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AQ/15/11/A Weekly Liaison - Log
Rear - HQ 8 - Army

MARCH 1945

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SUBJECT:- Liaison Log No.17 - Period 1 - 14 Mar 45.

A/53

Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm. AC.
(M.A.I.S.),
c/o Rear H.Q. Eighth Army.

Land Forces Sub Comm. AC.
(M.A.I.S.). S G S 2. (2)

MM/lis
16 Mar 45.

1. ARRIVALS

(a) Units

255 Pack Bde Gp	Polcorps area
266 Pack Coy	" "
267 " "	" "
268 " "	CERVIA "
269 " "	" "
1 G.T. Coy	RIMINI
133 I. Member Coy	PAGO) Malaria Control
134 I. " "	") Duties

(b) Rfts

2 Mar - 356 Pnr rfts ex APRICOLA.
3/4 Mar - 20 Miss stragglers ex APRICOLA.
3 Mar - 69 Pnr rfts ex APRICOLA.
4 Mar - 440 ex SALERNO.
9 Mar - 40 ex TRANI.
9 Mar - 30 ex APRICOLA.
10 Mar - 149 ex POSSEMBRONE.
11 Mar - 11 ex TRANI.
12 Mar - 8 ex APRICOLA.

Out of these :-
240 to Pnr Coys.

2. MOVES

166 I.P. Coy.	PAGNO to S. SANGIORGIO (later RAVENNA)
203 " "	DISCARD to PAGNO.
207 " "	ROCCA S. CASCIANO to BRISIGHELLA.
208 " "	" " " " PAGNO.
209 " "	BRISIGHELLA to S. SEVERINO.
211 " "	[illegible]

Liaison Officer
SD/3.
A
Q.
W.P.

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135 I. Pioneer Coy — PAVO } Malaria Control
134 I. " " " } Battles

(b) Rifts

2 Mar - 356 Pnr rifts ex APRAGONA.
3/4 Mar - 20 Miss stragglers ex APRAGONA.
3 Mar - 39 Pnr rifts ex APRAGONA.
4 Mar - 440 ex BAGHDO.
9 Mar - 40 ex MRSI.
9 Mar - 60 ex APRAGONA.
10 Mar - 149 ex POSSERNROSS.
11 Mar - 11 ex MRSI.
12 Mar - 8 ex APRAGONA.

} Out of these :- 240 to Pnr Corps.

2. MOVES

156 I.R. Coy. — PAVIA to S. [illegible] (later RAVANA)
203 " " — DINGRAN to PAVIA.
207 " " — Medic R. Gaslin to BRISIGHELLA.
208 " " — " " " " PAVIA.
209 " " — BRISIGHELLA to S. [illegible].
211 " " — [illegible] to VIGNOLA.
Bn. I Bn/405 Pnr Regt. — [illegible] to RAVENNA.
201 I.R. Coy. — BRISIGHELLA to PAVO.
Bn. 513 Gd Bn. — RIMINI to VIGNOLA
1 Coy 513 Gd Bn. — RIOSIGNO to 5 Army area.
2 " " " " — Milano to VIGNOLA.
3 " " " " — Milano to 5 Corps area.

3. VISITS AND CONFERENCES

1 Mar - Conference with G(Ops) on future emp of partisans.
Mian Milani arrived and was introduced to Mod.
2 Mar - To AMG re Italian discipline, rifts and welfare.
3 Mar - To 26 BLU at Main and Rear Relcorps.
4 Mar - Conference with AMG and Allied Army re welfare.
To Convalescent Home, Villa di Vergiolesi.
5 Mar - To 1051 GT Coy on general adm.
To 1 AMG re 1051 MT Bn.
7 - 9 Mar - Drive-hunt to 5 Army for liaison on interchange of items, to bring back M.S.I di Milani, and to see Army Italian welfare.
11 Mar - Conference on welfare with AMG Army and Gen. Paolucci.
13 Mar - To 806 Transit Camp to make physical check of rifts and investigate unrest.
Comd Nucleo VI Comando Territoriale visited re expansion of his staff.
To Savigno re name of [illegible]. /14 Mar

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14 Mar - Conference on welfare with Gen. TAKASHI, ADMIN. Lt.Col AI SHAI and Col. NAKAMURTI of 28th Div.

4. [illegible]

(a) We are still trying to obtain authy from ARU for extra 10 grammes of salt for ceserian. Authy received through [illegible] is not considered sufficient for them to take action on.

(b) In the Army area extra ½ oz of olive oil and nuts are not being issued in view of the "Alexander increment" having been extended to 1 Apr. I have explained that an additional ½ oz oil will make the difference between one and two hot meals daily and the subject is being re-opened.

(c) With the arrival of 4½ million WILLS at 6 BSD on 13 Mar, and the collection during the period of a prox 400,000 from BARI by 82d Div I think the situation during March for all tps here will be sound. 82d Div are now collecting from 6 BSD and preparing to distribute to all concerned.

(d) Local Resources Board are unable to help Italian tps to spend the daily 80 lire for improving the ration, consequently only tps who benefit are those in the hills on Route 67 where a certain amount is available for small unit purchases.

5. CLOTHING AND KIT

(a) Releases from PARTHENOCIRT collected by rd and rail 2 and 3 Mar were partly robbed of their value by the fact that shirts were retained for dyeing and that no socks were supplied. Information has since been received that shirts are being despatched undyed.

(b) The additional 12,000 prs of new socks which 12th are shortly to release are eagerly awaited.

(c) News of the arrival of 12 is also awaited; the sun has already reached sufficient heat to make the green dye run in certain cases and units of 82d Div will be glad to know that 12 is actually on the way to their depot.

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BARI by 228 Div I think the situation during March for all tps here will be sound. 228 Div are now collecting from 6 AGD and preparing to distribute to all concerned.

(d) Local Resources Board are unable to help Italian tps to spend the daily 50 lire for improving the ration, consequently only tps who benefit are those in the hills on Route 67 where a certain amount is available for small unit purchases.

5. CLOTHING AND KIT

(a) Releases from PRETORIA/DURBAN collected by 22 and rail S and S Ser were partly robbed of their value by the fact that shirts were retained for dyeing and that no socks were supplied. Information has since been received that shirts are being despatched undyed.

(b) The additional 12,000 prs of new boots which 29B are shortly to release are eagerly awaited.

(c) News of the arrival of LD is also awaited; the sun has already reached sufficient heat to make the green dye run in certain cases and units of 228 Div will be glad to know that LD is actually on the way to their depot.

(d) Gen. TUKASSI has come by a large quantity of Republican khaki material which he is having made locally into handkerchiefs. Estimated production - 4,000 within two days and a further 8,000 in due course. This local production will solve a problem of supply which Gen. TUKASSI brought up to Brigadier STRAUSS as a welfare necessity in the Gruppi.

(e) I am asking 228 Div to make an immediate survey of the tentage and mosquito net situation. Equally, I would be glad to know availability of these items from Base so that Army may have a preview of their commitments to service tps.

(f) Gen. British Leave, 202 Pack Cpt up recently up from POCHEFSTROOM, has made it clear that his boys received a poor allotment of clothing and scant attention from 202 Div; they are reported to be in need of towels, socks, new boots and other articles. In view of the well stocked position of 228 Div depot and the further quantities of clothing shortly to arrive, no difficulty is anticipated in providing these (except, perhaps, most important item - socks maybe); I feel, however, that it would be more satisfactory if units alerted for ops, who have to march forward into the operational area were properly fitted out before departure from the training camp.

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The question of the [illegible] responsibility of [illegible] has been raised on several occasions recently. May all concerned be informed that 20g Div is fully responsible for this Centre?

6. RTS

(a) The fortnightly RTS demand system which started on 10 Apr has given 20g Div considerable trouble, not from the point of view of collecting information which they should have in any case, but from the aspect of having to produce yet another periodical return whose dimensions are astronomical. Tremendous clerical energy is involved and together with the other returns which they have to produce tends to make a small staff relapse in the business of producing paper rather than get out into the country and visit units.

The following queries have arisen from the publication of the first copy: I should be glad of clarification :

(i) Should Pnr and Engr units not be shown as [illegible] figures and let 20g Div with Branch concerned concentrate on the best breakdown below that [illegible] when rtns actually arrive?

(ii) Many columns are now devoted to specialists: could these not be shown in an appendix?

(iii) Could not IPI-IPI units be shown at the bottom of the page, so that the picture for the Div as a whole is clear, and the IPI-IPI Branch concerned acted on only by those who deal with it. Pressure distribution is full enough to include them.

(b) Drafts. Considerable confusion arises when drafts arrive, sometimes in bits and pieces, or less than strength signalled.

I suggest that each draft be given a serial No. at base and that this serial No. together with their identification (Pnrs, Engrs or Sappers, etc.) be used and emphasised throughout their journey up. Then both 20g Div and ourselves will know for which they are intended.

7. [illegible]

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(i) should Bde and Regt units not be shown as in figures and let 28th Div with Greek concerned concentrate on the best breakdown below that as and when ffts actually arrive?

(ii) Many columns are now devoted to specialists: could these not be shown in an Appendix?

(iii) Could not ISI-ISI units be shown at the bottom of the page, so that the picture for the Div as a whole is clear, and the ISI-ISI info concerned acted on only by those who deal with it. Present distribution is full enough to include them.

(b) Drafts. Considerable confusion arises when drafts arrive, sometimes in bits and pieces, or long than strength signalled.

I suggest that each draft be given a serial No. at base and that this serial No. together with their classification (Inf, Engrs or sappers, etc.) be used and emphasised throughout their journey up. Then both 28th Div and ourselves will know for whom they are intended.

7. WELFARE

(a) Several conferences have been held on welfare during the past period, the upshot being that Gen. TAMASIA has discussed fully and frankly with Brig. STAYNER the local situation. With the approval of the Army Comd, Brig. STAYNER is determined that with locally recruited female enterprise, Gen. TAMASELLI's present org will sweep forward with the spring offensive and rapidly net itself up in whatever direction we advance. Gen. TAMASELLI is fully in the picture and has full details of a scheme which he will discuss with AMGOT, ERIA.

(b) Routine Welfare shows, concerts, etc. carry on as before.

8. DISCIPLINE

(a) Four officers of the FRIULI, incl two CC.RR, are accused of black market activity and illegal disposal of US rations. CIS now investigating.

(b) Considerable indignation in Allied HQ was evident when a soldier of the FRIULI was sentenced to only 32 months detn on being found guilty of throwing a bomb at an Allied soldier.

Matter referred to Gen. Falvey. Still waiting for detail from BLU

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(c) Reports from [illegible] on traffic offenders and from [illegible] on illegal movement in forward areas continue to arrive in normal numbers.

(d) A clash between Italians of 606 Transit Camp and Indians on 12 Mar resulted in one killed on either side and the wounding of two [illegible].

(e) Full details of above will be forwarded in monthly Security Reports.

9. COURSES

The following courses excl those purely for [illegible] are being held :-

(a) Water Duties under arrangements 86 (Army) Arty.

(b) Hygiene " " Med. Army.

(c) Vehicle Maint " " R.E. Army.

Of ten officers who recently attended a Malaria Refresher Course at 6 Bal Fa Lab, ANCONA, only one has received an unfavourable report.

10. GENERAL

(a) Capt. [illegible] has been attached since 7 Mar to 26 BLU., att Rear 2 Polish Corps with the assignment of looking after Italian Units with 2 Corps and FRIULI I.S.G.

(b) There is always room at [illegible] Rear Army for visiting officers from HQ whom we should be delighted to see if anyone has a few spare days to visit this area. Daily 'plane service is now in operation between ROME and FORLI as under :-

Flight 354	Flight 355
Leaves ROME 0905	Leaves FORLI 1140
Arrives FORLI 1045	Arrives ROME 1325.

(c) Vehicle Maint " " 2 L. Army.

Of ten officers who recently attended a Veterin Refresher Course at 8 Mel Fd Lab. Ancona, only one has received an unfavourable report.

10. GENERAL

(a) Capt. [illegible] has been attached since 7 Mar to 36 BLD., att Rear 8 Polish Corps with the assignment of looking after Italian Units with Polcorps and FRIULI I.C.G.

(b) There is always room at [illegible] Rear Army for visiting officers from HQ whom we should be delighted to see if anyone has a few spare days to visit this area. A daily 'plane service is now in operation between ROME and FORLI as under :-

Flight 384		Flight 385	
Leaves ROME	0905	Leaves FORLI	1150
Arrives FORLI	1045	Arrives ROME	1330.

Bgcdt.

Major,
Unit 10, Rear Eighth Army.

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