being made to dry it up.
  - (b) HCO is anxious to issue all commodities left in TARANTO.
3. Proceeded to PARAMMO and saw Italian Military Supply Depot commanded by Lt. Col. Motta Francisco. Depot is sited in very good accommodation and is well kept in every way. There are fair quantities of Italian Supplies in stock. Depot feeds about 14,000 men. The usual troubles and difficulties had been experienced.
4. Contacted Major Taylor and Capt Potenziere. 1000 (Y) C.T. Coy.
  - (a) Handed Capt Potenziere copy of Italian Ration Scale.
  - (b) Checked 10 day break down of Italian Rations.
  - (c) Warned Major Taylor to assist Italian Coy Comdr to encourage Italians to improve conditions of accommodation for Italian Soldiers.
5. Contacted British Base Accounting Officer R.N. TARANTO.
  - (a) Comdr Flint was away, but saw deputy and explained accounting system for Italian Naval Rations.
6. Visited Italian Naval Victualling Depot commanded by Lt. Col. Fiorini.
  - (a) Depot in excellent building. Bulk stock rather muddled. Distributing Depot under excellent conditions.
  - (b) Quantities of bread Supplies from British Supply Depot had assumed serious proportions. P. Meat in considerable quantities was unfit for human consumption. Cheese and tinned fish was also had in lesser quantities.
  - (c) Saw about 200 tins of M & V Ration all blown.
  - (d) Coffee in salvaged Petrol tins had been seriously pilfered before issue.
7. Visited Italian Naval Bakery.
  - (a) Installation equipped with excellent machinery.
  - (b) Watched moulding and came to the conclusion that Italian bakers do not take sufficient trouble with the process of moulding.
  - (c) Product was very good, better than Bakery at BARI. Few rolls of 150 grams each

7013

4. Contacted Major Taylor at Camp Potenza, Italy. (a) Handed Capt Potenza a copy of Italian Ration Scale. (b) Checked 10 day break down of Italian Rations. (c) Warned Major Taylor to assist Italian Coy Comdr to encourage Italians to improve conditions of accommodation for Italian Soldiers.

5. Contacted British Base Accounting Officer R.H. LAMMO. (a) Comdr Flint was away, but saw deputy and explained accounting system for Italian Naval Rations.

6. Visited Italian Naval Victualling Depot commanded by Lt. Col Tiorzi. (a) Depot in excellent building. Bulk stock rather muffled. Distributing Depot under excellent conditions. (b) Quantities of bread supplies from British Supply Depot had assumed serious proportions. Meat in considerable quantities was unfit for human consumption. Cheese and tinned fish was also bad in lesser quantities. (c) Saw about 200 tins of M & V Ration all blown. (d) Coffee in salvaged Petrol tins had been seriously pilfered before issue.

7013

7. Visited Italian Naval Bakery. (a) Installation equipped with excellent machinery. (b) Watched moulding and came to the conclusion that Italian bakers do not take sufficient trouble with the process of moulding. (c) Product was very good, better than Bakery at BARI. Two rolls of 150 grams each constituted a man's ration per day. However, better moulding would produce a larger loaf. (d) Installation capable of producing 24,000 lbs of bread a day.

In the Field.  
19 Jan, 1944.

Original to:- Comd.  
Copies to :- G. S.D.

ST.  
Circ File.  
Policy File (ST).

*Frank W. Flint*  
Lt. Col.  
A.D.S.T. M.M.I.S.

MILITARY MISSION.

Date 20 Jan 44. 4019.

ITALIAN ARMY.

*Original  
2/11*

78

Report by Capt. J.M. BRAY on visit to  
10 Veh Coy R.A.D.C., 562 Arty Coy R.A.S.C. & 130 Water Tank Coy  
with reference to formation of 1001 Italian Gen Tpt Coy.

(1) Contacted 10 Veh Coy and was told releases had been made for 286 x 3 Ton 30 x 15 cwt and 50 M/C, and they informed me that a number of the above had already been taken over by 562 Arty Coy for necessary repairs before handing over to 130 Water Tank (British Cadre to 1001 Gen Tpt Coy).

(2) Contacted O.C. 562 Arty Coy R.A.S.C. He told me he had taken over 46 x 3 ton from 10 Veh Coy and they were now in a roadworthy condition. Of these 10 x 3 had been handed over to 598 Water Tank Coy (British Cadre to 1002 Italian G.T. Coy) and 10 x 3 ton to 130 Water Tank Coy. From information which I had I understood that 1001 Italian Gen Tpt Coy was to be completed first. I arranged with the O.C. of 562 Arty Coy that he should have the 10 x 3 ton he had handed over to 598 Water Tank Coy R.A.S.C. transferred to 130 Water Tank Coy. The O.C. of 562 Arty Coy stated that he would have all the vehicles for 1001 Italian Gen Tpt Coy Roadworthy and handed over to 130 Water Tank by 24 Jan. These will comprise of:

143 x 3 Ton - 10 x 15 Cwt - 10 M/C.

(3) Contacted O.C. 130 Water Tank Coy at PAIS DE COLL. He informed me that he had found accommodation for all personnel of 1001 Gen Tpt Coy, and was now waiting for an advance party for the purpose of clearing their billets. O.C. of 1001 Italian Gen Tpt Coy had visited him and told him that the above Coy was up to establishment - 10 officers

10 M/Cs  
385 Gns

and ready to move at any time.

18 Jan 44.

Original to:- Comd.  
Copies to :- G. S.  
D.  
ST.  
Girc. File.  
Policy File (ST)

*M. Bray*  
Captain, R.A.S.C.

f. ADST - MM1A.

7612



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

ARMY FORM C2136 (Small)

### MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Srl. No.

Pre

Priority Instructions

9 27

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A)

Originator

Date-Time of Origin

OFFICE DATE STAMP

MMIA

19 1200 A

For Action

AQ19

FLAMBO

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions

GR

Originator's No.

Q413. For MMIA LO (°) Please reserve billets w.o.f. night 21/22 Jan for following offrs visiting FLAMBO for Q Conference (°) ADST 4 nights DAQMG DADOS DADME all 2 nights

(GPO: 1954) Wt. 9532/194. 2,900,000 Pads, 5/43. B. & S. Ltd. 51-6745/6.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Time System Op.

PLAINTEXT

*Reg... 12/21*

**IMPORTANT**

TMI or TOR

SIGNED

SIGNED

7611

Not cleared

Report by Capt. J.M. CRAIG on Visit to  
10 Veh Coy R.A.S.C., 562 Arty Coy R.A.S.C. & 130 Water Tank Coy  
with reference to formation of 1001 Italian Gen Tpt Coy.

~~10~~  
26

(1) Contacted 10 Veh Coy and was told releases had been made for 206 x 3 Ton 20 x 15 cwt and 50 M/C, and they informed me that a number of the above had already been taken over by 562 Arty Coy for necessary repairs before handing over to 130 Water Tank (British Cadre to 1001 Gen Tpt Coy).

(2) Contacted C.O. 562 Arty Coy R.A.S.C. He told me he had taken over 46 x 3 ton from 10 Veh Coy and they were now in a non-military condition. Of these 10 x 3 had been handed over to 558 Water Tank Coy (British Cadre to 1002 Italian G.T. Coy) and 10 x 3 ton to 130 Water Tank Coy. From information which I had I understood that 1001 Italian Gen Tpt Coy was to be completed first. I arranged with the C.O. of 562 Arty Coy that he should have the 10 x 3 ton he had handed over to 558 Water Tank Coy R.A.S.C. transferred to 130 Water Tank Coy. The C.O. of 562 Arty Coy stated that he would have all the vehicles for 1001 Italian Gen Tpt Coy Roadworthy and handed over to 130 Water Tank by 24 Jan. These will comprise of:

143 x 3 Ton - 10 x 15 Cwt - 10 M/C.

(3) Contacted C.O. 130 Water Tank Coy at BWS DE GILL. He informed me that he had found accommodation for all personnel of 1001 Gen Tpt Coy, and was now waiting for an advance party for the purpose of cleaning their billets. C.O. of 1001 Italian Gen Tpt Coy had visited him and told him that the above Coy was up to establishment - 10 officers

10 M/Cs  
395 Gns

and ready to move at any time.

15 Jan 44.

Original to: - C.O. 130  
Copies to: - C.O. 1001  
C.O. 562  
C.O. 558  
C.O. 1002  
C.O. 1001  
H.Q. File.  
Policy File (M)

*J. M. Craig*  
Captain, R.A.S.C.

*J. ADST - R.H.A.*

*Agut.*

BEST COPY POSSIBLE



MILITARY MISSION.

Report of Inspection by Lt. Col. H.B. Finch, A.D.S.F. M.S.I.A., of Italian Institute in vicinity of Bari, Italy Jan 1

Date 16/1/49

ITALIAN ARMY.

- 1. Visited 1001 and 1002 Italian G.I. Coys.
- (a) Capt. Cella comdg. 1001 Italian GI Coy and Capt. Serratori comdg. 1002 Italian GI Coy were both present.
- (b) 1001 Italian GI Coy was still 50 men short whereas 1002 Italian GI Coy had only 10 officers and 15 O.R.'s altogether.
- (c) The following artificer personnel had reported to 1001 Italian GI Coy:

Turners	2.
Electricians	2.
Timbermen	2.
Mechanics	6.
Fitters	6.
Carpenters	2.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>

- (d) So far Capt Serratori could 1002 It. G.I. Coy had not been able to find any clothing and equipment.
- (e) Out of the 6 lorries delivered for training 2 were in W/shops and two more were expected to go in the next day.
- (f) Both Unit Comdys complained of the smallness of the Italian Nation.
- (g) Major Philippe Comdg 130 Water Tank Coy BARI had been to POLIGNANO and contacted LAUL It. G.I. Coy (130 W.T. Coy is to form British Centre).
- (h) Containers full of the hot military meal were imported. Meal consisted of short macaroni with a little tomato flavoured in water. It was stated that this stew should have had considerable quantities of Vegetables included. This deficiency was due probably to the lack of interest shown by the Italian Unit Comdr.

2. Contacted Col Lazara, Head of Commissariat at BARI and asked his permission to visit depot

3. Visited Italian Bakery in BARI commanded by Lieut Col Ciampolo.

(a) an experiment was in progress trying out British Issued Canadian Flour for making bread. 300 gm loaves were seen. Appeared to be very well, badly risen and probably badly mixed. Loaves made from Italian Flour were very stiffer. It is thought that if loaves are produced from same quantity of flour, larger in size by better mixing and baking, then half the Italian soldiers complaint will be remedied.

UNIT 2 Dist and Col Lazara have agreed that if possible a British Baker will be loaned to Italian Bakery to deal with British Issued Flour.

(b) Considerable quantities of both British and Italian flour was seen in store. (c) expired British Issued Biscuits were observed. It was explained to the Italian the British system of warranty date marking. They were advised to issue the biscuits in question and keep in store. Italian biscuits in a very weevily state were also seen. The removal of these weevily biscuits immediately before the insects could lay their eggs in stocks of flour in the vicinity was strongly advised.

- (c) Some Italian tinned Preserved Meat was in stock in store.
- (d) These stores supplied about 26,000 men and 500 loaves were baked a day. The appearance of these loaves a consignment of bad loaves in a sack was observed.

C.F. Coy (150 N.F. Coy is to form British Cadre).

(h) Containers full of the hot spicy meal were inspected. Meal consisted of short macaroni with a little tomato flavoring in water. It was stated that this store should have had considerable quantities of vegetables included. This deficiency was due probably to the lack of interest shown by the Italian Unit Comdr.

2. Contacted Col Lazari, Head of Commissariat at BARI and asked his permission to visit depot.

3. Visited Italian Bakery in DEBÈ commanded by Lieut Col Giannulo.

(a) An experiment was in progress trying out British issued Canadian flour for making bread. 300 lb loaves were seen. Appeared to be very small, badly risen and probably badly mixed. Loaves made from Italian flour were very similar. It is thought that if loaves are produced from same quantity of flour, larger in size by better mixing and baking, then half the Italian soldiers complaint will be remedied.

DEBÈ 2 Unit and Col Lazari have agreed that if possible a British Baker will be loaned to Italian Bakery to deal with British Issued Flour.

(b) Considerable quantities of both British and Italian flour was seen in store. Apparently expired British Issued Biscuits were observed. It was explained to the Italian the British system of Biscuits date marking. They were advised to issue the biscuits in question and to keep in store. Italian Biscuits in a very weevily state were also seen. The removal of these weevily biscuits immediately before the insects could lay their eggs in stocks of flour in the vicinity was strongly advised.

(c) Some Italian tinned Preserved Meat was in stock in store.

(d) These stores supplied about 25,000 men and 500 loaves were baked a day.

(e) A comment of bad loaves in a sack was observed. The appearance of these loaves the indication that the failure was due to "rope store". In this connection, and for fear "rope" is a constant trouble in British contract civilian bakeries, a close watch will be kept to prevent destruction of large quantities of Flour. 7609

4. Visited Italian Supply Depot BARI commanded by Major Padula Griseppa.

(a) Stocks were well laid out and accommodation was good. The recent bombing had damaged roof and stocks were covered with tarpaulins.

(b) Considerable stock of Italian cheese was observed as well as all other Italian supplies.

In the Field.  
15 Jan 1944.  
Original to:- Comd.  
Copies to :- C. D.  
G.  
ST  
Circ File.  
Policy File (ST).

*[Handwritten signature]*  
A.D.C. Major G.P.



MILITARY MISSION

REPORT BY LT. COL. H.B. FINCH, A.D.S.T. M.M.I.A.  
VISITING ITALIAN SUPPLY DEPOTS, 12th JAN 1944.

Date 14/Jan/44 to Ad/9  
ITALIAN ARMY.

1. Contacted General Pelligra, and obtained permission to inspect Italian Supply Depots in company with Capt. Gillo.
2. Italian Supply Depot Lecce, commanded by Major Alfano.  
 Depot supplies approx. 25,000 in detail in vicinity of Lecce. 25,000 in bulk to small Depots round Lecce.  
 Depot was averagely well kept considering difficulties of accommodation. Small quantity of Supplies, mainly P.Meat and cheese, from British issue had been put on one side unfit for human consumption. There was also a considerable sized heap, of empty tins that had been returned.  
 Comdr stated that "Pasta" in place of flour was preferred by Italians and that Bread was preferred to Biscuits.  
 "Pasta" had been successfully made from British issued Canadian Flour.  
 F.Fish is not popular with Italians. They prefer to have P.Meat instead.  
 Small quantities of Italian Pasta, Italian Biscuits, and Italian cheese were in store. British issue of Coffee in Petrol Tin pack was said to be low quality.  
 Small quantity of British Issued P.Meat was observed to be past warranty date. Italians were confident that it would be issued almost immediately.
3. Italian Supply Depot BRINDISI, commanded by Major Poli.  
 Depot makes a daily detailed issue of about 20,000 in vicinity.  
 Depot was fairly well kept and was spread about in a number of lock-up stores, not very suitable. Better accommodation was being considered.  
 Again a small quantity of U.H.C. Sups had been collected, mainly P.Meat and Cheese. Italian "Pasta" and Italian Cheese were available in small quantities.  
 There appeared to be considerable stocks in store in view of the fact that there were only three days of the Ration Period to go.  
 Depot Comdr complained that he would prefer to spread the period of drawing out. It was explained that the British Supply Depot had large quantities to handle and that it was essential to keep strictly to the programme.  
 P.Meat and Biscuits were observed to have passed warranty date.
4. Italian Supply Depot. San Pancrazio, commanded by Capt Calimbrun.  
 Depot makes daily detailed issue to approx 10,000 men.  
 Depot was exceedingly well laid out and most neatly kept.  
 Greater quantities of Italian Sups were seen i.e. Biscuits, Pasta, Tomato conserve and even Flour and Sugar.  
 Local Troops have similar complaints to those mentioned above.  
 P.Meat and Biscuits were seen to have passed warranty date.



(d) heap, of empty tins that had been returned.  
Comdr stated that "Pasta" in place of flour was preferred by Italians and that Bread was preferred to Biscuits.  
(e) "Pasta" had been successfully made from British issued Canadian Flour.  
(f) T. Fish is not popular with Italians. They prefer to have P. Meat instead.  
(g) Small quantities of Italian Pasta, Italian Biscuits, and Italian cheese were in store.  
(h) British issue of Coffee in Petrol Tin pack was said to be low quality.  
(i) Small quantity of British Issued P. Meat was observed to be past warranty date. Italians were confident that it would be issued almost immediately.

3. Italian Supply Depot BRINDISI, commanded by Major Poli.  
(a) Depot makes a daily detailed issue of about 20,000 in vicinity.  
(b) Depot was fairly well kept and was spread about in a number of lock-up stores, not very suitable. Better accommodation was being considered.  
(c) Again a small quantity of U.H.C. Sups had been collected, mainly P. Meat and Cheese.  
(d) Italian "Pasta" and Italian Cheese were available in small quantities.  
(e) There appeared to be considerable stocks in store in view of the fact that there were only three days of the Ration Period to go.  
(f) Depot Comdr complained that he would prefer to spread the period of drawing out. It was explained that the British Supply Depot had large quantities to handle and that it was essential to keep strictly to the programme.  
(g) P. Meat and Biscuits were observed to have passed warranty date.

4. Italian Supply Depot, San Pancrazio, commanded by Capt Calimbrun.  
(a) Depot makes daily detailed issue to approx 10,000 men.  
(b) Depot was exceedingly well laid out and most neatly kept.  
(c) Greater quantities of Italian Sups were seen i.e. Biscuits, Pasta, Tomato conserve and even Flour and Sugar.  
(d) Local Troops have similar complaints to those mentioned above. **7608**  
(e) P. Meat and Biscuits were seen to have passed warranty date.

5. Met Lt Col Landolfi.  
Had the Italian System of ten day breakdown of supplies explained in detail. It is observed that the British Ration is eked out by some of the old Italian Stocks. It was also explained that a larger issue of Flour and Meat was essential for the health and strength of the Italian Soldier.

*Handwritten signature*  
Lt. Col  
A.D.S.T. M.M.I.A.

In the Field.  
13 Jan 44.  
Original to:- Comd.  
Copy to :- G. SD.  
                  Q. ST.  
                  Circ File.  
                  Policy File (ST).

*Handwritten notes:*  
Bgeed  
15/1

Report by Lt. Col. H.E. Finch A.D.S.T. M.M.I.A. 19/11  
Visiting Italian G.I. Coys Forming. 10th - 11th Jan 44.

1. Contacted Lt. Col Craig ADS (Petrol) Twodist with reference to provision of Petrol for 15 Vehicles for training of Italian personnel when first embodied at School at POLIGNANO. He stated that he had reason to believe that Italians had large private stock of P.O.L. which they were trying to conserve at the expense of British Stocks. He stated that petrol would however be allotted rather than a stoppage occur.
2. Contacted Major Lowles DADT Twodist.
  - (a) Original policy of 1001 Italian Coy and 1002 Italian Coy being attached for training to 50 British G.I. Coy and 168 British G.I. Coy and later to take over Vehicles, C.1098 and be assisted by British Cadres of G.I. Coys had been prejudiced by the fact that 50 British G.I. Coy and 168 British G.I. Coy are not now likely to be going home for some time. Verbal conversations between Flambo and Distwo, not confirmed in writing, suggested that 130 British W Tank Coy and 558 British W Tank Coy might be providing the British Cadres and W/shops. 400 class II Vechs are being released to Twodist. Some 200 Vechs, of which 90 can be collected immediately, should be drawn by 50 G.I. Coy and 168 G.I. Coy for the Italians. Enough Vechs to mount one Italian Company should be available by 15/16 Jan. This may indicate that Flambo's intention is to mobilise 1001 Italian Coy and 1002 Italian Coy independently and in addition to present S.I. Coys and not substitute and take over from an existing British G.I. Coy.
    - (b) Twodist sent off signal to expedite delivery of remaining 2 of 15 x 3 tonners authorised by 15 Army Gp to be drawn by 1001 & 1002 Italian Coys for arriving instructional purposes at the School at POLIGNANO for use before the next two Coys are called forward.
    - (c) British Cadre of "X" Italian Mule Pack Ppt Coy is not expected to leave North Africa till 12 Jan. Italian personnel who are at ARSIZIA (L.1700) are being held there by Capt Thruop but are prepared to move forward to accommodation, already arranged at FOGGIA, when required. Twodist have no information regarding mules but believe that these are coming from Hill East.
3. Contacted Capt Thruop MELA L.O. Twodist.
  - (a) 1001 Italian G.I. Coy should be fit to take over its duties on 16 Jan. Their main difficulty is slow rate of arrival of personnel from LAUCH. This requires expediting.
  - (b) It is not expected that the Vechs for 1001 Italian G.I. Coy will be available before 15/19 Jan and those for 1002 Coy even later.
4. Contacted Capt Galfa, Italian Comdr of 1001 Italian G.I. Coy at POLIGNANO.
  - (a) He expressed difficulty in finding W/shops who were prepared to repair the Vehicles for driving instructional purposes (ref 2(b) above). Two of the six Vehicles were observed to be on tow.
  - (b) 1001 Coy was still some 100 men short. They were arriving at about 18 a day.
  - (c) He expressed satisfaction regarding rations and clothing. Spare suit of S.D. and also overalls sufficient for every man in Coy were seen in stores.

2/3



168 G.I. Coy for the Italians. Enough vehs to mount one Italian Company should be available by 15/16 Jan. This may indicate that Flambo's intention is to mobilise 1001 Italian Coy and 1002 Italian Coy independently and in addition to present G.I. Coys and not substitute one case over from an existing British G.I. Coy.

(b) Trodist sent off signal to expedite delivery of remaining 9 of 15 x 3 tonners authorized by 15 Army Gp to be drawn by 1001 & 1002 Italian Coys for moving instructional purposes at the School at POLICIANO for use before the next two Coys are called forward.

(c) British Cadre of "X" Italian Mule Pack Sgt Coy is not expected to leave North Africa till 12 Jan. Italian personnel who are at MCHALS (L.1700) are being held there by Capt Thrupp but are prepared to move forward to accommodation, already arranged at TOSOLA, when required. Trodist have no information regarding rules but believe that these are coming from Hill Bast.

3. Contacted Capt Thrupp MIA L.O. Trodist.

(a) 1001 Italian G.I. Coy should be fit to take over its duties on 16 Jan. Their main difficulty is slow rate of arrival of personnel from MCHALS. This requires expediting.

(b) It is not expected that the Vehs for 1001 Italian G.I. Coy will be available before 15/19 Jan and those for 1002 Coy even later.

4. Contacted Capt Galfo, Italian Comdr of 1001 Italian G.I. Coy at PORTOFINO.

(a) He expressed difficulty in finding workshops who were prepared to repair the vehicles for driving instructional purposes (ref 2(b) above). Two of the six vehicles were observed to be on tow.

(b) 1001 Coy was still some 100 men short. They were arriving at about 15 a day.

(c) He expressed satisfaction regarding rations and clothing.

(d) Spare suit of S.D. and also overalls sufficient for every man in Coy were seen in stores. Accommodation was excellent but dirty. Men were sleeping on the ground in dirty pallets very insufficiently stuffed with straw.

(e) Capt Serrantoni, Italian Comdr 1002 G.I. Coy had not reported but was expected to arrive on 11th Jan. At present 1002 Italian G.I. Coy only consisted of some 20 to 30 men. A further 200 men were expected to arrive on 12th Jan.

7609

MILITARY MISSION.

Date 11 Jan 44 to 19  
ITALIAN ARMY.



**BEST COPY POSSIBLE**

2

5. Contacted Lt. Cuddy ADST 52 Area.  
 (a) Vehicles in 1000 Italian G.I. Coy ("Y" Coy) are Bedford OVs and are in very bad condition, needing New Engines and Valves. Some 30 off road.  
 (b) A technical interpreter Leopold Auzka had been taken from Coy. His services with the Coy were essential.  
 (c) There is an acute shortage of clothing and overalls.  
 (d) The Ration only provides a snack meal at midday and Vegetable soup at night. Drivers found this insufficient to do the work.  
 (e) There is an acute shortage of spare parts to keep Vehicles on the road.

6. Contacted Major Taylor, G3 Brit Cadre 1000 Italian G.I. Coy,  
 also Capt Potenziere Italian Comdr of 1000 Italian G.I. Coy.  
 (a) Ration Scale is inadequate.  
 Italian Soldier has in early morning small cup of Coffee 05.30 hrs.  
 midday snack lunch of B. Meat & Biscuits 11.30 hrs.  
 evening Vegetable Soup 16.00 hrs.  
 He is working hard from 0600 hrs in morning to 1700 hrs and food is totally insufficient to keep him going.

Flour in its issued state is not suitable for Italians as they do not make pastries or cakes. They eat "Pasta" or macaroni, but their cooks are not capable of doing this. "Pasta" requires time to make so that troops would have to forego their rations in order to get "Pasta" made. Italians prefer bread to either Biscuits or Flour. The total ration of Bread Biscuits and Flour is insufficient. Tinned Fish, sardines and herrings, are considered a luxury; they would prefer a larger ration of Fresh or Preserved Meat. It is suggested that the Italian authorities draw an advance of flour and make "PASTA" by contract before issue to troops.

(b) A sister Company to 1000 Coy are said to have been in AVELLINO and to have received from the Americans far better rations and more pay.  
 (c) Capt Potenziere did not appear to know the Italian rates of pay and asked that a ruling be given.

(d) They were not very certain of latest Ration Scale.  
 (e) Only sufficient clothing to provide one suit of S.D. per man. Overalls were required. Men were unable to maintain their Vehicles properly because of lack of clothing.  
 Two-wheeler had authorised 38 pairs of overalls for Workshops Plr.

(f) Vehicles are in very bad condition as taken over from 238 Brit G.I. Coy. New Engines and Spares required but these are unobtainable. Vehicles' Records had also been previously neglected by Brit. Personnel.

(g) British Services were reluctant at authorising or issuing stores to Italian G.I. Coy. This prejudicial reluctance to issue stores which would otherwise be available, might have disastrous results and impede the success of the whole scheme.  
 (h) Discipline was improving. Punctuality was better. Absenteeism on 24th Dec amounted to 38 away over Xmas. A Cpl had removed a lorry and severe disciplinary action was being taken.  
 (i) Capt Potenziere volunteered that it would be of no avail to appeal to his Italian Superiors because they would not assist him.

(k) Accommodation appeared very poor, little better than stables, poorly ventilated, men sleeping on the ground, on dirty pallets. In some cases men had obtained a few boards to sleep on. The whole gave one an impression of neglected depressing dirty surroundings. The ration store however was excellently kept.

considered a luxury; they would prefer a larger ration of Fresh or Preserved Meat. It is suggested that the Italian authorities draw an advance of flour and make "PASTA" by contract before issue to troops.

(b) A sister Company to 1000 Coy are said to have been in AVILLINO and to have received from the Americans far better rations and more pay.  
(c) Capt Potenziere did not appear to know the Italian rates of pay and asked that a ruling be given.

(d) They were not very certain of latest Ration Scale.  
(e) Only sufficient clothing to provide one suit of S.D. per man. Overalls were required. Men were unable to maintain their Vehicles properly because of lack of clothing.  
Twoist had authorized 38 prs of overalls for W/shops Pln.

(f) Vehicles are in very bad condition as taken over from 228 Brit S.I. Coy. New Engines and Spares required but these are unobtainable. Vehicles' Records had also been previously neglected by Brit. Personnel.

(g) British Services were reluctant at authorising or issuing stores to Italian G.I. Coy. This prejudicial reluctance to issue stores which would otherwise be available, might have disastrous results and impede the success of the whole scheme.

(h) Discipline was improving. Punctuality was better. Absenteeism on 24th Dec amounted to 38 away over Lmas. A Cpl had removed a lorry and severe disciplinary action was being taken.

(i) Capt Potenziere volunteered that it would be of no avail to appeal to his Italian Superiors because they would not assist him.

(k) Accommodation appeared very poor, little better than stables, poorly ventilated, and sleeping on the ground, on dirty pallets. In some cases men had obtained a few boards to sleep on. The whole gave one an impression of neglected depressing dirty surroundings. The ration store however was excellently kept.

(l) From general observation the Italian Officers and Men appeared keen and trying very hard under very unfavourable conditions. Men were definitely seen to be working on their Vehicles. They are undoubtedly doing their best.

In the Field.  
11 Jan 44.

Original To:- Comd.  
Copy to :- G. S.D.  
ST.  
Circ. File.  
Policy File (ST).

*Handwritten Signature*  
Lt. Col.  
M.M.I.A.

7606



NOTES ON VISIT TO A.F.H.Q. ADV ADM ECHELON, NAPLES.

18

- 1. Left Military Mission at 0710 hrs 19 Nov 43.  
Delivered letter AQ/2/C dated 18 Nov 43 to No. 2 District.  
Arrived NAPLES at 1850 hrs 19 Nov 43.  
Billeted PATRIA Hotel.

2. Met officers of the Allied Commission and A.M.G. and discussed the Local Resources with regard to the Italian Army. They mentioned that it was essential for a representative from the Military Mission to attend both the Forage and Local Resources Conferences.

- 3. Visited A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon at 0830 hrs 20 Nov 43.  
Reported to Lt. Col. Powell, A.D.S.T. (Sups) and Major Odell, D.A.D.S.T. and discussed the following:-

(1) ITALIAN PERSONNEL FOR DEPOTS & CROTONE REGION.

A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon will notify Military Mission of the numbers required at both places.

(11) ACCOUNTING OF RATIONS.

The system of accounting for the rations was discussed and it was suggested that the accounting be controlled as under:-

(a) RATIONS DESPATCHED TO RASC DEPOTS.

The Base Sub Areas concerned to be informed of the Italian Army requirements.

The Italian Army Demands on the Base Sub Area (through Military Mission) their weekly or monthly requirements and the RASC Depot be informed and issue accordingly.

All accounting to be undertaken by the B.S.D.

(b) RATIONS DESPATCHED TO CROTONE.

Rations will be docketed together with the Civil requirements and therefore the control will be undertaken by A.M.G.

Italian Army demands on A.M.G., CROTONE (through Military Mission) their requirements and A.M.G.

*Italian Demand to Demand on Military Mission.*

*Italian ration may be loaded separately*

A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon will notify Military Mission of the numbers required at both places.

(ii) ACCOUNTING OF RATIONS.

The system of accounting for the rations was discussed and it was suggested that the accounting be controlled as under:-

(a) RATIONS DESPACHED TO RASC DEPOTS.

The Base Sub Areas concerned to be informed of the Italian Army requirements.

*Italian Army  
is demand  
on Military  
Mission.*

The Italian Army Demands on the Base Sub Area (through Military Mission) their weekly or monthly requirements and the RASC Depot be informed and issue accordingly.

All accounting to be undertaken by the B.S.D.

*Italian ration may be loaded separately*

(b) RATIONS DESPACHED TO CROTONE.

Rations will be docketed together with the Civil requirements and therefore the control will be undertaken by A.M.G.

Italian Army demands on A.M.G., CROTONE (through Military Mission) their requirements and A.M.G. issues accordingly.

A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon will inform Military Mission on the accounting system to be adopted.

(iii) COAL REQUIREMENTS for Italian Army.

To be demanded in the same way as rations. A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon to be informed.

(iv) BULLY BEEF.

Bully beef, as per demand, is shown in tins, presumed to be 6 oz tins. Signal A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon the exact NETT contents of tin.

(v) NUTS UNSHELLED. (to be purchased locally) is shown on the Ration Scale to be issued in lieu of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables. This was queried and A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon will signal whether it is correct or not.

(vi) All correspondence taken by hand was discussed with Lt. Col. Powell, i.e. "Order of Battle", Ration Demands, Supply Stocks held, Tobacco.

A.D.S.T. advised that the above correspondence should be handed to A.Q.M.G. (Lt. Col. D. Logan Gray) and discussed with him before the Shipping Conference.

4. Saw A.Q.M.G. 1030 hrs and discussed:-

(a) SUPPLY STOCKS HELD - It was set out as required, but it was stressed that some means of checking these stocks must be undertaken by Military Mission.

(b) RATIONS DEMANDS AND ORDER OF BATTLE. - Lt. Col. D. Logan Gray stated that a conference would shortly be held to discuss this in detail. Brigadier Goldie, D.Q.M.G. and Allied Commission will call the meeting and Brigadier C.C. Duchene, Comd, Military Mission, will be notified to attend.

5. 1100 hrs SHIPPING CONFERENCE

Supplies for the Italian Armed Forces, including Navy and Air Force were bid as follows:-

PORT OF BRINDISI	215 Tons.	
PORT OF CROTONE	<u>35 Tons</u>	
Total	<u>250 Tons</u>	= 300,000 Rations.

It was mentioned by Major General Robertson, D.C.A.O. that owing to the large tonnage to be handled at the ports R.A.S.C. Depots would have to work at nights.

6. Saw Capt. Murcell, Liaison Offr reference Brigadier C.C. Duchene letter. Capt. Murcell will do his best to trace lost property.

"Order of Battle" for the P.B.S. was sent to BRINDISI today. There were no outstanding problems for discussion.

7. 0830 hrs 21 Nov 43. Visited A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon Local Resource Officer, Major B. De Gehr, M.B.E.

Discussed the purchasing of forage for the Italian Army. It is understood that the Italian Army has certain stocks of forage in some areas but that they are also purchasing from civilian sources.

Forage Ration Scale was obtained:-

HORSES MULES



Total                      250 Tons                      =                      300,000 Rations.

It was mentioned by Major General Robertson, D.C.A.O. that owing to the large tonnage to be handled at the ports R.A.S.C. Depots would have to work at nights.

6. Saw Capt. Murcell, Liaison Offr reference Brigadier C.C. Duchens letter. Capt. Murcell will do his best to trace lost property.  
 "Order of Battle" for the P.B.S. was sent to BRINDISI today. There were no outstanding problems for discussion.

7. 0830 hrs 21 Nov 43. Visited A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon Local Resource Officer, Major B. De Gehr, M.B.E.

Discussed the purchasing of forage for the Italian Army. It is understood that the Italian Army has certain stocks of forage in some areas but that they are also purchasing from civilian sources.

Forage Ration Scale was obtained:-

		HORSES	MULES
Barley	Lbs per day	9	8
Local Hay or Tibben	Lbs per day	12	11
Salb	Ozs per day	2	2
			<b>7604</b>

- Note
- (a) Garoub Beans 2 lbs per day to sick animals in lieu of Barley.
  - (b) Bran 2 lbs per day in lieu of Barley 1 lb.
  - (c) Straw in lieu of Local Hay or Tibben scale 1 1/3 lbs Straw to 1 lb Hay or Tibben.
  - (d) An extra 3 lbs of straw per mule when animals are on hand standing.

(c) When available, 50% of green fodder may be issued in lieu of Local Hay, Straw or Tibben at the scale of 3 lbs of Green Fodder to 1 lb Local Hay, Tibben or Straw.

8. Purchasing of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables by the Italian Army.  
 Their demands to be placed before the Local Purchasing Conference  
 22 Nov 43.

-3-

9. FORAGE CONFERENCE held by Brigadier Goldie, D.Q.M.G.

(i) To investigate the total service requirements:-

British and U.S.A. put forward their demands but it was found that both were working on different Ration Scales. The scale to be adopted would be worked out by A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon and demands re-submitted.

(ii) At this stage Brigadier Goldie asked if there was present an Officer from the Military Mission and what were the Italian Army demands.

I mentioned that the figures were not to hand but that they could be obtained as soon as I returned. I also stated that the Italian Army had stocks for 40 days but that they were also purchasing from civilian sources.

(iii) It was agreed that the following be submitted to A.F.H.Q. Adv Adm Echelon by the Military Mission as soon as possible:-

(a) Actual Mule Strength of the Italian Army (not including those Coys already forwarded to 8 Army and 10 Corps).

(b) Stocks of forage held in Italian Depots.

Then followed the civilian requirements and a discussion of price control, available resources and location of stocks.

It was agreed that a Central Purchasing Board be set up at Foggia represented by 1 British Officer, 1 American Officer, 1 Allied Control Commission Officer and 1 Official from the Consorzio Agrario, - this committee to control stocks, prices and demands from all sources.

10. Reported to Brigadier Pessell, D.D.S.T. and he suggested that the Italian Army be approached with regard to forage supplies for future Mule Coys despatched to the British Army and that they should forward 100 days forage rations with them or, if this is considered excessive, perhaps 50 days rations could be forwarded.

That they also be approached with regard to <sup>forage</sup> rations for the Mule Coys already forwarded to the 8th Army.

II. LOCAL RESOURCES CONFERENCE

(b) Stocks of forage held in Italian Depots.

Then followed the civilian requirements and a discussion of price control, available resources and location of stocks.

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That they also be approached with regard to rations for the Mule Coys already forwarded to the 8th Army.

II. LOCAL RESOURCES CONFERENCE

It. Col. Powell ADST said that this morning he had been informed that this conference was for A.M.G. Officers only, and that it was not necessary for me to attend. But with regard to the Italian Armed Forces the following policy should be adopted by the Military Mission:-  
(a) Requirements for Fruit and Vegetables for the Italian Army be forwarded to:-

- A.M.G. 15th Army Group.
- Copies to AFHQ (ST 4)
- AMG 3rd Region. Major Kennedy.
- Allied Control Commission **578013**

- (b) Price they propose paying.
  - (c) Do they propose obtaining any supplies from the CALABRIA REGION
12. The following information is required by Major De Gehr MBE (ST4)
- (a) Stocks of potatoes held by the Italian Army if any.
  - (b) What is their policy with regard to obtaining potatoes for the following season.
  - (c) Have they any stocks of SEED potatoes.
13. Forage scale used by the Italian Army to be forwarded to **FLAMBO.**  
( Signal by return )

*V.L. Lamm Major D.D.S.T.*



Subject: = Maintenance of Italian Forces

Military Mission to  
Italian Armies  
AG/1  
16 Nov 43

*17*

*file*

General ALIBERTI,  
INTENDENTE = GENERALE  
SMRE

The attached record of the visit to you paid by Majors CAREW-HUNT and CANN on 15 Nov 43 is forwarded for your reference.

*John C. ...*  
Brig  
Comd

EJC:

Notes on a Visit to General ALIBERTI: 1030 S, 15 Nov 43

2/16

For action: 16

I. GENERAL.

MMIA letters AQ/2 and AQ/22 of 13 Nov 43 and AQ/15 of 14 Nov 43, were checked against Italian translations.

2. PAY.

- a) SMRE will inform MMIA of the pay situation in the Army. SMRE
- b) The question of funds for General BASSO has been referred to the Ministry of Finance.

3. SUPPLIES.

It was confirmed by MMIA that:-

- a) PBS will look after all Italian Troops in NAPLES area as though they were in the Combat Zone.
- b) Italian Troops South of the Combat Zone are the responsibility of SMRE, irrespective of numbers.
- c) If access to civil food stocks is required at any time to enable AFHQ ration scale to be fully implemented, authority must be obtained through MMIA.
- d) At no time will a commodity be demanded from Allied sources if a sufficient amount already exists in Italian Depots.
- e) SMRE will control issues to Italian Navy and Air Force.
- f) A request has been made for the foodstuffs destined for Italian Army to be loaded in separate ships. Doubtful whether this can be done.
- g) It has been requested that supplies for CALABRIA be shipped to CROTONE direct.
- h) With effect from 13 Dec, daily tonnages are estimated to be

BARI and/or BRINDISI	180
CROTONE	20

- i) SMRE to supplement staffs of British RASC Depots SMRE with Commissariat personnel and to organise reception, storage and issue of rations at CROTONE. Further information will follow.
- j) CCHR and similar units serving with FFAA to be rationed from Military sources, only when employed by the Military.
- k) Absence of tobacco from ration scale to be verified Three months supply exists in S. ITALY.
- l) Urgency of Order of Battle to justify ration demands.
- m) Requirements from Depots controlled by PBS and

MMIA

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CROTONE 20

1) SMRE to supplement staffs of British RASC Depots SMRE with Commissariat personnel and to organise reception, storage and issue of rations at CROTONE. Further information will follow. MMIA

j) CCHB and similar units serving with FFAA to be rationed from Military sources, only when employed by the Military.

k) Absence of tobacco from ration scale to be verified Three months supply exists in S. ITALY. MMIA

l) Urgency of Order of Battle to justify ration demands.

m) Requirements from Depots controlled by PBS and N° 2 District will be submitted through MMIA. SMRE

4 FORAGE.

a) 20,000 Quintals of animal fodder now blocked at

MADDALONI.

b) SMRE to submit definite demand for amount required. Local resources to be used to utmost. 76102

c) Forage under control SMRE now amounts to 40 days supply for units including those sent into Combat Zone.

d) Details of capacity of animal fodder factory at MADDALONI to be sent to MMIA. SMRE

5 CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT.

a) Depots in SARDINIA and SICILY are controlled by AFHQ direct.

b) SMRE will consolidate clothing requirements of Italian Army as required with priority for units providing labour for MMIA will demand from PBS and for N° 2 District.

c) SMRE will investigate possibility of having British battle dress dyed in BAH. SMRE

d) Approx 200,000 dyed battle dress are reported to be in transit from Britain and unknown number of partworn boots from Egypt. P10



5. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT (contd.)

e) Staff Officer from MMIA to visit Depot at BARI 16 Nov to hasten supply of clothing and boots to Italian Engineer units in FOGGIA area.

6. PETROL, OIL AND LUBRICANTS

a) Lt Col KING, US Army will visit SMRE 16 Nov to settle arrangements for providing POL to Italian Army.  
b) SMRE are now coordinating civil needs.

SMRE will look at the situation in the depot area and see what can be done to speed up the supply of POL to the units. It is expected that the depot will be able to supply the units with POL in the next few days.

It is also expected that the depot will be able to supply the units with POL in the next few days. The depot is currently working on the arrangements for providing POL to the units.

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SUMMARY OF VISIT TO NAPLES BY DAA & QMG: 9 - 12 NOV 43

IO NOV:

a) At shipping conference, DAA&QMG bid for daily tonnage of supplies for Italian Army, Navy, and Air Forces (275,000 men)

To Heel Ports  
To CHOTONE

215 tons  
32 "

250 " based on present Italian Ration scale furnished by General ALIBERTI.

b) AQMG stated that SICILY and SARDINIA come under direct command AFHQ.

1906 class are to be demobilized; 1907 = 10 classes to have one months leave at home.

5 Cypriot and 2 & 1/2 Indian Mule Coys for EIGHTH Army ex MEF.

Mules in SARDINIA and SICILY are earmarked for 5 Army who need 5500.

11 NOV:

To General BASSO

a) Mounted and pack tpt units in SARDINIA being vetted by US rep from 5 Army. Problem of Shipping.

b) He wishes to reform units round SALERNO. Can recall approx 10,000 to the colours. Difficulty of accommodation.

c) FLAMBO Signal Q178 of 6 Nov was read to General, prior to translation being sent to him by Capt MURCELLI. General BASSO to send ration statement and details of holdings direct to SMRE.

d) General BASSO stated that 5 Army were now rationing DAPINO Combat Team one mule coy, one Coy Engineers and 113<sup>o</sup> Inf Regt.

e) Brig LUCRESNE recommended local purchase be coordinated with AMG.

f) Pay and Finance; General BASSO stated that drafts prior to 1 Sept to Army A/C had been met but AFHQ(?) had blocked subsequent ones. Demands for funds for Oct already sent to Commando Supremo; B M M to help obtain release of funds.

14  
ADP/9

II NOV:

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- f) Pay and Finance; General BASSO stated that drafts prior to 1 Sept to Army A/C had been met but AFHQ(?) had blocked subsequent ones. Demands for funds for Oct already sent to Comando Supremo; B M M to help obtain release of funds.
- g) Col WILSON, Chief Police Officer, AMGOT wants to <sup>know</sup> state of CC RR in ROME.
- h) General BASSO suggested forming Bn of 1000 CC RR ready to move up to ROME. He suggested his including 8000 CC RR in CAMPANIA on his ratio: strength to stop them exhausting civil supplies. B M M stated that only CC RR mobilised with Italian Army are Army responsibility.
- i) General BASSO put forward suggestion of forming Civilian Labour Corps to be paid on equal scale.

II NOV:

To Brig General HAMELIN G-4

- a) PBS to feed all Italian Troops in CAMPANIA incl DAPINO Combat Team in present location and one add Inf Bn for duties NAPLES docks.
- b) General BASSO has LO at RBS.
- c) PBS controls only Metropolitan NAPLES. No 2 District shortly to take over CAMPANIA.
- d) Rear 5 Army blys, present and proposed, to be sent to General BASSO.
- e) General ROBERTSON at present deals direct with 57 Area & 84 Sub Area.



- 2 -

11 Nov: To General ROBERTSON

- a) PBS at present bid both for Italian Troops in their own and 5 Army Areas.
- b) Bdy for 2 District will be NAPLES - CANCELLO - RENEVENTO rd incl
- c) Essential only Italian Troops on authorised Order of Battle to be fed.
- d) Problem of refugees ex JUGOSLAVIA. AMG problem if not accepted on Order of Battle.  
Lt Col POWELL ADST(Sups) joined the conference.
- e) Possibility of AMG and Italian Army food stocks being combined ruled out.
- f) Italian Staffs required to help in the new RASC Depots, required after 13 Dec to cope with rise in ~~average~~ tonnage for Italian Forces.
- g) Local resources to be explored to utmost in rear of Combat Zone.
- h) Brig DUCHESNE was asked to see General ALIBERTI re ration situation and justified Order of Battle.
- i) B M M to obtain Italian Navy and Air Force figures and check with Allied reps of RN and RAF.
- j) Brig General HAMBLIN said that 200,000 dyed battle dress suits were on their way ex UK and unknown number of boots ex ~~RAF~~ for Italian Army
- k) B M M to give FLAMBO firm demand of clothing requirements.
- l) PBS are making inventory of Italian Clothing and equipment in captured depots.
- m) Italian personnel for 3 GT Coys no longer required; tell 7 Army.

12 Nov: To Lt Col POWELL ADST(Sups)

- a) He will demand 300,000 rations daily for Italian Forces wef 13 Dec instead of 275,000 (to form a reserve.)

- g) Local resources to be explored to utmost in rear of Combat Zone.
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- l) PBS are making inventory of Italian clothing and equipment in captured depots.
- m) Italian personnel for 3 GT Coys no longer required; tell 7 Army.

12 Nov: To Lt Col POWELL ADST(Sups)

a) He will demand 300,000 rations daily for Italian Forces wef 13 Dec instead of 275,000 (to form a reserve.)

b) Shipping bid accepted 10 Nov now ready in tons, (owing to receipt AFHQ scale):-

Flour	net	gross	
Pulses	1005	1005	
P. Meat	170	170	
Sugar	170	240	
Pepper	42	42	
Coffee	1	1	
Matches	42	42	
	4	6	
			7600

1.e. 2000 tons every 4 days of which 180 tons daily to Heel Ports and 20 to CROTONE.

- c) Warn SMRE about Italian personnel needed for CROTONE and also to work at expanded RASC dumps.
  - d) All he requires to make ten daily bids is the authorised Order of Battle, sent by B M M to him by A L S.
- To Col ANDERSON OC Pet Sec FLAMBO
- a) Get fourmonthly requirement by 20 Nov from SMRE.

3  
b) Lt Col KING to B M M I6 Mov with tables showing British, US, and Italian POL equivalents; wants to see General ALBERTI. B M M to arrange.

*B. J. J. J.*

MAJOR  
DAA & QMG  
Military Mission

NOV 43  
RJC



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

78589

*13/11/43*  
*circulate*  
 -7 NOV. 1943  
*10/9.*

NOTES ON MEETING HELD AT NO 2 DISTRICT.  
 3rd NOVEMBER 1943.

ARRANGEMENTS MADE BY 31 ITALIAN COMBAT  
 BRIGADE AT L OF C CALABRIA.

Col. C.P.R. Johnson Col 4/c Am (Command).

Maj. General Fellign. C of Staff  
 7th Italian Army, rep Gen Arisio.

Brigadier Gen Morrice, Intendente  
 Generali. (Interpreter Officer)

Lt-Col Grant. (ASST IN Sub Area)

Maj General Hunt DASHG,  
 (British Military Mission).

Maj. J. Escobles. DASHG (2 District).

Italian Military have already made the following arrangements as  
 instructed by the British Military Authorities :-

1. (a) STAGING AREA.

West Coast Road.

Mass Italy 1:250,000

Cioia Teuro	Map Ref	6402	about 52 and 53
Vibo Valentia	" "	6211	" 48
Paola	" "	7585	" 40
Societa Mammelli	" "	(cannot trace)	
<u>West Coast Road</u>			
As above to Paola			
thence:-			
Spensaro Albanese	" "	5721	" 42
Trobbiasco	" "	4443	" 43

At each staging area the following are located :-

- (b) Shelter space for 200 men and heavy stabling for 100 vehicles.
- (c) 1st Air Post with Medical Officer in attendance complete with Medical equipment.
- (d) Cooking facilities.
- (e) Latrine accommodation.

*10*  
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*50*

1. (a) STAGING AREAS.

East Coast Road. Name Italy 1:250,000

Giola Tauro	Map Ref	640E	Sheet 52 and 53
Vibo Valentia	" "	8241	" " 48
Paola	" "	7305	" " 49
Sovieta Mammella	" "	(Cannot trace)	

West Coast Road.  
As above to Paola  
thence:-

Spersuro Albosono	" "	5724	" " 42
Trebisacce	" "	4443	" " 43

At each staging area the following are located :-

- (b) Shelter space for 200 men and herd standing for 100 vehicles.
- (c) 1st Air Post with Medical Officer in attendance complete with Medical equipment.
- (a) Cooking facilities.
- (c) Latrine accommodation.

2. WATER SUPPLY.

50,000 gals FOL and 25,000 rations are held at Pausanville under control of 31st Italian Corps. These are to be used for British troops on the L of C who may be stranded. 7599

Transport availability in the vicinity of Pausanville.

Only a few lorries which are at present engaged in the delivery of rations, petrol and stores generally for both Italian and Civilian needs.  
(Chairman asked Maj Gen Palligora to endeavour to make arrangements for the movement of rations and fuel from British dumps to wherever they may be needed in the case of emergency and to inform this HQ arrangements proposed.

Small OSS (10 be 6) located at Howe Beach Reggio for evacuation of wounded or sick to Sicily. Method of transport will be mail to Reggio

COMMUNICATIONS.

No phone or other communications exist throughout Calabria I. of C.



Sheet 2.

Maj Gen Pelligra would enquire whether any arrangements could possibly be made. Suggested there would probably be a line from 7th Italian Army to 31st Corps but was not certain the area this covered.

6. SIGNPOSTING. - of L of C has been completed.

(a) Names of towns and staging areas clearly marked.

7. ROAD REPAIRS.

Chairman mentioned that it was an Italian responsibility to keep roads in repair. Maj Gen Pelligra said this was in hand and work was "fanned" out to civilian contractors under Italian Military control.

8. 31st Italian Corps vehicle availability - BAD.

Approx 40% of vehicles off road - for tyres, spares etc.

Letter on way to No 2 District from British Military Mission giving list of all spares required and asking for release from British Controlled Italian Dump at Mesodina.

9. Workshop facilities very bad. All 2nd and 3rd line Italian workshops had been taken over by the Allies and practically no other facilities were available.

First points at BARI now occupied by Americans, contained large numbers of spares for which they asked for release.

"Q" to see BARI and take up this question.

14 Nov 43

*Stanley May*

NOTES ON CONFERENCE AT 15 ARMY GROUP ON 12 OCT 43.

12/19/43

1. Maj. Gen. ROBERTSON will be D.C.A.O. ( Dep. Chief Admn Off.) and his NAPLES H.Q. will be called AFHQ Adv. Admn. Echelon : opening Oct 24. He will also be Admn. Advisor to Gen. ALEXANDER. C.E. 15 ARMY GROUP will be Dep. C.E. AFHQ for mainland. C.S.O. 15 ARMY GROUP will be Dep C.S.O. for mainland. G (SD) 15 ARMY GROUP will function also as G (SD) for No.2 District and AFHQ Adv. Admn. Ech.  
Movements No.2 District will deal only with ADRIATIC ports.
2. Admn. Bds between No.2 District and FIFTH and EIGHTH armies will follow political boundaries as much as possible.
3. Road REGGIO - TARANTO required till end of year for 400 - 500 vehicles per day. Engr effort required to keep it going.
4. AMGOT FIFTH and EIGHTH armies under 15 ARMY GROUP.  
AMGOT No.2 District under Gen. ROBERTSON.
5. AFHQ to say policy for supplies and clothing to ITALIAN ARMY. For civil population at NAPLES we are already landing 500 tons of food per day.
6. Committee required to define how much local requisitioning can go on without starving economic life of the country.
7. LIAISON OFFICERS.
  - (a) 15 ARMY GROUP to have ITALIAN MILITARY MISSION with reps for Ops, Air, Sigs, Admin. ( Small )
  - (b) EIGHTH ARMY will be asking for two ITALIAN L.Os. One to live with its AMGOT to collect ITALIAN soldiers and units: and one for Sigs.
  - B.M.M. to await orders for (a) and (b).
  - (c) C.E. EIGHTH ARMY wants three ITALIAN ENGR. L.Os. to live with 3 C.R.E. ARMY TROOPS for ITALIAN ENGR units working with them.
  - (d) FIFTH ARMY wants an L.O. with knowledge of ITALIAN A.A. ordnance repair to live with Col. ROBINSON, H.Q. FIFTH ARMY and help him to get NAPLES A.A. defence guns in serviceable condition: his technical knowledge is of more importance than knowledge of English.
  - (e) MVIS ( FORTBASE ) want three English speaking liaison officers to help with movement control at the various ports. They will not necessarily be static in any one port but may move from one to another as work indicates
- (e). Action already taken by letter to H.C.7 ARMY for (c), (d) and (e).  
7538
8. Gen. DAPINO; Comd. MOBILE BDE. probably to visit Comdg. General FIFTH U.S. ARMY soon. Orders later.
9. H.C. No.2 District is moving to BARI about 20th.

BEST COPY POSSIBLE



TRANSLATION REPORT ON MEETING BETWEEN M. ANISIO AND MAJ. GEN. ROBERTSON

6 OCT 43.

1. CALABRIA.

It is agreed that 7 ITALIAN ARMY takes over military and civil powers in CALABRIA. The actual date will be fixed by the 7 ARMY Commander as soon as he has conferred with the Chief of Staff, XXXI CORPS.

2. LUCANIA.

For LUCANIA the above arrangement will take place at a later date.

3. WAR STORES OF ALL KINDS ( MATERIAL )

The Army Commander raised the urgent question of " material " with General ROBERTSON, particularly equipment for 7 Army troops. It was agreed to present a list of all requirements.

4. COMMUNICATIONS.

Concerning railways, and in particular the re-establishment of communications with XXXI CORPS, General ROBERTSON said that, once the breakdowns on the CALABRIAN railways had been made good, especially in the EAST, the REGGIO - CROTONE line will again be functioning. The line up to TARANTO is now being restored. Some trains are already arriving at TARANTO. There is, moreover, a Ferry Service by sea from TARANTO to CROTONE. A daily courier service to XXXI CORPS can operate by land or sea.

For signal communication between 7 ARMY H.Q. and XXXI CORPS H.Q., despatches from LEQUILE can be transmitted after being encoded by the English Cipher Office. An English officer must be at H.Q. XXXI CORPS for decoding purposes. Finally the matter should be discussed with Major HAMPTON at LEQUILE.

5. VICTUALLING.

7 ARMY Commander pointed out to General ROBERTSON the difficulties of provisioning in PUGLIA, both as regards troops and civil population, particularly the following - meat, wood for fuel and charcoal, all of which could be obtained from CALABRIA or LUCANIA.

6. BAIT.

At BAIT there will be an important English Base with a large H.Q.,

General ROBERTSON, particularly equipment for 7 Army Troops.  
It was agreed to present a list of all requirements.

#### 4. COMMUNICATIONS.

Concerning railways, and in particular the reestablishment of communications with XXI CORPS, General ROBERTSON said that, once the breakdowns on the CALABRIAN railways had been made good, especially in the EAST, the REGGIO - CROTONE line will again be functioning. The line up to TARANTO is now being restored. Some trains are already arriving at TARANTO. There is, moreover, a Ferry Service by sea from TARANTO to CROTONE. A daily courier service to XXI CORPS can operate by land or sea.

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#### 6. BARI.

At BARI there will be an important English Base with a large H.Q., Barracks and Storehouses must be put at their disposal. Commander 7 ARMY will telephone today ( 6 Oct 45 ) to General LERICI to find out the possibilities of fulfilling these requirements and will notify General ROBERTSON on his return to BARI in a few days time.

#### 7. POSTAL SERVICES.

Transmission of mail both to CALABRIA and SICILY can be done by the British; it is necessary for us to solve the problem of reorganising the civil and military postal services. It was agreed to form a composite censorship commission.

#### 8. CARABINIERI REALI.

Brigadier DUCHESNE, on request, will grant passes to the CC.M.R. going proceeding to English occupied territories and eventually to CC.M.R. going beyond the line at present held.

7597

SECRET

HQ 2 District COMF  
2064 G

NOV 43

9.  
File  
Rgeed.  
S/M

CONFERENCE

LICO hrs 3 Nov 43

Present : GOC  
 Brigadier BURNETT (DMC)  
 1st Gen. PELLIGRA  
 Chief of Staff Italian Army  
 Maj Gen MORRICA  
 Adm Chief of Staff  
 Interpreter

Attended: Col i/c Adm  
 GSO I  
 ADST of FM Sub Area  
 DACMG of EME  
 Rep Mov Tr  
 GSO 2 (minutes)

None present  
 during whole conference

AGENDA

1. The handing over of CALABRIA to the military comd of 31-Italian Corps.
2. General matters with relation to the Italian Army.

SECTION I

Handing over of CALABRIA

OPERATIONAL

1. GOC showed Gen PELLIGRA 15 Army Gp Ops Insts
2. GOC outlined task of 31 Italian Corps :-

Within CALABRIA

ACTION



GSO I  
ADST of RI Sub Area  
LACMG of IM  
14 Nov 74  
GSO 2 (minutes)

None present  
during whole conference

AGENDA

1. The handing over of CALABRIA to the military comd of 31-Italian Corps.
2. General matters with relation to the Italian Army.

SECTION I

Handing over of CALABRIA

OPERATIONAL

1. GOC showed Gen FELLICIA 15 Army Op Ops Insta
2. GOC outlined task of 31 Italian Corps :-

Within CALABRIA

- (a) Protection of the rd L of C REGGIO - NICASTRO - PAOLA - SAPRI ( - on to NAPLES)
- (b) Protection of the rd L of C REGGIO - NICASTRO - COSENZA - SPEZZANO - (east coast rd on to TARANTO)
- (c) Protection of rd L of C REGGIO - CROTONE - (on to TARANTO)
- (d) REGGIO

Gen FELLICIA was shown marked map.

3. Gen. FELLICIA ; Present dispositions were NOT suitable for task.

4. Brig DUCHEME : Gen ARISIO (comd 7 Italian Army) had reallocation of 6% in hand.

5. GOC : Was there yet a firm plan for this and how was it being implemented?

ACTION

7086

- Gen PELLIGRA : As earlier commitment was heavier it was quite easy to arrange.
4. GOC : What were 31 Corps present dispositions ?
- Gen PELLIGRA : MC and Corps Tps  
 MANIOMA Div  
 212 Coastal Div  
 214 Coastal Div  
 227 Coastal Div  
 CALMELLO  
 NICLSIRO  
 COSMIZA  
 to be disbanded  
 CALSTOVILLARI
- GOC : Asked for an up to date location statement.
5. GOC : What were 3D arrangements ?
- Gen PELLIGRA : Broken up and in progress of reorganisation.
- GOC : Asked for CP status to be added to location statement.
- GOC : As distances on L of C were long he suggested unit localities along the rd with patrols in between.
- Gen PELLIGRA : This was their previous system. There was also anti parachute detts as well as 3D localities.
- GOC : These could be suitably worked into rd and rly comms protection plans.
7. Comms
- GOC : Enquired about comms.
- Brig DUCHIE : There was a W/L link between 7 Italian Army and 31 Corps through 311 channels as Italians NOT allowed to send as yet (Cipher restriction)
- Gen PELLIGRA : Telephoto comms between Corps and Div HQ were out of order. Repairs were effected by shortage of wire.

6. GCC : As distances on I of C were long no supported unit localities along the rd with patrols in between.  
Gen PELLICER : This was their previous system. There was also anti parachute nets as well as CC localities.

GCC : These could be suitably worked into rd and rly comms protection plans.

7. Comms  
GCC : Inquired about comms.

Brig DUCHELL : There was a 1/2 link between 7 Italian Army and 24 Corps through HQ channels as well as COM allowed to send as yet (Cipher restriction)

Gen PELLICER : Telephone comms between Corps and Div HQ were out of order. Repairs were effected by shortage of wire.

20274 DUCHELL : 15 Army Gp were MOI at present prepared to release wire.

GCC : GSC 2 District would examine comms of 24 Corps, with assistance of Sig, Gp, and report to GCC so that it could be known what was needed to restore essential comms.

8. VP's  
GCC : What were most important VP's ?

Gen PELLICER : (a) Arde Bracciano Sto "SILC" (Map ref 2 1572)  
(b) Amalfi CASPIOVILLANI

GCC : Asked for a detailed list indicating relative importance.



2. GOC

: Said that he would issue an Op Instr for 31 Corps and that he would in this ask for 31 Corps plan to carry out the required tasks.  
(ISM to forward present loon statement and VP's list first)

ADMINISTRATION

10.

Col i/c Adm consulted separately with Italian Adm C of S, and ADST RUSA. When he returned, GOC took the following points:-

(a) Staging areas GOC would look at these on his journey to ALGROIO.

Gen PELLICERA : Col SILOMINI at PAOLA will meet GOC there and accompany him to REGGIO showing the arrangements made.

(b) Re Rombis Col i/c Adm said these were done by CANTONERI chiefly under military direction.

(c) Traffic Control Col i/c Adm said that it was reported that I of C was well signposted.

(d) Tpt Col i/c Adm said that it was sufficient for maint and normal local tpt. movement.

Brig DUCHIME : Maj LENTZELER is FM 10 to 31 Corps, and in touch on all these matters.

SECTION II

General Italian Army Matters

CHANNELS OF COMM

After discussion it was agreed as below and GOC summed up.

1. Policy Matters

HQ 2 District to HQ 7 Italian Army through FM.

to ensure

done by CARONIERI chiefly under military direction.

- (c) Traffic Control Col i/c Adm said that it was reported that L of C was well signposted.
- (d) Tpt Col i/c Adm said that it was sufficient for maint and normal local tpt. movement.

Brig DUCHENE : Maj LEMIZIA RE is HQ 16 to 51 Corps, and in touch on all these matters.

SECTION III

General Italian Army Matters

CHANNELS OF COMM

After discussion it was agreed as below and GOC summed up .

- 1. Policy Matters  
HQ 2 District to HQ 7 Italian Army through DMI.
- 2. Local Matters

Each Sub Area Comd to have under his comd :-

- (a) 4 Detached Sq
- (b) 1 Labour Co

The comd of each of these units would deal direct with Sub Area comd on all local matters. G to assess requirement for det sqns. (Labour requirement known see para 3).

7595

to issue  
advances  
warning to  
7 Army

G  
ditto to  
Sub Areas  
G



L450UR

- 4 -

3. GOC gave figures :-

PLACE	Now Working	Further Required	To make a Total of
BARLETTA	750	250	1000
MARI	7000	2400	10000
TRUNTO	4500	1000	5500
BRADISI	3200	1300	4500
Total	16050	4950	21000

x  
 @  
 Bill to have implemented by Mid-Nov

Above further requirements were based on present port tonnage off loading, and more labour would have to be asked for if off loadings were increased.

4. GOC emphasised that labour parties shall NOT be charged over as much advantage was gained from men being well acquainted with their work and with those with whom they worked.

5. GOC would talk to General ROBINSON with regards to provision of essential clothing e.g. boots for Italian boys working for us- also the question of feeding Italian boys in TOGOLA area when we take over there (now fed by British Army)

AREAS FOR ITALIAN ARMY

With especial reference to those parts of 9 Corps NOT engaged in Sub Areas "Groups")

6. GOC said it was agreed that :-

- 31 Corps CA. AREA
- 51 Corps "HELL"

would not be disturbed.

7. GOC : The question was where balance of 9 Corps should go.

BRIG DISCRETE : FORMERLY had agreed to the area ALTAMURA - CALVIA - MARI and 7 Army had been

Bill  
 GOC  
 as talking up



as taking up

5. GOC would talk to General ROMANSON with regards to provision of essential clothing G.I. boots for Italian GPs working for us- also the question of feeding Italian GPs in POCCHIA area when we take over there (now fed by Eighth Army)

INSTS FOR ITALIAN ARMY

(with especial reference to those parts of 9 Corps NOT engaged in SOV areas "groups")

6. GOC said it was agreed that :-

- 51 Corps - CALABRIA
- 51 Corps - "PULITA"

would not be disturbed.

7. GOC : The question was where balance of 9 Corps should go.

BRIG DUCHENE : FOMLISE had agreed to the area ALTALURA - GRAVINA - MURTE and 7 Army had been informed accordingly. This was for a Div up to a strength of 12000.

2165

Gen FELLERA : This was to train a Mountain bde gp for use with USA Army.

BRIG DUCHENE : This was under AFHQ insts.

After discussion:-

GOC : Agreed a Mountain bde gp should concentrate in ten days time in area North of POTENZA

G to continue to

Gen FELLERA : Would all insts be put in writing covering each point separately.

GOC : Yes. He could HQ state requirements for GP's until he had asked his Sub Area Comds.

G.

108 1033A

3 Nov 45.

*C. P. ...*  
Major GS

DISSEMINATION

- BEM to 7 Italian Army (4)
- ADC for GOC
- Col i/c Adm
- GSO I
- ACMC
- AG
- CSO
- CE
- Col (Mov In)
- DDPL
- War Diary (2)
- Spores (6)

1094

Ref: ~~10007~~ 10007  
Distribution: F.S.O. II  
D.A.A.G.M.C.  
C-2 Sigs. & pass to S.M.K.E.

2 NOV 43.  
I  
S

H.Q. 7 ARMY.

Ref: Visit of officers from H.Q. 1st Motorised Bde  
5 American Army.  
To British Military Mission. LMG ILE!

Herewith a summary of the principles questions that will be brought up by the officers of H.Q. Motorised Bde now visiting H.Q. 5 Army, at Naples and Caserta.

1. Scope of the visit.
  - to make known to the above mentioned H.Q. the actual organisation of the Bde.
  - to receive the lay-out of the front.
  - to decide about the transfer of the Bde to the new zone and its commitments during operations.
2. Medical Services.
  - All necessary precautions have been taken for the collecting, moving and care of the wounded, and sick.
3. A and Q.
  - a) Rations - Forage - wood.
    - There will be laid on for Italian soldiers special rations that conform to the normal requirements of our soldiers implemented by special "comfort" rations.
    - Hard rations will be those of the American soldier.
  - b) Forage and ~~Wood~~ Hay.
    - Will be provided as far as possible from Italian sources.
  - c) Wood and Hay for ragliasses.
    - Must be provided locally.
  - d) Monthly Contingency Allowance.
    - Will be provided by the American H.Q. on their own scale.
  - e) Clothing.
    - Sufficient has already been distributed. Special agreement has been made for a later distribution of essentials such as boots, socks and woollen articles which wear out more quickly.
4. Fuel and Lubricants.
  - a) No supply difficulties; a detailed agreement has been reached.
  - b) For the move, the Bde must carry fuel for 500 Km.



There will be laid on for Italian soldiers special rations that conform to the normal requirements of our soldiers implemented by special "comfort" rations. Hard rations will be those of the American soldier.

b) Forage and Hay. Will be provided as far as possible from Italian sources. Wood and Hay for pack animals must be provided locally.

c) Monthly Contingency Allowance. Will be provided by the American H.Q. on their own scale.

d) Clothing. Sufficient has already been distributed. Special agreement has been made for a later distribution of essentials such as boots, socks and woolen articles which wear out more quickly.

4. Fuel and Lubricants.

- a) No supply difficulties; a detailed agreement has been reached.
- b) For the move, the Bde must carry fuel for 500 Km.

5. Ammunition.

The Bde. Gp. possesses two "refills" <sup>\*</sup>

In order to carry out operations the American H-G would like to have an ammunition dump of ten "refills".

As there is an ammunition shortage in PUGLIA arrangements are being made to obtain ammunition from CAMPANIA, SICILY, SARDINIA and NORTH AFRICA.

6. Engineers.

- a) The American H-Q. wishes the sappers (artieri) to be increased in number. This is being looked into.
- b) Signals : All in order.

The question of ciphers to be used will be gone into by the American H-Q.

./.  
Adk.

Transfer of the Bde. Gp.

The Bde. Gp. will move in a few days time to AVELLINO to complete training and will move into the line about ten days later, where it will be attached to an American Division

(signed) Gen. R. PELLIGRA  
C. of S.

\* M.B.

After discussion with Lieut. COLONNA, it was agreed that an "unfoc" was "daily estimated ammunition expenditure per fire unit" ( in this case the Mobile Group).

An "unfoc" refers to ammunition "refills" for all weapons from S.A. to Artillery.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

7592

from S.A. to Artillery.



STAFF OFFICE FOR COMMANDER, BRITISH MILITARY MISSION  
REGARDING A/S SITUATION IN 7 ITALIAN ARMY.

*Complete for*

POLICY. 1. Following Admn. Instrs. have been received from No.2 DISTRICT:-

No.6 of 16 Oct 43. showing lay out of ports in HEML of ITALY.  
No.9 of 13 Oct 43. dealing with hand over of CALABRIA to ITALIAN ARMY ADMINISTRATION.

From Adv. Admn. Seh. A.F.H.C. = No.1 of 24 Oct 43. defining their org. and duties.

2. Gen. ROBERTSON has written to A.F.H.C. to ask for policy defining extent to which he is to maintain ITALIAN ARMY. Ref No.2 District ( FORTBASE ) letter 1429/Q dated 21 Oct 43.

SUPS.

3. On my recommendation, 7 ITALIAN ARMY have evened out what supplies they now hold so that 7 ITALIAN ARMY complete are rationed to 5 Nov 43 incl. Gen ARSIO also sent S.O.B. to Gen. ALIBERTI, Intendente Generale, who sent by sea to CALABRIA 70 tons of flour and 100 tons of Paste.

4. Future supplies for 7 ITALIAN ARMY are being provided by Intendenza, Comando Supremo, who transmit requirements to Allied Military Mission. Every 10 days, shipping conference is held at which bids are made for shipping space to hold rations for consumption 30 days later.

5. Bids so far made are:-

Period 1	=	12 Nov 43	75,000 rations.
"	=	22 "	} 200,000 rations, each.
"	=	2 Dec 43	

Future demand will be for strength 300,000 to include ITALIAN Navy and Air Force.

6. Shipping under way is as follows:-

5 ships to APULIA	=	510 tons frozen meat.	} For civil and military.
		3000 tons grain.	
		5400 tons) Various	
		6500 tons) foodstuffs.	

4. Future supplies for 7 ITALIAN ARMY are being provided by Intendenza, Comando Supremo, who transmit requirements to Allied Military Mission. Every 10 days, shipping conference is held at which bids are made for shipping space to hold rations for consumption 30 days later.

5. Bids so far made are:-

Period 3 = 12 Nov 43	}	75,000 rations.
" 13 = 22 "		
" 23 = 2 Dec 43		

} 200,000 rations, each.

Future demand will be for strength 300,000 to include ITALIAN Navy and Air Force.

6. Shipping under way is as follows:-

5 Ships to APULIA = 510 tons frozen meat.	}	For Civil and military.
5000 tons grain.		
5400 tons) Various		
6500 tons) foodstuffs.		

7591

5 more cargoes and destination unknown.

Ports used will be BARI, BRINDISI and BARLETTE.

7. A further vessel loaded with 6,000 tons of flour was mined of the coast of BRINDISI, but has been towed to harbour. 2,000 tons of this cargo was intended for REGGIO.

PET.

8. Major. LINTZNER wrote on <sup>10</sup> Oct 43 that petrol in CALABRIA was completely exhausted. I informed Intendenza, 7 ITALIAN ARMY and signalled No. 2 District to ask for 20 tons ( 10 days supply ) to be released from British reserve dumps at VINCIGALLA.

9. Provision of petrol in future will be made from centralized resources imported into S. ITALY by bids as in para. 4 above.

CLOTHING & EAPT.

10. Major. CAMPBELL of the Captured Enemy Egypt Executive Committee has left us bare details of dumps and depots in N. AFRICA and SICILY.

11. L.O. from Intendenza has also gone to inspect dumps in SICILY and report on existing stocks.

(2)

12. We may ask A.F.H.Q. for release of clothing and M.T. spares as soon as reply is received from Gen. ROBERTSON re policy.

PAX.

13. Lt.Col. MONTEFORT, Chief Political Liaison Officer, Allied Military Mission states that enough currency has been released to ITALIAN Army to meet all needs.

ALLOWANCES.

14. All normal allowances admissible to ITALIAN Army may be paid except family allowances. These are normally paid to families of serving soldiers by civil authority; owing to present situation this is impracticable.

15. In cases of dire need, families may approach ITALIAN Authorities or AMGOT in AMGOT controlled territory, for direct relief, which in some cases has been actually paid on higher rate than allowance whose place it fills.

LAW.

16. Legal Officer, 7 ITALIAN ARMY saw Lt.Col. MONTEFORT on 24 Oct 43 and will visit AMGOT Legal Officer at MATERA on 25 Oct 43 to obtain clarification of cases triable by civil as distinct from military courts.

VISITS by DAA&QMG.

- 17. 21 Oct 43 to Gen. MONFICA, Intendenta Generale, ITALIAN ARMY.
  - 22 Oct 43 to Gen. ALBERTI " " SUPREME COMMAND.
  - 23 Oct 43 to Political L.O., Allied Military Mission.
  - 24 Oct 43 to Gen ARISIO with Lt.Col. MONTEFORT.
18. To DAA&QMG: =
- 22 Oct 43 ) Lt.Col. VACCA, Director of Commissariat,
  - 23 Oct 43 ) 7 ITALIAN ARMY
  - 24 Oct 43 ) Lt.Col. MONTEFORT.
- Major. CAMPELLI, Captured Enemy Eqpt. Committee.

*Agliardi*  
*Non*



17. 21 Oct 43 to Gen. MONTANO, Intendant of ...  
 7 ITALIAN ARMY. " "  
 to Gen. ALBERTI " "  
 SUPREME COMMAND. " "  
 to Political L.O., Allied Military Mission.  
 to Gen ARISIO with Lt.Col. MONTFORT.

18. To DAA&QMG:=  
 22 Oct 43 ) Lt.Col. VACCA, Director of Commissariat,  
 23 Oct 43 ) 7 ITALIAN ARMY  
 24 Oct 43 ) Lt.Col. MONTFORT.  
 Major. CAMPBELL, Captured Enemy Eqpt.  
 Committee.

*B. G. ...*

D.A.A. & Q.M.G.

7589

See Report 26/9.

6.

26 Sep 43

To - RCAF, AMGOT, Region 2. Copy 31 It Corps Control.  
From - RCAF, CATANZARO

AMGOT relations with 31 Italian Corps.

Lt. Col. GERRY was present at the first part of a meeting attended by the writer this morning which included -

- Major CAROL HUNT, AMGOT, 31 It Corps Control, Brig. DUCHESNE, Commanding 31 It Corps
- Colonel G. Stato Maggiore, 31 It Corps
- Lieutenant Colonel AFFICCIOLI, Commissariat Officer, 31 It Corps
- Captain ZILVERO, Transport Officer, 31 It Corps
- Representative of Brigata TROVATO, 31 It Corps

and other officers of 31 Italian Corps.

2. It was noted that whilst the main task assigned by 8 Army to 31 It Corps is the restoration and maintenance of our L of C through CALABRIA they are able and anxious to render many services, additional or incidental to these, which will promote the same objects as AMGOT and is responsible for securing.

3. For instance, road work under the AASS and the Genio Civile Provinciale is being co-ordinated and supplemented by the military engineer services of 31 It Corps, so that AMGOT contact on road matters need be only with the latter.

4. Moreover, 31 It Corps will assist, or may even entirely undertake, the transport of supplies for the civil population by military M. Pending a definite settlement of how this is to be arranged they are providing, from tomorrow,

8 Army to 31 It Corps is the restoration and maintenance of our I of C through CALABRIA they are able and anxious to render many services, additional or incidental to these, which will promote the same objects as AMGOT has is responsible for securing.

3. For instance, road work under the AASS and the Genio Civile Provinciale is being co-ordinated and supplemented by the military engineer services of 31 It Corps, so that AMGOT contact on road matters need be only with the latter.

4. Moreover, 31 It Corps will assist, or may even entirely undertake, the transport of supplies for the civil population by military MT. Pending a definite settlement of how this is to be arranged they are providing, from tomorrow, ten lorries to work under the Direzione di Alimentazione of the Province. The addition of these vehicles to the Provincial civil transport service in process of development will, for the first time, enable the quantity of grain distributed ~~by~~ from COTRONE to the rest of the Province slightly to exceed the quantity daily consumed. Nine of the ten lorries will deposit grain at points in the Province from which it will be finally distributed by local transport and the tenth will be used for taking emergency supplies straight from COTRONE to Comunes which have run short. It is thought that this system may have a useful moral effect.

5. In so far as these services are confined to CATANZARO Province the writer will maintain direct contact with the officers of 31 Corps respectively concerned.



6. Where the possibility exists of extending such services by 31 It Corps to other Provinces it will be a matter for consideration by AMGOT Region 2 HQ. Lt.-Col. GERRY has, therefore, appointed the writer to act for the time being as Liaison Officer between 31 It Corps and AMGOT Region 2 HQ.

7. Utilising this liaison, Colonello FIORE-VERNAZZA now desires to know to what extent assistance in road work other than military I of C, and provision of military MT for civil supplies on the same lines as in CATANZARO Province, may be demanded in other Provinces. His ability to meet such demands additionally to his military commitments to 3 Army would, of course, have to be worked out between his staff and that of 31 It Corps Control.

8. Utilising this liaison in the opposite direction, Colonello FIORE-VERNAZZA asks whether the arrangements made in CATANZARO Province for the requisitioning and local purchase of supplies (other than grain) and fodder for 31 Corps can be made operative in other Provinces also - namely that when such supplies are obtained pursuant to 31 It Corps Control Ref. 31C/AQ/e of 21 Sep (copy herewith attached) the deciding authority as to what can be spared from civil needs will be the nearest local CAO (not the Provincial or higher CAO).

9. He also points out the advantage that would ensue to his troops if the beginning of the curfew in COSENZA Province could be changed to 2200 hrs as has been done in CATANZARO Province excluding COIRONE.

10. May an answer be given to paras. 7, 8 and 9, please.

*J. S. Wilkinson*

Major, RR  
CATANZARO

Supplies are obtained pursuant to 3110 Corps Compendium  
31C/AQ/e of 21 Sop (copy herewith attached) the deciding authority  
as to what can be spared from civil needs will be the nearest  
local CAO (not the Provincial or higher CAO).

9. He also points out the advantage that would ensue to  
his troops if the beginning of the curfew in COSENZA Province  
could be changed to 2200 hrs as has been done in CATANZARO  
Province excluding COTRONE.

10. May an answer be given to paras. 7, 8 and 9, please.

*J. E. Wilkinson*

Major, <sup>RS</sup> CATANZARO

7587

AGENDA - British Control.

Discussion A/Q - A/Q XXXI Italian Corps.

**GENERAL**

1. XXXI Corps to be responsible for co-ordinating all matters of supply, transport and general points of quartering and maintenance under the direction of XXXI Corps Control.
2. Existing supply etc. systems to be maintained except where modifications may be necessary due to shortage of tpt etc.
3. The points discussed at this meeting, and agreed with, form the basis of an administrative order, setting up the necessary machinery for maintenance.

**STRENGTHS**

4. Men.

It is essential that accurate returns of strengths by formations, showing any detachments, be rendered to Control regularly. Suggest these must be forwarded daily by 1200 hrs.

**VEHICLES**

5. (a) An initial return must be provided, giving accurate figures of vehicles by types now held, showing separately, vehicles off the rd, again by types. The return will also show the number of vehicles removed by, or on loan to British Forces.
- (b) Thereafter, this return will be rendered weekly, to reach Control by 1200 hrs on Sunday.

**SUPPLIES AND P.O.L.**

6. Supplies.

- (a) No sups will be available until 26th Sep from British resources.
- (b) Rations now in possession of formations and units will therefore be so conserved as to last until

1st 26th Sep



It is essential that accurate returns of strengths by formations, showing any detachments, be rendered to Control regularly. Suggest these must be forwarded daily by 1200 hrs.

**VEHICLES**

- 5. (a) An initial return must be provided, giving accurate figures of vehicles by types now held, showing separately, vehicles off the rd, again by types. The return will also show the number of vehicles removed by, or on loan to British Forces.
- (b) Thereafter, this return will be rendered weekly, to reach Control by 1200 hrs on Sunday.

**SUPPLIES AND P.O.L.**

**6. Supplies.**

- (a) No sups will be available until 26th Sep from British resources.
- (b) Rations now in possession of formations and units will therefore be so conserved as to last until incl 26th Sep.
- (c) XXXI Corps will report forthwith the actual ration state of units under their command.

**7. Requisitioning.** 7586

- (a) It has been agreed that the British Government will hold itself responsible from a certain date, to be decided mutually between British Control and XXXI Corps, for the payment for foods requisitioned.
- (b) Full details regarding the procedure to be adopted have been prepared by Eighth Army and will be transmitted directly they are received.

...../B.

8. Petrol.

- (a) The basic ration for the Corps will be initially 1500 galls/day, provided in the proportion of 50% Grade III, 50% A.G.O. This will allow approximately 30 miles/vehicle/day.
- (b) It may be necessary, initially, to top up all vehicles, this is being provided for separately.

MAINTENANCE

9. Base Supply Depot.

*Drawing*  
XXXI Corps will initially be ~~delivering~~ <sup>drawing</sup> supplies and petrol in bulk from GOTRONE.

10. D.I.D.

- (a) It is proposed to establish this in CATANZARO. It is for consideration whether delivery to units should be effected direct in tpt under Corps Control, or whether fms should collect themselves from D.I.D.
- (b) Personnel to man D.I.D. to be provided from Italian resources.

11. Transport.

- (a) One Tpt Pl (30 load carriers) under Comd an officer will be permanently attached to D.I.D. This Pl will draw from GOTRONE and deliver to D.I.D. CATANZARO.
- (b) A sufficient number of lorries will be detailed either by fms from their own resources, or centrally by Corps to deliver to fms. Suggest the latter the better course.

12. Animal Tpt.

- (a) A return of horses and mules by fms is required as soon as possible.
- (b) The supply of forage is being arranged locally - British scale of rations.
- (c) It is for consideration whether all mules are required by units - if not, suggested that

(b) personnel to man D.I.D. to be provided from Italian resources.

11. Transport.

- (a) One Tpt Pl (30 load carriers) under Ccmd an officer will be permanently attached to D.I.D. This Pl will draw from COTRONE and deliver to D.I.D. CATANZARO.
- (b) A sufficient number of lorries will be detailed either by fmns from their own resources, or centrally by Corps to deliver to fmns. Suggest the latter the better course.

12. Animal Tpt.

- (a) A return of horses and mules by fmns is required as soon as possible.
- (b) The supply of forage is being arranged locally - British scale of rations.
- (c) It is for consideration whether all mules are required by units - if not, suggested that the surplus be concentrated in some convenient area, in order to save transport and petrol.

7585

13. Medical.

- (a) CATANZARO hospital holds stores sufficient for five Divs. Fmns should therefore indent in the usual way. They will be distributed through the supply point.
- (b) 211 and 212 Divs each require one ambulance car for evacuation. Can this be arranged.

...../14.



14. Repair and Recovery of Vehicles.

- (a) A statement is required of repair facilities available within XXXI Corps.
- (b) A statement is required showing what essential spares are required (incl types by sizes), and what spares are known to be available within XXXI Corps.
- (c) The location of any known supplies of spares and/or types will also be forwarded.

15. Pay. Now under consideration.

16. Postal.

Nothing possible at present, but proposals for letting men's families know their whereabouts are now under consideration.

*R. A. Acker*

Lieut-Colonel,  
A.A. & Q.M.G.  
XXXI Corps Control.

*R. S. Akers*

Lieut-Colonel,  
A.A. & Q.M.G.  
XXXI Corps Control.

7584



XXXI Italian Corps Control.

Minutes of a Conference held at VILLA PARLATO 24 Sep 43.

Present: XXXI Corps - Gen MEGALLI - Corps Comd  
Col FIORE VERNAZZA - Chief of Staff

B.M.M. - Brig. DUCHESNE - Comd  
Maj. J.F. HAMPTON - G.S.O.II  
Maj. B.G. CAREW-HUNT - D.A.A. & Q.M.G.  
Capt. MURCELL - Interpreter.

Action

Points raised by XXXI Corps

1. Pay and Requisitioning of Cattle etc -

Gen pointed out urgency in view of desertors. Had been told by Gen KIRKMAN that he might obtain money from local bank, but MCGOT had intervened and had also stopped requisitioning.

Decided to form committee consisting of rep from

B.M.M. Two reps from XXXI Corps (A & R), rep from MCGOT - to meet as early as possible, and thereafter twice a week, and tie up all questions involving Military and civil administration.

D.A.A. & Q.M.G.

2. Concentration and Agricultural Leave -

Permission granted to concentrate in areas decided, and suspend Agricultural leave pending completion.

D.A.A. & Q.M.G.

3. Clothing etc. -

Necessity will arise for clothing, especially Boots for troops returning by 6 Oct. 7th Army may be able to help.

D.A.A. & Q.M.G.

4. NEBBO Bns -

One with 211 Div  
One in REGGIO area mostly P.W.  
One in NORTH working with R.E.  
Perhaps there would also be volunteers.



D.A.A. & Q.M.G.  
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7th Army may be able to help.

4. NEMBO Bns -

One with 211 Div  
One in REGGIO area mostly P.W.  
One in NORTH working with R.E.  
Want to fight - Perhaps there would also be volunteers.  
Decided to inform EIGHTH ARMY.  
If NEMBO Bn left 211 Div, XXXI Corps suggests dis-solving it.

5. P.W.D. -

XXXI Corps want P.W.D. put under their control.  
To be decided by committee (in 1 above)

6. Roads -

Expected that rd CATANZARO - TIRIOLO - COSENZA - CASTROVILLARI will be open shortly.

7. Grouping -

Corps Arty (Fascist Tps) at present under 214 Div to come under Corps control.

8. B.D. -

none.  
B.D. Sec would be great help to XXXI Corps who have C.R.E. to ask EIGHTH ARMY.

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D.A.A. & Q.M.G.

C.R.E.

Sheet 2.

Action

9. Locations -

Agreed that 55 Arty, 20 and 208 Inf Depots be returned to VIBO as soon as possible - to be available for work on roads.

Points raised by B.M.M.

Results of Comds visit to EIGHTH ARMY

10. (a) XXXI Corps told that they were to come under 7th Army, and ordered to open W/F communications with them. For the present, communications will be in clear as <sup>late</sup> have no Codes. G.II

(b) XXXI Italian Corps Control to become B.M.M. to 7th Army.

(c) Comd visiting Comd 7th Army.

(d) For the present, B.M.M. will continue to deal direct with XXXI Corps.

XXXI Corps raised question of MANTOVA Div going to 7th Army, (stopped by Gen KIRMAN); hoped that XXXI Corps would be left to look after CALABRIA, and that 7th Army would be able to look after APULIA which had suffered much less damage.

11. Deserters -

Unlikely that 227 Div would be able to help much as they were suffering themselves, but they and also CARBINIERI, and MILITIA had received orders to stop deserters going NORTH. 7th Army to be asked to help through XIX Corps.

12. Veh Passes -

All vehs to have passes for all journeys by 1 Oct. Civilians may only be carried when work ticket specifically allows.

13. Rd Policy -

(a) to remove all Military brs SOUTH of VIBO as soon as

7502



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13. Rd Policy -

- (a) to remove all Military brs SOUTH of VIBO as soon as possible. C.R.E.
- (b) to open a main route NORTH to CASTROWILLIARI by 15 Oct. (for 18 tankers) C.R.E. to inform EIGHTH ARMY.
- (c) to clear rds further NORTH to CALABRIAN frontier.

14. Rly Policy -

- (a) release engines - particularly at depot CATANZARO MARINA. XXXI Corps will order Rly Tpt Delegation to take action, but must have policy and priorities from 7th Army.
- (b) possibly use rly wheels on lorries (without wheels) in places where there is a shortage of Locomotives. 7th Army should be able to help Committee (see 1 above).

General

- 15. Gen MARCALLI as XXXI Corps Comd was previously also Area Comd, was told that he would continue as such.



Sheet 3.

Action

XXXI Corps Comd is having conference with all Div Comds tomorrow 25 Sep.

- 17. Concentration of 227 Div to be at XXXI Corps discretion in view of tasks in 11 above.
- 18. XXXI Corps want ourfew altered from 1930 hrs to 2000 hrs.

G.II.

Agreed by us, but AMOT to be consulted.



Brig. Comd.  
XXXI Italian Corps Control.

/EHR.

DISTRIBUTION -

- 'G'
- 'Q'
- War Diary (2)

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Brig. Comd.  
XXXI Italian Corps Control.

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/EMR.

DISTRIBUTION

'e'

'q' ✓

War Diary (2)



**BEST COPY POSSIBLE**



MINUTES OF CONFERENCE HELD ON 23

Present : Lt-Col. Lambert, G.Ll, Capta. Air  
Chief of Staff XXXI Corps and Ita

1. DESERTIONS.

Lt-Col. Lambert reported as a result of a visit to  
dwindled from about 7,500 to 2,500 due to desertions - whi  
approx 250 per day.

Most of these were men from the NORTH who had heard th  
being ill-treated by the Germans.

Chief of staff stated that a proclamation was now in cou  
and he would also instruct 227 Div to block roads.

Should we signal Army?

2. 300 MEN FOR R.E. AT CROSTONE.

As a result of above 214 Div commander said he had not suffice  
release 300, and could anyway not do it without XXXI Corps Commanders

Chief of Staff will arrange from another source, if necessary and  
them tomorrow in own transport.

3. ALTERATION OF TIME.

XXXI Corps will conform.

Shall inform A.L.G.O.T. for conformation of civil authorities.

4. GENERAL CAJNESTRA.

( See sep. memo from F.S.S. )

Commander informed of Mantova Div. ? Action?

5. Commanders appointment, with C of S and Gen. MERCALLI 10.00 hrs. 24 Sep 43  
confirmed.

6. MESS STAFF.

C of S will find out what is being done, and arrange

7. There is an Army Depot, in addition to the two yesterday which we moved to  
CASTRO VILLARI, which want to return to VIBO.

XXXI Corps will conform.  
Shall inform A.M.G.O.T. for conformation of civil authorities.

4. GENERAL CAJRETRA.

( See sep. memo from F.S.S. )  
Commander informed of Mantova Div. ? Action?

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8. TELEPHONE REPAIR POLICY.

Information in Gen. Kirkman's notes passed to C of S.

7580

9. "C" RETURNS.

C of S was asked to bring to tomorrows conference Battle, Locations, strengths, Armaments, ~~for~~ such fig- ible more accurate details. He was from Divs.

10. R.E. and SIG.

Col. Lambert visiting Gen. TROVATO for deta



XXI Italian Corps Control:

Minutes of Conference held on 22 Sep 43

Present :-

- G.2
- D.A. & Q.M.G.
- W.D.L.O.
- 4 Capt Interpreters
- Col. Giudice
- L.C. XXI Corps

1. Agreed that we write in English and send Corps in Italian.
2. Naval H.Q. and Arty Gp can be disposed of by XXI Corps - latter will let us know where they go.
3. My Situation - ref Col. Giudice's pts 3 and 6 raised yesterday -
  - (a) My Bus to remain where they are
  - (b) My Tps Delegation to make recon and report on rlys, pending clarification of Army Policy, but ~~not~~ to be got or kept under XXI Corps control.
4. Agricultural leave -
  - (a) XXI Corps may proceed forthwith to grant leave to soldiers to Villages in Calabria (not towns)
  - (b) Estimated number who will be granted leave 1500 - 2000 for about 15 days (excl travelling time).
  - (c) After 6 Oct will grant leave for agriculture according to number of tps available.
5. Col. Giudice told that Goal was taking up question at Army H.Q. of Soldiers being disarmed and sent home.

Locations

- (a) Up to date location statement asked for
- (b) 227 Div has 2 Regts on V Coast and one on E. Former

7579

*Report p. 2*



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6. Locations

- 7579
- (a) Up to date location statement asked for
  - (b) 227 Div has 2 Regts on W Coast and one on E. Former to remain where they are and maintain W Coast Rd. to concentrate CASTROVILLARI area (EAST)

7. Col. Giudice told about 300 men for Col. Popham and div copy of letter.

8. XXXI Corps fixing direct line here.

9. Arranged that Comd XXXI Corps should visit Comd 1000

10. XXXI Corps will let us know what arrangements they making for the provision of guards for Bailey hrs as orders

11. Pay

- (a) Col. Giudice told about the policy - awaiting A
- (b) XXXI Corps not to draw from local banks
- (c) ref Private and Regimental accounts - they are

12. XXXI Corps asked for full information of Ord and Ar

13. XXXI Corps told that we have signalled Army for inf 35 lorries loaned to dms.

Sheet 2.

At a meeting with C.R.E. before the conference -

- (a) C.R.E. agreed to policy in 3 above.
- (b) Undertook to see if he could arrange for blotting out ~~T~~ on signs.
- (c) Was given letter re assistance required on rds by local AMST.
- (d) Was informed about location of 227 Div, and agreed to policy in 6(b) above.

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Brig General SCHUGLI (CATANZARO Area) called and raised the question of two Arty Depots (totalling about 1000 men) who had been ordered by Gen KORBAN to leave VIBO area owing to overcrowding. These depots had arrived here, but officers said that VIBO area was now clear; could they return - Told to stay here pending Comis decision.



Brig General SORJULI (GATANZARO Area) called and raised the question of two Arty Depots (totalling about 1000 men) who had been ordered by Gen KORSHAK to leave VIFD area owing to overcrowding. These depots had arrived here, but officers said that VIFD area was now clear; could they return - Told to stay here pending Comis decision.

—000—

8107



*Copy for R*  
*310/18/10*

Minutes of Conference held at MAIN HQ EIGHTH ARMY  
at 1700 hrs 18 Sep 43 to discuss employment of  
31 Italian Corps.

Present:-

- Chief of Staff, Eighth Army.
- " " "
- EGS.
- Reps of branches concerned.
- Gen. Kirkman 31 Corps Control.
- Lt.-Col. Patten " "

*Sum*  
*Agcd*  
*2/9*

1. Gen Kirkman explained composition and condition of 31 Italian Corps. In general all comas are willing to co-operate but are not in real control of their formations.

2. He stated that the Army Comd's policy for their employment was:-

- (a) To organise two divisions on a reasonably mobile basis. These divisions to consist of pioneer and artisan units for engineer work, signals units for work on comms, and a proportion of labour bns, the whole forming a Corps to follow Eighth Army up carrying out work on comms, under RE and Signals.
- (b) Remainder to be sent to SICILY (to ease adm problem) for work in CATANIA and SYRACUSE areas, less a few units required in CALABRIA.

The question of employing certain units, e.g. AA Regts, in a combatant role depended on the terms of the Armistice. Eighth Army will obtain these from 15 Army Cp.

3. The main problems requiring answers were then discussed, and are set out below:-

4. Personnel.

- (a) Italian soldiers wandering about the country must be got under control. Authority was given for a proclamation to be posted (draft at Annex "A"), and put into effect.

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4. Personnel.

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(b) It was agreed by NLO that 1,000 Naval ratings at CCFRONS should be organized by 31 Corps Control primarily for work in dock area.

5. Tpt.

(a) Collecting all Italian Military Tpt. Can an order be issued that after a certain date all tpt driven by Italian soldiers not in possession of pass will be impounded by BMIA?

(b) May organized military tpt be used to carry civilians back to their homes?

(c) May the opening of civil garages for the repair of military vehicles be authorized?

6. Animals.

(a) 400 horses are available. These are NOT required by BMIA and should be given to farmers to work on land.

(b) 1,000 mules available will be required.

7577



7. Rations.  
( British rations cannot start before 25 Sep. Italians are stated to have rations until 20 Sep. "Q" need NOT alter their date unless a mutiny appears imminent.
8. Works.  
CE Army has all details of road repair requirements. These have been given to Gen. Kirkman by G.I RE.
9. Pay.  
Italian Corps Comi suggests paying tps from funds available in local Banks. Question of whether British or Italian govt are accounting authority presumably laid down in terms of armistice. "A" will look into whole question.
10. Postal.  
Italian soldiers will NOT be allowed to write letters. Divs will prepare nominal rolls by localities which will be posted in public places in towns and villages under AMGOT arrangements, for information of relatives.
11. Medical.  
Much malaria, and shortage of mepacaine.
12. Discipline.  
Court Martial Centre is to be kept open at present.
13. Size of Mission.  
The WE for the BMM was discussed, and SD are taking action.
14. Demands for Assistance from Corps or Branches.  
All demands for work will be submitted direct to 31 Corps Control, or to BMM when they take over.



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EHS.

Dist:-

- Chief of Staff, Light Army.
- BGC.
- DA & QMG.
- G(O)
- G(SD)
- GSI(b)
- AFV
- X
- E
- 4
- Q

-----  
 Rear:- Q (10 copies).  
 -----  
 31 Corps Control (3 copies).

Appx "A" to M 1202 G  
18 Sep 45.

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DRAFT DECLARATION.

In agreement with the British Military Authorities who are occupying the territory of CALABRIA.

I ORDER

1. That all Italian soldiers wherever they are dispersed in the territory of CALABRIA, who having abused or wrongly interpreted the directions of the EZA have left their units, return forthwith.
2. Soldiers should present themselves to the units of which they formed part. In case any soldier does not know the location of his unit, or if the unit is not in CALABRIA, he will report to the territorial Carabinieri who will take steps to forward him either to his unit or the nearest Italian Headquarters.

In the meantime it is ordered that

- (a) soldiers of the Mantova Div report to the area between CARLOPOLI and TAVERNA.
- (b) of 211 Div to the area between DECOLLIATURA and S. BERNARDO
- (c) 212 Div to the area between SOVERIA and COLOSIMI



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- (c) 212 Div to the area between SOVERIA and COLOSINI
- (d) 214 Div to the area between S. SEVERINA and PETILLA POLICASTRO
- (e) 227 Div to the area between COSENZA and CASTRO VILLANI

3. Troops must report before :..... (date to give 10-15 days grace.)  
After this date all troops will be arrested by the CARBINIERI and sent to concentration camps arranged by the EMA.

7015

*plus area for Corps only - RE*



0 4 3 9