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AQ/20/1 Daily Liaison Log (Maj Baumann) 1st Cover

Opened Feb 10, 1944 Closed Oct. 14, 1944

Feb - Oct. 1944

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Feb 1944/15

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 13/14 Oct 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Attended meeting at MMIA (13 Oct). Present: COC, OXILIA, comd Col PIDLSEY, Lt Col SOUTHALL. Subjects discussed: combat gps - offrs, discipline, staff-work, MT etc. Later, men returning from BALKANS and elsewhere.

Gen SANTI

2. Collected info relating to animals of the PIEMO and MANTOVA Gii(US) Divs, saddlery for same, sources of production of new saddlery, whereabouts of saddlery of 250 Pack Spt Coy and IV and V Pack Btys. Passed to Gii US.

Lt Col DI BITONTO

3. Men of 1914 class called up at FROSINONE:- as a result of new G i instrs issued, these men should go to the combat gps. As they G ii are "over-age" for combat, arranged with DI BITONTO to move them under Italian arrangements to AREA CLA and advise numbers so that necessary adjustments could be made.

4. Rits for combat gps:- in view of difficulties over accn at Rit G i Regt ALIFE, clarified that rit requirements of CREMONA are being met direct up to 600 men, and FRIULI up to 200, thereafter rits Col P will go to Rit Regt where they will be dealt with by MMIA LO on the spot according to circumstances.

Lt Col GUIDA

5. Recpt of AOSTA Div: this was completed by 1 Oct. Now awaiting Gii(OS arrival of Div HQ and other elements from SARDINIA.

6. AOSTA and SABAUDA Divs:- far from there being a surplus as the 2 i/c result of recpt of these two Divs, the Mil Hqs SICILY estimates G i a global deficit of 2000 men. A written application is on its way to allow them to recruit the necessary rits in SICILY from the 1924 and 1925 classes, and request for necessary clothing. A/Q

1762

Gen SANTI and Col CHIAVARINO

Collected info relating to estimated loss in strength for Italian G i

are over-age [illegible]
them under Italian arrangements to [illegible] and advise number
so that necessary adjustments could be made.

4. Rits for combat bns:- in view of difficulties over seen at Rit Rgt ALIFE, clarified that rit requirements of CREMONA are being met direct up to 600 men, and FRIULI up to 200, thereafter rits will go to Rift Regt where they will be dealt with by MMIA LO on the spot according to circumstances. — G i — Col P

Lt Col GUIDA
5. Reorg of AOSTA Div: this was completed by 1 Oct. Now awaiting arrival of Div HQ and other elements from SARDINIA. — Giii(CS

6. AOSTA and SFAUDA Divs:- far from there being a surplus as the result of reorg of these two dvns, the Mil Mis SICILY estimates a global deficit of 2000 men. A written application is on its way to allow them to recruit the necessary rits in SICILY from the 1924 and 1925 classes, and request for necessary clothing. — 2 i/c — G i — i/c

1762

Gen SANTI and Col CHIAVARINO
Collected info relating to ec limited loss in strength for Italian Army during coming months. — G i

Gen BUTTA
8. Collected details relating to depots, districts etc. — G i

9. Call-up in CAMPANIA, FOGGIANO etc:- this has now been put back and is scheduled to commence 30 Oct. — G i — G ii

10. Call-up in ROME:- a concerted drive is being organized to round up the defaulters who failed to present themselves during the recent call-up. This will commence 20 Oct. The recruiting staff att'd CERSETT will accordingly be required to remain on there until the end of the month. — G i

Lt Col CILIBRI
11. Est of SMG:- followed up G/11/1 [illegible] 5 Oct for an answer: It is understood the OKILI is dealing with the matter personally. Will chase at first opportunity. — comd

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A/C

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S H A E F 10 Oct 44

Lt Col SAMPÒ

1. Requested him to arrange for the necessary demands for tpt to be sent in in respect of the move of MANTOVA and PICENO Divs to conc areas. To be based on present strength and to excl the four gp bns on loan to Allied fmns. G ii

Col CHIAVARINO

2. Ref previous para, CHIAVARINO pointed out that the question of the mules and horses of the two divs has still to be settled, and until they were disposed of several hundred men of the fmns would be tied up looking after the animals. G i G ii

3. 3rd San Marco Bn:- the men of this unit are already overdue at the conc area of the FOLGORE Div; requests that tpt be completed as soon as possible. G i

Lt Col CILIENI

4. Requested further ten copies of the map of proposed territorial comd HQs.

Gen OXILIA

5. Additional twelve interpreters urgently needed for trg of of FRIULI Gp:- infd OXILIA that trg programme was being jeo/pardized by shortage of interpreters with tech/nical ability. If necessary they can make do with civilians. He promised to see to the matter at once. Col P

6. Further gen discussion on the following:-
- men being repatriated from the BALKANS;
- regulations governing leave for Italian tps and steps being taken to get the matter on a more satisfactory basis;

Gen SANTI

7. Italian LO's for SHAEF:- he has found two to date. There is a definite crisis in LO's at the moment - see para 5 above. G ii US

Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI

8. Requested that vet offr be posted at once to 13 Pack Tpt Coy [illegible]

Lt Col GIBERT

4. Requested further ten copies of the map of proposed territorial comd HQs.

Gen OXILIA

5. Additional twelve interpreters urgently needed for trg of Col P
of FRIULI Gp:- infd OXILIA that trg programme was being jeo/perdized by shortage of interpreters with tech/mical ability. If necessary they can make do with civilians. He promised to see to the matter at once.

6. Further gen discussion on the following:-
- men being repatriated from the BALKANS;
- regulations governing leave for Italian tps and steps being taken to get the matter on a more satisfactory basis;

Gen SANTI

7. Italian LO's for SHAEF:- he has found two to date. There is Gii US
a definite crisis in LO's at the moment - see para 5 above.

Lt Col KOCHOWANSKI

8. Requested that vet offr be posted at once to 13 Pack Tpt Coy 2 i/c
with 5 Army.

Capt DELLA COSTA

9. WE of 4c bn:- requested that adjustment be made to number of SORE
offrs at Bn HQ and Coys. He will be sending in revised draft.

Gen OXILIA

10. Accompanied OXILIA to meeting with Displaced Persons Sub- comd
Commission. Present Lt Col FOTHERGILL, Lt Col OLIVER.
Result of discussion referred to Gi . G i

1761

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Dr A/8

SECRET

LIAISON WITH G E R E 8/9 Oct 44

1.	Gen OXILIA Col BALBARCTTI:- info him of action being taken to secure repatriation of this PW.	comd
2.	Gen PICCINI Gino:- info him that this offr (who is waiting to return from the Balkans) has asked for an order from the War Ministry sanctioning his departure from ALBANIA. Requested OXILIA to send us the order for onward transmission via Force 399.	G i
3.	1000 men returning shortly from the Balkans:- info OXILIA that they would be from Cefalonia and Zante; query - is there any foundation to the report that they will be landing at BARI, and not at TARANTO or BRINDISI as originally reported ? OXILIA info of action being taken with regard to clothing.	comd A/Q G i
4.	Sick and convalescent men back from the Balkans, and now in civilian hospe:- OXILIA is extremely worried about the plight of these people, who now number about 2000. They are men too ill to go home, or men with homes in enemy occupied territory. They are quartered on civilian scale rations. There are no clothes for them. As far as the Italian Govt is concerned they are a mil commitment; for the Allies they are a civil responsibility. The Italian Red Cross has no assets. Forgetting the ethical background, it is obvious that something will have to be done by somebody. OXILIA makes a strong plea for guidance from MAIA on strictly humanitarian grounes. He cannot get satisfaction from anyone else.	comd A/Q DADOS
5.	Replacement and trg centres:- requested OXILIA to have a scheme prepared in rough outline for dealing with the 5000 odd rtds eventually required for the FFI. FFI category. Specified that the centres should be convenient ~~for~~ for comms and trg, NOT in any large town, but suitably close to an area where the tos could be employed on reconstruction or ol work during the time they were not on trg. About three or four such centres would be required.	21/c G i A/Q
6.	Ips of Slav origin in ALBANIA:- info OXILIA that 1400 of	G i

4. Sick and convalescent men [illegible] civilian hospe:- GAILIA is extremely worried about the plight of these people, who now number about 2000. They are men too ill to go home, or men with homes in enemy occupied territory. They are housed on civilian scale rations. There are no clothes for them. As far as the Italian Govt is concerned they are a mil commitment; for the Allies they are a civil responsibility. The Italian Red Cross has no assets. Forgetting the ethical background, it is obvious that something will have to be done by somebody. GAILIA makes a strong plea for guidance from AMIA on strictly humanitarian grounds. He cannot get satisfaction from anyone else. A/G DA DMS

5. Replacement and tr centres:- requested GAILIA to have a scheme prepared in rough outline for dealing with the 3000 odd Brits eventually required for the TRT- TRT category. Specified that the centres should be convenient Xrax for trans and trg, NOT in any large town, but suitably close to an area where the tps could be employed on reconstruction or rd work during the time they were not on trg. About three or four such centres would be required. A/G

6. Tps of slav origin in SARDINIA:- Info GAILIA that 1400 of these men would very likely have to be moved to the mainland; queried how this would affect their present policy, in view of order given by SHUMILI that such tps would not proceed to the mainland. G i

1760

Lt Col DI GIROLAMO

7. Up to 3 inst, 746 men of the 1920 class recalled to the colours in CAMPANIA had been handed over to 212 Div (rec'd). G ii

Count CASATI

8. Call-up in LAZIO:- expressed some anxiety about tpt for the men called up at FROSINONE and LITTORIA. The men enrolled on the first three days were still under training. This is making it difficult for them to prevent the men from getting away, and tends to discourage the men due to report on later dates. Explained the unexpected difficulty over broken bridges, and that everything was being done to deal with the situation. COMC G i

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A/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 6-8 Oct 44

6 Oct

1. To VITERBO with G i and Col FIORE VERNAZZA to investigate the arrangements made for the call-up which commenced 5 Oct. Org appeared adequate, but only small numbers of men were presenting themselves in this district. Stressed with FIORE the need for prompt action on the part of the CARABINIERI in respect of those who failed to report. The experience gained in LAZIO region should prove invaluable for subsequent call-ups. Some of these districts cover a biggish area, and if one or two hy vehs can be attached to the district they can be used for ferrying recruits from outlying towns and villages. In the case of VITERBO some of the men have to travel up to 60 kms. — 2 i/c, G i, A/Q

7 Oct

Gen GARIBALDI

2. Shoulder flashes for combat grps:- warned him of small change which has to be made in the FRANCI flash. — Col P

3. Requested production of special article required by PWB in connection with anniversary of Italy's declaration of war against Germany - 13 Oct. This was delivered in the afternoon and forwarded to RE&D of PWB. — comd

4. Info him of approval in gen terms to proposal for call-up in PUGLIA and CAMPANIA to commence 27 Oct approx. Detailed plan is being worked out and will be submitted 8 Oct. — 2 i/c, G i, A/Q

Lt Col DI BITONTO

5. Approved his proposal to transfer 274 specialists from I L Regts to Combat grps. Surplus personnel of 1914 class ex gruppi to be used as replacements - to be transported by SMRE and delivered to IRL units before the specialists are removed. — G i, Col P

6. Discussed with G i the method proposed for recording daily the activities of the recruiting centres and info DI BITONTO exactly what was wanted. — G i

1759

...ified for combat grps:- following was the situa-

Gen CRILLI

2. Shoulder flashes for combat gps:- warned him of small change which has to be made in the FRI LI flash. — Col P

3. Requested production of special article required by PWB in connection with anniversary of Italy's declaration of war against Germany - 13 Oct. This was delivered in the afternoon and forwarded to READ of PWB. — cond

4. Info him of approval in gen terms to proposal for call-up in FOGGIANO and CAMPANIA to commence 20 Oct approx. Detailed plan is being worked out and will be submitted 8 Oct. — 2 i/c G i A/Q

Lt Col DI BITONTO

5. Approved his proposal to transfer 274 specialists from IPL Regts to Combat gps. Surplus personnel of 1914 class ex gruppi to be used as replacements - to be transported by SNRE and delivered to IPL units before the specialists are removed. — G i Col P

6. Discussed with G i the method proposed for recording daily the activities of the recruiting centres and info DI BITONTO exactly what was wanted. — G i

1759

7. Patriots recruited for combat gps:- following was the situation at 3 Oct: — G i

- FLORENCE : men already moved and who will have been moved by 7 Oct ... 140 - 170
- ANCONA : ditto ... 150

a further 300 - 350 are anticipated from ANCONA.

When he has finished at ANCONA Maj CASARA will be going to PESARO.

8 Oct

Count CASATI

8. Handed personally to the Minister GOC's letter in connection with 5ª Op Gerri L. — comd

Gen BUTTA

9. Gen discussion on the subject of Districts and Depots, their relation with available man-power and size of the army. — comd

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 4 - 5 Oct 44

4 Oct
Count CASATI

1. Accompanied GOC. Following subjects were discussed: comd
- poem of Duke of AOSTA;
- epuration and promotions of senior offrs: SMG's activities;
- call-up in ROMA: action being taken in respect of men who do not report;
- Internal Security tps, Sicilian poem, Carabinieri;
- Territorial org, Depots and Districts.

X.

5 Oct

2. GAILLI returned from his visit to APULIA, during the course of which he visited numerous camps containing ex-repatriated from the Balkans, incl many men from his old div. All these men have been brought back on account of sickness. Those who are recovering and wish to continue fighting he has directed be posted to the combat tps, especially the specialists. But GAILLI is very worried about the wretched state of the majority, more particularly their clothing, or lack of clothing. Through other channels he has made a special request to be allowed to use 5000 darkbrown uniforms which the Army has had in stock for some time - he stated they were firemens unif reqd, or for some such purpose. comd

3. Brought GAILLI up-to-date on various matters handled during his absence:- comd
- meeting with CASATI (in very good terms);
- 1000 men expected back from MONTENEGRO about 15 Oct;
- call-up in APULIA;
- further call-up to be orgd to produce 15000 men, to commence about 20 Oct;
- absenteeism and lack of action on the part of the Army Ministry;
- SOLDATI, and choice of a second correspondent;

4. Collected from GAILLI sample flashes for the six combat tps and BLU's. Col P

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recovering and wish to continue fighting. He has directed be posted to the combat ops, especially the specialists. But CAILLIA is very worried about the wretched state of the majority, more particularly their clothing, or lack of clothing. Through other channels he has made a special request to be allowed to use 5000 darkbrown uniforms which our Army has had in stock for some time - he stated they were firemens uniforms, or for some such purpose.

3. Brought CAILLIA up-to-date on various matters handled during his absence:- Comd
- meeting with CASSIT (in very open terms);
- 1000 men expected back from MONTENEGRO about 15 Oct;
- call-up in LAZIO;
- further call-up to be ord'd to produce 15000 men, to commence about 20 Oct;
- absenteeism and lack of action on the part of the War Ministry;
- SOLARI, and choice of a second correspondent;

4. Collected from CAILLIA sample flashes for the six combat ops and BLO's. Col P

5. CAILLIA had also visited FIORIO Div, which is getting on with its recg and trg. Everyone very keen. A request is made for 40 sets and a couple of Allied vehs for initial trg. Col P

1758

Gen SANTI

6. Col GRIGLIO, head of the Personnel Branch SMRE, has at last been replaced. New man is Col CALLIERO. Internal battle now going on as to functions of this office, which has latterly taken on duties properly the function of the War Ministry. SMRE Personnel Branch should only handle matters relating to Staff Officers (officials at State Magazine). Appointments etc of all other offrs are the responsibility of the War Ministry. G iii(I)

7. 3rd San Marco (Marine) Bn:- SANTI quite satisfied that this unit is well in hand. 650 men on the way from three pts, and a further 200 avrs trg in TARANTO. Col P

Lt Col DI GIROLAMO

8. ~~XXXXXXXXX~~ CERSA and CERSETI screening agencies:- G ii
Requested gen info on activities to date and number of patriots enrolled.

785120

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S.F.H.Q. 1 - 3 Oct 44

Lt Col CILIENI

1. Passed to him for CAILLI info concerning arrival of 1000 men from MONTENEGRO per Balkan Air Force, scheduled for middle Oct in RAINGSI or PARENTO area. Arrangements will have to be made to receive the men, send them on leave for 2/3 weeks, and then draft them immediately into the combat grps. — comd, 2 i/c, Col P, G i, A/Q

2. CAILLI is now expected back evening of 4 Oct.

Col DE WINCHELIS

3. Arranged meeting for 0900 with Gen Minister Supply hrs 4 Oct.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

4. Requested info on proceedings against men failing to present themselves for the call-up in ROME. — comd

5. Attended meeting on clothing for CCRR. Present from War Ministry: Gen PESCHIERI, Lt Col MARIANI; representing CCRR Col DELLA CHIESA. — 2 i/c

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

6. Instrs issued by Mil Mn SARDINI that no men of slav origin be moved to the mainland: requested source of this instr. — G ii

Lt Col CILIENI

7. Requested him to be good enough to have further ten copies produced of War Ministry map with proposals for ~~Militia~~ Territorial Mns. Promised for the morning. — G i

Lt Col DI SILVIO

8. 400 MT personnel from SARDINIA:- 100 of these were earmarked for combat grps, and the remainder for 2 Dist. Info by sig from BARI indicates that actual split has been made as follows: — G i, G ii

- 1097 MT Coy		150
- 1096 " "	rifle	30
- 1098 " "		217

5. Attended meeting on clothing for CCRR. Present from War Ministry: Gen [illegible], Lt Col [illegible]; representing CCRR Col DELLA CHIESA. — 2 i/c

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

6. Instrs issued by Mil H. QUARTER that no men of disv ord in be moved to the maintenance requested source at this instr. — G ii

Lt Col CILIERI

7. Requested aim to be good enough to have further ten copies produced of War Ministry map with proposals for ~~xisxixtxxx~~ Territorial Bns. Promised for the morning. — G i

Lt Col DI [illegible]

8. 400 MT personnel from [illegible]:- 100 of these were earmarked for combat bns, and the remainder for 2 Dist. Info by sig from BARI indicates that actual split has been made as follows: — G i / G ii

- 1007 GT Coy		150
- 1006 " "	rifle	30
- 1008 " "		217

total arrived 4 offrs 397 ors.
To compensate for the loss of these 100 avrs, it is proposed to transfer the output of the Italian BARI avrs course to the FRIULI, approx 120 men. These were intended for 1007 GT Coy. — 1757

9. 121 avrs have been transferred to FRIULI from CASERTA course, and a further course will be started shortly. — G ii

Col CHITTARINO

10. Personnel of IV and V Bdes Italy Spec:- SCRU sig was based on our SD/13/4 of 3 Sep. — G ii

11. Ordre for 250 Rock Tot Coy:- while this unit is quite capable of running itself, SCRU feel that for dupe and liaison with Allied units the usual ordre is most useful. — G ii

12. Hits for rly units:- they are sole to tap special sources based on info available to the SCRU T t Branch. It is suggested that they be given carte blanche to recruit whatever hits are needed for list 2, when and where they can. — G ii

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A/Q SECRET 423rd

LIAISON WITH S M B E 27 - 30 Sep 44

Gen CAILLIA

1. Away on a visit to APULIA. Expected back 2/3 Oct — comd

Maj PERNOLA

2. Visited CERRETI recruiting centre, and discussed situation there at some length with Col DONADONI, OC, and Maj PERNOLA. Latter is submitting some figures on operations to date, which will be included in short report on the activities of this recruiting centre. — G 1

3. While at CERRETI saw the arrival of the first 80 volunteers from FLORENCE. A keen lot of fellows. — Col P

4. Specialists for CAPUA Engr Depot:- the men initially sent to CAPUA were recalled by special card and the available specialists in ROME screened to the extent of by this means. Since the call up has been by classes, the classes recalled to date — G i SCRE

Lt Col CILIERI

5. Arrangements in connection with War Correspondent SOLDATI - clothing, rations, pass etc. — comd Giii(I)

Col MICALETTI

6. Two film units have been operating at the front with the "CIL", strength of each three all ranks and one veh. The films taken while the CIL was in the line have been handed over to Allied authorities for transmission to London. SMRE hope to have them back some day. Meantime MICALETTI wants to attach the two units to the combat gps and continue the same arrangement. Request approval and query in which category the six all ranks will appear. — G i — Col P

Maj PERCOLA

7. On 17 Sep PERCOLA requested the apprehension of 16 ors in — comd

2 i/c

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in RO E screened to the extent of by this means. Since SO E
the call up has been by classes, the classes recalled to date

Lt Col CILIERI

5. Arrangements in connection with War Correspondent SOLDATI - comd
clothing, rations, pass etc. Gili(I)

Col MICALETTI

6. Two film units have been operating at the front with the "CIL", G i
strength of each three all ranks and one veh. The films taken
while the CIL was in the line have been handed over to Allied
authorities for transmission to London. SMRE hope to have them
back some day. Meantime MICALETTI wants to attach the two units Col P
to the combat spa enu continue the same arrangement. Request
approval and query in which category the six all ranks will appear.

Maj PERCOLA

7. On 17 Sep PERCOLA requested the apprehension of 18 ors in comd
connection with the call-up and that they be brought before 4 i/c
the special mil tribunal. The necessary instrs were issued 1756
by the Ministry to the COMR HQ on 18 Sep. Up to 30 Sep
not one of the men involved had been produced. Investigating
the matter with the Ministry.

Gen BERNARDI

8. Stated that his staff offrs were complaining that the new system comd
of centralisation was becoming too bureaucratic and much time
being wasted thereby. In certain respects this complaint appears
fully justified. Promised to discuss the matter with CAILLA
on his return.

Gen CANTI

9. Re re proposals for the six combat grps:- CAILLA had stated that comd
he wanted to see these before they were sent to the mission. In
view of his absence for several days requested CANTI to send
them in straight away.

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Ch 2804 A/10

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SHAPE 23-26 Sep 44

Maj MAIOCCHI

1. Attended meeting at NMIA (23 Sep) to examine certain aspects of the strength state of 19 Sep. MAIOCCHI was present from SHAF to answer questions. He made notes of those he couldn't answer, and other pts to be watched in subsequent states. 2i/c G i G iii

Gen ORILIA

2. Info rec'd (24 Sep) of above meeting, and of following important matters which require attention: 2i/c G i G iii
- ceilings for categories NT to be raised by attachments;
- attachments and detachments within fmns and units to be watched; cited certain instances of HQs in combat zone;
- surplus personnel in category 6 to be made available for effective employment;
- irregular situation with regard to SARDINIAN figures.

ORILIA in full agreement on above, and had already taken action in some cases. The C of S of the SARDINIAN HQ has been placed under arrest, according to ORILIA, for his failure with the strength return.

3. GOLDATI:- requested ORILIA about the poss of this newspaper correspondent, one of the two appointed originally for the CIL. ORILIA fully agrees with COC's idea of sending him to report on Italian units engaged on all types of activities, and promises to make arrangements accordingly. From pte sources, however, it is learned that GOLDATI is NOT interested in reporting other than "front line" news. comd Cili(I)

Gens ORILIA and TRA

4. Detailed discussion on proposals for mil acts required NORTH of NAPLES. comd

5. Combat zone:- requested ORILIA to give some thought to the choice of a collective name for the six combat zones, similar to CIL but with the stress on "combat" rather than "liberation". Col P

OXILIA in full agreement on above, and has already taken action in some cases. The C of S of the BARDIANI HQ has been placed under arrest, according to OXILIA, for his failure with the strength return.

3. SOLDATI:- requested OXILIA about the posn of this newspaper correspondent, one of the two appointed originally for the CIL. OXILIA fully agrees with GOC's idea of sending him to report on Italian units engaged on all types of activities, and promises to make arrangements accordingly. From ote sources, however, it is learned that SOLD'TI is NOT interested in reporting other than "front line" news. — comd Giii(I)

Gens OXILIA and P TM

4. Detailed discussion on proposals for mil ents required NORTH of NAPLES. — comd

5. Combat gps:- requested OXILIA to give some thought to the choice of a collective name for the six combat gps, similar to CIL but with the stress on "combat" rather than "liberation". Requested also what progress being made with gp signs, and discussed some form of simplified flash for the BLU's. — Col P

1755

6. Patriots:- info him of report which has reached GOC that patriots were now agitating to join combat units, as formed bodies under their own existing offrs. Discussed various aspects, political blocks, our situation etc. OXILIA feels very strongly about the matter and will NOT hear of it. His views coincide with GOC's. He will speak to the Minister. — comd

7. With Col PIDGLEY for discussion on combat gps. — Col P.

8. Regular offrs and ncos:- these will naturally have priority over reserve personnel for available postings, and reserve offrs and ncos will be demobilised as vacancies are needed. At the moment the War Ministry has little or no idea of the numbers of regulars in the country; suggested that a study be made, which he is now having done. The problem can then be considered as a whole. — comd 2 i/c G 1

9. Lt Col DI PIZZONTO:- Info him of availability in TARANTO of 8 offrs and 70 ors, Balloon unit personnel remnant from disbanded unit. May be used as for next FRANCAVILLA course. — G ii SO Sigs

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A/Q (E)

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 22 Sep 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Org of Districts etc NORTH of ROME: Gen situation discussed at length. Reiterated Allied policy with regard to staffing of mil ests with civilian personnel; OXILIA stressed difficulty of making sudden break between mil personnel and civilian personnel, as opposed to gradual changeover. They are having considerable difficulty over pay for civilians, and the Treasury is withholding pensions of mil personnel re-employed. OXILIA would like to see at least one offr sanctioned for each of the 247 districts. — comd, 2 i/c, A/Q, G i

2. 906 Lav Artieri Coy:- Discussed report submitted by 3 Dist. OXILIA gave orders for Cdo Mil CAMPANIA to implement the proposals contained in para 4 of Lt Col BLANCO's report, and to apply to the Ministry for any help needed in this connection. — G i, SORE

3. 300 youths in CORSICA volunteering to fight with Italian Army: While protesting as to the Italian nationality of these men OXILIA sees our pt with regard to the complications of tpt and a political nature; he would like a short reply in writing to this effect, turning the proposal down. — G ii

4. Italian Mission to TITO:- OXILIA would be grateful for a decision as soon as possible on this proposal. His urgency is based on the likely precipitating of events in the Balkans and the approach of winter. — com

5. C-in-C's visit to BENEVENTO:- infd him that this had been postponed for the time being - he will inform BERARDI. — Col P

6. Call-up in LAZIO:- conveyed formal authority to proceed with this call-up soonest to produce up to 14,000 men. Earliest they can start is 5 Oct. Allocation of men called-up to be settled prior to this date. Stressed with OXILIA need for ensuring proper barrack accn and escorts to avoid absenteeism. Reminded him of M of W's responsibilities in the matter of clothing and rations. — comd, 2 i/c, A/Q, G i

1754

Gen SANTI

7. 1000 Alpini being recalled in ABRUZZI:- Infm in PELLIGRA's — A/Q

3. 300 youths in CORSICA volunteering to fight [illegible] While protesting as to the Italian nationality of these men OXILIA sees our pt with regard to the complications of tpt and a political nature; he would like a short reply in writing to this effect, turning the proposal down.

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1754

Gen SANTI

7. 1000 Alpini being recalled in ABRUZZI:- Infm in PELLIGRA's letter is NOT correct. Reminded him that recruits are NOT to remain at AQUILA. Tpt to be arranged between ALIFE and AQUILA by SMRE; vehs to take necessary rations up with them. Recruits to be brought down daily. A/Q

8. Recruits from Air Force:- 4 offrs, 4 ncos and 134 men waiting to move from BARI. To settle the matter once and for all agreed that these could be moved to FOLGORE under Italian arrangements. Letter to be sent to MORICI with copy to MMIA stating unequivocally that these men would be used as rifts and split up among all units of the fmn. This concludes the matter, and no further Air Force personnel to be accepted. comd 2i/c Col P

9. Small band for "A" mess: made necessary arrangements for 24 Sep for 5-man band. SANTI and MICALETTI very helpful. G ii making final ~~matters~~ arrangements. Comd G i

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785920

Gen SANTI
10. Interpreters and LO's:- These offrs and noo's are included in SMRE strength state in category 5, under "SIM" — G iii, G iii(I)

11. Engr personnel in SARDINIA:- requested SANTI to ascertain how many surplus engr personnel there are (as opposed to sigs) available in SARDINIA for shipment to mainland. — SORE

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI
12. Requested infm on availability of 81mm mortar bomb parts reported to be in area ROME. He promised to phone the infm before 0930 hrs 23 Sep. — G ii

Lt Col DI BITONTO
13. 130 men are required for Italian driving course at BARI (one of a series) commencing 1 Oct. He wants to know if those men among the 300 MT personnel from SARDINIA (for 2 Dist) who cannot drive can be earmarked for the course. — G ii

14. 1919 classes (and earlier) in CAMPANIA:- it would appear that contrary to previous impression the 1920 class is NOT the last to be called up in NAPLES region, but that men of 1919 to 1914 classes still have to be called up there. It is suggested that authority be given for these call-ups to be proceeded with in immediate succession, as personnel will be required for replacements of congendandi in PBS and 3 Dist. Estimated availability per class is 2000, which should be reduced by 1/3 for exemptions. — 2 i/c, G i

15. Requested infm on personnel produced by call-up of '20 class in CAMPANIA, CALABRIA and APULIA. The op will not be completed until 30 Sep and the figures will then be available. Stressed that the men were not to be collected at the depots and held, but handed over day by day to the Allied fmns as arranged. — G ii

16. 1035/36 GT Coys:- instructed him to despatch the 250 dvrs forthwith to FRIULI, and to make the remainder of the personnel [illegible] for PBS. — G iii

of a series) commencing [illegible] among the 300 MT personnel from SARDINIA (for 2 Dist) who cannot drive can be earmarked for the course.

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15. Requested infm on personnel produced by call-up of '20 class in CAMPANIA, CALABRIA and APULIA. The op will not be completed until 30 Sep and the figures will then be available. Stressed that the men were not to be collected at the depots and held, but handed over day by day to the Allied fmns as arranged. — G ii

16. 1035/36 CT Coys:- instructed him to despatch the 250 dvrs forthwith to FRIULI, and to make the remainder of the personnel available for PBS. — G iii

Gen OXILIA

17. Tps on leave in NAPLES trying to go to SARDINIA:- reminded him of instrs that noone is allowed to proceed on leave to the islands. OXILIA was quite definite that this order had been passed on to territorial HQs some time ago. He promised to look into the matter at once. — 2 i/c

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A/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 20/21 Sep 44

CERSETI

1. Visited the Rome recruiting centre and spoke Maj PERCOLA. 2 i/c
Personnel of "CERSETI" is entirely engaged on interviewing G i
personnel recalled to the colours and resulting documenta- A/Q
tion. CERSETI itself does not run a transit camp, nor are there facilities for putting up tps, QM stores etc.
A det of 210 Div (about 20 all ranks) occupies a large barrack at the same address, but apart from the building there are no other facilities, such as bedding, cooking facilities. Furthermore, PERCOLA states that the barracks are such that it is not possible to prevent people coming in and out without a substantial gd, which they do not now have. Owing to uncertainties of tpt from day to day recruits are told to go home and come again next morning to see if the tpt has turned up.

2. Count CASATI comd
Conveyed message from GOC in connection with serving tps of Croat and Slovene origin. Requested his opinion in writing. Subsequently infd OXILIA that reply no longer required as matter had been settled pro tem.

Lt Col INGLEDEW
3. Accompanied Gi to War Ministry and introduced to OXILIA, comd
SANTI (Deputy C of S), CHIAVARINO (Col i/c SD Branch), FERRARI (Col i/c Trg Branch).

Gen OXILIA
4. Passed to him personal comm from GOC for Minister in connec- comd
tion with "B" mess.

5. Regimental HQs for gd bns:- G i discussed with SANTI. G ii
Agreed six HQs ex SARDINIA as provisionally planned - to count against category 5(f).

Gen SANTI

1759

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2. Count CASATI — comd
Conveyed message from GOC in connection with serving tps of Croat and Slovene origin. Requested his opinion in writing. Subsequently infd OXILIA that reply no longer required as matter had been settled pro tem.

Lt Col INGLEDEW
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Gen OXILIA
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5. Regimental HQs for gd bns:- G i discussed with SANTI. Agreed six HQs ex SARDINIA as provisionally planned - to count against category 5(f). — G ii

Gen SANTI
6. 214 muleteer rfts for 5 Army:- SANTI could only confirm that this party (4 offrs, 238ors) passed through ROME sta 30 Aug, departing in the train leaving ROME 1700 hrs. Since then they have heard nothing further. — G iii

Capt DELLA CORNA
7. Gd bns:- ref log 17/18 Sep para 2, enquired whether est is to be based on HD or MT tpt. Infd him horsed tpt. — G ii

Gen SANTI
8. Saddlers ex NAPLES:- SANTI greatly regrets that a mistake was made here, and that the infm previously given (log 3/4 Sep para 5) was incorrect. There are no saddlers available in NAPLES at the moment, nor has it been possible to start the new course yet. They are recalling the five saddlers notified in ROME and chasing the details of saddlers and farriers ex CTL. — G iii

1752

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1675

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

O

CO Shipley

Re Item 5

NFA

Nl

This matter taken up with Nl Bowman who agreed to give (AE) a figure of recruiters who could be called up in event they will Henceforth be returned to Area

A/Q G

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 19 Sep 44

Col BALANZINO

1. PIRELLI Works, TERNI:- Infd him that the buildings had been taken over by I Dist after negotiations with Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission, and would be used as conc camp for civilian prisoners. There was no question of the place being available for MT Wksp from MESAGNE. If it is the War Ministry's proposal to move this wksp further north it will have to be the subject of discussion with MMIA before the new site is decided on. (Infd also OXILIA) A/Q

Maj TAGLIONE

2. 69 Cp Telegrafisti:- with the disbandment of the AA units in SARDINIA the above sig unit becomes redundant. SMRE propose concentrating the unit at CAGLIARI and using the personnel (about 300 all ranks) as rfts for combat gps. It is requested therefore that the unit be included in early shipment from SARDINIA. G i G ii

1751

Lt Col DI BITONTO

3. CERSETI:- ref para 6 log 17/18 Sep, the 200 engr rfts for 210 Div duly arrived at the recruiting centre this morning and were handed over to 210 Div rep. Tpt had been arranged to collect them at 1400 hrs. By 1130 hrs 165 of the men had marched out of the gate, with their rifles, and presumably are now back in their homes, since they are all men recruited in ROME. 2 i/c G i

4. 1035/6 CT Coys:- These two units were mobilised for ACC on 19 Jun and it is reported from NAPLES that they have never been utilised. It is not clear whether this means that they have never driven any vehs or that they have not been employed at all. The two coys are stationed in a small village nr NAPLES; present strength 357 all ranks, incl 250 dvrs. If it is not the intention to employ these units for driving, SMRE would like to use the dvrs as rfts for FRIULI Div. Requested 2 i/ G i

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Lt Col DI BITONTO

3. CERSETI:- ref para 6 log 17/18 Sep, the 200 engr rifts for 210 Div duly arrived at the recruiting centre this morning and were handed over to 210 Div rep. Tpt had been arranged to collect them at 1400 hrs. By 1130 hrs 165 of the men had marched out of the gate, with their rifles, and presumably are now back in their homes, since they are all men recruited in ROME. — 2 i/c G i

4. 1035/6 GT Coys:- These two units were mobilised for ACC on 19 Jun and it is reported from NAPLES that they have never been utilised. It is not clear whether this means that they have never driven any vehs or that they have not been employed at all. The two coys are stationed in a small village nr NAPLES; present strength 357 all ranks, incl 250 dvrs. If it is not the intention to employ these units for driving, SHAEF would like to use the dvrs as rifts for FRIULI Div. Requested DI BITONTO to find out why the Italian HQs in NAPLES had taken three mos to make this situation known. — 2 i/c G i

5. 68 or rifts for ACC HQ:- the 68 men recruited in ROME, which ACC finally agreed to take off CERSETI's hands to-day, are now found to be in civilian clothes, since CERSETI states there are no uniforms on hand. — G i A/Q

Gen SANTI

6. Submitted to him latest strength returns of ~~FRIULI~~ FRIULI Div and pointed out that while strength was slowly climbing, there was still an alarming number struck off the strength each day. During the past five days the figures have been: 140 - 23- 72 - 24 - 92. He could not explain the matter, but will refer figures to BERARDI and look into the question immediately. — comd Col P

Gen BERARDI

7. 188 muleteer rifts for 5 Army:- these men of 1921 class are awaiting tpt north to complete four pack tpt units for 5 Army. When the moment came to put the men on the train 60 or so were missing awl. — 2 i/c G i

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Gen BERARDI

8. Had a short chat with BERARDI outside the Minister's office. Found him very dispirited with the events of the past few days. All symptoms point to a rapidly approaching major crisis in the Italian Army. Discipline is going by the board, absenteeism growing daily, and the authorities unable apparently to get the matter under control. BERARDI complained that their strength had been so cut and their org broken up that they were no longer in a pcsn to take the necessary action. Specific cases mentioned were:- comd 2 i/c G i A/Q

- Engr rits who marched out of CHIETI this morning; (para 3)
- Muleteer rits who failed to leave for 5 Army (para 7). In this connection, BERARDI stated that a Br or US Maj had infd SOLDARELLI that he would be considered personally responsible for the absence of these men. BERARDI stated that SOLDARELLI had visited the depot personally and given the necessary orders, but that this could not prevent this sort of thing happening.
- Fall in strength of FRIULI Div (para 6). BERARDI thought that a good part of this will probably be found to be absenteeism.
- Refusal on the part of the Allies to recognise the urgent need for Internal Security tps (this with ref to the temper of the people as evidenced by yesterday's lynching in ROME). The Allied decision to reduce tps in SICILY , while the Italian Govt feels the necessity for more tps in the island.

BERARDI considers the outlook to be black. Discipline and absenteeism are normally kept in check by the CARABINIERI, but CARABINIERI are in short supply, and none to be spared for the large scale action required at this juncture. On the other hand, depot staffs have been reduced to 10 men per depot, which hardly allows for escorts for large bodies of men in the depot or at the station. 1759

Gen DAILIA

9. Discussed specific cases of absenteeism mentioned above. DAILIA immediately gave orders for action against the men who marched comc

but

- Fall in strength of FRIULI Div (para 6). BERARDI thought that a good part of this will probably be found to be absenteeism.

- Refusal on the part of the Allies to recognise the urgent need for Internal Security tps (this with ref to the temper of the people as evidenced by yesterday's lynching in ROME). The Allied decision to reduce tps in SICILY , while the Italian Govt feels the necessity for more tps in the island.

1759

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Gen OXILIA

9. Discussed specific cases of absenteeism mentioned above. OXILIA comc immediately gave orders for action against the men who marched out of the CARSETI recruiting centre, and that they were to be brought before the special Mil Tribunal set up in ROME for this purpose. He feels generally about things in the same strain as BERARDI, adding that things will become very much worse as Northern Italy is liberated.

It would certainly be very helpful if infm as to future Allied policy could be made known to the Italian Govt, with regard to maintenance of public order, either with adequate forces of Italian Internal Security tps or by the presence of Allied tps. If the latter intention is contemplated it would be a welcome piece of news for the Italian Govt. The rumour of the removal of Allied tps from SICILY, if correct, would seem to point the other way.

One practical suggestion from Italian sources for dealing with present absenteeism is that one or two hundred of the offenders should be shipped to Africa and exchanged for PWs. Given wide publicity, it is felt that such a measure would have a most salutary effect.

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A/G

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 17/18 Sep 44

Maj D'ANTONA

1. 960 Fd Hosp(strength 40) being passed from AFRAGOLA camp to FRIULI Div; G ii DADMS
491 Fd Hosp (strength 60) is being disbanded in AFRAGOLA camp, and personnel used as rifts. No use as unit in the camp, as there is no eqpt for it.

Lt Col GUIDA

2. Standard gd bn:- requested him to submit proposed est, strength 800 all ranks, keeping adm personnel to minimum. He is having this worked out. Infd him that proposed locations for all these bns (22 now planned instead of 18) would be communicated shortly. Infm also still awaited on locations and responsibilities of the six regt HQs. G ii

3. 5^ Gp Carri "L":- some further details have been dug up, which rather alter the situation. Reply in writing shortly. 2i/c

Lt Cols DI BITONTO and ROCHOWANSKI

4. Dvr situation (ref 3/G/6 of 12 Sep):- 90 dvrs ex POLIGNANO already passed to 1007 GT Coy; 150 men for new course in CALABRIA already available in situ - course will be starting 20 Sep approx; query 2 dist's intentions with regard to the 300 men arriving from SARDINIA about 30 Sep; ref log 27/28 Aug, can 404 and 406 IPL Regts have their allotment of dvrs out of the 100 dvrs due from SARDINIA shortly ? G ii

5. Adm of isolated units and dets:- for adm purposes, such units, (as for instance ACC inc ements) are attached to nearest Italian HQs, irrespective of higher Allied fmn. North of ROME such Italian HQs are few and far between, mostly they are PBS and 5 Army units (on the Adriatic side). PBS has laid down that 212 Div will NOT adm these small dets belonging to other fmns, and this is causing some embarassment to the SMRE. It is requested that PBS be explained the situation and asked to reverse their order. 2 i/c A/Q

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4. Dvr situation (ref 3/G/6 of 12 Sep):- 90 dvrs ex POLIGNANO already passed to 1007 GT Coy; 150 men for new course in CALABRIA already available in situ - course will be starting 20 Sep approx; query 2 dist'e intentions with regard to the 300 men arriving from SARDINIA about 30 Sep; ref log 27/28 Aug, can 404 and 406 IPL Regts have their allotment of dvrs out of the 100 dvrs due from SARDINIA shortly ?

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6. Engr rits for 5 Army: the 200 rits ex CAPUA depot departed by rail 18 Sep with destination ROME and instrs to put up at the "210 Div staging area" in ROME. There is no staging area of any kind in ROME, CERSETI has no facilities for lodging tps, other than the few left on their hands from the call-up each day, and is fully occupied with with the call-up now in progress. — 2 i/c A/Q, G ii SORE

1749

Gen SANTI

7. FRIULI:- further 170 rits have been transferred from CIL rit unit to FRIULI, making 520 in all transferred from this source. — comd, Col P

Gen UTILE and Col LOMBARDI

8. On the subject of the strength of the LEGNANO and FOLGORE eps, UTILE stated that owing to present circumstances he would NOT be in a posn immediately to produce accurate strength figures. The fmns were on the move, many men on leave and absent without leave, and no possibility of having them brought back quickly. He estimates FOLGORE will need 1000 dvrs ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ and 1000 non-specialists to complete, and LEGNANO 600 dvrs. — comd, 2 i/c, Col P

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40 SECRET

LIAISON WITH ARMY 1/2 Nov 44

Gen BERNARDI

1. Move of PRICOLI:- info him of possibility of move earlier than expected. Should this happen, stressed the need for fullest co-operation and effort on the part of every man of the div. If necessary BERNARDI will send an offr to the div with the requisite orders. — Col P

2. III/88 Inf Regt:- in view of the postponement of recruiting date for the LEONARDO Div, passed him authorization to continue recruiting for this bn up to 14 Nov incl. Stressed that bn must be complete by this date, and that confirmation in writing that this has been done must be in this HQs hands on the 14th. BERNARDI very appreciative of the concession. — Col P

3. Additional staff cars for War Ministry:- BERNARDI has twice applied for permission to translate four cars to the War Ministry, first from the CREMONA and later from the LEGNANO. Both requests have been turned down. War Ministry is in fact frequently short of cars for staff offrs going on missions, and BERNARDI wishes to press his request for favourable reconsideration. — A/G

Gen SANTI

4. III Bn 68th Regt:- the info he has had from the Naval people is different from ours. According to them, 350 men have been sent by rail from TARANTO and a further 500 from NA L.S. In addition, a further 800 are ready at TARANTO as rits for the regt, XXX to complete the IIIBn, and to replace any unsuitable men already with the regt. — Col P

Lt Col BOCCHINFUSO

5. 22 rits for ACC:- BERNS confirm that these men have already reported to ACC, except for three or four who are absent for various reasons. — G iii

6. 120 for line sig course FRANCAVILLA FONTANA: these rits for the next course leave CALABRIA by rail 3 Nov. — G ii SO sigs

frequently short of care for sick. Gifts going on [illegible]
and TARANTO wishes to press his request for favourable
reconsideration.

Gen SANTI
4. III Bn can parse [illegible]: the info he has had from the Naval — Col P
people is different from ours. According to them, 350
men have been sent by rail from TARANTO and a further 500
from NAPLES. In addition, a further 800 are ready at
TARANTO as rits for the regt, xxx to complete the IIIBn,
and to replace any unsuitable men already with the regt.

Lt Col BOCHSANSKI
5. 22 rits for ACC:- SHAEF confirm that these men have already — G 1ii
reported to ACC, except for three or four who are absent for
various reasons.

6. 130 for line via course FRANCAVILLA FONTANE: these rits for — G 1i
the next course leave CALABRIA by rail 3 Nov. — SO Liaison

7. Rits for EPS:- All men collected from the depots in CALABRIA — G 1i
are going by rail to 212 Div 4 Nov.

1748

Gen CARTER
8. Info CARTER of info given to GERMANI - ref para 1 and 2 above.

9. Repatriation from the BALKANS:- passed to CARTER all info available
on org planned for receiving first batch of 3700 men due shortly
at TARANTO. Following pts require answering:
- civilian personnel can NOT be found for the camp at TARANTO, — G 1
apart from which the Yugs would not obey civilians. Following
mil personnel needed: 1 col, 4 Majs, 20 subalterns, 20 ors.
- In addition to clothing boots and rations, the camp expt been — A/Q
provided for, i.e. blankets, palliasses and straw, cooking
utensils, mess tins etc, all of which will be required.
- How long can men remain in the camp ? When will the next
party be arriving ? Will subsequent parties similarly at — A/A
TARANTO ? Are Italians to be responsible for issuing clothing
or will this be done under Allied supervision ?

HARRIS G-5 AFHQ (Forlan 567)
Col Lewin
Maj Driffield WHITE
Col HEDDLETON

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789120

A/C

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 30/31 Oct 44

1. Col CHIAVARINO and Lt Col GUIDA
Attended meeting at MMIA to discuss details of PICCOLO
deal with CARABINIERI. Present: G i, G ii, and G II
(special sec). G i

Gen ORLIA

2. ORLIA has appointed three correspondents of the Italian comm
press to report on all aspects of the Italian Army. One
is an offr and the other two are going as privates. The
proposed itinerary is: PBS, 2IO, 228, 209 Divs in that
order, and they are commencing at PICCININO. Should it be G111(I)
desirable to report on the "gruppi" before their journey
is completed, MMIA will inform ORLIA and they will break
their journey.

3. Appointment of 2 i/c to LEONARD Div:- info ORLIA that comm
GOC approves appointment of Brig Gen MORICCA to this post.
At the same time confirmed that the appointment of 2i/cs to
all "gruppi" is only a temporary measure for the tr period,
as this post is NOT on the est. When the gruppi move up the
2 i/c will have to come away.

4. FRIULI:- info ORLIA that GOC was pleased to find things much comm
improved during his recent visit to this div, and SCATTINI
a big improvement over the previous comm.

HE PALERMO

5. Italian tps in MONTENEGRO:- following visit 27 Oct, requested comm
PALERMO to let us have complete factual report on the situation,
supported by photographs and all details to ep his case, incl
mention of his talk with the heads of the British Mission there.

Lt Col DI BITONTO

6. Rifts for "gruppi":- clarified that ALL men called up for ITI- G i
IPI category and destined for the "gruppi" must go to the
rift regt and NOT direct to the Bns. Assured him that steps
[illegible] rift centre capable of receiving

GOC approves appointment of Brig Gen MORICCA to this post. At the same time confirmed that the appointment of 2i/cs to all "gruppi" is only a temporary measure for the tr period, as this cost is NOT on the est. When the gruppi move up the 2 i/c will have to come away. Comd

4. FRIULI:- told CAILIA that GOC was pleased to find things much improved during his recent visit to this div, and SCATTINI a big improvement over the previous comd. Comd

HE PALERMO

5. Italian tps in MONTENEGRO:- following visit 27 Oct, requested PALERMO to let us have complete factual report on the situation, supported by photographs and all details to sp his case, incl mention of his talk with the head of the British Mission there. Comd

Lt Col DI BITONTO

6. Rits for "gruppi":- clarified that ALL men called up for ITI-ITI category and destined for the "gruppi" must go to the r.t regt and NOT direct to the Imns. Assured him that steps being taken by MAI to ensure rit centre capable of receiving and holding all rits sent there. MAI LO to be attd to rit centre for next three weeks to deal with exception of rfts to Imns. G i

1747

Gen BERARDI

7. Accompanied Ci for further discussion on PICENO move. Present Gen GANTI and Col CHIAVARINO. It was stressed that the plan worked out by MAI must be followed to the letter - any changes that it was desirable or feasible to make would be considered after the 3.500 men had arrived at destination. BERARDI stated he fully appreciated this. Other pts discussed:
- rits required at once to look after the animals;
- offrs to be sent to complete est; if required these offrs can later be exchanged with those att'd to Carabinieri, by arrangement with MAI. G i

Lt Col DI PIERRO

8. Muleteer rits for AAI:- discussed details and requested him to issue necessary orders forthwith for screening suitable men from all units under Allied comd. G ii

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S E C R E T

LIAISON WITH S M R E 21/24 Oct 44

Lt Col CHECCHIA

1. Mules saddles and harness at CASTA: after lengthy investigations it transpires that Gii US
- there are no saddles or harness at CASTA;
- list of mil stores there handed to Gii US;
- the local Carabinieri det had signalled on 28 Jul to the Carabinieri HQ at FORMIA that there were no saddles etc at GAETA, but the info was never passed on to MMIA.
- approx 1000 saddles ex OIL pack units and pack artly are still at OSIMO.

Gen BUTTA

2. Call-up ops in LAZIO:- on orders of MMIA these are due to be concluded 28 Oct. In view of the fact that they hope to rope in many stragglers, incl the men who failed to present themselves, all of which takes time, BUTTA requests that he be allowed to keep on at the three centres for a further three weeks one third of the personnel allotted there, i.e. ten men per centre. Answer urgently required. G i

Lt Col GUIDA

3. Strength situation in SARDINIA as at 9 Oct:- SMRE is in agreement with the situation shown in Mil HQ SARDINIA letter of 16 Oct 9808/B/Ora. The 1396 on civil rations are all men in hospe over 30 days. G i

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

4. 106 Amm Depot:- this used to be run by the Direzione Artiglieria TARANTO and was situated nr BARLETTA, at a place called TITTATEGNA. It was cleared some time ago and no longer belongs to the Ministry. Nothing is known of a depot run by Ditta (?) Lucca. A/Q

New appointments:

Col [illegible] to be C of S FRIULI Div (source: OVILIA) comd

weeks one third of the personnel [illegible]
per centre. Answer urgently required.

Lt Col GUIDA
3. Strength situation in SARDINIA as at 9 Oct:- SMRS is in agree- G i
ment with the situation shown in Mil HQ SARDINIA letter of 16
Oct 9898/B/Ora. The 1336 on civil rations are all men in hospa
over 30 days.

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI
4. 106 Amn Depot:- this used to be run by the Direzione Artiglieria A/Q
TARANTO and was situated nr BARLETTA, at a place called
TITTATEGNA. It was cleared some time ago and no longer
belongs to the Ministry. Nothing is known of a depot run by
Ditta (?) Lecce.

New appointments:
5. Lt Col VEDOVATO to be C of S FRIULI Div (source: OXILIA) comd
Col P
Brig Gen MORICCA to be 2 i/c LEGNANO Div (from Morieca himself)
1746

Gen OXILIA comd
6. Following subjects discussed:
- est of SMG G i
- mules and harness at CARTA;
- need for adjustment in new central office procedure;
- discipline and punishment of offrs;

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
7. Col BONFIGLIO and his party:- enquiries throughout War Ministry, A/Q
and SMRS have failed to reveal on whose authority this party
of offrs presents itself to TOMASELLI's HQ. A sig requesting
info has been sent to 228.

Capt DELLA CORNA
8. He is anxious to have a complete plot of Regt HQs for the 2d bns. G ii
OS

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A/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

L5/16 Oct 44

(8)

Gen OXILIA

1. Men repatriated from Greek Islands:- infd him of latest developments, and that men would be treated as PeW by local Allied authorities in BARI. OXILIA later phoned Italian HQ BARI to cancel previous arrangements, and was infd as follows: Reps of P & L HQ had attended meeting with Allied reps 15 Oct at which it was decided that initially this first batch of 1000 men (and all subsequent batches from GREECE) would be treated as PeW and handled through Allied channels. Screening to be done by Italian screening agency (this already being laid on) with British rep att'd. Those who pass the test will either go to the gruppi (if fit) or be discharged. Those who fail the test will remain in British hands as PeW. OXILIA expressed a hope that men with a bad record who continue as PeW will be kept apart from other ITI PeW taken prisoner before the armistice, both from the morale pt of view and to enable suitable retribution to be meted out to the culprits by the ITI authorities, at a later date.

comd 2 i A/Q G i

Civil

2. Brig Gen SCATTINI:- this offr is proposed as new COC to comd FRIULI Div in place of PEDROTTI. He was formerly comd of the SABRIA Div in TUNISIA, in BERARDI's corps, and was taken prisoner there. Recently with State Maggiore Generale as Gen att'd to MESSE. Infd OXILIA that COC had no objection to the appointment provided OXILIA was satisfied that SCATTINI was the right man. SCATTINI will proceed to BENEVENTO 18 Oct and PEDROTTI will leave the Inn within 24 hrs of SCATTINI's arrival.

comd G i Coll

3. Volunteers for combat ops: OXILIA has recd infm from SICILY that 2000 men have presented themselves to the mil districts in the Island as volunteers for combat. This number incl 100 PeW on parole. Infd OXILIA that as regards the latter this opens up a tricky matter of principle, which was NOT likely to be considered favourably. In gen terms, there might be difficulties of tpt from SICILY.

comd Col P G i

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fore the armistice, both from the morale pt of view and to enable suitable retribution to be meted out to the culprits by the ITI authorities/ at a later date.

2. Brig Gen SCATTINI:- this offr is proposed as new GOC to comd PRIULI Div in place of PEDROTTI. He was formerly comd of the SPEZIA Div in TUNISIA, in BERARDI's corps, and was taken prisoner there. Recently with Stato Maggiore Generale as Gen att'd to MEssE. Info OYILIA that GOC has no objection to the appointment providing OYILIA was satisfied that SCATTINI was the right man. SCATTINI will proceed to BENEVENTO 18 Oct and PEDROTTI will leave the imm within 24 hrs of SCATTINI's arrival. comd C i Coll

3. Volunteers for combat gps: OYILIA has recd info from SICILY that 2000 men have presented themselves to the mil districts in the island as volunteers for combat. This number incl 100 PsW on parole. Info OYILIA that as regards the latter this opens up a tricky matter of principle, which was NOT likely to be considered favourably. In gen terms, there might be difficulties of tpt from SICILY. comd Col P C i

4. Director of Army Welfare:- arranges meeting with OYILIA for 17 Oct, 1645 hrs, to discuss welfare arrangements in the Italian Army. comd

1745

5. Info OYILI' of authority for move of Dels "I" to FLORENCE. G ii

Gen ALIBERTI

6. Collected some info in connection with Messrs BOANO

Gen BENTI, Col CHIAVARINO, Lt Col DI BITONTO

7. A'I request for info on muleteers:- conference to investigate how info can best be provided. Italian Gen Staff state that had the districts been functioning throughout liberated Italy it would have been possible to have exact figures; as it is they can only be guessed at. It is proposed to supply one set of answers on 17 Oct which will be a rough guide, and further and more accurate details as soon as info can be collected in the id. G ii comd

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A/8

SECRET

File 2200

LIAISON WITH S M R E 17/18 Oct 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Men repatriated from/ the Greek islands:- infd him that the arrival of the first 1000 had been cancelled and that no arrivals are expected at the moment. — comd G i A/Q

2. Volunteers for combat ops in SICILY:- infd him that this was being looked into, but that in any case the suggestion that prisoners on parole should be considered as volunteers is NOT for consideration. — 2 i/c G i

3. Director of Army Welfare:- attended meeting NEWTH/OXILIA, 17 Oct. Col MICALETTI also present. Brig NEWTH requested that four suitable En lish-speaking offrs be selected and held in readiness for appointment as Welfare offrs at 5 and 8 Armies, and I and 3 Distrs. There would be up to four places available for these offrs on the Welfare course commencing in ROME 30 Oct. It was recommended that Welfare offrs be attd to combat ops. These offrs would be able to attend subsequent courses. EX DAW will discuss plan at AFHQ and will endeavour to secure approval for issue of additional EPI rations for Italian tps. No further action required until DAW advises results of discussions at AFHQ. — comd A/Q

4. Combat ops: following subjects discussed:- — comd Col P
- Elimination of all traces of the so-called Arditi Bn and the completion of the III Bn 68 Regt forthwith with whatever rifts are available on the ground. OXILIA has already taken action on this.
- Urgent need to complete MONTEZEMOLO Bn - only 150 strong to date. SAMPO has been sent to AQUILA to deal with the situation.
- Leave for CREMONA to continue until 15 Nov, on same basis as at present agreed.
- Discipline of offrs and need to tighten-up sentences.

5. Tps in CORSICA: Infd OXILIA that the proposed transfer of th... — comd

1744

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It was recommended that welfare offrs be att'd to combat gps. These offrs would be able to attend subsequent courses. EM DAW will discuss plan at AFHQ and will endeavour to secure approval for issue of additional EPI rations for Italian tps. No further action required until DAW advises results of discussions at AFHQ.

4. Combat gps: following subjects discussed:- comd
- Elimination of all traces of the so-called Arditi bn and the completion of the III Bn 68 Regt forthwith with whatever rifs are available on the ground. OXILIA has already taken action on this. Col P
- Urgent need to complete MONTEGARGANO Bn - only 150 strong to date. SAMPO has been sent to AQUILA to deal with the situation.
- Leave for CREMONA to continue until 15 Nov, on same basis as at present agreed.
- Discipline of offrs and need to tighten-up sentences.

5. Tps in CORSICA: Infd OXILIA that the proposed transfer of the comd 5000 men of Slav origin to South France was an AFHQ decision. 1744 i/c Subject NOT for discussion. OXILIA stated he had already mentioned the matter to the minister, and while they would have preferred a different solution, they accept the decision as final and will let the matter drop.

6. ALIBERTI:- discussed with OXILIA the MT situation in SARDINIA A/Q and proposals for the future. ALIBERTI will be only too pleased to accompany MAIA rep to the island at any time.

Count CASATI

7. Accompanied GOC. Following subjects were discussed: comd
- Col SAVATTORI
- Comd 209 Div
- Combat Gps and overseas service.
- Future of Del 'T' and change of comd.

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ANT A/O

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S.H.A.E.E 11 Oct 44

Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI

1. Ref log 13/14 Sep para 2:- the three chemical and smoke coys in SARDINIA have now been disbanded and the personnel - roughly 15 offrs and 300 ors - will be ready to leave CAGLIARI 15 Oct. Personnel is required as rifts for smoke units under British comd. G ii

2. Replacement of sgt for 2002 GD Pl of 266/1 Gen Service Coy: Requested him to produce this rit, to report to Capt BATTIONI, Room 76,2 floor, ACC Main HQ. S/Capt A

3. Vet offr for 13 Pack Tpt Coy (5 Army):- an offr had already been appointed last month, but had been granted one weeks leave on the way up. He is now several days overdue, and is being ordered to report to ROME for onward transmission. Name: Capt BONI Torino. 2 i/c

4. 80 Mounted unit CAMEROTA:- there has been considerable difficulty over arranging the vet offr for this unit. Only possibility is the vet of 227 Div, now on convalescent leave. SHAEF have requested that he be replaced at once: Lt AINO Riccardo has been nominated for the post.

Gen SANTI

5. Interprter offrs for SHAEF:- requested him for the names of the six offrs nominated; two are in ROME, and it will be necessary to recall the others from under comd Allied units and exchange them for older men. Names etc handed to G ii US G iiUS

Lt Col GUIDA

6. Reorg of AOSTA Div:- this was ordered to be completed by 25 Sep and confirmation to be rendered by 5 Oct. This is still awaited (possibly due to delays in the post). They request that the transfer of the div HQ from SARDINIA be hastened. G ii

Capt DELLA CORNA

7. 253 Forestry Coy:- confirmed that this unit has never been G iii

4. 60 Mounted Unit CAMEROTA:- there has been considerable difficulty over arranging the vet offr for this unit. Only possibility is the vet of 227 Div, now on convalescent leave. SHRE have requested that he be replaced at once: Lt AIMO Riccardo has been nominated for the post.

5. Gen SANTI — G iiUS
Interprter offrs for SHAEF:- requested him for the names of the six offrs nominated; two are in ROME, and it will be necessary to recall the others from under comd Allied units and exchange them for older men. Names etc handed to G ii US

6. Lt Col GUIDI — G ii
Reorg of 465th Div:- this was ordered to be completed by 25 Sep and confirmation to be rendered by 5 Oct. This is still awaited (possibly due to delays in the post). They request that the transfer of the div HQ from SARDINIA be hastened.

7. Capt DELLA CORNA — G iii
293 Forestry Coy:- confirmed that this unit has never been authorised by Allied HQs and that it can NOT be considered as part of the army.

8. Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI — G ii
22 rifts for ACC increament:- info him that these men were required to report to ACC Main ROME.

9. Col CHIAVARINO — G i
Requested him to produce some figures relating to anticipated rate of loss in strength of the Italian Army during the next twelve months, also numbers awaiting the liberation of North Italy to be demobilized, and numbers likely to desert as soon as the rest of Italy is liberated.

10. Lt Col SAMPO — G ii
Requested info on the move of the MANTOVA and PICENO Divs. Some difficulty anticipated in compiling the details, so arranged for rep to call on G ii at once to discuss.

11. Gen OXILIA — Col P
Arranged meeting for special section for 1730 hrs.

1743

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A/18

SECRET

Liaison with S H A E F 15/16 Oct 44 contd

8. Gen SMTI , Col CHIAVARINO, Lt Col DI BITONTO — G i
Gen discussion on ex figures submitted for rates of losses for various categories in the Italian Army during the next twelvemonth. SMHE sustained that the rates suggested by them were by no means exaggerated, particularly with the prospect of wtn fighting and the approach of winter. DI BITONTO will go into the figures again.

Capt DALLA' CORNA
9. 253 Forestry Coy:- personnel of this unit, which is being disbanded, will be sent to MINERVINO camp for forming into an IPL Coy to replace one of the coys at BARI composed entirely of confedenti. Men are all of Slav origin, and SMHE request that they be retained in the one unit together, under present nco's. — G ii / G iii / DALL

Lt Col GUIDA
10. Info him that II/514 Regt, now with 8 Army, is being renamed 522 Gu Bn. The last of the twenty-two bns from SARDINIA, which was to have had this number, is no longer required. — G ii OS / G iii

Lt Col CIGLIERI
11. Requested him to notify us of the true name of the offr designated to visit PADENCE to recog the Direzione Art there and recover whatever stores are still in the district. — G iii(I)

12. Requested info on action taken following the report of Lt Col BIANCO on the situation of 906 Lav Art Unit. — SORE

Gen ORILIA
13. Italian tps of Slav origin in CORSICA:- discussed the contents of ORILIA's letter of 12 Oct which deals with the issue of the tps in the island. Info him of the plan to transfer these men to CBS, incl the Italian HQ. ORILIA appeared concerned at this piece of news, as he feels that the presence of these "Slav" ITI's in FRANCE will be harmful both to the other ITI tps there (collaborators), and — comd

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Lt Col [illegible]

10. Info him that II/514 Regt, now with 8 Army, is being renamed 522 Gd Bn. The last of the twenty-two bns from SARDINIA, which was to have had this number, is no longer required. — G iii GS / G iii

Lt Col GILLIAM

11. Requested him to notify us of the time name of the offr designated to visit PSC ENCI to reorg the Direzione Art there and recover whatever stores are still in the district. — G iii(I)

12. Requested info on action taken following the report of Lt Col FRANCO on the situation of 906 Lav Art Unit. — SCRS

Gen GILLIA

13. Italian tps of Slav origin in CORSICA:- discussed the contents of GILLIA's letter of 12 Oct which deals with the case of the tps in the island. Info him of the plan to transfer these men to CBS, incl the Italian HQ. GILLIA appeared concerned at this piece of news, as he feels that the presence of these "Slav" ITI's in FRANCE will be harmful both to the other ITI tps there (collaborators), and to the Italian cause in general, on account of the adverse propaganda which these men may carry out. GILLIA stated it was a pity the War Ministry was not consulted first. He would like notice in writing so as to be able to take the matter up officially. — comd

1742

dh 18 Oct

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Gen OXILIA

9. Situation in SICILY:- Infm has reached the Italian Govt that comd all Allied tps are to be withdrawn in Oct. This infm is causing them considerable anxiety as the situation there is considered by the Italians to be very unsettled and trouble expected from communists, separatists etc. Accordingly they feel that the gren of 10000 tps is insufficient, and OXILIA requested that the Allies authorize the transfer to SICILY from SARDINIA of two bns of the CALABRIA Div to supplement the SABAUDA and AOSTA Divs.
Infd OXILIA that Allied authorities evidently considered the latter fmns more than sufficient for the island, as instrs had just been issued by AAI for the transfer to CALABRIA of two bns of the SABAUDA Div.
Requested OXILIA whether any steps had been taken by the Ministry of Interior to discuss situation with Public Safety Sub-Commission ACC; which is the competent authority in the matter. OXILIA said he would take it up with them at once.

Nevertheless he expressed himself most anxious the GOC MMIA should intervene to
- suspend arrangements for transfer of two SABAUDA Bns to CALABRIA
- examine the possibilty of moving two CALABRIA Div bns to SICILY.

OXILIA stressed that this request is based on the premise that Allied tps are in fact about to be withdrawn.

10;; Call-up in LAZIO:- confirmed proposed arrangements (ref log 15/16 Sep para 10) subject to final decision as to numbers on or about 20th. He is seeing about the phone comms with recruiting offices and will advise if any difficulties arise. comd 2 i/c

Lt Col GUIDA

11. Rits for GRANATIERI coys in ROME:- infd him that for the tpt 1741 of the 40 odd rits now in NAPLES a request should be made to MOVWIT through Delegazione Trasporti Naples. c ii

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E L5/16 Sep 44

Gen SANTI

1. Conveyed following instrs in connection with combat gps: comd Col P
   - Complete HQ staffs of FOLGORE and LEGNANO to be concentrated at once in PIEDIMONTE area;
   - Reorg of CIL to be undertaken at once and to be completed by 7 Oct, excl men on leave who need not be back, according to plan, until 15 Oct;
   - Trg of FOLGORE and LEGNANO to commence 15 Oct;
   - Fmn of third Marine bn to be undertaken at once;
   - Reorg of GRANERO Bn to be undertaken at once and necessary Alpini called up in ABRUZZI;
   - ORBAT of first four gps required, with complete desi nation of all units. Understood this infm already in our hands. 1710

2. Following receipt of "immediate" sig from GOC in connection with strength of FRIULI Div saw CAILIA and later SANTI and arranged for following action to be taken: comd Col P
   - Offr from SMRE to go immediately to PIEDIMONTE with instrs for move within 24 hrs of all available personnel in CIL rft unit to FRIULI. This offr travelled down on night of 13/14 Sep and 350 men were moved to S GIORGIO by 15th. Orders were given for further 120 men to move later.
   - 1300 men of PICENO Div to be alerted for immediate move to S GIORGIO. This was done very promptly, and the necessary men taken from all units of the PICENO. Rail tpt has been arranged for 19 and 20 Sep.
   - All nco deficiencies to be made up from nco pool at LECCE;
   - All suitable personnel collected at 31 Inf depot NAPLES and awaiting assignment to go to S GIORGIO
   - Up to 16 Sep incl 400 specialists had been sent from ROME.

3. Farriers and Saddlers:- requested SANTI to find out availability from CIL units, no longer required. Giii

Col CHIAVARINO

Strength of 1 Motor Div saw CARELLI and later SANTI and arranged for following action to be taken: — comd Col P

- Offr from SMRE to go immediately to PIEDIMONTE with instrs for move within 24 hrs of all available personnel in CIL rft unit to FRIULI. This offr travelled down on night of 13/14 Sep and 350 men were moved to S GIORGIO by 15th. Orders were given for further 120 men to move later.
- 1300 men of PICENO Div to be alerted for immediate move to S GIO GIO. This was done very promptly, and the necessary men taken from all units of the PICENO. Rail tpt has been arranged for 19 and 20 Sep.
- All nco deficiencies to be made up from nco pool at LECCE;
- All suitable personnel collected at 31 Inf depot NAPLES and awaiting assignment to go to S GIORGIO
- Up to 16 Sep incl 400 specialists had been sent from ROME.

3. Farriers and Saddlers:- requested SANTI to find out availability from CIL units, no longer required. — G iii

Col CHIAVARINO

4. GRANERO Bn: info him that in the reorg of this Alpini Bn (ref para 1 above) the coy under comd I Dist should be considered written off. This coy to consist entirely of "congedandi", and to be shown under I Dist in the strength state. — comd 2 i/c G iii
250 PackkTpt Coy and other muleteer personnel detached from CIL and passed to Allied units, amounting to 1300 (?) men. These also to be struck off CIL strength; ? under comd of which Allied fmn will they appear. — G iii

Lt Col PIZZONIA

5. Personnel now attd US Aviation units in APULIA (SMRE letter 8 Sep ref 4329):- info him that no reorg was required and that disposal of personnel was under discussion. — G ii

6. Handed him copy of est of Italian Smoke Coy. — DADL

Lt Col GUIDA

7. 5° Cp Carri "L": investigated reasons for continued existence of this unit. War Ministry still has to advise who was responsible for the exclusion of this coy from the reorg of LI Tank Bn and how many rations have been consumed by the unit since April. — 2 i/c

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CERSETI (Maj PERCOLA)

8. To overcome the difficulties encountered in the call-up in ROME (only one man in four called-up has been despatched from the recruiting centre) and to accelerate the process, call-up by classes is being instituted as from 18 Sep, half a class per day. It is estimated, very roughly, that this should produce 400-500 men per day. Outstanding commitments will absorb out put until end of month, namely: comd 2 i/c A/Q G ii ST Mov

- balance for 210 Div about 600 men
- I Dist(at 100 per day) 1200 "
- balance for engr depot CAPUA 700 "
- balance muleteers 5 and 8 Army 130 "
- specialists for FRIULI 1200 "

1739

Posn will require to be followed closely to avoid congestion at the recruiting centre, i.e. tpt will have to be regularly available and arrangements made for additional MT for 210 Div and additional accn on train south if it should be needed. Tpt arrangements for 1Dist are hazy at the moment.

Gen OXILIA

9. Attended meeting with Col PIDSLEY (present also BERARDI) to discuss completion of FRIULI Div - see para 1. Posn of Air Force Bn is that men will volunteer for CIL or NEMBO, but NOT for other combat grps. 200 men were ready to leave for CIL, where they were destined as rfts for IX Assault (Arditi) Bn) but when it was known that more than 200 could be/ taken the first 200 called off, presumably with the idea that they would now be able to go together. It is definitely confirmed by C of S Cdo Mil BARI that these men still have the idea of serving together in the same unit. comd 2 i/c

all

10. Call-up in LAZIO region:- it has been agreed in principle that will take place at the end of Sep, the exact number to be recruited to be decided by MMIA when the strength state is pro- comd 2 i/c G ii

at the recruiting centres,
available and arrangements made for additional MT for 216 Div
and additional accn on train south if it should be needed.
Tpt arrangements for 1Dist are hazy at the moment.

Gen ORLIA
9. Attended meeting with Col PIDSLEY (present also BERARDI) comd 2 i/c
to discuss completion of FRIULI Div - see para 1.
Posn of Air Force Bn is that men will volunteer for CIL
or NEMBO, but NOT for other combat gps. 200 men were ready
to leave for CIL, where they were destined as rfts for
IX Assault (Arditi) Bn, but when it was known that more than
200 could be taken the first 200 called off, presumably all
with the idea that they would now be able to go together.
It is definitely confirmed by C of S Cdo Mil BARI that these
men still have the idea of serving together in the same unit.

10. Call-up in LAZIO region:- it has been agreed in principle that comd 2 i/c
will take place at the end of Sep, the exact number to be re- G ii
cruited to be decided by MMIA when the strength state is pro- A/Q
duced. M of War plan is as follows:
- VITERBO up to 4000 men rfts for 5 and 8 Army move by rd ST
- FROSINONE " " 7000 " PBS , 2 and 3 Dists " " rail Mov
- LITTORIA " " 3000 " " " " " " "

Combat gp requirements also to be met if necessary.
Direzione Commissariato to be responsible for moving clothing
to the three centres.
Rations required: VITERBO 500 per day,
FROSINONE 900 per day,
LITTORIA 450 per day.

Comm by phone to be arranged between recruiting offices and ROME. SOSigs

5 offrs and 30 men to be employed at each centre for the recruiting. Giii
To be temporarily assigned to rfts category.
Operation will last twelve days (1 - 12 Oct)

War Ministry arranging for Carabinieri escort on basis of
5 Carabinieri for each 100 men moved.

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A/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

13/14 Sep 44

Lt Col CILIBRI

1. Mail for War Ministry from MMIA is taking 24 and sometimes 48 hrs to get there. It is recommended that there be two deliveries each day: one at 1800 hrs to clear the days mail, and one at 1200 hrs for any mail accumulated in the morning. Urgent comms and sigs by special DR or runner (it takes 20 minutes to get to the War Ministry and back on foot !) This matter is important in view of pressure on War Ministry to hasten their procedure. — 2 I/c G ii

Lt Col DI SIPONTO

2. Following units suitable for smoke ops available in SARDINIA as rfts for mainland:- — G ii DADL

- 8^ Op Chimica	5 offrs	110 ors
-13^ Op Chimica	5 "	112 "
-47^ Op Nebbiogena	5 "	121 "

2i/c

3. Surplus personnel at Depots:- — G ii

- 31 Inf Depot Naples: the 200 odd rfts at this depot are stated to be stray personnel reporting from hospp, leave, awl etc. Requested him to give orders that those under 30 days were to report to units, those over 30 days to be passed at once to PBS.
- 15 Inf Depot SALERNO:- the 300 odd men here are late-comers of the '21 call-up in CAMPANIA; requested that they be passed immediately to PBS. — G ii

Gen SANTI

4. TOMASELLI. 230 Div HQ:- Brig Gen PAVAN has been appointed 2 i/c to Gen — Giii(I)

Gen CAILIA — 2 i/

5. 1920 Class:- Approval given for the callup of remainder of this class in CALABRIA and APULIA, total approx 1000 men, in addition to the 2000 estimated for CAMPANIA. To be assigned: — Gii

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-47^ Cp Nebbiogens 5 121

2i/c

3. Surplus personnel at Depots:- G ii
- 31 Inf Depot Naples: the 800 odd rfts at this depot are stated to be stray personnel reporting from hosp, leave, awl etc. Requested him to give orders that those under 30 days were to report to units, those over 30 days to be passed at once to PBS.
- 15 Inf Depot SALERNO:- the 300 odd men here are late-comers of the '21 call-up in CAMPANIA; requested that they be passed immediately to PBS. G ii

Gen SANTI

4. TOMASELLI 228 Div HQ:- Brig Gen PAVAN has been appointed 2 i/c to Gen Gen CAILIA Giii(I) 2 i/c

5. 1920 Class:- Approval given for the callup of remainder of this class in CALABRIA and APULIA, total approx 1000 men, in addition to the 2000 estimated for CAMPANIA. To be assigned: CALABRIA and [redacted] CAMPANIA to PBS; APULIA to 3 Dist. Gii

6. Strength returns:- Attended meeting presided over by CAILIA and attended by C's of S of all Italian Army Fmns (excl CIL). Various MMIA directives on the subject were gone into in detail and explained to the offrs present, and there is no reason why the returns should not be exactly as required in future. Had this meeting been held two or three months ago we should not be in the situation we are in to-day. The next return due (11th) will not have all the benefit of the meeting, but should be considerably better than previous returns. Following pts of interest were raised: comd & i/c
- Limitations of tpt and comms make it difficult for outlying dets and small units to transmit returns quickly to coy and bn HQs - at times these sub-units are a considerable distance from parent HQ - and assistance from local Allied HQ in sending in these returns twice a month would be very timely. Normally these sub-units have no tpt of their own.
- Comds of Italian units are not always very particular about reporting moves of their units, i.e. reporting away from one HQ and reporting arrival to another. CAILIA ordered disciplinary action against anyone failing in this respect, but Allied HQs should give necessary time and opportunity for report to be made.

Contd

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SECRET

liaison with s m r e 13/14 Sep 44 contd.

Strength returns (contd)

- Infm required as to classification of APO personnel and censorship units, latter at present on district strengths.
- There are still numerous instances in APULIA of personnel att'd Allied HQs without authority. The Italians have ordered them back, but the Allies are reputed to refuse to release them. Will be shown seperately on next return.
- It was made very clear that depots were NOT to hold men over est. According to whether they were over or under 30 days they will be employed as rfts or returned to former units. All depots and districts in CALABRIA and CAMPANIA will fwd personnel of the rft category to 31 Inf Depot NAPLES, APULIAN depots and districts will turn rfts over to 47 Inf Depot LECCE. MMIA LO's NAPLES and BARI must be continually infd as to employment of any rfts collected in this way, and will have to instruct AI Mil HQs NAPLES and BARI where such rfts have to be handed over to Allied fmns. It was stressed that all depots and districts were to get rid of excess personnel as quickly as possible.
- Men in the under-30-day category: these men report back to depots after absence due to sickness, leave, absence without leave etc. Left to their own initiative they will make little attempt to rejoin their unit, which may entail travelling from CALABRIA to ANCONA o/r LEGHORN. The depot therefore has to feed them (this is apparently being done on civil rations) and arrange tpt, the work formerly done by the Tapna. No arrangements exist at the moment for xxx organized tpt, and at the moment there are over 1000 men at 31 Inf Depot

APULIAN depots and districts will turn rits over to 47 Inf Depot LECCE. MMIA LO's NAPLES and BARI must be continually infd as to employment of any rits collected in this way, and will have to instruct ~~XI~~ Mil Hqs NAPLES and BARI where such rits have to be handed over to Allied fmns. It was stressed that all depots and districts were to get rid of excess personnel as quickly as possible.

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LIAISON WITH S M R E 11/12 Sep 44

Lt Col TORSIELLO

1. Interpreter offrs for RASC TD NOLA:- following offrs have been alerted and will be moving to NOLA under SMRE arrangements 14 Sep: one Lt Col, two capts, one lt, two 2/lts. Nominal roll to ST. — ST

Lt Col DI BIONTO

2. Situation of PBS ITIs as reported by Auxiliary Tps Branch, SMRE:- — 2 i/c G ii

- to bring existing units up to est	4137
- for new units still to be formed	5000
- to replace '13 and older classes	4500
	13637
- available in ASTHONI camp	1656
- Net required for PBS	11981

3. 541 and 543 Service coys:- info him of transfer to 212, and that as soon as collected by PBS, these units would disappear. from the records. — 2 i/c G ii

4. 200 engr rifs for 5 Army:- warned him that these would be collected from CAPUA within next 24 hrs or so. — 2 i/c G iii

Lt Col SOCHOWANSKI

5. Vet offr for 80 Nucleo Montato: request for weekly visit to CAMPOBASSO - this is being laid on through Cdo Mil CAMPANIA. — G ii

6. Requested him to confirm that mfts ex MANTOVA Div artly are suitable for emp as muleteers. — G iii

Gen MATTIOLI

7. With the reorg now in hand of the Inf units in 2 Dist, the posn of odd units working for US aviation units in APULIA has to be defined. Present units employed are as follows: — 2i/c G ii

- I/407 290 strong 7 Air Sq (?)
- 3 and 4 Coys of I/408 200 strong

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- Net required for PBS 11981

3. 541 and 543 Service Coys:- info him of transfer to 212, and that as soon as collected by PBS, these units would disappear. 2 i/c C ii from the records.

4. 200 engr rfts for 5 Army:- warned him that these would be collected from CASERTA within next 24 hrs or so. 2 i/c G iii

Lt Col ROCHOMBEAU

5. Vet offr for 80 Nucleo Montato: request for weekly visit to CASERTA - this is being laid on through Cdo Mil CAMPANIA. G ii

6. Requested him to confirm that rfts ex MANTOVA Div arty are suitable for emp as muleteers. G iii

Gen MATTIOLI

7. With the reorg now in hand of the Lab units in 2 Dist, the posn of Cdo units working for US aviation units in APULIA has to be defined. Present units employed are as follows: 2i/c G ii

- I/407 290 strong 7 Air Fd (?)
- 3 and 4 Coys of I/405 198 strong 21 Mgt Eng Bn
- III/4 c 320 strong 835 Eng Av Bn
- 15 Bty 404 117 strong ? (S PANCRAZIO)
- Total 925 all ranks

If these units are authorised, MATTIOLI proposes to reorg them along the lines of PBS units into eight coys of 200 each.

Col CHIAVARINO

8. TS/C/29 of 9 Sep: Any offr leaving to-day by air to take instrs to M and P divs in connection with strength situation requested of combat ops. MATTIOLI starting 13 Sep on complete round of all combat ops to collect the answers. It is hoped to have these by the 19 th or soon after. comd 2 i/c

Gen OXILIA

9. Discussed following subjects:

- MRH's visits to Army areas (INFANTE present)
- Call-up to be organized in LAZIO region;
- Affair of Capt D'ALESSANDRO and Lt Col DI MEANA;
- Low category refts supplied from ROME or NAPLES;

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To S T MAAF A/Q W. SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 8/9 Sep 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Info him of revised arrangements for call-up in ROME, cancelling details in para 2 log 7 Sep, to be as follows: — comd
   - 1600 specialists for FRIULI; — 2 i/c
   - balance of outstanding commitments for Allies (about 1400) — G ii
   - 100 - per-day non-specialists for 8 Army, commencing 10 Sep — A/Q for ST Mov
   - 1900 non-specialists for FRIULI to be taken from surplus of CIL;
   - Confirmed call-up in NAPLES area to go to PBS;
   - As soonas present commitments for Allies (1400) are met, all personnel collected to be assigned on a 50/50 basis to PBS and British units.

   Subsequently spoke to Maj PERGOLA, 2 i/c CERRETI, who confirmed that the orders given to him were exactly as above. Order of priority to be as above, and NO repeat NO volunteers to be despatched from ROME for the time being.

2. Demob of offrs:- Following urgent call from LO 2 dist, took up question of demob of offrs from units under Allied comd without prior substitution. According to orders issued by M of W, which OXILIA quoted, this is contrary to instrs, and OXILIA promised to get into touch by phone forthwith with Cdo Mil APULIA. — G ii

3. Lt Col BALZAROTTI:- discussed the case of this PW. OXILIA considers that with his background, schooling in England etc and knowledge of the language, he would be useful as an LO, and will have him included in the next list submitted by Gen GAZZERA. There will be no special ref to his case, so it will be up to AFHQ to pick him up. — comd

Gen PRIMIERE

4. Comd CREMONA Div called on Col PIDSLEY (9 Sep) - assisted at — comd

Subsequently spoke to Maj PERGOLA, 2 i/c CREMONA, who confirmed that the orders given to him were exactly as above. Order of priority to be as above, and NO repeat NO volunteers to be despatched from HOME for the time being.

2. Demob of offrs:- Following urgent call from LO 2 dist, took up question of demob of offrs from units under Allied comd without prior substitution. According to orders issued by M of W, which OXILIA quoted, this is contrary to instns, and OXILIA promised to get into touch by phone forthwith with Cdo Bde APULIA. G ii

3. Lt Col SALZAROTTI:- discussed the case of this PW. OXILIA considers that with his background, schooling in England etc and knowledge of the language, he would be useful as an LO, and will have him included in the next list submitted by Gen GAZZERA. There will be no special ref to his case, so it will be up to AFHQ to pick him up. comd

Gen PRIMIERI

4. Comd CREMONA Div called on Col PILKEY (9 Sep) - assisted at meeting during course of which were mentioned: apt for immediate unit maintenance, expendable and non-expendable med sups, boots and clothing, visit of GOC 8th I. With regard to strength of CREMONA, exact figures are NOT immediately available, but it is estimated that 250 men of '13 class have to be sent home, and that a further 500 of '13 and '14 classes will become available for Allied programme. Instns with regard to the latter 500 required at once. Altogether it is estimated that about 1000 further personnel will be needed to reorg the gp. comd

1735 ii

Maj PERGOLA (CREMONA)

5. Info him that Increment for 8 Army would be leaving 12 Sep, also that Cpl SCHETTINO would be reporting from ACC as being unsuitable for their requirements. G iii

Gen SANTI

6. Requested him to take up energetically the question of the twelve men originally requested in MMIA SD/12 of 12 Jul, and now stated by MMIA LO 3 Dist never to have reported, despite the assurances given at the end of Jul. G ii

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FILE 62/1/9 H/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 9contd/10 Sep 44

Gen OXILIA

1. TS/G/29 of 9 Sep: delivered comns on reorg of combat gps and return required as soon as possible as to strength of the various gps etc. SMRE have very little idea as to actual strength of CIL, and even less idea of the breakdown by classes. Added to which the CIL is on the move. Consequently OXILIA is doubtful of being able to supply the infm required by 19 Sep, since the tmn will not arrive at BENEVENTO much before that date. Will follow the matter up and endeavour to have the details on time. — comd 2i/c G ii

2. G/6/1/F of 9 Sep:- delivered this comm in connection with next strength return. OXILIA intimated there would be no difficulty, except in submitting the tpt requests for excess personnel by 19th - but he though that this could be done at latest by 21st. Will see that this is laid on at the meeting arranged with HQ reps 14 Sep. — comd 2 i/c G ii

3. Army offrs arrested by Allies in ROME on account of suspected Republican activities:- requested OXILIA for infm as to the exact situation here, as Allied authorities no longer interested in these cases. Machinery is getting under way - rather slowly - and he promised to look into two cases in which the offrs had already been examined and their cases decided on, while the offrs themselves were still languishing in concentration camp. — comd 2 i/c

4. HRH's activities in Army area:- gave OXILIA brief account of events of past ten days and explained difficult situation, which he understood perfectly. Requested him to see that in future such activities are arranged only through Adv HQ AAI, that at least one week's notice is given, that once plans are settled they are NOT changed, and that HRH provides himself with his own tpt. OXILIA will see to the matter. — comd

5. Mil Tribunals:- OXILIA could not state off-hand in which category the 250 personnel were to be included, but is — 2 i/c

3. Army offrs arrested by Allies in ROME on account of suspected Republican activities:- requested OXILIA for info as to the exact situation here, as Allied authorities no longer interested in these cases. Machinery is getting under way - rather slowly - and he promised to look into two cases in which the offrs had already been examined and their cases decided on, while the offrs themselves were still languishing in concentration camp. 2 i/c

4. HRH's activities in Army area:- gave OXILIA brief account of events of past ten days and explained difficult situation, which he understood perfectly. Requested him to see that in future such activities are arranged only through Adv HQ AAI, that at least one week's notice is given, that once plans are settled they are NOT changed, and that HRH provides himself with his own tpt. OXILIA will see to the matter. Comd

5. Mil Tribunals:- OXILIA could not state off-hand in which category the 250 personnel were to be included, but is looking into the matter. Info him that detailed comm would follow. 2 i/c

6. Warned OXILIA of possibility of visit by C-in-C to combat grps within next week or two. OXILIA hopes it will be possible to defer the visit and wishes to know, if and when it does take place, if a senior rep of the War Ministry is required to be present, i.e. the Minister or OXILIA himself. 1745

Gen [redacted] SANTI

7. Comms by phone with Del "A" and "T":- SANTI has tried to get through by following the system advocated by Sigs Office, and has failed altogether. Sigs

Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI

8. SD/12 of 12 Jul:- it has now been established that the twelve men were duly detailed by the unit ordered to produce them, but that 31 Int Depot omitted to state in the order where the men were to report! Nor did the unit holding the men bother to enquire. It is stated that the necessary instrs have now been given. G ii

Cdtt AA have to do it!

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42 8/9 A/G SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 7 Sep 44

Gen ORILIA

1. Conveyed message from COC - in no uncertain terms - on account of rits reported to be in process of being organised in ROME for FRIULI Div. According to infm available at SMRE the posn is as follows: comd 2 i/c

a) FRIULI personnel routed to S.GIORGIO (incl CREMATIERI) 8220
less 1914 class passed to Allies (3 Dist) 1050
7170

b) Therefore, rits needed on this figure ..... under 2000
Rits now called for by FRIULI ... 1908 non-specialists
1605 specialists 3513

c) These rits for the FRIULI are supposed to be reporting in ROME between 7 and 10 Sept

d) Actually reported up to 1200 hrs 7 Sep ... 250 specialists
of which ready to leave to-day 70

e) Rits required by Allies in ROME in Aug 4172
Rits actually despatched in Aug 2500
" " " " Sep 670
Rits now outstanding for Allies 1400

Inta ORILIA that coud required an answer to following questions:

- Under whose authority were 3000 rits being called up in ROME for FRIULI Div ?
- Why does FRIULI Div now require 3500 rfts, compared with 2000 as shown above ?
- Why is preference being given [redacted] in call-up to rits for FRIULI, bearing in mind commitments outstanding for Allies from August ?

ORILIA was NOT in a posn to answer these questions, so together

of which ready to leave today 70

e) Rits required by Allies in ROME in Aug 4172
Rits actually despatched in Aug 2500
" " " " Sep 670
Rits now outstanding for Allies 1400

Intd ORILIA that comd required an answer to following questions:

- Under whose authority were 3000 rits being called up in ROME for FRIULI Div ?
- Why does FRIULI Div now require 3500 rits, compared with 2000 as shown above ?
- Why is preference being given [redacted] in call-up to rits for FRIULI, bearing in mind commitments outstanding for Allies from August ?

ORILIA was NOT in a posn to answer these questions, so together we visited BERARDI.

BERARDI stated that:
- He had had a direct order to complete the FRIULI Div by a certain date
- ROME was his only source for obtaining the rits needed, ther he considered this order tantamount to authority to get the men where he could
- Demand for rits had increased to 3500 because of numerous malaria cases among FRIULI personnel sent harvesting in the FOGGIANO
- He had anticipated the difficulty over call-ups by proposing to extend the area for calling-up, but that his proposals had been turned down. Had this been granted there would have been no difficulty over the Allied requirements.

1733

2. Later intd ORILIA by phone of decision taken in the matter:
- Outstanding commitments for Allies to be completed first, 210 Div 548, 5 Army 150 muleteers, engrs for CAPUA 724
- all personnel recruited thereafter to be allotted, both specialists and non-specialists, in the proportion 1/3 ... PBS ; 1/3 ... British units ; 1/3 ... combat grps.
- 1920 class in CAMPANIA to go to PBS and to count against PBS share in ROME.

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A/G

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 5/6 Sep 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Visited GOC [redacted] 5 Sep; following subjects were dealt with: — comd
   - Alpini to be recruited at SULMONA;
   - Italian HQs NORTH of Rome and elsewhere;
   - New comd designated for GGFF;
   - Italian tps in GREECE AND JUGO-SLAVIA;
   - Situation of [redacted] personnel for FRIULI and other combat sps, incl comd of FRIULI Div (Col RIDSLEY present)

Gen SANTI

2. Lt Col RE's successor has at last arrived and will be taking up his duties 7 Sep. (Maj TAGLIONE) — SORE

3. 8 Army increment:- requested list with full particulars for FS, which was subsequently delivered. Unit inspected by G iii (I) and found quite satisfactory. Arrangements made for arms to be supplied from NAPLES. — 2 i/c

4. Comms by phone with Del "A" and "T":- explained how the connection can be obtained through Rome long-distance exchange. — SOSig

Gen OXILIA, Gen SANTI, Col CHIAVARINO, Lt BOLDONI

5. Strength return of Italian Army:- lengthy and detailed discussion of strengths and strength returns, with the object of ensuring that the next return due 19 Sep is correctly made out and shows the true situation. Details contained in draft submitted to 2 i/c. Arranged to be present at meeting 14 Sep 1000 hrs, at which senior offrs from all HQs responsible for sending in returns will be present in an attempt to get the returns right once and for all. — comd, 2 i/c, G ii

6. Comms:- during the course of above meeting OXILIA kept on talking about their difficulties of comms and tpt, which they say make it very hard for them to get these returns in in time, or in the event of their having to give special orders to HQs and units in the fd to [illegible] — comd, 2 i/c, A/Q

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6. Comms:- during the course of above meeting OXILIA kept on talking about their difficulties of comms and tpt, which they say make it very hard for them to get these returns in in time, or in the event of their having to give special orders to HQs and units in the fd, to get the orders to addressees in time. The main difficulty over the tpt is tyres, and OXILIA stated that within a few weeks the War Ministry will be at a complete standstill . This question has been taken up through service channels, but OXILIA made a particular request that the matter be brought to the attention of the comd., owing to the seriousness of the situation. — comd, 2 i/c, A/Q

1732

Lt Col DI BITONTO

7. Personnel required for new units for Allies:- following is a note of standing commitments for which SMRE is responsible: — comd

- mid-Sep	Dvrs course POLIGNANO	160
- 15 Sep	Dvrs course CALABRIA	150
- 1 Oct	Line tele school FRANCAVILLA	120
- 4 Oct	Dvrs course APULIA	130
now	Rfts for 19 AA Regt	381

Latter AA rfts should be available from excess AA personnel in BARI, but the remainder will require to be called up.

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Q.

File

Ref Item 15

Would you please inform
all concerned our line

AR

War Plan with ell
[illegible] to Sat Aug
MMA 1 Dept & Army
1 Dept
2 Dept

approved

ADR-L

9 1731

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

Partito Fascista Repubblicano

FASCIO ROMANO DI COMBATTIMENTO

Roma, li ..... *1943 XXI*

I Camerata .....

Paternità ..... Maternità .....

Data e luogo di nascita .....

Residente a ..... Via ..... n. .....

Telefono ..... professione .....

si è presentato oggi ed ha chiesto l'iscrizione al Partito Fascista Repubblicano.

P. IL COMMISSARIO DEL FASCIO ROMANO
(GINO BARDI)

Firma .....

Domicilio .....

A/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 3/4 Sep 44

1. Gen SANTI
Patriot Branch camps in 8 Army area:- after explaining the posn to Maj DRAGE of Patriot Branch, requested SANTI to infm TOMASELLI of plans for camps and Patriot Branch's requirements of Italian Army personnel to man them: total 7 offrs, 42 men. Such personnel to be furnished from units under comd 8 Army. DRAGE later stated that Lt DI LORETO of his office would be contacting MORIARTY to enlist his help in obtaining release of the necessary personnel. comd C ii G iii(I

2. Italian Sig School, PALMA:- Requested SANTI to investigate delay in requisitioning building required for the school. SANTI later reported that school not supposed to be functioning before 10 Sept (ref SMRE letter 19 Aug 163/Add), that Education authorities were opposing the requisitioning of part of the building required for the sig school, but that he had immediately sent a senior offr to represent the case strongly and he had no doubt that the school would be ready to start by the date fixed. SO Sig

3. Personnel:- arrangements are already in hand for replacing GRIGLIO; with regard to RE, a sig has been sent ordering his replacement to report at once. If he does not report within 48 hrs, another offr will be nominated. comd SORE

4. Italian Increment for 8 Army:- Unit practically ready. Will be ready for inspection by FS 6 Sep 10.30 hrs. 2 i/c G ii

5. Farriers and saddlers required by 5 and 8 Armies:- ref log 27/28 Aug para 9, following infm is now available: G ii
Saddlers: there is a course on at the moment in Campania; from this twelve saddlers are now available and a further twenty will be ready shortly. Anticipating further requirements, a further course for 50 men will be started.
Farriers: a course is being organized.

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Saddlers: there is a course on at the moment in Campania; from this twelve saddlers are now available and a further twenty will be ready shortly. Anticipating further requirements, a further course for 50 men will be started.
Farriers: a course is being organized.

6. CALABRIA Div:- SMRE issuing orders for reorg of div - SANTI would be grateful if Col SIMMONDS can be infd, in view of possible complications over 236 Rmgt and Cagliari Port Bn, which also have to be reorganized. — G ii

7. Attended meeting at AAI (with G ii) on rfts and new units for Br programme. — G ii

Gen SANTI

8. Demobilization within CIL:- this was contemplated for when the CIL units arrived at BENEVENTO. As a result of AAI meeting above, requested SANTI to arrange for immediate demobilization of those men of older classes while they were still at CHIETI, in order to effect reduction in ceiling as early as possible. — G ii

Lt Col DI BIASIO

9. Handed him copy of AAI programme for units under British comd, and requested him to consider ways and means for implementing that portion not available from SARDINIA in Sep - roughly 3500 men. — G ii

1780

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liaison with s m r e 3/4 Sep 44

Gen OXILIA

10. New central office:- showed him an excellent example of how things should NOT be done under the new system: an MEDIA sig dated 31 Aug which reached the office concerned in SMRE on 3 Aug... complete with covering letter signed by chef de cabinet ! — comd

11. OXILIA wishes to speak to GOC when convenient on the subject of ROME HQ and War Ministry rep in FLORENCE. — comd

12. Infd OXILIA of situation regarding demobilization of CIL - he will follow with SMRE.

13. Requested to be infd what action War Ministry proposed taking to speed-up call-up in ROME; discussed results obtained to date, which, as is known, amount to 2/3000 men despatched against over 8000 recalled to colours. Infd him that up to 8/9000 would have to be called up here in Sep - what steps are being taken to ensure these men are available. — comd 2 i/c

14. Lt Col DI BITONTO
1920 class in CAMPANIA:- numbers estimated at 3000/3500Ø — 2 i/c G ii

Gen SANTI

15. Del "A":- infd him
a) that authority had been granted for HQ to remain at CHIETI with est and functions similar to those approved for Del "I"; — G ii
b) that personnel necessary for guarding stores of Del "A" would remain, reduced to minimum numbers, and to be shown seperately from Del "A" HQ
c) that remainder of personnel of Del "A" will be disbanded forthwith at CHIETI, and would NOT wait to move to BENEVENTO.

14. Lt Col DI BITONTO
1920 class in CAMPANIA:- numbers estimated at 3000/3500/ — 2 i/c G ii

Gen SANTI

15. Del "A":- infd him — G ii
a) that authority had been granted for HQ to remain at CHIETI with est and functions similar to those approved for Del "T";
b) that personnel necessary for guarding stores of Del "A" would remain, reduced to minimum numbers, and to be shown seperately from Del "A" HQ
c) that remainder of personnel of Del "A" will be disbanded forthwith at CHIETI, and would NOT wait to move to BENEVENTO.

1729

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G/Q

SECRET

2 Sep 44

LIAISON WITH S M R E

CASATI

1. Accompanied GOC for private meeting with War Minister. comd
Agenda: letter from PELLIGRA
Patriots (broadcast)
Castellano
Lombardi
Visit to CIL (copy of address to go to CASATI)

Move of CIL south, rather than moving eqpt to CIL, discussed with Oxilia, for ref to Casati.

Gen SANTI

2. Internal Security Div:- info him that detailed est for div strength 5000 was approved and that orders must be given immediately for necessary reorg in SICILY and SARDINIA on new basis. Warned him that sig being sent to MMIA LO in SICILY that effective 1 Sep ratio s being issued there only in accordance with appx "C". 2 i/c G ii

comd

3. Muleteers called up in ROME and men already in CIVITACASTELLANA camp:- requested to know what steps were being taken to deal with absenteeism and men not presenting themselves when called to the colours. SANTI admitted that it was a serious problem to which they had not found the answer . Carabinieri were arresting some of these men, who are detained and awaiting trial. Requested details of numbers dealt with in this way. Under Italian law, men who have already belonged to the Army are considered as mil prisoners if they fail to present themselves when called up. These consequently become a charge on the Italian adm ceiling - category (1). 2 i/c G ii

4. Bn HQ for smoke coys:- SANTI, who is fairly new to the job, did not know the proper form as regards forming new units at the request of local Allied HQs or units. Explained to him that 22 AA Bde had no authority to request the Italian Naples HQ to G ii

1728

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cond 2 i/c

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4. Bn HQ for smoke coys:- SANTI, who is fairly new to the job, did not know the proper form as regards forming new units at the request of local Allied HQs or units. Explained to him that 22 AA Bde had no authority to request the Italian Naples HQ to form this HQ, that it was NOT to be proceeded with, and that and surplus personnel from 1/ 513 Regt could be considered at SMRE's disposal for other emp. G ii

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Gen OXILIA

5. Reorg in SARDINIA:- Detailed instrs implementing appx "D" of MMIA G/6/I/F of 15 Aug, modified as authorised, were to be handed to Gen BRUNETTI yesterday, as he was over here on a visit. 2 i/c

6. "Q" Branch SMRE:- Pointed out to OXILIA that in the case of requests from units under Allied comd for replacements of clothing etc the indents from units and Territorial HQs were passing through Service SMRE for no apparent purpose other than to follow a tradition. He is favourable to the idea that such indents go direct from Territorial HQs to War Ministry. A/Q

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

A/A.

Tele Hon completo 4/6/9

Hon can Check explain
this? In Campania, Apulia,
Calabria & the Islands there
are Commando historians who act
as elected mil authorities with
jurisdiction over all IT/ units
& firms in their respective areas.
NORTH of ROME no such central
authorities exist & all the
remaining numerous & dynamic
units infiltrating northward
will have to become
MMLV = Allied Control Commission
& subject to detailed control & dir.
Two Sicilia = preparing a new solemn
(by agreement with GOC) obligation
under the Delegazione ordinance 1727
6/9 cs.

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Major Baumann.

(1) Ref T is mid- and
never has been received
by A/R. Do not expect
will be used for. active purposes.

(11) Ref A will be destroyed
when the C I L at reaches
3 Distant bar. The small dot
you mention IF we want there
dot added. Who wants it?
must be C as @ will not in the
immediate future S/C

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Partito Fascista Repubblicano

FASCIO ROMANO DI COMBATTIMENTO

Roma, li *1943-XXI*

Il Camerata .....

Paternità ..... Maternità .....

Data e luogo di nascita .....

Residente a ..... Via ..... n. .....

Telefono ..... professione .....

si è presentato oggi ed ha chiesto l'iscrizione al Partito Fascista Repubblicano.

P. IL COMMISSARIO DEL FASCIO ROMANO
(GINO BARDI)

Firma .....

Domicilio .....

A/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 1 Sep 44

Gen BERARDI
1. Called at BERARDI's request to assist at a conference on rfts for CIL and Allied units. Present: OXILIA, SANTI, QUERCIA, CHIAVARINO. For several reasons, i.e. poor results from ROME call-up; need for large numbers of men to replace older men in Allied units; thousands of men needed to form new Allied units and complete existing ones; large demand for specialists for combat gps, SMRE is anxious to extend the basis of call-up, and complete proposals in writing will follow. — comd, 2 i/c, A/Q, G ii

Gen BERARDI
2. "CIL":- Infd him of latest situation regarding two coys for gd duties with 5 Army; move to BENEVENTO probably to start 2 Sep; fwd elements still in line - date of withdrawal uncertain; Alpini units to come back last and to be included in combat gp. — comd, 2 i/c, A/Q, G ii

3. Following recent discussion with SANTI, BERARDI wanted to know SANIA attitude about Col GRIGLIO. Reminded BERARDI that we had been tactfully suggesting for some months now that this offr be replaced, as he was incapable of running an office efficiently, and that it would be in the interests of SMRE to have someone more capable in his place. BERARDI reluctant to take action hitherto because of old associations with this offr, but now appears persuaded of need for change. — comd, 2 i/c, A/Q, G ii

Gen SANTI
4. Discussed following subjects: — 2 i/c, G ii, A/Q, SORE
- Two coys for 5 Army (incl Cp "RE") for gd duties - the necessary warning orders have already been given.
- Remaining coy for 518 Gd Bn - personnel will have to be called up in ROME, matter receiving attention.
- New unit to replace part of MANTOVA on L of C duties in CALABRIA - personnel will also have to be called up, in all prbability. CORONATI's C of S in ROME at the moment and SANTI will discuss with him.
- Replacement of Lt Col RE: complained strongly of delay in arrival of replacement - SANTI has promised to chase.

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in combat gp.

3. Following recent discussion with SANTI, BERARDI wanted to know MAIA attitude about Col GRIGLIO. Reminded BERARDI that we had been tactfully suggesting for some months now that this offr be replaced, as he was incapable of running an office efficiently, and that it would be in the interests of SMRE to have someone more capable in his place. BERARDI reluctant to take action hitherto because of old associations with this offr, but now appears persuaded of need for change. — comd 2 i/c A/Q G ii

Gen SANTI

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- Replacement of Lt Col RE: complained strongly of delay in arrival of replacement - SANTI has promised to chase. — SORE
- Delegazioni "A" and "T":- examined situation likely to arise following move of 228 Div HQ to area ANCONA. — comd 2 i/c G ii
Del "T" located VITERBO will act as adv rep SMRE in regard to 210 Div, Cerseti dets with 5 Army and org of call-up behind 5 Army boundary; (adm only)
Del "A" located CHIETI (or other suitable location behind 8 Army boundary) will control 228 and 209 adv and rear HQs, Cersati dets with 8 Army (adm only) and org of call-up behind 8 Army bdy. 1725
Est of Del "T" is approved at 1 Gen offr, 4 other offrs and 6 ors. It is recommended that similar est be allowed for Del "A", to remain behind when the bulk of the Delegazione moves south (apart from personnel required to gd stores).

Gen CAILIA

5. Situation of Italian tps in GREECE:- accompanied Maj MORRAL and discussed all aspects of the problem for over one hour. Agreement reached over satisfactory working basis for sending mail and Red Cross comforts, SMRE rep in LECCE to contact ... contd — comd

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S E C R E T

liaison with s m r e 1 Sep 44 ... contd

5. Gen OXILIA GREECE(contd) ..; WORAL in BARI. Biggest difficulty, and one yet unsolved is the problem of the coming winter. If the farmers who are now sheltering and employing the tps should decide they are unable to feed the men during the winter and turn them back to the British Mission, the problem will be very serious, as there is no acn or food for them. For this reason OXILIA urged that if and when the Germans withdraw from GREECE the Italian tps there be transferred to the coast as soon as possible and brought back to Italy as and when shipping could be provided. Small numbers of men are being brought away by air - the Mission has had orders to give priority to Italian Navy personnel. comd

6. Refugee Branch:- Ref recent letter from Col HULLS to A/Q, OXILIA sent for Lt Col SAVINI, LO with Refugee Branch, in attempt to find out who had been giving orders to APC camps other than through correct channels. With new situation in force 1 Sep the local APC offices are eliminated and the trouble will disappear. HULLS said to be awaiting MMIA instrs for disposal of surplus Army personnel in Kings Italy. comd 21/c A/Q

7. Lt Col DI BITONTO 1920 class in CAMPANIA:- infd him there would be no objection to calling up this class immediately, in view of immediate requirements of personnel for various units. Will advise estimated numbers involved. 2 i/c G ii A/Q

8. CALABRIA Div:- ref log 19/20 Aug para 6, no decision has been taken on the reorg of this dmn. SMRE quite prepared to reorg on est of standard Division, though this will entail certain amount of reforming in SARDINIA of 236 Regt and CAGLIARI port Bn. Are they to proceed with this ? 2 i/c

Lt Col SAMPO
CII Bft unit:- tpt request to move this unit from CHIETI to G iii

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and CAGLIARI port Bn. Are they to proceed with this ?

Lt Col SAMPO
9 CIL Rft unit:- tpt request to move this unit from CHIETI to G iii
nr BENEVENTO will be sent to MMIA at once, as SMRE is anxious
to have the tps immediately available for reinforcing
FRIULI Div. Can move be hastened, please .

-

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File A 2

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 30 Aug 44

Gen BERARDI

1. CIL:- confirmed that comd is visiting CIL to-day; that plan to withdrew CIL from the line is being adhered to; that units under comd Indian Div are also being withdrawn; that decision as to future of Alpini units would probably NOT be taken before 20 Sep, and that up to that date these units were likely to be out of the line and resting. BERARDI wants to know if the very necessary reorg of these units can be undertaken without further delay. — comd Col PIDSLEY

2. Central office for War Ministry/SMRE:- strange as it may seem, BERARDI professed to be completely in the dark as to CASATI's plans for a central office. Explained SMIA pt of view and our understanding of how the central office would work, to all of which he had no objection. Promised to tie up with OXILIA, and have the interpreters office centralised etc. — comd

Lt Col GUIDA

3. Collected the following translated ests:- — G ii
- Italian Increments for 2 D st;
- Italian Vet Hosp;
- Italian Increment for Engr Forestry Gp;
- Italian Increment for HQ 8 Army.

Traced the following, which will be delivered 31 Aug:
- Italian Increment LAA Wksp;
- Italian Increment Vet Hosp.

Lt Col DI BITONTO and Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI

4. Unsuitable personnel returned by ACO(ROME):- 1 nco and 9 ors unsuitable for trg as dvrs to be returned to CERSETI. — G iii

5. 2 i/c for 228 Div:- requested that appointment be hastened. — G ii

6. Muleteer/ rits for 8 Army ex ROME:- infd him that these would now be destined partly to 5 and part to 8 Army, and that all rfts must be held in ROME until int is expressed — G ii

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Lt Col DI BITONTO and Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI

4. Unsuitable personnel returned by ACC(ROME):- 1 nco and 9 ors unsuitable for trg as dvrs to be returned to CERSETI. G iii

5. 2 i/c for 225 Div:- requested that appointment be hastened. G ii

6. Muleteer/ rfts for 8 Army ex ROME:- infd him that these would now be destined partly to 5 and part to 8 Army, and that all rfts must be held in ROME until tpt is arranged. G ii

7. Line Sig Course, FRANCAVILLA:- it is confirmed by sig from BARI that Lt MOSCHERONI, plus 1 senior and 6 junior ncos, have been recalled from FRANCAVILLA under orders from 15 L of C Sigs, also that only 70 men are required for third course starting 10 Sep. SO Sigs

1724

8. Saddlers for AAI:- there are five saddlers on CERSETI's records in ROME; these are being called up and will be available for 5 or 8 Army. G ii

Gen OXILIA

9. Central Office at War Ministry:- it is agreed that new org for dealing with AMGOT mail will commence to function 1 Sep. From that date all should be addressed to Ministry of War. 2 i/c A/Q

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A/G

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

27/28 Aug 44

Gen ORILIA

1. Special prese releases on Italian Army:- infd him that three special write-ups which he had prepared some weeks ago had been handed to SPALARO, Under-Secretary for the Press, almost immediately. — comd Giii(I)

2. Discussed personnel for mil districts NORTH of ROME and possible forms of org - letter from comd would follow. — comd

3. LOMBARDI:- precis of his case is under preparation, and would be delivered during the course of the day, together with CASATI's appreciation. — comd

4. CASTELLANO's case is still sub judice; the Minister will probably be seeing him before his ultimate appointment is decided on. — comd

5. APC personnel under comd Refugee Branch:- ORILIA has been unable to discover so far who in the War Ministry has been giving orders to APC units without knowledge of Col HULLS; he is sending for Lt Col SAVINI to-morrow in an attempt to elucidate the matter. — 2 i/c A/G

6. Strength returns:- discussed various pts in this connection, incl the numbers shown attd and detd, and the demobilized personnel carried on the strength as being on leave. — 2 i/c G iii

7. New central org:- discussion as to how the new central office will serve the best purpose; it was agreed that SMRE and WW Interpreter Offices will have to be combined. ~~Secretary~~. — 2 i/c

Gen SANTI

8. 228 Div: requested that this HQ be completed by the appointment of 2 i/c. — G ii

9. Saddlers and farriers for 5 and 8 Army:- results of his enquiries are negative. No personnel of either category is immediately available. CERSETI has 5 saddlers on its cards, providing these materialise when they are called up. If and — G ii

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Gen SANTI

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9. Saddlers and farriers for 5 and 8 Army:- results of his enquiries are negative. No personnel of either category is immediately available. CERSETI has 5 saddlers on its cards, providing these materialise when they are called up. If and when Mules are taken from M and P Divs, 20 farriers only will be made available. Requested SANTI about possibility of course for saddlers: he will advise later. — G ii

1723

Lt Col DI BITONTO

10. Our SD/6/3 of 18 Aug:- it is confirmed from Sardinia that the 100 dvrs are available ; may 27 be used for each of 404 and and 406 IPL Regts ? — G ii

11. Specialists for FRILI:- following are urgently required and could be found from the specialists of the GRANATIERI Div: — G ii
- 500 dvrs
- 200 MCs
- 50 WT operators.

Requested him to apply for tpt from SARDINIA, possibly immediately before or after the CREMONA Div.

12. Muleteer replacements for four pack tpt coys:-
Following are being laid on: 231 collected from AWLs
192 ex AFRICOLA
120 approx ex 1921 class
543

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17/8

SECRET

23 Aug 44

LIAISON WITH S M R E

Col NICALETTI

1. Postal scheme for Italian Army in ANCONA area:- infd him that this was not practicable at the moment, as there were no arrangements available for delivering the mail or collecting the replies, and 8 Army would certainly never allow Iti Army DRs to roam the countryside. — A/Q G ii

2. Variety shows for CIL:- in view of withdrawal from the line, he wanted to discuss the provision of concert parties etc for CIL. Told him it was premature, and could be gone into later. — A/Q

Gen [redacted] SANTI

3. PBS Italian Units:- renaming of Gen REISOLI's HQ - infd him that new title was NOT acceptable to MMIA; requested him to consider the adoption of title incorporating number 212. — G ii

4. Engr offr for trg branch:- confirmed that only one engr offr is required for trg purposes; requested that sig offr Maj SCIASCIA be allowed to assist trg branch on technical sig matters. Lt Col BAUER will NOT be available (as stated in log 21/22 Aug), will be replaced by another offr. — SORE SO Sigs.

5. Gen OXILIA

Services etc in SARDINIA:- concerned as to the limits set by MMIA for Italian services etc in SARDINIA. Details referred to 2 i/c. — 2 i/c

6. GARIBALDI correspondence:- OXILIA had been infd by CASATI of the letters exchanged between GOC and BERARDI and wanted to know if the matter had been settled satisfactorily. — Comd

Lt Col DI BITONTO

7. Muleteer rits for 8 Army from ROME:- number of men being called is estimated to produce 250 - 300 muleteers for 29 Aug? By this date it is requested that arrangements be made for clothing, rations - tpt for this number of men. — G ii A/Q Mov

4. [illegible] required for trg purposes; requested that sig offr Maj SCIASCIA be allowed to assist trg branch on technical sig matters. Lt Col BAUER will NOT be available (as stated in log 21/22 Aug), will be replaced by another offr. — SO Sigs.

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8. Engr rits for PBS CIVITAVECCHIA:- by evening 23 Aug, 494 men had been despatched. — SORE

1722

Maj MAIOCCHI

9. 10-day strength returns:- the new return will be about twice the length of the previous one (he estimates) - he is hoping MMIA will NOT require this return more than once a month. — 2 i/c Giii(I)

Lt Col DI BITONTO

10. 210 Div:- collected latest return of ests and strengths. If these details are correct, 210 are about 2000 men short of est. — 2 i/c G ii

11. 417 Regt:- infd him that contrary to previous suggestion, 1000 men of FRIULI Div ('14 class) would NOT be used for completing the I Bn of this Regt. — G ii

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AQ

SECRET

File

LIAISON WITH S M K E 21/22 Aug 44

Gen SANTI

1. Engr offrs:- replacement for RE will be available in a few days (Maj TAGLIONE). In response to MMIA request, SANTI proposes to attch Lt Col BAUER as engr offr to Tr Branch. — SORE Ciii(I)

2. SMKE mail for EA DINIAetc:- requested him to arrange for envelopes to bear serial number and certificate that contents are official mail only. — SOSigs

Gen CAPELLA

3. Comd PISANO Div:- Gen Div SUCCIONS is being relieved by Gen Brigata BERARDO di PESCARA. — comd CIII(I)

4. Carrying of arms by Italian tps:- requested him to consider AQG of 19 Aug in abeyance, pending receipt of further comm from MMIA on this subject. — comd

5. Patriots:- in reply to his enquiry as to whether he and PISANO might call on GOC and Col MACARTHY for further talk on this subject, info him that matter still under consideration by Allied authorities concerned, and that for the moment there is nothing to add to what was said at the first meeting. — comd Ciii(I

Lt Col DI-ITONTO

6. Spoke with CO 8 Army transit camp CIVITA CASTELLANA, who still has on his hands all the rifts from RO R for 109 Regt, with no tents, cooking eqpt etc, and very low rations. He requests urgent action for the transfer of these men - alternatively that no further men are sent to the camp until the 400 or so hands have been removed. Some have already been there ten days. — 2 i/c G ii

7. Muletear rifts at VITERBO:- requests that urgent action is taken to dispose of the 300 men originally destined to 210 Div. — G ii

8. 1500 engr rifts for CASERTA:- made arrangements for the move by rail from ROME to CASERTA of ten 50 men per day commencing 24 Aug. — SORE

Lt Col GUIDA

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5. Patrite:- in reply to his enquiry as to whether he and Pinna might call on GOC and Col MACARTHY for further talk on this subject, told him that matter still under consideration by Allied authorities concerned, and that for the moment there is nothing to add to what was said at the first meeting. — Comd Ciii(1

Lt Col BRITTON

6. Spoke with CO 8 Army transit camp CITTA CASTELLANA, who still has on his hands all the rifs from RC 5 for 109 Regt, with no tents, cooking eqpt etc, and very low rations. He requests urgent action for the transfer of these men - alternatively that no further men are sent to the camp until the 400 or so hands have been removed. Some have already been there ten days. — 2 i/c G ii

7. Volunteer rifs at NAPLES:- requests that urgent action is taken to dispose of the 300 men originally destined to 210 Div. — G ii

8. 1500 engr rifs for CAIRO:- made arrangements for the move by rail from ROME to CAPUA of 250 men per day commencing 24 Aug. — SCRE

Lt Col GUIDA

9. Units from SARDINIA:- requested him to arrange for immediate notification by Mil HQ Campania of arrivals from SARDINIA, to enable SCRE to inform the Italian HQ under whose comd the unit is destined, so that the unit is taken care of immediately on reaching its destination. Explained to him that this can be done by ref to No7 priority list. — G ii

10. BARI bns:- the first four grd bns from ST OTHO are destined for PBS, and will be given numbers 507 - 510. SCRE should be told as to the order in which the MANTOVA and PISANO bns will be relieved, to enable them to keep their records in order and see to numbering and adm arrangements. Also, details are required as to destinations etc of regt HQs to comd the eighteen grd bns, and which bns each will comd. — G ii

Gen BERNARDI

11. Handed him GOC's letter in connection with GARIBALDI situation. BERNARDI very pleased that the matter can be considered closed. He was anxious for it to be understood that his original letter was only intended to clarify his own posn, and particularly his policy of disinterestedness in anything with a political tinge. — comd

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A/2

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE 19/20 Jul 44

1.	Gen SANTI and Gen MATTIOLI Discussed with them revised SMRE instrs for wind-up of situation in SARDINIA, in accordance with C/S of 15 Aug and MATTIOLI's original plan. Authorised inclusion under services of up to 20 for Delegazione Trasporti and up to 50 for V and R services.	comd 2 i/c G ii
2.	Lt Col DI MARTINO has been appointed 2 i/c Personale and Segreteria Branch, under Col GRIGLIO.	G ii G iii(I)
3.	Muleteer rifs for 8 Army:- requested him to alert CERRUTI forthwith as to 1000 muleteer rifs required for 8 Army; 300 to be picked up in ROME immediately - for the remainder to await the executive order. SANTI to advise soonest date when the 300 can be got ready, to enable MMIA to arrange for clothing and rations etc.	G ii
4.	Gen SANTI, Lt Cols SIMEO and GUIDA Move of Dele "T": all pressing for a decision as to whether this Mi is to go to VIP-TRIESTE or ORVIETO. Dele "T" is adv by representing SMRE and exp used to be controlling 210 and 215 Italian Divs, which it is now trying to do from NAPLES. MMIA letter of 8 Aug to AFHQ refers.	G ii
5.	Lt Col DI SIMEO Rock-climbing Alpini:- the following are the names of the three offrs available in ROME:- Maj CIP ELLI Tullio, Capts VILLA Renato and VECCHIETTI	G ii
6.	Gen BERARDI, Gen SANTI, Gen MATTIOLI, Col GRIGLIO SARDINIA:- Called at SMRA DI's request to discuss plans for wind-up in SARDINIA (see para 1 above). No difficulty over main proposals, but BERARDI suggests in view of inclusion of 236 Regt and CAGLIARI Port Bn in CAGLIARI Div that the div be treated as an ad hoc fmn for the time being, and later reorg in accordance with appx "D" of MMIA letter S/S/I/F of	comd 2 i/c

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Gen SANNI, Lt Cols SCHIO and NERI

4. Move of Dele "T": all pressing for a decision as to whether this HQ is to go to VITERBO or ORVIETO. Dele "T" is now representing SMRE and supposed to be controlling 210 and 228 Italian Divs, which it is now trying to do from NAPLES. SMA/ letter of 8 Aug to AFI refers. — G ii

Lt Col DI BIAGIO

5. Rock-climbing Alpini:- the following are the names of the three offrs available in ROME:- Maj CAP PELLI Tullio, Capts VERNA Renato and VECCHIETTI — G ii

Gen BERARDI, Gen SANNI, Gen MATTIOLI, Col CRAVARINO

6. SARDINIA:- Called at BERARDI's request to discuss plans for wind-up in SARDINIA (see para 1 above). No difficulty over main proposals, but BERARDI suggests in view of inclusion of 236 Regt and CAGLIARI Port Bn in C/LABRIA Div that the div be treated as an ad hoc fmn for the time being, and later recog in accordance with appx "D" of MRI's letter G/6/T/P of 15 Aug. BERARDI would also like to org the arty personnel into bns in accord nce with appx "B", and allow them to train when circumstances permit. — comd 2 i/c

7. CIL:- Into the above senior offrs (NOT to be repeated) the CIL was coming out of the line and that this would materially affect the rft situation and move of Dele "A", both subjects discussed at recent meetings. BERARDI wanted to know whether this implied that CIL would NOT be employed again in the line until required for the combat gp scheme, as any recog plans would naturally be governed by this consideration. — comd 2 i/c G ii

8. Mules required to be released by Italian Army for Allied employment:- the 1200 pack mules remaining with Italian Army are largely needed for carrying weapons, mess etc. By cutting down to absolute minimum approx 120 mules can be released, but if it were certain that Mantova and Piceno Divs were to be employed in the combat gp scheme, then the whole number would become available in view of their replacement by MT. — comd 2 i/c G ii

1720

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A/2

SECRET

L I A I S O N "ITH S M R E 18 Aug 44

Gen CAILLE

1. Discussed following subjects:-
- PAI;
- [illegible];
- Wearing of civilian clothes by offrs ciloty;
- All prisons;
- Districts and real estate to the NORTH;
- Is Div;

Gen SANI

2. Discussed following subjects:-
- Personnel of SMRE;
- Italian tps being sent on leave in Army areas;
- Call-up in HOME;
- Est and strength of CIL and Del "A";
- 2º Reparto Pioniere;

3. Gen SANI, Gen MATTIOLI, Col CHIAVARINO;
Mattioli's report on man-power situation in SARDINIA - see separate notes.

Capt Emilio CORNA

4. Settled outstanding question regarding XX and XXI Pack Gp Hqs.

Lt Col DI BIAGIO

5. Four pack tpt coys being to med in NAPLES:- this matter is now reported well in hand, and coys will be ready by 21 Aug. G ii

6. Call-up of 1921 class in CAMPANIA:- total to note 1308, being distributed as follows: G ii
- to complete four pack tpt coys as above 300
- muleteer rifts for 210 Div 300
- Muleteer rifts for 7 Min Regt 100
- balance (investigating how many suitable as muleteer rifts for 5 Army) 308

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- set the strength of GIB and Det "A";
- 2° Report on Ammunitions;

3. Gen D'AVANZO, Gen BATTISTI, Col CHIAPPARINO;
Montroni's report on man-power situation in SARDINIA - see seperate notes.

Capt DELLA CORNA
4. Settles outstanding question regarding XX and XXI Prod Gp HQs.

Lt Col DE MICHELE
5. Four pack tpt coys being fo med in TARANTO:- this matter is now reported well in hand, and coys will be ready by 21 Aug. G ii

6. Call-up of 1921 class in CAMPANIA:- total to date 2000, being as a to follows: G ii
- to complete four pack tpt coys as above 300
- muleteer rifs for 210 Div 300
- muleteer rifs for 7 Mtn Regt 100
- balance (investigating how many suitable as muleteer rifs for 8 Army) 308

7. Divs ex CAMPANIA for BONIFACIO and BARI courses:- of the 170 men due to leave NAPLES, only 117 actually got on the train, and a further ten or so left the train before reaching BARI. Consequently the entire party will be going to BONIFACIO and the BARI course will be short. G ii

Lt Col SOCHOWARSKI
8. 100 muleteer rifs for 7 Mtn Regt:- men ready at 15 Int Depot Salerno; query whether clothing has been authorised. G iii A/Q

9. Muleteer rifs for 8 Army:- requested him to arrange for call-up earliest of 250 suitable men in ROME; he will later notify date of presentation when clothing and rations will be needed. G ii A/Q

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Allegato 20-E

A/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMERE

14/15 Jul 44

Gen ORLDI

1. Sick and away from the Ministry these two days. Expected back 16 Aug.

Gen BERARDI and Gen SANTI

2. Move of Del "A":- At Berardi's request, called to discuss move two from CHIETI to ANCONA area. BERARDI very anxious to have at least adv party in two area without further delay. Explained that JESI out of the question for operational reasons, and that useless for adv party to proceed to that area if main body eventually destined elsewhere. Indicated that area CAMERINO - MATELICA - FABRIANO had now been proposed officially, and that Del "A" adv party could proceed there forthwith, maintaining close contact with G LANDI. BERARDI was quite satisfied with this. — comd 2 i/c G 1

3. Rite for CIL - especially "Alpini" rifts:- Informed that the suggestion for recruiting 1000 Alpini for SARDINIA was NOT considered satisfactory at this juncture, and that notice to this effect had already been forwarded to War Ministry. BERARDI very upset and requested reconsideration, on grounds that CIL has been in line for very many months, almost without rest, and unless he has certain number of rifts in hand, within the ceiling, he will find it hard to carry on and maintain morale of his tps, also to replace battle losses, desertions, sickness etc. Proposal for consideration is that SMERE be allowed to enlist up to 1000 Alpini in SULMONA AND AQUILA districts, within the 3000 which theirs authorised for SMERE. — comd 2 i/c G 1 A/Q

Gen SANTI

4. Call-up in Rome for FEB. 210. Army etc:- he is personally satisfied that the very poor response to the call-up in ROME is due to the circumstances of the moment. Steps have been taken to increase the numbers to the real figures, and they — 2 i/c G 1 SCRE

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3. [illegible] suggestion for recruiting 1000 Alpini [illegible] considered as satisfactory at this juncture, and that notice to this effect had already been forwarded to War Ministry. BERARDI very upset and requested reconsideration, on grounds that CIL has been in line for very many months, almost without rest, and will be he has certain number of his in mind, within the ceiling, he will find it hard to carry on and maintain morale of his tps, also to replace battle losses, desertions, sickness etc. Proposal for consideration is that SMRE be allowed to enlist up to 1000 Alpini in SICILY and AGRIM districts, within the 3000 volunteers authorised for MOVE. — 2 i/c G i A/Q

4. Gen SANDI
Call-up in Rome for PBS, 210, 8 Army etc:- he is personally satisfied that the very poor response to the call-up in ROME is due to the circumstances of the moment. Steps have been taken to increase the numbers to the right figures, and they have already started sending out 400 cards per day, but owing no time lag, it will be some days before the difference is noticed. Confirmed that if as may day the numbers to be [illegible] despatched are in excess of 200 + 10%, surplus rations issued will count against numbers under-drawn since Aug 8. — 2 i/c G i SORE A/Q 1718

5. Capt L' [illegible]
Butler for APRA:- after consultation with War Ministry, and WO Recobbon sent round to Lt Col DE STEFANIS for vetting and onward transmission to CASERTA. — comd

6. Gen BERARDI
Handed him SMRE copy of G/6/1/F of 15 Aug. Said particular emphasis on notes A and B of appx "A". His first impression was NOT so unfavourable. — 2 i/c

7. Col DE MICHELIS
Handed him War Ministry copy of G/6/1/F of 15 Aug, again with emphasis on notes "A" and "B". — 2 i/c G i A/Q

8. Col BRUNO Attilio:- handed in letter addressed to War Minister requesting that above offr be placed at disposal of Gen Wilson. — 2 i/c G i

785920

A/a - SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 13 Aug 44

1. Gen CAILLA
Following subjects were discussed:- comd
- Investigation into and settlement of members of former 2 i/c
PAI org. This org was formerly under Ministry of Interior G i
and has never been under the control of War Ministry. A/Q
Public Safety Sub Commission were enquiring through Italian
LO as to whether War Ministry would be undertaking enquiries.
CAILLA will reply that matter has to be dealt with direct
with Ministry of Interior.
- Gen [illegible]'s case was gone into in some detail - he will comd
be retired from the service and placed in reserve wef 30 Aug. G iii(I
- Wearing of Italian Army uniforms:- no difficulty xxxx over
compliance with AMGIA instrs, but would like following excep-
tions, now standard practice in Italian Army, authorised: comd
- General offrs, med and vet offrs are entitled to wear
civilian clothes in the afternoon;
- all offrs are entitled to wear civilian clothes when on
leave.
- CAILLA would be grateful for info on the reasons for arrest G iii(I
of one Col CHIANI Giuseppe on 24 Jul at SAPI. He was subse-
quently released on parole and confined to his own residence.
- Hand-over of mil prisons: arrangements have been completed comd
for the removal of the over-30-day men from the ration A/Q
strength, but the Ministry of Grace and Justice has so far
refused to take over the mil prisons. Matter still under
discussion.
- "Old" and "new" army:- handed him copy of directive AGO/ 091.711
of 4 Aug. NOT happy about presen arrangements for coping comd
with pers; will be writing to on this subject.
- Italian Army "services" by categories:- the revision being 2i/c
undertaken by CAILLA in NYI quite completed. CAILLA under A/Q
the weather to-day with rain thront and returning home; weks

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- General Offrs, Med and Vet Offrs in civilian clothes in the afternoon;
- all Offrs are entitled to wear civilian clothes when on leave.

- OXILIA would be grateful for info on the reasons for arrest of one Col CAINO Giuseppe on 24 Jul at ENAI. He was subsequently released on parole and confined to his own residence. G iii(I

- Hand-over of mil prisons: arrangements have been completed for the removal of the over-30-day men from the ration strength, but the Ministry of Grace and Justice has so far refused to take over the mil prisons. Matter still under discussion. comd A/Q

- "Old" and "new" army:- handed him copy of directive AG/ 091.711 of 4 Aug. NOT happy about present arrangements for coping with parts 3; will be writing in on this subject. comd

- Italian Army "services" by categories:- the revision being undertaken by OXILIA is NOT quite completed. OXILIA under the weather to-day with a throat and returning home; asks for 24 hrs grace. 2i/c A/Q

- Reduction in strength of Italian Army:- drew OXILIA's attention to apparent failure hitherto in reaching reduced ceiling set for end July, according to state just issued. OXILIA to contested AMIA figures, and it eventually transpired that SMRE are working on ration strength (as/ opposed to est strength) which at 10 July exerex was 320.000 odd. 2i/c clarified that overall est of Italian Army will be within ceiling of 309.000. 2i/c G i A/Q

1717

- OXILIA will be establishing comm on the subject of mine clearance, a problem which is becoming increasingly important. Two alternatives will be proposed, one entailing the setting up of civilian undertakings.

Gen SANTI

2. Strength returns:- requested him to enquire urgently into the question of strength returns needed for ORBAT, which various Amms have NOT yet sent in, although the new procedure was laid down over one month ago. Will discuss the matter in further detail with him to-morrow. 2 i/c G i

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A/Q File A/D

SECRET

LIAISON WITH / S M R P

11/12 Aug 44

Gen CHILI/

1. New org of central authority at War Ministry:- in clarification of LO's log 9 Aug, it is established that a central office will be set up directly under CHILIA (Headed up by Lt Col [illegible]RINI) which will function as a central registry for all comms with MMIA. It will also have under its control the joint War Ministry and SMRP interpreter sec for translations etc. All comms reaching the War Ministry/ SMRP through normal channels xhxxx will be scrutinised by this office, translated and distributed to branch concerned. Only most important matters will be referred to CHILI'. This will NOT interfere with the direct contact of LO's with branches on routine matters. Orders to this new office are about to be issued. comd 2i/c Gi A/Q

2. Gen DE STEFANIS called on GOC prior to returning to Dele "A" comd

3. Meeting to discuss petrol situation in GOC's office, attended by: GOC, Col MCCARTHY, Gen CHILIA, PALERMO, FAVA, SALBY. Italian proposals to be put on paper for examination by GOC and Col MCCARTHY. comd

Gen CHILIA

4. Reporters for CIL:- there are no official reporters to present with CIL, but CR AFA will arrange at once for two army men with necessary qualifications to be attached. comd

5. MATTIOLI's visit to SICILY:- infd him of exact object of MATTIOLI's visit and stressed need for precise details of Ital civ services to remain in the Island, based on a total strength of about 20,000 men for the time being. MATTIOLI has gone off without these, but CHILIA has promised to signal them to him. G i

Lt Col DI MAYORCA

6. 1921 class being recalled in CALABRIA:- exact figures are to be available to-morrow. In the meantime, 300 muleteer rifle G i

Italian proposals to be put on paper for examination by COS and Col [illegible] HY.

Gen [illegible]

4. Reporters for CIL:- there are no officials reporters at present with CIL, but GX [illegible] will arrange at once for two army men with necessary qualifications to be attached. comd

5. [illegible]'s visit to [illegible]:- info him of exact object of [illegible]'s visit and stressed need for precise details of Adm and services to remain in the Island, based on a total strength of about 20.000 men for the time being. [illegible] had gone off without these, but GXLIX has promised to signal them to him. G i

Lt Col DE [illegible]

6. Ijel class being recalled in C[illegible]:- exact figures are to be available to-morrow. In the meantime, 300 muleteer rifts have been prepared for 210 Div, and opl request will follow. Further 200 men will be employed to meet [illegible] request for additional muleteers. G i

1716

7. Volunteers for CIL continue trickling through:- to date 735 have been despatched from ROME. G i

8. SD/4 of 7 Aug:- Mil HQ [illegible] report that no rifts are available at TRANI ordnance depot. SORE

Gen SANTI

9. 2° Reparto Ministeriale: took up with him strongly the question of deficiency of men supplied with this unit. Later SANTI reported 80 men having been ordered to rejoin the unit, and that the remainder will report within two/three days. G i

10. 561 Mine lifting coy:- reported recent discussions with RE on completion of this coy, which is reported by SORE to be 95 under strength, while Mil HQ CAMPANIA have given assurance that the unit moved off at full strength. Have requested that unit be completed soonest at GAETA. SORE

11. Riding horse for AFHQ:- thanked SANTI for his interest in the matter, and requested that the charger available in ROME be delivered to the stables at the Galloppatoio in Villa UMBERTO on 14 AUG. G i

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A/8 SECRET

LIAISON WITH SYRE 8/10 Aug 44

8 Aug

1. Accompanied GOC to War Ministry for meeting with CASATI and CASILLO. Agenda: Comando Supremo, chain of comd at War Ministry, combat grps and selection of offrs, publicity for Italian Army and Patriots, appointment for CASTELLANO; Casati raised question of Internal Security tps as a matter of long-term policy and will be writing in about it. In meantime, GOC made it clear that orders for 18 gd bns emanated from AAI and must be carried out. comd

2. Accompanied Gi to meeting convened by BERNARDI to discuss rifts and sups for CIL and Dale "A". Present: BERNARDI, SANTI, GUERCIA, CHIAVARINO, SAMPO, DE STEFANIS, CICOGNA, TERRANOVA, LIUZZI. To bring CIL up to est 3.600 rifts are required, plus 1000 rifts per month to replace losses. BERNARDI's proposal was to recruit approx 1000 Alpini in ABBRUZZO, and 200 rifts per day in ROME. Gi explained that demands for rifts must flow through normal channels, and that POLCORPS must support demands via AAI. This would also solve tpt problem; which would then become Allied commitment. Question of Sigs comms and clothing and sups also raised, latter subjects being deferred to "Q" meeting 9 Aug. comd G i 2 i/c

9 Aug

3. Accompanied A/Q to meeting on "Q" subjects in connection with CIL and Dale "A": present - SANTI, GUERCIA, CHIAVARINO, SAMPO, DE STEFANIS, CICOGNA, TERRANOVA, LIUZZI, CAMPANELLA, POLLIONI; comd A/Q

- by 30 Sept POLLIONI stated he would be able to produce 26.500 woollen uniforms of Italian pattern for CIL, 1/3 new and 2/3 part-worn and repaired. This would leave 5.500 uniforms for other Italian units under Italian comd. CIL rep stated that repaired clothing was of very little value, being too tight and shrunk, and rapidly becoming beyond repair.
- A/Q stated that requests for boots, pants, shirts, socks for CIL would be considered. Apart from rifts, CIL need immediately 14.000 pairs of boots.
- CIL require 26.500 winter coats, of which only 5000 are now ready.
- Summer clothing for rifts:- no suitable clothing appears to be available for rifts mentioned in para 2.
- CAMPANELLA and DE STEFANIS requested that consideration be given to move as soon as possible of 300/400 bed hosp to DADMS

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commitment. Question of Blue coats and clothing and caps also raised, latter subjects being deferred to "Q" meeting 9 Aug.

9 Aug

3. Accompanied A/Q to meeting on "Q" subjects in connection with OIL and Role "A": present - SANTI, BIANCHI, CHIAVARINO, SAMPO, DE STEFANIS, CIOCCA, TEMPANOT, LIZZI, CARNAROLI, PERRONE; - by 30 Sept PERRONE stated he would be able to produce 25.500 woollen uniforms of Italian pattern for OIL. 1/3 new and 2/3 part-worn and repaired. This would leave 5.500 uniforms for other Italian units under Italian comd. OIL rep stated that repaired clothing was of very little value, being too tight and shrunk, and rapidly becoming beyond repair. - A/Q stated that requests for boots, pants, shirts, socks for OIL would be considered. Apart from rifs, OIL need immediately 14.000 pairs of boots. - OIL require 25.500 winter coats, of which only 5000 are now ready. - Summer clothing for rifs:- no suitable clothing appears to be available for rifs mentioned in para 2. - CARNAROLI and DE STEFANIS requested that consideration be given for move as soon as possible of 300/400 bed hosp to I.50I, to replace 50 Gen Hosp, now too far back. comd A/Q DALMS

4. In view of difficulties in fitting out rifs and units of OIL, and situation likely to result if combat gp scheme comes to fruition, it is for consideration whether ceiling of OIL should not be allowed to fall to 20.000, provided commitments in the line do not necessitate the higher figure. Should the reduction be practicable, it is recommended SWNF be info as soon as possible to save unnecessary work on their part. 1215 Pers G i A/Q

Gen CARLIA

5. Repatriation of Italian pow from South 'LB'NIA:- War Ministry approve of return of Gen PICCINI, former 2 i/c FIRENZE Div, and lately under comd Gen AZZI. G ii

6. Extension of call-up NORTH of ROME:- requested his proposals for extending the registration of men liable to mil service, to be accompanied by estimate of numbers involved. G i

7. CARLIA and PALERMO request interview with GOC and Col MACARTHY. Arranged for 1030 hrs 11 Aug. Comd

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Gen MATTIOLI

8. Visit to SARDINIA:- Warned him for 11 Aug, subject to confirmation. Info of following basis for settlement of SARDINIAN situation:- G i

- CALABRIA Div	5000	These numbers to incl only men NOT subject to demobilization.
- Under comd Allies	9000	
- AA and CD	5388	
- Adm and Services	?	

CAL'BRIA Div to incl 236 Regt, Port Bn CAGLIARI, and if necessary parts of Granatieri Div.
Query cav personnel in BARI Div, required for Allied remount unit, and any specialists available from Granatieri Div.

Lt Col ROCCHOWANSKI

9. 1004/5 GT Coys:- these two units have now been completed for specialists, with the exception of two upholsterers per coy who are not to be found. G ii

X

Lt Col DI BITONTO

10. 160 men for cvr course PONTINIANO:- two thirds of these have been found, and the balance is in sight. Part of these men have had to be taken from port lab (on loan), and will be replaced by surplus personnel from CALABRIA. G ii

11. Cvr course BARI:- this course, about 130 strong, will provide cvrs for 1007 GT Coy in Sept. Personnel is having to be found in CAMPANIA, as there are no men available in APULIA. G ii

12. Surplus personnel in Depots:- DI BITONTO is info that there are no men available in any of the depots. Surplus in APULIA was employed on MTA orders, surplus in CAMPANIA has vanished and enquiries are in course as to its sup. 100 surplus in CALABRIA will be used to replace men borrowed from port lab for the POLIGHANO course. C i

Gen SANTI

13. GRANATIERI Coy for ROME:- ref cancellation of order for second G ii

I

Lt Col DI BIASIO

10. 160 men for dvr course PO INFANO:- two thirds of these have been found, and the balance is in sight. Part of these men have had to be taken from port lab (on loan), and will be replaced by surplus personnel from CALABRIA. G ii

11. Dvr course BARI:- this course, about 130 strong, will provide dvrs for 1007 GI Coy in Sept. Personnel is having to be found in CAMPANIA, as there are no men available in APULIA. G ii

12. Surplus personnel in Depots:- DI BIASIO is infd that there are no men available in any of the depots. Surplus in APULIA was employed on MTA orders, surplus in CAMPANIA has vanished and enquiries are in course as to its emp. 100 surplus in CALABRIA will be used to replace men borrowed from port lab for the POLIGNANO course. C i

Gen SANTI

13. GRAMIGNI Coy for ROME:- ref cancellation of order for second coy to move, SANTI states that this was entirely due to a certain Lt Gen PUNTONI. attd Royal Household, who issued the order on his own initiative. SANTI was most apologetic, and assured that the necessary instrs were being issued forthwith to ensure departure of unit as arranged. G ii

1714

Maj DI MONACO

14. Fd Hosps and med units from SARDINIA:- following are units nominated for "F" and "G" combat grps:
- "F" 82 and 960 Fd Hosps 26 Med Unit
- "G" 54 and 333 Fd Hosps 54 Med Unit G iii

Capt LA TERZA

15. Butler for AFHQ:- through recommendation of Lt CARACCIOLA started enquiries about WO RICCARDI MARIO. This man has the necessary experience, but was in enemy occupied Italy for many months and War Ministry wish to complete enquiries on his account before handing him over. Intd Lt Col DE SALIS, and arranged to send him round to RAAC HQ as soon as he is available. comd

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE 5/7 Aug 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Meeting with War Minister: arranged for 1130 hrs 8 Aug. Only OXILIA will be present - any others will be called in if needed. — comd

2. Gen MAGLI:- it is confirmed by Oxilia that this offr was placed on the reserve on reaching the age limit for div comds. — comd

3. Gen CASTELLANO:- Oxilia confirms that a suitable appointment will be given to this offr as soon as one becomes available. He has expressed a wish to comd a combat fmn. Infd Oxilia that he had requested an inteview with Gen BROWNING. — comd

4. Press releases on Italian Army:- Oxilia has promised to have these ready for evening 8 Aug - there are several dealing with various aspects of the Italian Army. — comd G iii

5. CIL 2 Bde:- the comd of this fmn is Col Teodoro MOGGIO, who formerly commanded the Inb gp at BRINDISI, in which capacity he earned a good reputation for himself. (Ref Chieti incident) — comd

Gen BERARDI — comd G i

6. Sardinian situation, gd bns, and internal security divs:- Detailed discussion of these three subjects, which at the moment are closely related. Infd him of accelerated rate of shipment from Sardinia, of AAI proposals with regard to meeting Allied requirements of bns solely for gd duties, and the effect of this decision on the internal security divs. With the eight bns to come from the Bari, and the five gd bns in the 500 series, there remain a further five to be found. Discussed alti rate situation, as may be envisaged at the moment, with six combat gps and 10 gd bns, the latter probably with regimental HQs and possibly with two div HQs. BERARDI stated he was unable to accept this situation on his own responsibility and that he would discuss the matter with C/SAAI. In the meantime SMRE are confirming AAI instrs to Sardinia.

7. Meeting of CIL and Del "A" reps at SMRE:- two reps are expected to-day to discuss ests, strengths and rite. Suggested — G i

formerly commanded the Inf gp at BRINDISI, in which capacity he earned a good reputation for himself. (Ref Chieti incident)

Gen BERARDI — comd

6. Sardinian situation, gd bns, and internal security divs:- Detailed discussion of these three subjects, which at the moment are closely related. Info him of accelerated rate of shipment from Sardinia, of A'I proposals with regard to meeting Allied requirements of bns solely for gd duties, and the effect of this decision on the internal security divs. With the eight bns to come from the Med, and the five gd bns in the 500 series, there remain a further five to be found. Discussed ultimate situation, as may be envisaged at the moment, with six combat gps and 10 gd bns, the latter probably with regimental HQs and possibly with two div HQs. BERARDI stated he was unable to accept this situation on his own responsibility and that he would discuss the matter with C-in-C AI. In the meantime SACMED are confirming AMI's instrs to Sardinia. — G i

7. Meeting of CIL and Del "A" reps at SACMED:- two reps are expected to-day to discuss ests, strengths and rate. Suggested to Berardi that it might be useful to have someone from MAI present at their meeting - he will advise time and place. — G i

Lt Col DI BIASIO

8. Rock climbing Alpini with a knowledge of the Pisa- Rimini line and speaking English or French:- only four have been found to date (one already LO with 8 Army) - no reply as yet from CIL. — G i

9. 160 ovrs~~xxxx~~ for POLIGNANO course starting 13 Aug:- requested him to arrange for the above number of suitable men to report 11 Aug. Doubtful whether 160 men will be found at Bari. On the other hand he knows there are plenty of surplus men at Naples, and is instructing Mil HQ Naples to select a suitable number for despatch to POLIGNANO. — G ii — Mov.

10. Requested him to amend previous instrs with regard to 270 ovrs from SARDINIA, to go to CONVERSANO as originally instructed. — G ii

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SECRET

liaison with Esmere 5/7 Aug 44

Lt Col MILLEFERINI

11. Est of Comando Supremo:- total 210 all ranks, made up as follows - 32 offrs, 41 NCOs, 137 ors — 2 i/c

12. Ration strength of War Ministry:- the authorised strength of 1300 was exceeded at times during July, on account of the move from LUCCA, and during the transition stage before excess personnel was dispensed with. Total rations drawn during the month did NOT exceed 30 times 1300, and present strength is down to that figure. — 2 i/c A/C ST

13. Surplus personnel following reductions of Italian Adm etc:- This is in process of being concentrated in one or two depots; exact figures will be available very shortly. It is known that very few men are surplus in Apulia, but some hundreds in Campania. — G i

Lt Col REVETRIA (SIM)

14 Arranged for visit of staff offr (Maj Di Francesco) for 1100 hrs 7 Aug to discuss ests and strengths of SIM. — G i

Lt Col GUIDA

15. King's Coy:- it is confirmed that this unit is now part and parcel of FOLGORE Div, and will continue as such if the Div is employed as a combat gp. — G i

Col MANCINI

16. 204 and 206 Div HQs:- he has given instrs that these two HQs are to be broken up, the stores turned in and personnel discharged. — G i

Col CHIAVARINO

17. 2° Reparto ministeriale:- told him that strength had shrunk to 170 by the time unit was inspected by Allied rep, and that Allied authorities took strong exception to this and insisted on explanation and absent personnel being produced. He will take the matter up with War Ministry. — G i

Lt Col SESTRIA (SIM)

14 Arranged for visit of staff offr (Maj Di Francesco) for 1100 hrs 7 Aug to discuss ests and strengths of SIM. G i

Lt Col GOLDA

15. King's Coy:- it is confirmed that this unit is now part and parcel of FOGGIO Div, and will continue as such if the Ian is employed as a combat gp. G i

Gen DE RIDI

16. 204 and 206 Div HQs:- he has given instrs that these two HQs are to be broken up, the stores turned in and personnel disbanded. G i

Col CHIAVARINO

17. 2e Reparto Mobilitazione:- told him that strength had shrunk to 170 by the time unit was inspected by Allied rep, and that Allied authorities took strong exception to this and insisted on explanation and absent personnel being produced. He will take the matter up with War Ministry. Gi

Lt Col SAMPÒ

18. FRIULI units in FOGGIANO:- advised him of change of date of departure of harvesters, first party being due to move 9 Aug. He stated that adv party was proceeding to S GIORGIO 8 Aug, and that they would make necessary arrangements. 1712

Lt Col DI BITONTO

19. Sardinia units for PBS:- on the basis of the latest demob orders, large numbers of men of 204 Div etc arriving from Sardinia are due for demobilisation. Rather than allow PBS to take them over and clothe and boot them for a period of days or at the most a week or two until they are replaced, the suggestion is that these men should be demob'd forthwith, and the unit made up to strength as quickly as possible. 2 i/c G i

Gen BERARDI

20. Corsetti cots 4 - 6 (intermediate zone):- as soon as the location of Dele "T" has been approved, Berardi is anxious that these dets should be administered by Dele "T". Info him that this was agreed in principle, provided it was clearly understood that the dets were under comd AMC for screening of patriots and that this was their main task. comd G i

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

2/4 Aug 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Policy on appointment of comd offr of CCRR, and recent background; policy on appointments of all CCRR offrs. He was quite definite that no fresh offr appointments were being made in the Carabinieri at the present time. — comd

2. Explained situation regarding new ration scale for Italian combat tps. — comd

Col DE MICHELIS

3. Various phone calls in connection with two Italian Army cooks for AFHQ. Cooks despatched by rd pm 4 Aug. War Ministry continuing search for two first class men. Thanked DE MICHELIS for the trouble he had taken. — comd

Maj ROSSI

4. Boots for Rome volunteers:- info him that authority had been granted for release of 1000 prs and quoted ref. — A/Q

5. Capt IORIO:- info him that this offr and two ors were to arrive in Rome from 8 Army for some days and that arrangements would have to be made for rations. — C i

6. Screening agencies for patriots:-
Dets 2 and 3 from 8 Army area have been sent back to Rome as AMG 8 Army (it is reported) has no authority to deal with the dets, nor does anyone in Army area appear to have made arrangements to enable the dets to carry out the duties envisaged by Patriot branch. Similarly, dets 4,5 and 6 for the intermediate zone are still in ROME and AMG IV Region is no better info than the AMG authority in the Army area. — comd

7. Gen OXILIA
AQ/8 of 29 Jul:- Oxilia was not at fait with the basis on which Italian Army services had been calculated, nor had he been consulted while the figures were being worked out. — 2 i/c A/Q

5. Capt IORIO:- Infd him that this offr and two ors were to arrive in Rome from 5 Army for some days and that arrangements would have to be made for rations. — G i

6. Screening agencies for patriots:-
Dets 2 and 3 from 8 Army area have been sent back to Rome as AMG 8 Army (it is reported) has no authority to deal with the dets, nor does anyone in Army area appear to have made arrangements to enable the dets to carry out the dut as envisaged by Patriot branch. Similarly, dets 4,5 and 6 for the intermediate zone are still in RQ E and AMG IV Region is no better infd than the AMG authority in the Army area. — comd

7. Gen OXILIA
AQ/8 of 29 Jul:- Oxilia was not satisfied with the basis on which Italian Army services had been calculated, nor had he been consulted while the figures were being worked out. He is not satisfied that in every case proper provision has been made. Infd him that 2 i/c had no objection to the figures being recalculated under his own direction, provided full provision was made for services for all categories of Italian Army, and for handling, storing etc supps from Allied sources. He will submit his study within 3/4 days. — 2 i/c A/Q

1711

Lt Col SAVIO

8. Arditi rits at VIBO VALENTIA:- Infd him of report from Mov RECGIO that approx 80 Arditi rits were waiting to be moved to CIL, and that these were said to be excl the 600 already notified. Not infd, but will find out. — G iii

9. 204 Div HQ:- Infd him that this HQ was available for disposal by SMRE and requested him to advise as to their intentions before the HQ was moved from Astroni to MARONISTI, which was the move contemplated by Mil HQ Campania. — G i

Capt CAVANI

10. 5 Army Italian Personnel arrested while on leave in 8 Army, area:- made it quite clear to him that there could be no waiving of the present regulations, and that tps wishing to revisit their homes must wait until the area is derestricted. — Giii(I)

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SECRET

liaison with s m r e 2/4 Aug 44

Gen ROBOTTI

11. At request Gii Adv Int accompanied Mr HODGE to War Ministry to secure infm from ROBOTTI. This was forthcoming as soon as they were satisfied as to HODGE's credentials. Giii(I)

Lt Col GRACEFFA
(New appointment to SD Branch - staff offr ex PW)

12. Rations for 541/3 Gen Service Coys:- confirmed infm already passed by "Q" to Ministry, that rations for these units were to be collected in ROME and transported to CIVITAVECCHIA under their own arrangements. As regards local adm details, suggested that the units come under comd 552 Arty Regt, which is the only Italian HQ of any size in the area. A/Q

Lt Col TORRIELLO

13. Appointed 2 i/c trg branch; well spoken of as an active and intelligent staff officer. Giii(I)

Lt Col GUALANO

14. Leaving Ministry to take up appointment as Deputy C of S of CIL. G i

Col CHIAVARINO

15. TOMASELLI's HQ:- requested that this be designated and treated as a regular divisional HQ. No objection anticipated. G i

16. Balloon units:- discussed question of transferring entire unit to Italian Air Force. Transfer of other ranks would be inconvenient but practicable; that of offrs and NCOs NOT practicable. CHIAVARINO proposes for consideration as being much simpler passing the entire unit to Air Force for rationing purposes only. G i

17. 209 Div and Delegazione "A":- CHIAVARINO is of opinion that no useful purpose would be served at this moment by removing 209 from under comd Dele "A", until position is more settled. Comms G i

Lt Col TOR DELLO

13. Appointed 2 i/c trg branch; well spoken of as an active and intelligent staff officer. — Giii(I)

Lt Col GUALANO

14. Leaving Ministry to take up appointment as Deputy C of S of CIL. — G i

Col CHIAVARINO

15. TOMASELLI's HQ:- requested that this be designated and treated as a regular divisional HQ. No objection anticipated. — G i

16. Balloon units:- discussed question of transferring entire unit to Italian Air Force. Transfer of other ranks would be inconvenient but practicable; that of offrs and NCOs NOT practicable. CHIAVARINO proposes for consideration as being much simpler passing the entire unit to Air Force for rationing purposes only. — G i

17. 209 Div and Delegazione "A":- CHIAVARINO is of opinion that no useful purpose would be served at this moment by removing 209 from under co o Dele "A", until poen is more settled. Comms on Eastern seabord are along the coast, and there would be no gain by having two channels of comm with Rome, i.e. Dele "A" and also 209 direct with SACRE. — G i

Capt CAVINI

18. De MARTINO trial began 26 July and should soon be over. — 1710

Col CHIAVARINO

19. "CIL" and Delegazione"A":- in order to clarify poen as regards strengths, ests and rits of both these HQs and units under comd, senior staff offrs from each have been ordered to report to SACRE am 7 Aug, with latest infn. — G i

Lt Col DI BITONTO

20. 1007 GT Coy:- in anticipation of dvr requirements for this unit, dvr courses are being started at BARI and CATANZARO. There should also be dvrs surplus to requirements of 1006, taking into account output of POLIGNANO course. Query: what is poen of course started 9 Jul ? — Gi

Lt Col GUIDA

21. Requested him to see to mob order of sig course at FRANCAVILLA. SOSigs

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A/C

A/C

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 1 Aug 44

Col CHIAVARINO

1. Docs op coys, APULIA:- advised him that substitution of 120 men ordered by 2 Dist was quite in order, provided exchange was to release men due for demob. — G i SORE

2. Engr offrs for SD branch SMRE:- two new engr staff offrs will be taking up their duties 2 Aug, one for engr duties and one for sigs; in place of RE. Names of new offrs to follow. Log 28 Jul para 1 refers. — G i SOSigs SORE G iii(I)

3. Surplus med units in Sardinia:- following units are surplus to immediate requirements: — G i DADMS
- fd hosps 333, 960, 82 - 44 Surgical unit — G iii
SMRE being instructed to attach to Internal Security Div in Sardinia, pending re-emp in conjunction with combat gp scheme.

4. 502 Gd Bn:- in case of requirements for further pack tpt coys, SMRE advise that this unit is formed from previous cav unit: "[illegible] CAVALLEGGERI". 145 rifts required to bring up to strength: these can be found locally. — G i

5. Further units from Sardinia:- SMRE propose, — G i
- balance of 203 Div,
- 236 Regt (of 204 Div)
- I and II Regts GARIBALDI Div.
Infd Chiavarino that surplus AA and CD personnel was being called fwd.

Gen SANTI

6. Rifts for CIL:- requests authority to enlist volunteers for CIL ex Air Force bn about to be broken up. Such men to be taken as individual rifts, and NOT as units. SCC agrees 200 maximum providing necessary assurances are forthcoming from SMRE. No further enlistment for CIL in ROME (ie call-up as opposed to volunteers). — comd G i

7. 580 Regt assigned 3 Dist:- spoke SANTI about objections raised by offrs of this unit to duties allotted to the unit by 3 Dist. He fully shares MMIA view and will deal with the offenders promptly. — G i

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SMRE advise that this unit is formed from previous CAV unit: "[illegible] CAV GRP II". 148 rits required to bring unit to strength; these can be found locally.

5. Further units from Sardinia:- SMRE propose, — G i
- balance of 203 Div,
- 236 Regt (of 204 Div)
- I and II Regts GRENATIERI Div.

Info Chiavarino that surplus AA and CD personnel was being called fwd.

Gen SANTI

6. Rits for CIL:- requests authority to enlist volunteers for CIL ex Air Force bn about to be broken up. Such men to be taken as individual rits, and NOT as units. GOC agrees 200 maximum providing necessary assurances are forthcoming from SMRE. No further enlistment for CIL in ROME (ie call-up as opposed to volunteers). — comd G i

7. 580 Regt assigned 3 Dist:- spoke SANTI about objections raised by offrs of this unit to duties allotted to the unit by 3 Dist. He fully shares MMIA view and will deal with the offenders promptly. — G i

Lt Col PIZZONIA

8. Requested him to hasten tpt request of cadres for [illegible] bn due to leave FOGGIANO shortly. — G i

1709

Lt Col SAMPO

9. Cancelled arrangement regarding small bn for gd duties for PBs. — G i

Gen CAILLI'

10. Rations for combat tps:- as a result of Casati's visit to CIL the question of the new ration for combat tps is engaging their attention. A memo has been handed to A/Q setting out the Ministry's appreciation of the reduction. CAILLIA states the matter is viewed with grave concern ... that comparison with rations allowed to other (i.e. POLISH) combat tps will result in serious discontent among CIL tps ... that it would be preferable to leave scale of the rest of the Italian Army where it was rather than reduce the fighting soldiers ration. — comd 2 i/c A/Q G i

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A/10 29 [illegible]

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 30/31 Jul 44

Lt Col SAMPÒ

1. Trg branch:- a new office is being set up to deal with current trg problems, with the following offrs:- Col FERRARI and Maj PASCHETTA Trg branch will come directly under Gen SANTI — comd G i

Maj VALCHERA replaces PASCHETTA in Ops branch.

Gen OXILIA

2. Recognition of combatant status of Italian patriots:- OXILIA wishes GOC to be infd that Italian Foreign Office will be approaching competent Allied authorities with a view to ~~xxxxxxx~~ status being accorded to Italian patriots fighting the Germans similar to that just accorded to French patriots. — comd

3. Bonomi's "segreteria" has been devided into two: one gen sec and one mil sec. Oxilia was not sure of the significance of the change, nor what functions the mil sec would have. — comd

4. Handed to Oxilia letter for CASATI in connection with Gen CASTELLANO; Oxilia met him the other day, on his return to Italy. — comd

Lt Col RE

5. Collected translations of three outstanding WEs:
   - HQ IPL bn
   - HQ IPL regt
   - Italian TC coy

   — DADL G ii

Lt Col DI BIAGIO

6. Cookery course:- personnel ready to start course 1 Aug. — G ii

7. 6 dvrs for MAIA NAPLES reported to Col Offenhauer 6 Jul — 2 i/c

8. Volunteers for CIL in ROME:- nearing the end of the registration, the number of volunteers for combat duties does not reach 600. — G i

9. Collected minutes of meeting held 30 Jul connected with enlist- — G i

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the change, nor what functions the [illegible]

4. Handed to Oxilia letter for CASATI in connection with Gen CASSELLATO; Oxilia met him the other day, on his return to Italy. — comd

Lt Col RE

5. Collected translations of three outstanding WBs: — DADL
   - HQ IPL bn
   - HQ IPL regt — G ii
   - Italian TC coy

Lt Col DI BITONTO

6. Cookery course:- personnel ready to start course 1 Aug. — G ii

7. 6 dvrs for MAIA NAPLES reported to Col Offenhauer 6 Jul — 2 i/c

8. Volunteers for CIL in ROME:- nearing the end of the registration, the number of volunteers for combat duties does not reach 600. — G i

9. Collected minutes of meeting held 30 Jul connected with enlistment of rifs in ROME for 210 Div, 8 Army, PBS etc. — G i

Lt Col RE

10. Requests for mine-detectors for Italian units:- following requests from SMRE are still outstanding, each for six detectors: — SMRE 1708
   -letter 11 Jun ref 6289
   - " 17 " " 6513

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

28 Jul 44

Col CHIAVARINO

1. Engr offr in SD branch:- at request SORE suggested that more suitable and more capable offr be found for this post. He fully agrees, and ~~max~~ is already on the look-out for an engr staff offr to replace RE. — SORE, SO Sigs

Lt Col SAMBO

2. COV,VIBO VALENTIA :- requested explanation of jump in strength of this unit, which is about to move to CHIETI or CORTONA. The increase is ascribed by SMRE to sudden rush of volunteers. Agreed to let the revised figure stand at 600, but to count against the 3000 authorised for ROME. — G i, C iii, Mov

Gen MATTIOLI

3. 107 btg territoriale:- confirmed that it would be quite in order for SMRE to order away the surplus offrs of this unit, as it was most improbable that AAFAC would be allowed the extra 500 men they are asking for. — G i

4. 209 Div HQ and Delegazione "A":- he is in full agreement with MMIA proposals for future responsibilities of these two HQs and will prepare his proposals showing which units would come under comd of each HQ under the new arrangement. ✓ 209 Div HQ will comd units in I Dist and 60 Sub-Area and Delegazione "A" units under comd POLCORPS. ✓ — C i, G iii

5. FRIULI harvesters:- requested him to have tpt request put through for offr and nco cadres in respect of bns of FRIULI div which will be completing their work in FOGGIA area in the latter half of August. — G i, G iii

6. Capt FORENZA

Unit at AIROLA:- unable to get through to NAPLES all day to-day. Phoned MONICO and asked him to get info from Cdo Mil CAMPANIA. — G i, G iii

Lt Col GUIDA

7. Pack tpt coys:- two coys will be formed from "guide", (completed with 1921 call-ups), one coy entirely from — G i

500 men they are asking for.

4. 209 Div HQ and Delegazione "A":- he is in full agreement with MMIA proposals for future responsibilities of these two HQs and will prepare his proposals showing which units would come under comd of each HQ under the new arrangement. ✓ 209 Div HQ will comd units in I Dist and 60 Sub-Area and Delegazione "A" units under comd FOLCORPS. ✓ — G i, G iii

5. FRIULI harvesters:- requested him to have tpt request put through for offr and nco cadres in respect of bns of FRIULI div which will be completing their work in FOGGIA area in the latter half of August. — G i, G iii

6. Capt FORENZA
Unit at AIROLA:- unable to get through to NAPLES all day to-day. Phoned MONICO and asked him to get info from Cdo Mil CAMPANIA. — G i, G iii

Lt Col GUIDA

7. Pack tpt coys:- two coys will be formed from "guide", (completed with 1921 call-ups), one coy entirely from call-ups, and the fourth coy in SARDINIA, also completed with call-ups. Orders going out to-day to Cdo Mil CAMPANIA to form units between 10 and 15 Aug, for the time being in local depots. — G i

1707

8. Rfts for 8 Army:- info him that after pack tpt coys, priority of emp for call-ups of '21 class in CAMPANIA would be for 8 Army. — G i

Gen CAILLA

9. Phoned him about depot coy in NAPLES and tpt for two offrs on special mission connected with repair of clothing and shoes. — 2 i/c

10. Confirmed approval of GOC to appointment of four senior offrs ref log 25 Jul para 8. — comd

Col CHIAVARINO

11. Demob of internal security personnel to counterbalance volunteers recruited in ROME:- orders have already gone out for demob of all 1913 class men in internal security divs plus all men of limited physical category. It is estimated that their number will be in excess of volunteers enlisted in ROME. — 2 i/c, G i

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LIAISON WITH S M R E

Lt Col SAMPO & Lt Col GUIDA

1. Recruiting dets for AMG:- worked out details and prepared instrs for the dets, which are designated as follows: — comd G i

-5 Army CERS/ETI det N°1 ready to leave 27 Jul
-8 Army CERSETI det N°2 " " " " "
-Polcorps CERSETI det N°3 " " " 28 "

- Intermediate area
- CERSETI dets 4 - 5 - 6 ready within few days.

2. In view of immediate difficulties of siting camp for volunteers near S AGATA, SMRE infd that volunteers already at CERSETO and, until further notice, those to be recruited in ROME, will proceed to CHIETI under SMRE arrangements. MMIA in meantime will endeavour to have COV transferred to CHIETI. Responsibility of maintaining volunteers at CHIETI will devolve entirely on SMRE. MT pl for Delegazione "A" will make one journey ROME to CHIETI with volunteers -as soon as pet is provided - and subsequent MT requirements for transferring personnel to CHIETI to be negotiated with "Q" — G i / A/Q / ST / Mov / G iii

3. Two gd coys for RAAC:- BERARDI has agreed that the GRANATIERI be employed for this purpose, and two coys strength each four offrs and 120 men will be ready to leave SALERNO 28 and 30 Jul. Small nucleus of about 30/40 men will remain to carry out original function, and plan is to change them round from time to time with those employed in ROME. — G i

ST hvy for reduction

4. Lt Col GUIDA
1006 GT Coy: Area HQ BARI has already commenced fmn of unit at CONVERSANO ; HQ personnel and specialists will be found in APULIA and CALABRIA, 270 dvrs to come from SARDINIA ex course which commenced 18 Jun. — G / G iii

30 Jul. Small nucleus of about 30/40 men will remain to carry out original function, and plan is to change them round from time to time with those employed in ROME.

4. Lt Col GUIDA
1006 GT Coy: Area HQ BARI has already commenced fmn of unit at CONVERSANO ; HQ personnel and specialists will be found in APULIA and CALABRIA, 270 avrs to come from SARDINIA ex course which commenced 18 Jun.

Lt Col DI BITONTO
5. 1000 - 1005 GT Coys:- he is taking necessary action to find out deficiences and send necessary rfts. 132 Breakdown unit and 308 Wksp available for this purpose.

Gen BERARDI 27 Jul 44
6. SMRE rep for FLORENCE:- infd him that plan for Delegazione "B" for FLORENCE was now off, that Lt Col HOWARD would ~~xxx~~ be representing MMIA there, and would require to be accompanied by Italian staff offr representing SMRE intersts with simple watching brief, rank Lt Col preferably. 1701

7. Combat lmns: infd him with ref to recent meeting that question of mortars and BD was being investigated, and that pack tpt coys would be div or corps tps and allocated as required.

8. Visit to trg centre:- infd BERARDI that visit was being tentatively arranged for next week - party from SMRE will consist of five offrs, incl BERARDI.

9. Arty horses of Mantova and Piceno divs:- in view of forthcoming reorg of internal security divs with smaller ests, and possible developments in other directions, it was considered that horse arty was no longer required for internal security duties. Infd BERARDI of intention to allot horses for other purposes. He would like to be allowed to keep 50 arty horses per div for trg purposes.

G
GIII
I
comd
2 i/c
G 1

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 25 Jul 44

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

1. Lab ofts for 8 Army:- requested him to consider ways and means of producing 2 offrs and 672 ors for 409 Regt. Will advise later to-day. — G i

Maj D'ANTONA

2. 308 Wksp attd 209 Div:- Col RAMPA has reported that this unit is without eqpt or vehs and he recommends it be broken up. Query: MMIA agreed ? — G i

3. TC coy:- 9 Cp Movimenti Stradali available SARDINIA strength 17 offrs 223 ors. No details of eqpt. Request consideration as to emp of unit on mainland for Allies. — G i

Lt Col GUIDA

4. Four pack tpt coys for 210 Div:- infd him that contrary to previous arrangements these units now have to be found by SMRE. He is investigating possibilities from ROME call-up. — G i

Lt Col ALOIA

5. Tpt pl for Delegazione "A":- discussed move of tpt pl to CHIETI, which is to take place as soon as pet can be laid on. — A/Q
Arranged for the 24 vehs to take up to 350 volunteers from ROME for CIL rfts. SMRE to notify exact number of men transported in this way. — G i

Gen CASILIA

6. Repatriated wounded of GARIBALDI Div:- in view of removal of the approx 300 men concerned from the ration strength, CASILIA has requested our assistance in getting them rationed from some other source. Displaced persons NOT in posn to help, as their terms of ref limited to non-Italians. Query Force 399 ? — A/Q

7. Discussed also: — comd
- Comando Supremo and patriots,
- Gen LEMICI
- ROME grn comd

8. Following appointments submitted for GOC's formal approval:

5. Lt Col ALOIA
Tpt pl for Delegazione "A":- discussed move of tpt pl to CHIETI, which is to take place as soon as pet can be laid on. Arranged for the 24 vehs to take up to 350 volunteers from ROME for CIL rifts. SMRE to notify exact number of men transported in this way. — A/Q, G i

6. Gen ORLIA
Repatriated wounded of GARIBALDI Div:- in view of removal of the approx 300 men concerned from the ration strength, ORLIA has requested our assistance in getting them rationed from some other source. Displaced persons NOT in posn to help, as their terms of ref limited to non-Italians.
Query force 399 ? — A/Q

7. Discussed also: — comd
- Comando Supremo and patriots,
- Gen LERICI
- ROME grn comd

8. Following appointments submitted for GOC's formal approval; — comd, G i
- Area HQ APULIA — Gen Div DI NISIO, former comd BARI Div;
- BARI Div — Gen Brig BERAUDO DI PRALORMO ex PW;
- VII Corps — Gen Div ROMANO (from ROME) formerly comd EMILIA Div in Balkans;
- GGFF — Gen Div FERONE (from ROME)

17 G i(I)

9. Col QUERCIA
Working-hours SMRE: 0830 - 1230 ; 1500 - 1700 . Change eifective 25 Jul. — ALL

Gen BERARDI
Various subjects, incl:
- concand trg areas for FRIULI Div (advised Maj DOBBS)
- conc areas for volunteers for combat;
- PW coys on mainland (for ref to GOC)

11. Lt Col GUIDA
561/2 mine-lifting coys: ready to leave respectively 25 and 26 Jul. — SORE

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To Maj Priestley F/Q 20

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE 23/24 Jul 44

1. Attended meeting in connection with Italian combat fmns; present GOC, OXILIA; BERARDI, ZERR PIDSLEY, CHIAVARINO, SAMPO; Arranged further meeting with BERARDI 1600 hrs 24 Jul.

Lt Col GUIDA

2. 561/2 Mine-lifting coys:- discussed question of inclusion of arty and engr personnel of FRIULI Div and possibility of substitution. Promised to advise later how many replacements required. — G i

3. Div and Regt HQs, FRIULI Div:- will be removed from AFRAGOLA camp as soon as possible and stationed at some convenient pt nearby. — G i

4. Two gd coys for ROME:- will probably be found from GRANATIERI Bn at CAVA - strength 120 each. — G i

5. (with Maj LUNARDONI): Allied 4 Vet Hosp moving to PASSO CORESE (nr FARA SABINA) together with 150 Italian mil personnel (NOT apparently formed unit) - SMRE requested to arrange for adm. Query any infm this end ? — G i

Priestley

Lt Col ALOIA

6. MT unit for Delegazionz "A":- the 24 vehs, as agreed, are now ready to move - SMRE await authority to despatch. REP — A/Q

Lt Col RE

7. Bi-lingual ests:- a number of those in hand have been promised for 25 and 26 Jul. — G ii SORE

8. Engr services for Italian adm:- details have been requested of War Ministry Direzione Genio and should be available 25 Jul. — SORE

Lt Col SAMPO

9. Guides for Appenines:- requested him to find urgently twelve pairs of offrs or ncos with following qualifications: — comd G i

stock clothing etc etc

5. (with Maj LUNARDONI): Allied 4 Vet Hosp moving to PASSO CORESE (nr PARA SABINA) together with 150 Italian mil personnel (NOT apparently formed unit) - SMRE requested to arrange for adm. Query any infm this end ? — G i

Lt Col ALOIA

6. MT unit for Delegazionz "A":- the 24 vehs, as agreed, are now ready to move - SMRE await authority to despatch. — A/Q

Lt Col RE

7. Bi-lingual ests:- a number of those in hand have been promised for 25 and 26 Jul. — G ii SORE

8. Engr services for Italian adm:- details have been requested of War Ministry Direzione Genio and should be available 25 Jul. — SORE

Lt Col SAMPO

9. Guides for Appenines:- requested him to find urgently twelve pairs of offrs or ncos with following qualifications: — comd G i
- rock climbing experts
- English or French speakers
- knowledge of Appen nes north of present line.

If difficulty experienced locally, it is suggested that the CENSITI dets going north with AMG be given the job of finding the men required.

10. Unione Indipendente Combttenti, Corso Umberto 28, ROME:- SAMPO investigated this org himself; it is mainly concerned with the org of womens voluntary services; some British offrs were making a social call there at the time. A few odd rfts may have been sent to "F" Recce Sqn through some personal arrangement, but SAMPO attaches no importance to it and propoees taking no action. — G i

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

11. Requested infm as to availability of wksp specialists, ROME and elsewhere. — G i
Authorised him to proceed with call-up in BOLOGNA province.

1704

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liaison with s m r e 23/24 Jul 44

Maj MAIOCCHI

12. Gd Coy in LECCE:- this coy has been identified as the "1ª Compagnia Provvisoria Deposito 140 Fanteria TREPUZZI" Latest infm shows the coy still in TREPUZZI. — G i

13. Strength returns PBS:- MAIOCCHI very worried over inability to reconcile units in PBS with new designations. This makes it impossible to maitain continuity of his records. Suggested he gets into touch with G iii. — G iii

Lt Col GUIDA

14. Pack tpt coys for 210 Div:- infd him of situation, and that no action required on their part for the moment. — G i

Lt Col QUERCIA

15. Delegazione "T" for FLORENCE:- requested him for a statement of proposed terms of ref for scrutiny. — G i

16. Working hours at SHAEF:- discussed recent change, which gives them four-hr break in the middle of the day (from twelve to four). Suggested that this be curtailed to three hours.

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

17. SARDINIA:- requested him to investigate ultimate situation when internal security divs excl CALABRIA have been moved to mainland. It is probable that GUIDA will be going to SARDINIA in this connection shortly. — G i

of proposed terms of ref for scutiny. G i

16. Working hours at SARE:- discussed recent change, which gives them four-hr break in the middle of the day (from twelve to four). Suggested that this be curtailed to three hours.

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

20/21 Jul 44

Lt Col SAMPO

1. With Capt GILARDI - Delegazione "A":- enquired into the strength, org, and channels of comd of this HQ, and heard his opinion as to the difficulties being encountered. It was agreed that the provision of 24 hy lorries was needed between RH and adv depots. — G i A/Q

Col QUERCIA (with GILARDI)

2. Delegazione "A":- Requested him to arrange for MT pl of 24 hy vehs to be temporarily attd; he will collect vehs where he can incl recall of part of the 60 loaned to civil ministries for move to ROME. Discussed also stocks held at various adv depots - no infm available here, but list collected of items requested from Ministry, devided into items supplied and NOT available. It was agreed that GILARDI would secure infm on next visit. — G i A/Q

3. Italian mil vehs in ROME:- there is good reason to believe that many Italian Army hy vehs are illegally in possession of civs in the ROME area, camouflaged and carrying civilian number plates. SMRE want to institute rd blocks to check these vehs in the first place, and wish to know if they have MMIA sp and also whose authority is needed. These vehs are in addition to the many bona fide civilian vehs which normally could be requisitioned, but which are now controlled by ACC. — A/Q

4. Tyres and spares in SARDINIA:- in the course of conversation, QUERCIA stated that the Allies had been requisitioning for their own purposes part of the Italian Army stock of tyres and fan belts in Sardinia. — A/Q

Gen ORLIA

5. Attended meeting with Maj ROSE on rations for ROME. Present also Gens PELLIGRA and TOMASSIA and reps of Italian Navy and Air Force. — ~~GMG~~
Subsequently discussed the following:
- appointment of Gen ORLANDO - infd him that Gen BROWNING had — comd

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that many Italian Army hy vehs are illegally in possession
of civs in the ROME area, camouflaged and carrying civilian
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MMIA sp and also whose authority is needed. These vehs are
in addition to the many bona fide civilian vehs which normally
could be requisitioned, but which are now controlled by ACC.

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also Gens PELLIGRA and TOMASSIA and reps of Italian Navy and
Air Force.
Subsequently discussed the following:
- appointment of Gen ORLANDO - infd him that Gen BROWNING had comd
been consulted beforehand;
- Comando Supremo
- Staff changes and desirability of absorbing some "ROME" offrs.
- Patriots in the north,
- Law and order up north,
- Letter from Balkan Air Force relating to sups for Garibaldi G i
Div - discussed correct channels, i.e. through Mil Mission A/Q
with Partisan Corps, and NOT MMIA responsibility.

Gen BERARDI

6. Discussed various subjects, incl appointment of Gen SANTI, comd
situation of FRIULI Div, Comando Supremo etc.

7. Attended meeting with GOC, Col PIDSLEY, Col MACARTHY, Gen
ORLLIA in connection with patriots, and the incorporation
of those who wish to fight in the regular army.

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liaison with s m;r e 20/21 Jul 44 contd

Col SAMPO and Lt Col ALOIA

8. Collection of patriots for army (see para 7):- gave them full particulars of decisions reached at previous meeting. Explained that tpt and eventual rations would be the responsibility of Col Macarthy's org. Stressed that no-one was to move until receipt of new directive from MMIA. Was subsequently infd by them that Col Macarthy's office had asked for double the number of parties agreed to at the meeting, ~~XXX~~ i.e. twelve instead of six. Confirmed that latter was number to work on.

Maj PASCHETTA

9. Infm on activities tc of CIL:- he has promised to keep us fully posted with all infm reaching them from the combat fmn. G iii(I)

Col CHIAVARINO

10. He is anxious to have infm as soon as possible on decisions regarding disposal of "Guide" and "2° Reparto Ministeriale" G ii

Col CHIAVARINO and Lt Col CANNONE

11. Attended meeting with Col KERR on transit camps, which are to be discontinued as such, by 31 Jul. In their place SMRE may est infm centres consistin of three all ranks. SMRE propose submitting statement showing transit camps they intend to abolish, those which will hand over their duties to local grn, and those instances where transit camps are having to carry out additonal duties connected with local mil ~~XXXXX~~ installations. G i A/Q

12. Capt DELLA CORNA

210 Vet Hosp:- this unit no longer required by 210 Div and on instrs of Allies has reported back to 10 Arty Depot Caserta complete with unit eqpt, except for 5 offrs and 1 Farrier WO sent elsewhere. G i

Col CHIAVARINO

10. He is anxious to have infm as soon as possible on decisions regarding disposal of "Guide" and "2° Reparto Ministeriale" — G ii

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A/Q

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LIAISON WITH S M R E 18/19 Jul 44

Col QUERCIA (acting Deputy C of S)

1. Royal Academy: queried their request for tpt to POTENZA in connection with maneouvres there; suggested these exercises be held near LECCE, with which he quite agrees. — G iii

2. Requested that Col PAGANI be instructed NOT to contact AAI direct in future, but only through Mov Rome. — Mov

3. Gen SANTI is designated Deputy C of S. This offr has been in Rome throughout the occupation - was formerly chief of staff of 20 and 2I corps in Tunisia, during which period he was in contact with MESSE. Was wounded and returned to I aly before the fall of Tunisia. — comd 2 i/c G i

Lt Col SAMPO

4. Registration of age-grps liable for mil service in ROME:- this is proceeding according to plan, but will be limited to one class per day, and will NOT be concluded until first week in August. On 18 Jul approv 1600 men registered, of whom 80 volunteers for combat duties. Arrangements have been made to move the volunteers from Rome to Caserta by rail at the rate of 4 box waggons per day. Any space not required for volunteers may be utilised by non-volunteers being sent on 28 days leave, whose homes are in the south. The question of uniforms for the volunteers is being raised, as according to SMRE's infm the total availability of Italian uniforms - all in Apulia - is 3000 jackets and 800 trowsers. These also constitute the reserve for the CIL. — comd 2 i/c G i — A/Q

5. Col CHEVARINO
Discussed with him the question of demob of '13 class men with Allied units and replacement with younger men being registered in ROME. — G i

6. 2° Reparto Ministeriale:- this unit will be ready for inspection 20 Jul at 15 Inf Depot SALERNO. — G i

Capt CAVANI

7. Interpreter and Liaison offrs and ors with Allied units:- — G i

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whom 80 volunteers for combat duties.
Arrangements have been made to move the volunteers from Rome to Caserta by rail at the rate of 4 box waggons per day.
Any space not required for volunteers may be utilised by non-volunteers being sent on 28 days leave, whose homes are in the south.
The question of uniforms for the volunteers is being raised, as according to SMRE's infm the total availability of Italian uniforms - all in Apulia - is 3000 jackets and 800 trowsers. These also constitute the reserve for the CIL. A/Q

5. Col CHEVARINO
Discussed with him the question of demob of 'L' class men with Allied units and replacement with younger men being registered in ROME. G i

6. 2° Reparto Ministeriale:- this unit will be ready for inspection 20 Jul at 15 Inf Depot SALERNO. G i

Capt CAVANI
7. Interpreter and Liaison offrs and ors with Allied units:- Requested him to produce a list of this personnel, excl those on regular ests, and limited to personnel shown in the normal strength state of the Italian army. G i G iii

Lt Col SAMPO
8. 210 Div:- according to reports reaching SMRE from div comd the strength of the fmn is greatly reduced, and the div unable to meet its obligations. It is stated that div requires 3000 rfts immediately. G i

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LIAISON WITH S M R E

9/10 Jul 44

Offrs i/c SMRE 12 Jul to mid-day 15

1. Col QUERCIA remains in charge at LECCE during period of move. In his absence (he was unwell to-day) the senior offr is Col FERRARI. For routine business with branches, Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO - all SD matters regarding personnel, Lt Col CHECCHIA - clothing, stores and vehs. — G ii A/Q

Col CHIAVARINO

2. AA route BARI-NAPLES (his letter 8 Jul ref 4822):- infd him that decision would be taken in ROME by AA LO. Quite agreeable. — C ii

3. 2 Reparto Autonomo Comando Supremo:- advised of extension of rationing period to 19 Jul incl for 580 persons, in view of move - for his infm. Later offered to Allies. — 2 i/c

4. BARI Div:- infd that 10 t third lift was "off", and BARI Div not moving just at present accordingly. — G ii

5. Maj D'ANTONA
417 Regt: one bn and regimental HQ ready in CHIETI 20 Jul, one bn ready in APULIA 25 Jul. Tpt details later. — G ii G iii

Col CHIAVARINO

6. Volunteer camp, VICO VALENTIA:- apt requests to move the entire camp to APULIA to be filled until authority recd from AFHQ. According to CHIAVARINO the move has been discussed with POLCO FS, and the necessary request put through proper channels. — C ii C iii

7. Maj D'ANTONA
Units available in CHIETI:- see: Log 8 Jul para 3. — G ii
128 sig coy: 120 men of this unit to be earmarked for second Telegraphist course and transferred to BARI (APULIA) at once. The balance to be demob. — G iii SOSigs

8. 248 Fd Hosp and 216 Gen Hosp (Unit:- DID to say whether these can NOT be emp for the Allies at the moment. Consequently issued instrs that eqpt be turned in to BARI and personnel — DADMS G ii

no. moving just at present accordingly.

5. Maj D'ANTONA
417 Regt: one bn and regimental HQ ready in CERIGNOLA 20 Jul, one bn ready in APULIA 25 Jul. Dpt details later. — G ii, G iii

Col CHIAVARINO
6. Volunteer camp, VICO VALENTIA:- apt request to move the entire camp to APULIA to be filled until authority recd from AFHQ. According to CHIAVARINO the move has been discussed with POLCOMM, and the necessary request put through proper channels. — G ii, G iii

7. Maj D'ANTONA
Units available in CAPITANATA:- see: log & dpl corn p. — G ii
128 sig coy: 120 men of this unit to be demobilized for second Tele/radio/tel course and transferred to FRANCAVILLA at once. The balance to be demob. — G iii, SOSigs

8. 248 Fd Hosp and 216 Gen Hosp (mot):- DADMS confirms that these can NOT be emp for the Allies at the moment. Consequently issued instrs that eqpt be turned in to BARI and personnel disposed of by demobilization. — DADMS, G ii

Lt Col D'ARBELOFF-C:-
9. Interpreter Capts for Base Sec: in view of non-availability of the three interpreter capts, requested that three staff capts (non-specialists) be supplied. — G iii (1), SORE

1699

Capt DELLA CINA
10. O'seC Italian CI Coys:- informed him that all such units for 2 Dist were in future to be commanded by capts. They will request approval in future should they ever wish to appoint a maj to command CI coy. — G ii

Gen MARTINELLI
11. Rations issued to harvesters at FOGGIA:-
- from the army depot FOGGIA 5943 to incl 4 Jul;
- from accumulated rations collected from tps on arrival at FOGGIA (i.e. those NOT consumed on outward journey) 22718. There are still some of these left. They have been issued in cases where the farmers were NOT yet in a position to feed the men, etc. — 2 i/c

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LIAISON WITH S M R E

8 Jul 44

Col QUERCIA and Col CRIVARINO

1. Internal Security Divs:- to ensure that SMRE were fully infd as to latest situation, run over events of last few days, namely: — comd, 2 i/c, G ii
   - divs nominated to come from SARDINIA (226/204/FRIULI) and possible arrival of BARI for reasons which can only be guessed at the moment.
   - impossibility in present circumstances of retaining parts of each div to form basis of new small-type divs, i.e. entire 226, BARI, FRIULI etc to be made available to Allies.
   - infd them that as and when Allies require individual bns for security or gd duties, these will be detached from their fmn and be under temporary comd of the Allies, as has been done in the case of the bns of PISTOIA and MANTOVA divs. Such bns to be made available out of the 50.000 internal security tps.
   - queried choice of MANTOVA to be disbanded and PISTOIA to remain; in the opinion of these two offrs, there is nothing to choose between these two fmns.

Lt Col PENNELL

2. Italian Army Sig School:- ref AAI letter of 6 Jul, the desig- nated comd is on leave in CAMPANIA. PENNELL proposes recall- ing him to LECCE, putting him in the picture, and then having him report to CASERTA (AFHQ). The interpreters will have to be produced by the Secretariat according to priority on the interpreters list. — SO Sigs, G ii

Maj D'AMICO

3. Reduction of Italian Army: in the process of closing out, the following units become available for assignment to Allies or disbandment. Have requested fuller particulars as to ovrs, specialists and eqpt. — 2 i/c, G ii, DALMS, SO Sigs

- 128 Composite Transmission	146	all ranks
- 204 MT unit	146	" "
- 251 MT unit (M only)	113	" "
- 248 AA Resp	59	" "
- [illegible]	57	" "

- queried choice of MARTOV to be disbanded and PISANO to remain; in the opinion of these two offrs, there is nothing to choose between these two fums.

Lt Col PANCHAI

2. Italian Army Sig School:- ref ltr of 5 Jul, the designated coad is on leave in CAGLIARI. PANCHAI proposes recalling him to LIVORNO, putting him in the picture, and then having him report to CAGLIARI ASAP. The interpreter will have to be produced by the Regt'n according to priority on the interpreters list. — SO Sigs — G ii

Maj D'AMBROSIO

3. Reduction of Italian Army: in the process of carrying out, the following units become available for reallotment to Allies or disbandment. Have requested fuller particulars re to dvrs, specialists and capt. — 2 i/c — G ii — DADMS — SO Sigs

- 128 Composite Trucking Coy — 146 all ranks
- 294 MT unit — 156 " "
- 251 MT unit (M only) — 113 " "
- 248 Fd Hosp — 50 " "
- 216 Surgical unit — 27 " "

All in CAGLIARI

4. VII TC Bn:- collected details of strength and out, and capt in their possession and on TD.

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

1698

5. Bersaglieri rifts for CIL: Info him of proposed inspection. He later phoned to say there had been a hitch over clothing. Unit will now be ready for inspection or move 11 Jul. — G ii — G iii

6. 1005 GP COY:- there are still 23 specialists short which IX Corps is unable to find. Query CAGLIARI (para 3 above) or recruiting required personnel in NORTH. — G ii

7. Arditi rifts from SARDINIA:- wishes to know if the 150 ~~xxxxx~~ assault tps specially recruited in SARDINIA at AAI request for CIL have been moved to mainland. — G iii

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LIAISON WITH S M R E 7 Jul 44

Col QUERCIA

1. Move to ROME: Gen INFANTE had phoned from SALERNO to say that Govt would be starting move to ROME 10 Jul, to be completed 15 Jul, and to enquire whether any orders had been recd from MAI. Passed on by phone to G ii. — comd, 2 i/c, G ii

2. Reorg of Internal Security Divs:- BERNARDI phoned from SALERNO in connection with MAI request for revised est excl CMTV. This was communicated to BERNARDI before his departure in the early hours this morning. He is most anxious to discuss this aspect of the matter with Gen BROWNING, and in view of probable move during next few days, would like to know if this can be arranged to take place in ROME. — comd, 2 i/c, G ii

3. CO Italian Lab tps BRINDISI:- MATTIOLI should have gone to BRINDISI to-day to look into the matter, but is indisposed and the visit postponed. Pointed out to QUERCIA that this offr is evidently unsuitable for the job, and that he should be replaced immediately, and any investigations undertaken later. — 2 i/c

Capt C'VANI

4. Two interpreter offrs for AMG Florence:- enquiries are on foot as to whereabouts of Lt COLOMBA B/O; second offr available in LECCE: 2 Lt SEBASTIANI. — G ii

5. 502 Smoke Coy: conveyed request that Lt ZAFFONI who has been acting OC during mob period, be allowed to continue in comd of this unit. Owing to Italian regulations it is NOT possible to promote him to Capt, as required by T/O est, but if the relative Allied fmn is prepared to move it as OC, they have no objection. — DAIL

Lt Col D'ARCASSAND O

6. Engr rats ex TARANTO:- ref [illegible] 3D/4 of 22 Jun, the rats are ready to move and awaiting advice of destination. — SORE

7. 1922 class recall in Calabria:- numbers recalled and — G ii

later.

Capt GIVANI

4. Two interpreter offrs for AMG Florence:- enquiries are on foot as to whereabouts of Lt COLONNA Ugo; second offr available in LECCE: 2 Lt SEBASTIANI. — E ii

5. 502 Smoke Coy: conveyed request that Lt ZANONI who has been acting OC during mob period. be allowed to continue in comd of this unit. Owing to Italian regulations it is NOT possible to promote him to Capt, as requested by the coy, but if the relative Allied fmn is prepared to have a Lt as OC, they have no objection. — DADL

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

6. Engr rits ex TURRI:- ref AMG SD/4 of 22 Jun, the rits are ready to move and awaiting advice of destination. — BORE

7. 1826 class recalled in Campania:- numbers recalled and allotted by BASCO as follows: — G ii
   - to 207 Div 793
   - to 212 " 1110

8. 1006 GP Coy:- ref log 1 Jul, para 7 d, he would like authority to form this coy in Sa [illegible] by 5 Aug. — C ii

1697

Col CHIAVARINO

9. Reduction of Italian adm: info him that there was no objection on the part of MAIA to the substitution of younger men for older men to be demob in port lab units etc, provided the ingoing units were there first, and subject to the present limitations of dpt. and time. — 2 i/c G ii C iii

10. Move two of army boys:- handed him comm extending area to which conscripts may travel on demob. Explained that FOGGIA area was still excl. He would like something in writing summarizing the posn. — C iii

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File 47

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 5 Jul 44

Capt CAVANI

1. Re CAVALOTTI:- explained situation regarding this offr, and that if any query should arise as to his whereabouts or emp they will consider matter in abeyance. G ii

2. Italian interpreter offrs for Florence:- discussed ACC sig to FILPOT - in the meantime he will endeavour to trace Ugo Colonna. G ii

Col QUERCIA (acting deputy C of S)

3. Reduction of Italian adm and services ceiling:- handed in to-days sig confirming reduction to be effected by 31 Jul. 2 i/c G ii

Col CHIAVARINO

4. Discussed implications of above sig and steps to be taken to implement the reduction. Examined together letter he is sending to War Ministry this pm requesting necessary action. Quoted is figure of 70.000 odd (incl transit camps and hosp cases) to be reduced to 45.870. One difficulty is to determine at this moment just what proportion of hosp cases appertain to Italian adm and services. SMRE suggestions to War Ministry incl demob of '13 and if necessary '14 classes, the sending on renewable leave of personnel with homes in the north who may wish to avail themselves of the advantage (this enables them to take up work if available, but prevents them from moving into unauthorised territory), and the sending on renewable leave of whatever additional numbers needed to reduce the ceiling adequately. This formula is proposed to permit of subsequent adjustment of the classes. 2 i/c G ii
It is strongly urged that M of War should send to each Area HQ an energetic staff offr fully infd of the situation who would assist area comd in implementing the reductions. Recent experience has shown that definite orders to Area (formerly corps) HQs have been questioned when it comes to drastic reductions, and a repetition of this dr dilatory

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It is strongly urged that M of War should send to each Area HQ an energetic staff offr fully infd of the situation who would assist area comd in implementing the reductions. Recent experience has shown that definite orders to Area (formerly corps) HQs have been questioned when it comes to drastic reductions, and a repetition of this dilatory action on the part of the area comds will make the reductions impossible of attainment before 31 Jul.

Gen MATTIOLI

5. Harvesters:

a) concerned about delay in arranging move by rail from FOGGIA of those men who have finished harvesting. Infd him that matter is being dealt with by AMG Foggia in consultation with MAIA. 2 i/c

b) Certain number of army rations issued to SMRE camp at FOGGIA before matter of feeding was clarified between MAIA and AMG, namely – rations for camp staff, about 150 strong, for about one month.
rations for harvesters for 2/3 days prior to 4 Jul, about 2/3000 men per day believed to be involved.
MATTIOLI has asked for exact figures to be supplied. Proposal is that these army rations be replaced by AMG, but there are complications as AMG items are different from the army scale. MATTIOLI wishes to know what MAIA want done in the matter.

1696

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LIAISON WITH SMRE 4 Jul 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Internal Security Divs:- (ref log 3 Jul) Requested him to have prepared their proposed WE for a lightytype div of 6.250 men, for submitting to Gen BROWNING on his return. He will submit alternatives, with and without arty, and in both cases to incl services in sufficient strength to make the divs self-supporting. — comd 2 i/c G i

2. Re Italian Adm and Services:- infd him of reduction to be effected by 31 Jul: minimum reduction to 45.870, might be to 40.000 . They are to consider immediately ways and means of disposing of surplus personnel, taking into account that large numbers of older classes cannot be demob'd as their homes are north of NAPLES - FOGGIA line. They estimate that in all categories on mainland such men total at least 30.000 — 2 i/c G ii

3. Use of arms by Italian tps:- BERARDI's further letter of cancellation awaiting his signature. — comd

4. XIII Corps, SARDINIA:- designated comd to replace MAGLI is Gen BRUNETTI. — comd 2 i/c G iii(I)

5. Specialist offrs in GREECE and ALBANIA:- SMRE have no knowledge of any negotiations for thier return, nor info as to what offrs are available there. On the other hand OXILIA states there are up to 50 offrs in MONTENEGRO NOT employed, incl engr and MT specialists, whom he would be very glad to get back. — comd G ii

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

6. 37/54 AA ammn required for 145 Bty in SICILY:- there is no ammn available on mainland. The 68.000 rounds in depots in SARDINIA are earmarked for AA units in CAMPANIA - SMRE letter 4 fsn 4/2086 refers. Query ammn in possession of AA units in SARDINIA. — G ii

7. 149/19 situation in SARDINIA:- it is confirmed that details are awaited. — G ii

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7. 149/19 situation in SARDINIA:- it is confirmed that details are awaited. — G ii

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

8. 610 Radio Controllo Pl:- replacement of unsuitable operatore is in hand - in total 13 being sought with required qualifications. — 80 Sigs 1695

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S E C R E T

LIAISON WITH S M R E 3 Jul 44

1.	Secreteriat Office Priorities of sigs for CIL:- defined in detail when various types of priorities could be used, and infd them of existence of DRLS, which could be used for all normal comms. ~~Promised~~ Promised to circulate further instrs to SMRE branches.	G ii SO Sigs
2.	Lt Col PIZZONIA Harvesters:- infd him of latest situation regarding the two surplus FRIULI bns, and that projected move of one bn to BARLETTA was off. MATTIOLI was back in BARI waiting to hear the decision.	2 i/c G ii
3.	Shorts for port workers: ref recent meeting 2 i/c- AQ- MATTIOLI at which it was stated that shorts were now uncontrolled, M of War have laid down that all shorts are earmarked for combat tps, and are NOT available for port lab.	AQ
4.	Col CHIAVARINO Infd him of steps taken by MMIA to safeguard documentation and property in districts and depots in territory lately freed. On subject of demolisation , he foresees great complications in implementing reduction programme, owing to veto on movements north of Naples Foggia line. This reduces potential numbers for demobilization by 50%.	2 i/c G ii
5.	Maj D'ANCONA Engr Regt TRANI:- they wish to draw on surplus sig personnel there for rits for CIL. Will advise later in day numbers involved. SO Sigs agrees.	2 i/c
6.	~~MAJOR~~ Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO Bersaglieri rits:- ready to move 10 Jul from LATIANO. Strength 17 offrs 20 ncos 250 ors 24 tons stores. Designation: rits for CIL - NOT LI Bn.	G iii
7.	Serial 1150/1:- 200 men ready to move ex BARI. Willadvise regarding balance later.	G iii SORE

Col CHIAVARINO

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Maj D'ANDONA

5. Engr Regt TRANI:- they wish to draw on surplus sig personnel there for rits for CIL. Will advise later in day numbers involved. SO Sigs agrees. — 2 i/c

~~XXXX~~ Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

6. Bersaglieri rits:- ready to move 10 Jul from LATIANO. Strength 17 offrs 20 ncos 250 ors 24 tons stores. Designation: rits for CIL - NOT LI Bn. — G iii

7. Serial 1150/1:- 200 men ready to move ex BARI. Willadvise regarding balance later. — G iii SOME

Gen OXILIA

8. Confirmed his appointment as Undersecretary of State for War. Will be leaving for ROME 5 Jul and returning SMRE 9 Jul. In his absence Col QUERCIA will act as deputy C of S. Col CHIAVARINO will be fully infd as to action to be taken regarding demob, etc. — comd 2 i/c G ii

1694

9. Gen DE MARTINI: requested outcome of trial in SARDINIA — G iii(I)

Col PALLAVICINO

10. Just back from a visit (with BERARDI) to CIL and HQ of Gen ANDERS (POLCORPS), located at the moment in the house and grounds belonging to PALLAVICINO. They got as far as North of MACERATA. CIL NOT in contact with enemy. — comd 2 i/c

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H/L

S E C R E T

LIAISON WITH S M R E 2 Jul 44

Col QUERCIA

1. Move to ROME:- requested him to complete revised mov table with weight of stores to be lifted by rail: 250 tons. Pointed out also that 8 vehs in each rd convoy for carrying petrol would probably not be needed, as refuelling would be done enroute. — G ii Mov

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

2. LI Bersaglieri Bn:- still require certain items of clothing and cannot therefore state date for departure. Location: LATIANO. — G iii

3. 213 Vet Hosp:- he is info by XXXI Corps that departure has been postponed until 3 Jul, owing to impossibilty of arranging train earlier. — G iii Mov

Lt Col PIZZONIA

4. ORBAT of lab tps in APULIA ports:- collected statement as required by DDL 2 Dist. — DADL

Gen OXILIA

5. Internal Security divs:- info him of decision taken to reduce strength to 53.300 and requested nomination of divs which they wished to retain, and which to be brought over from SARDINIA for other emp. After stating that he would have preferred to await BERARDI's return before making final decision, and that he personally considered the revised figure much too low, in view of the commitments they would have in the industrial north, he gave the following details: — comd 2 i/c G ii

-to be retained (in order of preference)
- SABAUDA and CALABRIA for the islands
- GRANATIERI
- CREMONA
-PICENO
- MANTOVA

been postponed until 3 Jul, owing to impossibilty of arran ing train earlier. — Mov

Lt Col PIZZONIA

4. ORBAT of lab tps in APULIA ports:- collected statement as required by DDL 2 Dist. — DADL

Gen CAILIA

5. Internal Security dive:- info Him of decision taken to reduce strength to 53.300 and requested nomination of divs which they wished to retain, and which to be brought over from SARDINIA for other emp. After stating that he would have preferred to await BERARDI's return before making final decision, and that he personally considered the revised figure much too low, in view of the commitments they would have in the industrial north, he gave the following details: — comd, 2 i/c, G ii

-to be retained (in order of preference)
- SABAUDA and CALABRIA for the islands
- CREMONA
- PICENO
- MANTOVA
- BARI

- to be otherwise emphyed forthwith

- 204, 226, FRIULI dive.

1693

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A/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 1 Jul 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Breaches of censorship:- handed him MMIA letter and enclosures and requested him to inform outcome of trial of previously notified offenders. He fully appreciates gravity of situation but cannot readily find remedy . — 2 i/c G iii(I)

2. Higher comds:- gen discussion on possibilities of reorg -informal talk- referred seperately. — comd 2 i/c

Col CHIAVARINO

3. IX Engr Regt TRANI:- resulting from meeting earlier to-day, they estimate being able to form one complete Art Lav coy from excess personnel, but have insufficient specialist to complete second. After consultation with SORE infd him that remaining 159 artieri would be used as rifts - destination to be advised by SORE later. — 2 i/c G ii SORE

4. Depots and districts north of NAPLES - FOGGIA:- he is worried about chaotic situation likely to ensue if the matter is allowed to drift - referred substance to 2 i/c — 2 i/c

5. Recall of XIX 1922 class:- following enquiry of yesterday, War Ministry letter of 4 Jun was produced, authority given to area comds to recall all men of this class and instrs that men to report to regts and particularly lab units. D'ANTONA further produced unofficial figures obtained from CAMPANIA showing that as a result of above 600 rifts had been posted to 227 Div and 1500 to 212. Informed them that this was quite out-of-order, and requested that any such arrangements be cancelled forthwith. In meantime, pending confirmation of figures, part of these men to be employed for ~~serial~~ , Lab coy for III Dist. — 2 i/c G i G ii

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

6. 200 muleteer rifts at NICASTRO:- infd him that these were no longer required as muleteers, and that they would now be employed for serial 1127. — G ii

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7. Dvrs:- — G ii
   a) driving school, course now ending: 60 to CONVERSANO, 70 to IX Autieri Depot for rifts for 1000 - 1004 GT Coys.
   b) driving school, new course 9 Jul: he will ensure 100 trainees report; most already earmarked.
   c) 1005 GT Coy:- 120 dvrs departing CALABRIA 3 Jul; 90 " ex BARI; 60 " ex POLIGNANO (see above) specialists very doubtful - will obtain exact details by 3 Jul
   d) 1006 GT Coy:- he proposes this unit be formed in SARDINIA from large course started 20 Jun
   e) driving course in SICILY:- second course, 100 strong, started 20 Jun

1692

Capt DELLA CORNA

8. Offrs for 1035/6 dvr units for ACC: it is confirmed that offrs are to be produced by BASSO ex X Autieri Regt (LO War Ministry also confirms). No encouragement should be given to FRAA Campania by MMIA Naples to quibble over SMRE and War Min orders. — G ii

Capt CUCINO

9. 4000 rounds 149/19 are additional - ref SMRE 2429 29 Jun — G ii

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 30 Jun 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Move to ROME: (with Capt Westbury), they will submit 1 Jul revised mov table, to incl adv party to move entirely by rd, and capable with personnel already in ROME of functioning as Gen Staff without relying on GP to be moved by rail. — 2 i/c G ii

2. Behaviour of Italian tps towrds Allies:- handed to him comd's letter of 29 Jun, which will be submitted to BERARDI on his return pm 2 Jul. — comd

Gen MATTIOLI

3. Harvesters:-

a) he produced letter from SMRE rep FOGGIA dated 29 Jun reporting that local agricultural org could NOT absorb the last two bns of FRIULI Div and requesting instrs. One bn arrived 29 Jun and the second was expected 30 Jun. Later infd MATTIOLI that MMIA had signalled TEMPERLEY, placing onus on AMG and requesting explanation. Meantime bns to stay put. — 2 i/c G ii

b) discussed contents of AMG letter 26 Jun, particularly para on rations on conclusion of service. Referred him to MMIA sig of 29 Jun confirming AMG responsibility. — 2 i/c Gii

MATTIOLI proceeding to FOGGIA 1 Jul to sort the thing out.

c) 650 PICENO personnel at BRINDISI:- see log 28/29 Jun para 3 - infd him that the train to take these men to FOGGIA would NOT after all be arranged, and that men were accordingly at their disposal. — G ii

Col CHIAVARINO

4. Reorg PBS:- necessary instrs have been given to War Ministry for additional appointments to complete reorg programme. Will follow for action. Some doubt about MO's, of whom PBS is reported to have already over 60. — 2 i/c

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LtCol D'ALESSANDRO

5. Italian mechanical draughtsman: enquired about possibility from RE sources for CMTC Mechanics School. He will make enquiries. — G ii

6. LI Bersaglieri Bn:- inid him that approval had been recd for this unit to proceed to CIL as rfts; he is to sup exact strength 1 Jul. — G ii

7. 1005 T Coy:- CALABRIA contingent not entraining before 3 Jul, therefore improbable that unit will be complete by 5 Jul. Total dvr requirements earmarked, but specialists NOT found yet and situation doubtful. Some specialists still short for 1004. He will also advise 1 Jul on emp of output of POLIGNANO course now ending. — G ii

Maj D'ANTONA

8. Serial 1502 and our SD/19 23 Jun:- replacement of 311 Coy stated to be not easy at this time. Queried disposal of 1922 class in Campania (being recalled at this moment, it is said). Stated to be destined as rfts for 227 Div. Requested him to find out who gave this order. — G ii

1691

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 28/29 Jun 44

Gen CAILIA

1. Recd fm PBS:- handed him copy of PBS letter DJL/md 24 Jun, with which he is in full agreement. Details have been passed to CHENARINO for implementing. — 2 i/c G ii

2. Behaviour of Italian tps towards Allies:- discussed wording of BERARDI's letter of cancellation and infd him that further letter on subject would be coming from comd. — comd

Gen MATTIOLI (with Maj SUYS)

3. 650 harvesters at BRINDISI ex PICENO:- prefect of BRINDISI has written requesting that these men be allowed to remain on until 25 Jul. Infd him that tpt was already being organized to take them to FOGGIA, and that any alteration at this stage could only be done through ACC Brindisi. — G ii Mov

4. Return of harvesters from FOGGIA:- MATTIOLI had infm that harvesting was ahead of schedule and that first men to be released = congedanti - would start to leave 1 Jul. He had no infm as to date of release of other grps, but all would be earlier than expected. Discussed problem of returning the bns of various dive and rationing in the camp at FOGGIA — 2 i/c G ii Mov.

5. At subsequent meeting, present 2 i/c, A/Q and DAIL, following pts and decisions were discussed:- — 2 i/c A/Q G ii

-a) rations for harvesters while still in FOGGIANO: MMIA to sig AMG FOGGIA representing their responsability until men arrive back at unit;

b) FRIULI bns: MATTIOLI to notify MMIA in adv as to approx date of departure, MMIA to arrange for tpt from SARDINIA of necessary offrs and unit eqpt, eventual location to be discussed with CAILIA.

c) clothing for port lab:- MATTIOLI seemingly NOT aware that tps on port lab entitled to issue of BD and shirts. Will arrange for immediate indents through normal channels up to total of approx 15.000 sets. quick!

4. Return of harvesters from FOGGIA:- MATTIOLI had info that harvesting was ahead of schedule and that first men to be released = congedanti - would start to leave 1 Jul. He had no info as to date of release of other gps, but all would be earlier than expected. Discussed problem of retaining the bns of various divs and rationing in the camp at FOGGIA

G ii Mov.

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c) clothing for port lab:- MATTIOLI seemingly NOT aware that tps on port lab entitled to issue of BD and shirts. Will arrange for immediate indents through normal channels up to total of approx 15.000 sets.

d) rations: MATTIOLI reported on inadequacy of present fish ration in lieu of P meat - the high flavour of the fish which they are unable to conceal owing to lack of condiments and spices - resulting in sickness among the tps and much of the fish being thrown away and NOT eaten. MATTIOLI info that present stock of fish believed almost exhausted, and that new and better scale for all tps to be put into effect about I Aug.

e) Reorg of Lab Inspectorate:- MATTIOLI advised of SMRE proposal to convert the lab inspectorate into inspectorate of auxiliary units, with task of supervising and following activities of all Italian units under comd II and III Dists and PBS. Proposal rec'd MMIA blessing. All tps under comd Allies would then be controlled either by Deleggazion A or T or the new inspectorate.

1699

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D.C.9/6

SECRET

Liaison with S.A.C.S.E.

27 June 44.

Maj d'ANTONA. SD

1. 73 Bakery Unit, MICASTRO. Consists of 2 offrs, 115 OR's, 5 WEISS ovens. Until now has been employed on road work. Told SMEB to make it ready, give it Italian uniforms, put in tpt request as soon as possible. Estimated date of readiness 10 July. Said we would confirm above in writing. G

2. 502/3 Smoke Coys. Informed him(and also Ufficio Servizi)that the 205 rfts were to be equipped in BARI, NOT MINERVINO. 9 Corps aware of this. G

3. Recall of 1922 class. NO info yet. G

Capt CUCINO - Services - Artv

4. 149/19 mm on Mainland. Latest position :-

with 166 Gruppo	3,363	G2
TARANTO	1,756	
COSENZA	1,400	Request for tpt to C.I.L. already in.
TARANTO(modified mm)	5,342	
COSENZA(" ")	3,358	
TOTAL:-	15,219 rdsm	

5. CANNA Fire Control equipment not available.

6. Italian Navy have 1,000,000 rds 7.65 mm.

Gen OKILL - A.C.C.S.

7. Forces ceiling. Gave me written reply to points raised in yesterday's Conference at MENA. 21/c A/Q G

8. Six Interpreters for 1 Special Force being found. See below.

Capt CAVANI - Pers and Seg

9. Interpreters for 1 Special Force. 5 standing by now.

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Capt CAVANI - Pers and Seg

9. Interpreters for 1 Special Force. 5 standing by now.

1689

Major
G.S.O. II.

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LIAISON w/ SMRE

SECRET

26 Jun 44

Maj d'ANTUNA S.D.

1. Labour Regts in SARDINIA (Serials 1114/17 and 1125) SMRE have sent chaser re 415, 416 Regts and have asked for confirmation that 411/14 are ready now. Our SD 1008 of 23 Jun refers. G

2. Labour Coy for 3 Dist. Our SD/19 of 23 Jun refers. May some C.R. personnel to help form this Coy be drawn from CAMPANIA? The 1265 ORs required from CALABRIA for 417 Regt (Serial 1127) have exhausted CALABRIA resources. G 1

3. Dissolution of 7 Battoglione Mov Stradale.

(a) Bn at present is:-	Offrs	ORs
HQ	6	
HQ Pl	1	35
132 Road aid Pl	1	28
6 Coy Mov Stradale	4	204
7 " " "	4	151

(b) SMRE propose to: 2 i/c G 1
(i) dissolve HQ and HQ Pl making 7 offrs and 35 ORs available for the program.
(ii) leave 7 Coy available to be used by Allies as they think necessary
(iii) join 6 Coy and 132 Rd aid Pl for use in ROME.

What are our reactions to above proposals?

Col d'ALESSANDRO S.D.

4. Serial 1062B confirmed that 1 offr and 17 ORs are balance required to complete 1004/5 GS Truck Coys. G 3

Maj VENUTI S.D.

5. Engr rfts. Confirmed 150 rfts (Serial 1050) were being made ready (with clothing, boots and equipt) by 4 July. G SCRE

Col CHECCHIA - Services

6. 502/3 Smoke Coys. He will deal at once with their clothing deficiencies. Also spoke to SD about this regarding personnel deficiencies. G A.G.

7. 2001/2 Services pls with Food Sub Comm ACC. PASSO being instructed to supply rifles. G

Gen MATTIOLI - Labour Inspectorate

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for the program.
(ii) leave 7 Coy available to be used by Allies as they think necessary
(iii) join 6 Coy and 132 Fd aid Pl for use in ROME.

What are our reactions to above proposals?

Col d'ALESSANDRO S.D. — G 3

4. Serial 1062B; confirmed that 1 offr and 17 ORs are balance required to complete 1004/5 QM Truck Coys.

Maj VERONI S.D. — G SORE

5. Engr rifts. Confirmed 150 rifts (Serial 1050) were being made ready (with clothing, boots and equipt) by 4 July.

Col CHECCHIA - Services — G A.Q.

6. 502/3 Smoke Coys. He will deal at once with their clothing deficiencies. Also spoke to SD about this regarding personnel deficiencies.

7. 2001/2 Services pls with Food Sub Comm ACC. PASSC being instructed to supply rifles. — G

Gen MATTIOLI - Labour Inspectorate — G1(L)

8. 410 Labour Regt. Said I would ask G1(L) to phone him re formation of this Regt. SD/19 of 26 Jun refers.

Lieut FERRANDO - Force 6 Sec — G 1 G 2

9. 6 Interpreters for 1 Special Force. 1 offr and 2 ORs only could be made available at once. Said they were to be told to stand by, and that 3 more must be found from SMFE and War Min resources.

1688

R D Wallworth
Major
GSO 2

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6.276

SECRET

Liaison with S.A.R.E. 24/25 June 44.

Maj d'ANTONA - SD

1. Personnel of 1200 Indep. Amb. Pl. Informed him that 2 District will transport them from POLIGNANO to BRINDISI so that they can collect their ambulances. G

2. Adm. Det. OTTAVIANO G.M.P. School. Told him formation sanctioned by AAI as emergency measure, and that det could now report to OTTAVIANO if not already there. G

Gen. BATTISTI - Labour Inspectorate

3. 410 Labour Regt. Confirmed(also present PIZZONIA, d'ANTONA) that the Regt was to be completed with SBANDATI from FOGGIA Refugee Camp up to maximum of 1500. Our SD 798 of 22 June refers. G

Col. QUERCIA - Services.

4. Informed him SHAE amended tpt request for move to ROME to be passed through Supertrasporti for vetting. G Mov

5. 10,000 Allied uniforms for C.I.L. Reminded him issues of Allied supplied uniforms were controlled by AMIA N/C

Col. d'ALESSANDRO - SD

6. Personnel for 1004 G.T. Coy(formerly 1019 G.T. Coy). Confirmed the 20 personnel asked for by our SD/5 of 22 June were a separate request from the 97 personnel asked for by our SD/6 of 27 May which were for 1024 and 1025(formerly 1004 and 1005)Truck Coys. G

Officio Automobilismo

7. 52 My W/S for C.I.L. Told Automobilismo that a rep. was to go forward to SHAE, 2 POLISH Corps; gave them authority to dispatch the W/S(18 vehs) by road at once. G Mov SHAE

Col CHIAVARINO - SD

8. Discussed Comando Tappe for ROME. Was told G.O.C. A.A.I. . had instructed OXILIA to form and send it. 2 i/c G

Capt DELLA CORNA - SD

9. Dvrs for 1005 Truck Coy. Was informed 31 Corps were despatching personnel from III Dvrs Course from CHIANCHIANO 3 Jul and NOT 28 Jun, in order to send completely trained men. SHAE's A593/Ops of 25 Jun refers. G

10. Bakery units. Availability on Mainland only:-

supplied uniforms were controlled by MMIA

Col. d'ALESSANDRO - SD

6. Personnel for 1 504 G.T. Coy(formerly 1014 G.T. Coy). Confirmed the 20 personnel asked for by our SD/6 of 22 June were a separate request from the 77 personnel asked for by our SD/6 of 27 May which were for 1024 and 1025(formerly 1004 and 1005)Truck Coys. G

Officio Automobilismo

7. 59 Hy W/S for C.I.L. Told Automobilismo that a rep. was to go forward to IEMF, 2 POLISH Corps; gave them authority to despatch the W/S(12 vehs) by road at once. G Nov DARNE

Col CHIAVARINO - SD

8. Discussed Command Tapps for NOMB. Was told S.O.S. M.M.I.. had instructed OKIMIA to form and send it. 2 i/c G

Capt DELLA CORNA - SD

9. Dvrs for 1005 Truck Coy. Was informed 31 Corps were despatching personnel from III Dvrs Course from CATANZARO 3 Jul and NOT 28 Jun, in order to send completely trained men. GRRB's 4503/Ord of 25 Jun refers. G

10. Bakery units. Availability on Mainland only:-

No 73(2 offrs, 115 ORs, 5 MOBILE Ovens)

No information from SARDINIA yet.

11. 212 reparti Lavoratori ARTIERI will be ready 15 July. G SOME

12. 135 Forestry Coy. Collected copy of the reorganisation order (4368/Ord of 24 June)for information SOME G

13. Segreteria del Sottocapo

Explained signals classifications of 'Important' and 'IMMEDIATE' and requested that the information be circulated SOME so that sign is for C.I.L. via M.M.I.A. were correctly graded in future. G A/G

Lt CERVASARO - Services - Arty

14. Obtained position re availability Italian small arms and amm. G2

1687

R P Hilliard

Major
G.S.O.2

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SECRET
23 June 44

LIAISON with SMRE

Maj d'ANTONA S.D.

1. Completion of Serial 1062 B 1004/5 Q.M. Truck Coys for 5 Army AMG. Confirmed 2 offrs 77 ORs despatched from BARI. Remainder - Capt and 9 specialists - being found. G 3

2. 673, 674 Corpi Artieri. Informed SMRE that these were POW units. SMRE anxious to clarify their juridical (giurdico) posn. Would like written answer to their 916/STAT of 21 June. C A

3. Serials 1114/7 - Labour Regts ex SARDINIA. d'ANTONA checking that above are being completed and made ready for shipment. 1117 (414 Regt) is ready now. Told him we were also signalling SIMMONS re readiness of these Labour Regts. G 1

4. Serial 1127 (414 Regt). Confirmed it will be formed without using SBANDATI and that personnel will be drawn from depots and ineffective units. To be ready 15 July. Copy of Mob order being sent us. G 1

5. Service Pls for ACC. Nom roll of Cpls and Cooks came from BASSC, not from 9 Corps the formation responsible for forming the first four pls. G 1

Col D'ALESSANDRO

6. Call up of 1922 class CAMPANIA. Latest info being given me tomorrow. G

7. Serials 1150/1. Rly Constr units. Balance of 8 offrs and 291 ORs. Posn as follows. SMRE clarifying with BASSO offr ranks required. 200 ORs despatched. Remaining 91 ORs going soon.

K F Holdsworth

Major
GSO 2

Col D'ALESSANDRO

6. Call up of 1922 class CAMPANIA. Latest info being given re tomorrow. G

7. Serials 1150/1. Rly Constr units. Balance of 8 offrs and 291 ORs. Posn as follows. SHAPE clarifying with BASSO offr ranks required. 200 ORs despatched. Remaining 91 ORs going soon.

E P Hollaway

Major
GSO 2

1686

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CA shuffle

Para 11 ?

22/6

AO - See note on

Para 11

Shuffle

22/6

LIAISON with SHAPE

SECRET
20/21 Jun 44

1. Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

Divs in SARDINIA MAGLI'S sig 2961 of 10 Jun indicates that GT Coy just formed at Cagliari is made up of dvrs from dvr courses and NOT from personnel of units from CORSICA. Furthermore, there are 55 NCO and 28 OR dvrs still unallotted from same source. Serial 2600/1 can be formed entirely from dvrs available in SARDINIA - per their mob order of today ref 4267/Ord. G 1

2. 48 Cooks for tpt course : he is setting about securing the necessary volunteers, all to be men of older classes, due for demob, and with cooking experience. Preferably men from Northern provinces. (CXILIA infd). C 1

3. 2000 - 2003 Gen Service Pls : collected normal roll of cooks and cpls sent with the pls in the first place. Query: did these men not arrive with their units? G 1

4. Capt BELLA CORNA

Service Pl for 1 District: collected mob order - unit named 2009 service pl. G 1

5. Maj PASCHETTA

GRADO Bn : collected tpt details. It is confirmed that this unit has no vehs of its own. G 1
G III

6. Guides requested by Adv AAI : he confirmed that SHAPE in best posn to supply through their own personnel up with Adv Allied Forces. Told him to take no further action for the moment. (CXILIA infd). G 1

7. Gen CXILIA

ROME : he had been infd by phone from Comando Supremo that instrs had been received there from Gen BROWNING in detailed letter G 109 dated 19 Jun addressed Comando Supremo, SHAPE and Min of War, covering move to ROME. Adv parties to be there by 23 Jun. SHAPE gp to incl Gen CXILIA. Confirmed that no action to be taken pending clarification from MMIA. 2 i/c
G 1

8. Programme revision: discussed implications of this in very gen terms in its relation to projected move. He proposes taking strong representation of SD branch to ROME and enable any scaling down to be implemented from there. 2 i/c
G 1

[illegible] 502/3 mobs cows: (see log 18 Jun para 2) MATTIOLI G 1

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CRADC Bn : collected tpt details. It is confirmed that this unit has no vehs of its own. — G 1 / G III

6. Guides requested by Adv AAI : he confirmed that SHAEF in best posn to supply through their own personnel up with Adv Allied Forces. Told him to take no further action for the moment. (CXILIA infd). — G 1

7. Gen CXILIA

ROME : he had been infd by phone from Comando Supremo that instrs had been received therefrom Gen BROWNING in detailed letter G 109 dated 19 Jun addressed Comando Supremo, SHAFE and Min of War, covering move to ROME. Adv parties to be there by 23 Jun. SHAFE gp to incl Gen CXILIA. Confirmed that no action to be taken pending clarification from MMIA. — 2 i/c / G 1

8. Programme revision: discussed implications of this in very gen terms in its relation to projected move. He proposes taking strong representation of SD branch to ROME and enable any scaling down to be implemented from there. — 2 i/c / G 1

9. Inspection of 502/3 smoke coys: (see log 18 Jun para 2) MATTIOLI due to have carried out inspection 20 Jun, but NOT yet able to go to BARI for lack of tpt. Requested CXILIA to arrange. — G 1

10. Delegazione 'T': CXILIA NOT yet infd of location decided on. Mail for SOLDATELLI being posted c/o 210 Div HQ at ANZIO. Reminded him that location has to be in rear of Army boundaries. — 2 i/c

11. Maj D'ANTONA

507, 508, 509 smoke coys : Personnel all ready - clothing, etc still awaited. Request for clothing sent in last month - held up by Min of War. CXILIA infd. It is confirmed that units will be ready by month end. — G 1 / G III

12. 1022 GT Coy: ready to move 22 inst. — G 1 / G III

authority to move not held up on accommodation [illegible] (see entry on [illegible] Unit)

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Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

13. Reorg of Camp Telegrafisti: BASSO has been requested by 3 Dist to form reorg camp at NOCERA INFERIORE to accommodate personnel of Line coys during reorg period. — G 1, SO Sigs

14. 51 Bersaglieri Bn: strength available for CIL as rfts: 327 ORs. Additional 35 earmarked for dvr course. Query: can the 327 rfts be sent fwd? — G 1

15. 200 Muleteer rfts at NICASTRO: XXXI Corps have signalled that these men NOT suitable as muleteer rfts. — G 1

16. 150 AA rfts ex BARI for NAPLES: It is confirmed that these are still at BARI waiting to move. — G III

17. Serial 1075A: balance of 150 ex IX Corps ready to move. Tpt request to follow. — G I, G III

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SECRET

Liaison with S.M.R.E. - 19 Jun 44

AP

Maj d' ANTONA - S.D.

1. Serial 1200. Muleteer rfts for AAI. The 256 from COSENZA have been sent to NAPLES sta. G 3
Will MMIA please confirm detraining sta of the 200 from NICASTRO. Request for tpt for the 200 is with Tpt Branch.

2. LUGNANO Div HQ is being dissolved and most of its 16 offrs and 147 ORs are being used to form Delegazione "T". G 1
The idea of sending the HQ to 212 Div had not been considered.

3. 200 Dvrs for ACC. Informed d'ANTONA that SMRE efforts to produce the Dvrs were appreciated but that 69 of them could not drive. G 1
Told them they would be informed if 69 replacements were required.

4. Serial 1098B. 2004/8 Service Pls for ACC ready now in CAMPANIA. 2006 left 17 Jun for CAMPOBASSO. Remainder moving shortly. G 1

5. "Italian det of 1 offr and 17 men for British CMP School" OTTAVIANO has been formed by FF.AA CAMPANIA on orders AAI (according to FF.AA CAMPANIA). Det due to go for trg to "CMP Depot & Trg Estab" OTTAVIANO, where 650, 651 T.C. dets already are undergoing trg.
SMRE were unaware that this unit was being formed, and ask if it is to be dissolved since it was not formed on MMIA orders.

6. Bn HQ's for PBS. Three have arrived with PBS. Nine others are ready and are due to move tonight. A further six are in CALABRIA.

Maj VERONI - S.D.

7. Serial 2610. QM Truck Coy for 5 Army. VERONI will inform BAUMANN what eqpt is still to be collected at BARI. G 1

Col D'ALESSANDRO - S.D.

8. C.O. of a Gruppo Aerostieri del Genio (Balloon Unit) stated HQ 242 Gp RAF has asked ACC for 20 Dvrs for the Gruppo. Told d'ALESSANDRO no action required by SMRE unless instructed by us. G

9. Serial 1062B. Confirmed that the 1 specialist and 70 autieri ready at BARI to leave for ROME were for 1004, 1005 Truck Coys. Our SD/6 of 27 May refers. G
The remainder (3 offrs, 23 ORs) are being found as quickly as possible.

formed by [illegible] go for trg to "CMP Depot & Trg Estab" OTTAVIANO, where 650, 651 T.C. dets already are undergoing trg.

SMRE were unaware that this unit was being formed, and ask if it is to be dissolved since it was not formed on MMIA orders.

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Col D'ALESSANDRO - S.D.

8. C.O. of a Gruppo Aerostieri del Genio (Balloon Unit) stated HQ 242 Gp RAF has asked ACC for 20 Dvrs for the Gruppo. Told d'ALESSANDRO no action required by SMRE unless instructed by us. G

9. Serial 1062B. Confirmed that the 1 specialist and 70 autieri ready at BARI to leave for ROME were for 1004, 1005 Truck Coys. Our SD/6 of 27 May refers. G
The remainder (3 offrs, 23 ORs) are being found as quickly as possible.

Segreteria del Sottocapo

10. OXILIA out all morning. Secretary confirmed correspondence from Supreme Command came by courrier; also that OXILIA was aware that CIL were now u/c 2 Polish Corps (w.e.f. 17 Jun 44). [illegible] 2 i/c G 1

Maj MAIOCCHI - G(Ops)

11. Ref latest state of Italian Army. 77 of the 78 Italian offrs shown to be in CORSICA are ALLOGLOTTI. 2 i/c

12. It CERASARO - Services - Arty Branch

Obtained poen re availability of Italian small arms. G-2

R Hutchinson
Major
GSO 2

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Gr 19/6 A Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 18 Jun 44

Gen CAILLA

1. BERARDI phoned from C.V. to say that Gen BROWNING had gone to ROME to-day with Gen MACFARLANE, and that he hoped to see Gen BROWNING on his return to-morrow. BERARDI had paid a third visit to ROME and seen Col PINSENT. — 2 i/c, C i

2. Investigation into 502 and 503 Smoke Boys (present Gen MATTIOLI):- explained circumstances leading up to demand for enquiry. MATTIOLI has been charged with looking into the matter and will visit BARI 20 Jun for this purpose, calling first on LO 2 Dist. — C i, C ii

3. Additional offrs for PBS (ref PBS letter 13 Jun AG 370.5):- Gave CAILLA; list of letter and details of offrs still required, which A of W unable to find. Suggested these offrs might be immediately available in ROME, which he will look into. — 2 i/c, C i

4. SHAEF and W of War reps for ROME:- explained situation and misunderstanding that had arisen over despatch of reps for each in place of personnel to deal with Italian offrs in ROME. Should he be called upon to send further offrs for latter purpose, he will nominate party from CAIRSETI, which is NOT busy at the moment and close at hand. — C i

Capt DE GIORGI

5. 152 F. Hosp for 212 Div ex C.V.:- he knows nothing of this move. Unit formerly at disposal of Comando Supremo and other govt ests in G.H.Q. area - probably no longer required there now in view of imminent move of Govt. Had no particular opinion about desirability of leaving hosp with 212 Div. — C i, DADMS

6. Six infirmaries for PBS: info him of latest developments. — DADMS

Lt Col D'ARCY, WDHO and Maj D'ANTON

7. Vet Hosp for PBS:- collected mob order for 213 Vet Hosp, to be ready at VIBO VALENTIA by 25 Jun. Most of personnel will be extra to muleteers, concentrated [illegible] — C i

lo n into.

4. SMMS and 8 ox War reps for ROME:- explained situation and misapprehension that had arisen over despatch of reps for each in place of personnel to deal with Italian offrs in ROME. Should he be called upon to send further offrs for latter purpose, he will nominate party from CERRETI, which is NOT busy at the moment and close at hand. G i

Capt DE GIORGI

5. 152 Fd Hosp for 212 Div ex C/V:- he knows nothing of this move. Unit formerly at disposal of Comando Supremo and other estt este in S/LEGNO area - probably no longer required there now in view of imminent move of Govt. Has no particular opinion about desirability of leaving hosp with 212 Div. G i D/DMS

6. Sig intermaries for PBS: info him of latest developments. D/DMS

Lt Col D'ABROSANDRO and Maj D'ANTONA

7. Vet Hosp for PBS:- collected mob order for 213 Vet Hosp, to be ready at VIBO V/LENTIA by 25 Jun. Most of personnel will be extra to muleteers, consequently new serial needed. G i

8. Serial 1200:- First batch of 200 muleteer rifts leaving COSENZA to-day, accompanied by 25 all ranks escort. Second batch, also 200 strong plus escort, xxxxx ready to leave NIC/STRO. G i G iii

9. Rifts for Rly coys:- requested to be info exactly where they propose getting the 300 odd men to complete 1150/1. G i

Col CHIAVARINO

10. LO's and new units being formed:- for purposes of info and local co-operation, requested him to arrange for SMA LOs to be info of all new units being formed. Issued instrs immediately that all future mob orders will contain instrs in this sense to Corps and other HQs. G i

11. Rft units for Gen DE STEF/NIS:- enquired about request for opt and ascertained that this had been forwarded. Arranged for delivery to G i. G i

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

17 Jun 44

Gen CAILL

1. Move to ROME:- they are considering question of tpt, composition of adv party etc. Proposal at present is that rd tpt at their disposal shall make one trip all the way, balance of personnel and stores travel by rail as far as the rly will take them, and cover the remaining distance by rd shuttle service. G i Mov

2. Italian sum depot at BITONTO:- (with Gen SANINI) sum required to stock up the depot will have to be transported from 20 different depots all over the mainland. Their query I: BITONTO rather far back, considering rate of advance, and that some sum will have to be taken there from NAPLES. Told SANINI G ii would discuss on receipt of list. Query II: technical details relating to storing which require to be discussed on the spot by their technical offr with 14 B.D. G i G ii

3. Maj DENTON and Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO Serial 1127:- requested them to proceed with the fun of this serial, to be taken from surplus personnel at depots, etc. G i

4. Serial 1090B:- present est is 4 offrs 132 ors. They suggest following revised est if coy is split into two: 544 and 545 Gen Service Coys, each:
- HQ one offr 6 ors
- two pls, each one offr 30 ors
total: 6 offrs 136 ors (both coys) G i

5. Serial 1098B: Service pls for 800 now ready; 2000 leaving 17 Jun for CASERTA SSO; remainder also being collected by Allies. G i

6. Lav artiers coye:- 910 ready 17 Jun; 911 ready 26 Jun. 30RS

7. Ex SIL:- ref our G/3 of 14 Jun; 20 m n surplus transferred to our course. Balance: 3 offrs and 3 ors left G i

1681

of list. Query II: technical details [illegible] storing which require to be discussed on the spot by their technical offr with 14 B.D.

3. Maj DENTON and Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO — G i
Serial 1127:- requested them to proceed with the ltr of this serial, to be taken from surplus personnel at depots, etc.

4. Serial 1096B:- present est is 4 offrs 132 ors. They suggest following revised est if coy is split into two: — G i
544 and 545 Gen Service Coys, each:
- HQ one offr 8 ors
- two pls, each one offr 30 ors
total: 6 offrs 136 ors (both coys)

5. Serial 1098B: Service pls for NCC now ready; 2000 leaving 17 Jun for C/[illegible]SS0; remainder also being collected by Allies. — G i

6. Lav Artiert coye:- 910 ready 17 Jun; 911 ready 26 Jun. — SORE

7. Ar ex SIL:- ref our G/3 of 14 Jun; 20 men surplus transferred to Svr c urse. Balance: 3 offrs and 3 ors left to go Egypt. — G i

8. Serial 1205:- Additional ncos and men being found by BASCO at X Rece [illegible]ERI : offrs in APULIA. No date yet for availability of either. — G i

9. Serial 1150/1 :- collected mob order - to be ready 30 Jun. Balance unallotted (305 men) will be non-specialists. — G i SORE

10. Gen MATTIOLI — 2 i/c
30 offrs and 160 men for PBS:- has recd infm that the personnel for central PBS comd will be available NAPLES 19 Jun. — G i

11. Letter 2601 15 Jun on "harvesters":- requested him to amend para 1 to read "... from PRIOLI and BAMI dive " — G i

12. Col CHIAVARINO — G i
Produced letter from HQ 210 Div requesting 2000 muleteer rits to replace men to be demob with the liberation of further Italian territory etc.

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 14-16 Jun 44

14 Jun

Gen OXILIA

1. Conference with Gen BROWNING on problems arising out of occupation of ROME and other matters. Approved minutes communicated to BERARDI and translation sent to Col PIDSLEY by hand SMRE rep. — 2 i/c G i

2. OXILIA instructed to send fwd reps of SMRE and M of War for ROME, — G i A/Q

15 Jun

Gen OXILIA

3. BERARDI reported quite satisfied with result of previous days conference. Would like to meet Gen BROWNING for few moments on occasion of letters visit to AAI. OXILIA info later that GOC would be calling at Comando Supremo 18 Jun 1000 hrs to see BERARDI and MESSE for a few moments. — 2 i/c G i

4. NEMBO Bn for special op:- discussed this with OXILIA. As replacement he proposed Bn AZZURRO and GRADO bn in that order, considering that the former is better trained. Stressed the security angle, and that he was not to mention the matter to BERARDI or MESSE. — G i

16 Jun

Gen OXILIA (with Gen MATTIOLI)

5. Central HQs for PBS tps:- info him of approval to appointment of Gen REISOLI and Lt Col CAROPRESE to new HQ. Requested him to hasten departure of these two offrs now that approval had been recd, plus the 30 offrs and 180 ors to complete the HQ. — 2 i/c G i

6. Collection of "sbandati" in 5 Corps area:- info him of progress being made, that 100 men had been recd in the camp to date, and that adm was in the hands of 515 Regt. — G i

few moments on occasion of letters visit to AAI.
ORILIA infd later that GOC would be calling at Comando Supremo 16 Jun 1000 hrs to see BERARDI and MESSE for a few moments.

4. NEMBO Bn for special op:- discussed this with ORILIA. As replacement he proposed Bn AZZURRO and CRADO bn in that order, considering that the former is better trained. Stressed the security angle, and that he was not to mention the matter to BERARDI or MESSE. — G i

16 Jun

Gen ORLIA (with Gen MATTIOLI)

5. Central HQs for PBS tps:- infd him of approval to appointment of Gen REISOLI and Lt Col CAROPRESE to new HQ. Requested him to hasten departure of these two offrs now that approval had been recd, plus the 30 offrs and 180 ors to complete the HQ. — 2 i/c G i

6. Collection of "sbandati" in 5 Corps area:- infd him of progress being made, that 100 men had been recd in the camp to date, and that adm was in the hands of 515 Regt. — G i

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H8

Lt Col DI BITONTO

15. Additional avre in SARDINIA:- ref para 10 to-days log, requested him to utilise GT coy just formed in Sardinia plus personnel from new avr course and any avre back from CORSICA for serials 2600 and 2601, on similar sets to QM Truck coys and be already formed in SARDINIA for earlier serial. G i

16. Serial 1056:- it is confirmed that 47 avre for MONOPOLI have already been sent from BARI. G i

17. 100 parachutist ptns from NAPLES to San VITO:- his info is that these men - NOT all parachutists - are men back from leave etc, rejoining their units. G i

18. Ten Lav artieri coys being formed in CAMPANIA (ref para 14 to-days log):- info just to hand from CAMPANIA and subject to confirmation is that 306/7/8/9 have already been formed. G i SOMS

Lt Col PIZZONIA

19. Mil harvesters ex PICENO being diverted to PALESTRA:- he requested info as to what MG will be looking after these tps. Info him that request originated with 2 Region in the person of Col ZELLERS. He will arrange to send an offr for the necessary contact at MATERA. G i

Capt CUCINO

20. Amn for 166 Bty:- additional amn being modified will be available as follows: G i
- by 19 Jun (TARANTO and COSENZA) 4500 rounds G ii
- between 20 and 30 Jun (TARANTO & COSENZA) 6000 rounds

Range of normal amn for 149/19 guns is 14000 metres
Range of above amn modified ..... 10000 metres

18. Ten (x) artieri coys being formed at [illegible] SORE
14 to-days log):- Info just to hand from CAMPANIA and
subject to confirmation is that 306/7/8/9 have already
been formed.

Lt Col PIZZORNO

19. Mil harvesters ex PICENO being diverted to ALTAMURA:- G i
he requested info as to what HQ will be looking after
these ops. Info him that request originated with
2 Region in the person of Col ZELIORS. He will arrange
to send an offr for the necessary contact at MATERA.

Capt CUCINO

20. Amn for 166 Bty:- additional amn being modified will be G i
available as follows: G ii
- by 19 Jun (TARANTO and COSENZA) 4500 rounds
- between 20 and 30 Jun (TARANTO & COSENZA) 6000 rounds

Range of normal amn for 149/19 guns is 14000 metres
Range of above amn modified ..... 10000 metres

Gen ORLIA

21. Just back from CAV with message from BADOGLI for Gen G i
BROWNING. Arranged for Gen ORLIA to call to see comd 1679
1000 hrs 14 Jun.

22. ROME:- SMRE have recd no further instns about move or comd
departure of Gov party. Since his return he has had G i
info from SACMED that reps of Italian Air Force and
Navy have already been instructed to proceed to ROME
together with their respective Sub Commission reps.

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A/G

SECRET

LIAISON WITH AMGOT 13 Jun 44

Capt DE GIORGI

1. Six med units for PBS(serials 5201 – 5206):- infd him six units required, each 40 men and initially two offrs, to cater for med needs of 3000 men per unit. Provision of eqpt from Italian sources based on 1c hosp. Units to be complete with normal unit eqpt and tentage. Expendable med supps to be obtained from N/AFHQ depot. — C i A/G DA/DMS

Maj LUBARTONI

2. Vet Hosp for PBS:- infd him of decision to find this unit on mainland and requested him to
a) arrange for provision of the 10 vet offrs;
b) find adequate number of farriers, which he fixed at 15, between trained farriers and apprentices;
c) arrange for inspection of muleteer rits in C/CALABRIA by vet offrs with a view to selecting all men suitable for vet hosp;
d) get detailed info about the small amount of eqpt in poor condition which they have in the BARI area NOT in use. — C i

Capt CORRADO

3. Phone eqpt for CIL:- despatched to date: 25 phones; Eqpt from C/LAND Force due in one or two days; the veh transporting the material has broken down. With this eqpt they will send further five phones. No news of eqpt in SARDINIA. — SO Sigs

4. ST sets for CIL: He would appreciate reply to their sig 5/2852 of 6 Jun requesting authority for release of six R2 sets for Arty Bde of CIL. — SO Sigs

Lt Col CHECCHIA

5. Ammn for 156 Arty Gp:- of the ammn being modified, 6000 rounds are at TARANTO and 3000 at COSENZA. Change-over to be completed within 15 days. Requested to be infd to-day how many rounds will be available at TARANTO by 16 Jun. Discussed quality of ammn: modified rounds will have some — C i C ii

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c) arrange for inspection of volunteer rifts in C/LARRIA by vet offrs with a view to selecting all men suitable for vet hosp;
d) get detailed info about the small amount of eqpt in poor condition which they have in the B/RI area NOT in use.

Capt COBB/RAF

3. Phone eqpt for CIL:- despatched to date: 25 phones; Eqpt from C/LARRIA due in one or two days; the van transporting the material has broken down. With this eqpt they will send further five phones. No news of eqpt in B/RLINI. — SO Sigs

4. WT sets for CIL: he would appreciate reply to their sig 5/2851 of 5 Jun requesting authority for release of six R2 sets for Arty HQ of CIL. — SO Sigs

Lt Col CHECCHIA

5. Ammo for 166 Arty Gp:- of the ammo being modified, 6000 rounds are at TARANTO and 3000 at COSENZA. Change-over to be completed within 15 days. Requested to be info to-day how many rounds will be available at TARANTO by 16 Jun. Discussed quality of ammo: modified rounds will have same explosive content as standard 149/16 ammo, but shorter range. — G i; G ii

Col CHIAVARINO

6. Info for CIL: ref log 12 Jun, following are strengths of units: — 1678 i

- 155 Gp Assistenza	4 offrs	65 ors	
- 95 Gp Telegrafisti	8 "	106 ors	
plus Artieri pl	1 "	45 "	
- Tns Maps		25 "	

Above are in addition to 103 Svrs, 80 engrs etc.

7. (With Maj VERONI)- They are investigating the shortage on 916 Lav Art Coy, and will make sure that 917 is complete. Also enquiring into the report of 400 engrs at IRANI, and will try to make up the deficiency in 769 Forestry Coy. — JORE

Lt Col DI BERNARDO

8. Dvrs for II Rly Gp:- the 30 dvrs requested are now ready at B/RI; query - where are they to go ? — G i

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Lt Col DI BITONTO

9. Bersaglieri:- in addition to the "scanati" collected in SARDINIA (rft coy 250 strong), there are the remnants of LI Bersaglieri in at MANDRIA, about 300 strong. 30 of these are earmarked for dvrs course, and the balance available either as rfts for CIL or for Allied programme. SMRE want MMIA to decide on lot of these men. G i

10. Additional dvrs in SARDINIA:- enquiries on the part of SMRE and over-prompt action by Italian HQ Sardinia have led to the following situation:- G i

a) one GT coy of standard pattern, strength 10 offrs, 25 ncos, 385 ors was formed by 10 Jun from personnel got together on the island. Requires adjustments to get to bring into line with latest organization.

b) dvrs course is being started 13 Jun to provide personnel for further GT Coy in one months time.

11. Telegrafisti school:- he is getting busy collecting the 120 men for first course. Considers it essential, however, to hav something in writing as to the scope of the course, and just how much ground has to be covered. This is urgent. G i 30 Sigs

12. Serial 1062B:- Following are r coy at IX Dvr Repl Depot BARI: 2 offrs, 7 or specialists, 70 dvrs. Other specialists are availed. If urgently required, are ~~[illegible]~~ to go fwd ? G i

13. Rifs for 35 Bers Panettieri:- the 40 lab tps required for CIL have been ordered from IX Corps, and will be forwarded to LICATA as soon as ready. G i

14. Dvr Art coys for programme:- in reply to enquiries about specialists, Campania HQ has replied that those of 1960 - 24 classes are have been sufficient to complete three coys. DI BITONTO is clarifying the posn as to which three coys are referred to. G i

11. Telegrafisti school:- he is getting busy collecting the 120 men for first course. Considers it essential, however, to have something in writing as to the scope of the course, and just how much ground has to be covered. This is urgent. — C i — 30 Sigs

12. Serial 1062R:- Following are ready at IX Dvr Regt Depot BARI: 2 offrs, 7 or specialists, 70 dvrs. Other specialists are awaited. If urgently required, are ~~[illegible]~~ to go fwd ? — C i

13. Kits for 35 Sez Panettieri:- the 40 lab tps required for CIL have been obtained from IX Corps, and will be forwarded to LEBDA as soon as ready. — C i

14. Lav Art coys for programme:- in reply to enquiries about specialists, Campania HQ has replied that those of 1920 - 24 classes ~~xxx~~ have been sufficient to complete three coys. DI BITONTO is clarifying the posn as to which three coys are referred to. — C i

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A/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

12 Jun 44

Gen GILLIA

1. ROME:- he has been instructed to proceed immediately to CAVA to see BERARDI and receive details, presumably for passing on personally to Gen BROWNING, owing to BERARDI being unable to leave CAVA at this moment. GILLIA is flying this pm, and counts on returning 13 Jun. — G i

2. Gen WILSON and SARDINIA:- passed him latest info. — G i

3. Reorg CIL:- GILLIA read out document compiled by BERARDI summarising arrangements discussed and said to have been agreed by comd 5 Corps. Certain additional personnel is required for est of adv depots at TARANTO: Ord - Amm - Engr. To implement this SMRE propose sending the following: — comd 2 i/c G i A/A

- 155 Sez Sussistenza (ex LI Corps)
- 91 Sp Telegrafisti (ex LI Corps) plus pl artiglieri
- Eighty engr personnel
- One hundred avre from IX 'autoreparto' peasants (LI Corps)
- Two mob wksps ex LI Corps
- bring strength of DE STEFANI's HQ to est 20 offrs 50 ors

details of strength later.

It was also stated that 4 Bersaglieri Regt is 300 light, and that further 150 required to replace officer cadets.

Col MICHELETTI

4. Send for CIL:- collected details of strength etc. Send will leave LECCE pm 13 Jun and arrive destination am 14. — Staff CaptQ

5. Cinema unit:- permission is requested to send cinema unit to CIL for showing films to tps. Unit consists of nco and two men, one van with apparatus and three films of excellent vintage (La Tosca etc). Location : LECCE — Staff CaptQ

Maj D'[illegible]

6. 68 AA Arty Bty for CIL:- met Col BONELLI, OC Bty. He fully agrees about the gun situation, and considers it useless to move with only two units of fire. He has not a very high opinion of the gun it is proposed to modify at TARANTO. Thinks unit should await arrival of gun from SARDINIA. — G i

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- Eighty eight personnel
- One hundred ovrs from IX Autoreparto Gruppi (I Corps) strength inter.
- Two Mob wksps ex I Corps
- bring strength of DR STEFANI's HQ to est 20 offrs 86 ors

It was also stated that 4 Bersaglieri Regt is 300 light, and that further 180 required to replace off casts.

Col MICHELETTI
4. Hand for CIL:- collected details of strengths etc. Hand will leave LECCE pm 13 Jun and arrive destination pm 14. Staff Capt Q

5. Cinema unit:- permission is requested to send cinema unit to CIL for showing films to tps. Unit consists of nco and two men, one van with apparatus and three films of ancient vintage (La Tosca etc). Location : LECCE Staff Capt Q

Maj D'AMICONA
6. CLXVI Arty Bty for CIL:- Met Col BONELLI, CO Bty. He fully agrees about the gun situation, and considers it useless to move with only two units of fire. He has'nt a very high opinion of the gun it is proposed to modify at TARANTO. Things unit should await arrival of gun from STERLINI. Inim for rail move: 1 Staff Car, 1 MC combination, 12 lorries, 24 tractors, 21 trailers, 12 pieces, 320 all ranks. Vehs to refill at FOGGIA. Inim for rail move already handed to Mov LO. G i

7. 21 Pack Gp HQ:- infd him for infm of move EAST. G i

Lt Col DI BITONTO
8. GOV VIBO VALENTIA:- following volunteers ready to move to CIL rft unit 17 Jun: 10 offrs,16 nocs, 89 ors (incl 8 ncos and 25 ors MEDITI) Rpt request to follow. G i

9. 1400 abandati in 209 Div: they would like to have some infm on the progress in collecting these men ? G i

10. 1918-19 specialists in COMPAGNIA:- explained situation and requested him to ascertain if two Artieri Lav coys can be formed from specialists already obtained from 1920 + 24 classes, or failing that, if arrangements can be made to recall 1918 - 19 specialists excl those employed by FBS. G i SORE

1676

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 11 Jun 44

Maj PASCHETTA

1. LXXI Bersaglieri Bn: this has been alerted and is now ready to move from Sardinia; strength 21 offrs, 40 ncos, 718 ors with 7 vehs, and 274 MCs and combinations. Details herewith. G i

2. CERES and CERSETTI:- adv party CERES departed to-day, main body going 12 Jun. Main body CERSETTI departed 10 Jun. 2 i/c G i

Maj LUMARIONI (and Col POSTI DIONE of M of War)

3. Vet Hosp for PBS:- It is confirmed that remaining two vet hosps on mainland are required by Italian Army, 103 to go to CIVITAVECCHIA for PICENO Div, and balance of 4 to SANTHIA (CALABRIA) for MANTOVA. They have already supplied the following for the Allies: G i

- 110 Vet Hosp San Biagio(Fondi)
- 125 " " Persano
- 130 " " Nocelleto
- 210 " " Calvi Risorta
- 212 " " Persano
- 1 " " (formerly 211) - French Corps

The ten offrs required by PBS can be found on mainland, together with ten farriers, between trained and trainees; balance of personnel to be found in Sardinia and sig already sent to this effect. Eqpt: they might scrape together some eqpt in poor condition in BARI, but suggest that there should be spare eqpt at PBS HQ, where there are two complete units, plus part of the eqpt taken from the unit at POLLA.

Gen DILLA

4. Post cards for ROME:- is anxious to have definite approval as soon as possible - obviously having pressure brought to bear from outside. 2 i/c A/Q

5. Gen WILSON's visit to SARDINIA:- inrd him of latest developments and discussed implications. Takes poor view of the comd 2 i/c

- 212 " " Persano
- 1 " " (formerly 211) - French Corps

The ten offrs required by PBS can be found on mainland, together with ten jarriers, between trained and trainees; balance of personnel to be found in Sardinia and sig already sent to this effect. Eqpt: they might scrape together some eqpt in poor condition in B'RI, but suggest that there should be spare eqpt at PERS'NO, where there are two complete units, plus part of the eqpt taken from the unit at POLLA.

Gen O ILL.

4. Post cards for RO E:- is anxious to have definite approval as soon as possible - obviously having pressure brought to bear from outside. 2 i/c A/Q

5. Gen WILSON's visit to SARDINIA:- info him of latest developments and discussed implications. Takes poor view of the whole thing. Info him also that PBS had requested that Gen BISSO accompany Gen WILSON and requested him to facilitate granting the request. He contends that BISSO is no longer in the picture as regards SARDINIA, and that there are other reasons of confidential nature why he should NOT go. Promised to pass request to Gen'RDI by phone this pm and to advise me later. comd 2 i/c G i

1675

6. Rits for CIL:- requested him where they proposed setting the 4000 rits implied in BERNARDI's letter to 5 Corps. He said they would find them somewhere or other, if necessary from internal security divs. 2 i/c G i

Lt Col DI BIASIO and Maj D'ANTONA

7. CLXVI Arty Gp:- strength 19 offrs 388 ors, location S PIETRO VERNOTICO. Ready to leave: rd party 16 Jun, rail party 17 Jun. Fur her details herewith. G i Mov

8. 1943-19 specialist classes in CAMPANIA:- 2 i/c

artieri	691	Minatori	25	Bridging	10
Phone ops	15	Tele ops	114	VT ops	77
SL ops	48	Alymen	23	Electricians	2
Engr assault tps	19	Firemen	22	TOTAL	1046

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4C 11/6 A8

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 10 Jun 44

Capt DE GIORGI

1. With D/DMS on various subjects, incl org of six fd hosps for PBS, and one hosp for MCC. G i

Maj LUNARDONI (and Maj D'ANTONA) 2 i/C

2. Vet Hosp for PBS:- Most of the ten offrs required could be found on mainland without much difficulty, but ors NOT already employed only in SARDINIA. Vet hosps on mainland are at FRANCAVILLA (103) and hali hosp at MARTINA FRANCA (4). LUNARDONI will discuss with the Ministry whether latter can be made available for PBS. G i

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

3. Italian detonators in SICILY:- he has no idea what type these 10.000 detonators are, therefore cannot say whether they are needed for Italian Army. Has no idea knowledge of any amn in SICILY. G ii

Maj PASCHETTA

4. Gd Bn TARANTO:- the bn of the MANTOVA Div on loan on gd duties (I/120 Regt) is to move to ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ COSENZA on being relieved. G i

5. BERARDI letter to 5 Corps 6034/OP: he regrets no copy of this was sent to MAI, and will see that this is put right to-day. Main pts are:- provision of 20% reserves for CIL and res of 10.000 sets of clothing etc for various types of tps in the Amn. G i A/Q

Lt Col CHECCHIA

6. WT sets for 166 Bty:- collected sig requesting authority for issue of sets to this unit, due to join CIL shortly. SO Sigs

Lt Col DI BITONTO and Maj D'ANTONA

7. 12 Bikers for CIL:- these are being made available in CALABRIA and are being sent forthwith to rft camp at LEBRA G i

8. 166 Bty for CIL:- request for tpt almost complete. Owing to indifferent condition of vehs, provisional request was for G i mov

4. GG Bn TARANTO:- the bn of the 5AN DIV on loan on gd duties (I/120 Regt) is to move to ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ COSENZA on being relieved. — G i

5. BERARDI letter to 5 Corps 6034/OP: he regrets no copy of this was sent to MAIA, and will see that this is put right to-day. Main pts are:- provision of 20% reserves for CIL and res of 10.000 sets of clothing etc for various types of tps in the Imm. — G i A/Q

Lt Col CHECCHIA

6. WT sets for 166 Bty:- collected sig requesting authority for issue of sets to this unit, due to join CIL shortly. — SO Sigs

Lt Col DI BITONTO and Maj D'ANTONA

7. 12 Boxers for CIL:- these are being made available in CATANZARO and are being sent forthwith to rft comp at LEBRI — G i

8. 166 Bty for CIL:- request for tpt almost complete. Owing to indifferent condition of vehs, provisional request was for entire move by rail. Infd them that all motor vehs and trailers would have to go by rd, and only that part that could NOT be carried by mn tpt would go by rail. — G i MOV

Col CRISWELL

9. Three coys contemplated by M of War:- he knew about them and had viewed the project with disfavour. Assured that the whole thing had been washed out and the necessary counter-orders given and men dispersed. — 2 i/c G i

10. Disbanding of reorg comp:- requested statement of disposal of personnel in the comp at the time of disbanding — 2 i/c G i

1674

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 781920

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S W A E

7 10 Jun 44

Capt GIOVANNI (and Lt PERNICO)

1. Appointments of interpreters and LOs:- made it quite clear that we required to have advance info of all such appointments and transfers. Judging by apparent reactions, this was the first they had heard of this it. — G ii

2. MARLETTA and MONTRONE:- delayed action due to M of War treating the matter as a routine appointments. This is now being righted. — G i

Lt Col GALLO

3. Two RNS Radio stns from SARDINIA:- these have already arrived on mainland, authority War Material Disposal Sub-commission 14 Apr ACC/MD/S/3 for WT Pl of Comando Supremo. — SO Sigs

4. Farriers:- on instrs of War Ministry course for farriers has just been started at FRANCAVILLA, to train 160 farriers by 15 Sep. Trg unit is 103 Infermieria Quadrupedi. — G i

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

5. Amn weight tables:- collected info required for types used by CIL - gross weights per 100 rounds incl cases. — G ii

6. 45MM mortar bombs and fuzes:- collected details of availability. There are no spare fuzes, as these are an integral part of the bomb. — G ii

7. Amn for 149/19:- on mainland 6.500 rounds
in SARDINIA 16.000 "
Amn being modified 8.000 " — G ii

8. Visit to NAPLES:- CHIAPPARELLI is going to Naples 11 Jun, and will be visiting the CASOA amn dump. — G ii

Lt Col DI BITONTO and Maj D'ANIONA

9. Serial 1200:- 6 offrs , 250 ors ex COSENZA 11 Jun
6 " , 250 " " NICASTRO 18 Jun — G i

10. Serial 1062:- orders already given for 47 avrs to proceed to MONOPOLI for 101 GT Coy — G i

by [redacted] Sep. Trg unit is 103 Interm/eria Quadrupedi.

Lt Col CHI:PPARELLI

5. Amn weight tables:- collected info required for types used by CIL - gross weights per 100 rounds incl cases. — G ii

6. 45MM mortar bombs and fuzes:- collected details of availability. There are no spare fuzes, as these are an integral part of the bomb. — G ii

7. Amn for 149/19:- on mainland 6.500 rounds; in SARDINIA 16.000 "; Amn being modified 8.000 " — G ii

8. Visit to N'PLES:- CHI:PPARELLI is going to Naples 11 Jun, and will be visiting the C'PUA amn dump. — G ii

Lt Col DI RITONTO and Maj D'ANTONA

9. Serial 1200:- 6 offrs, 250 ors ex COSENZA 11 Jun; 6 " , 250 " " NICASTRO 18 Jun — G i

10. Serial 1062:- orders already given for 47 avrs to proceed to MONOPOLI for 1011 GT Coy. — G i

11. 1ao Gruppo 149/19:- info then that this bty required to join CIL soonest, req 9 hours there to rear 5 Corps. Bty at present some 150 men short, but hope to have ready to move in two - three days. Motor-drawn, and will go by rail. — G ii

12. Dvr course, POLICORO:- info him of satisfaction at sup of personnel for the third course, but additional 100 men now promised NOT required. DI RICONTO knew nothing about this, and will stop them. — G i

1673

13. Serial 1075A:- The 570 men ex APULIA are ready and tpt request will be made about at once; twelve bn HQs are being alerted and despatched; ISCHIA and CAPRI groups due to arrive shortly. When these moves are completed this serial will have been almost fully met. — G i

Maj VANONI

14. Specialists to replace PW coy at BARI:- he has looked into the possibility of producing these, but results are NIL. — G i

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A916 A/Q

LIAISON WITH S M R E

SECRET

8 Jun 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Special post cards for ROME:- showed him our proposed conventional phrases, which he can overprint on the cards already prepared (6000). To inform him whether he can go ahead with the issue and concert STYLES. — 2 i/c A/Q

2. Delegazione "A":- requested full history of Gen DE STEFANIS and Lt Col LOMBARDI, his Chief of Staff. Report just to hand from DE STEFANIS indicates that he has established satisfactory relations with comd 5 Corps and everything proceeding well. — 2 i/c G3 (I)

3. Comando Supremo:- Mentioned instances of action taken by MESSE in matters of direct concern between SMRE and MAI, and that this was regarded as interference which it was NOT intended to tolerate any longer. Gathered that his opinion, although he did NOT say so in so many words, coincided with ours, and that once MAI, SMRE and M of War were together in ROME alongside ACC and seat of Italian Govt, Comando Supremo would become entirely redundant. The gist of this conversation will be conveyed to BERARDI. — comd 2 i/c

4. SARDINIA under comd I Dist:- informed him of order just issued by AAI, which he deprecated on grounds that SICILY had been handed back to Italian adm and that tps there should be left under Italian jurisdiction as much as possible. Discussed personal relations between comd I Dist and comd XII Corps, and agreed that it would have been very much better had the matter been settled by amicable arrangement.

5. CERES and CERBERUS:- he was anxious to have authority to move the personnel for these two orgs to ROME and NAPLES to start their duties, as he understood that men were already arriving there. Later phoned through authority. Detailed instrs as to disposal of tps which pass through their hands have yet to be issued, and will first be discussed together. — 2 i/c G 3

Italian Govt, Comando Supremo would become entirely redundant. The gist of this conversation will be conveyed to BERARDI.

4. SARDA under comd I Dist:- infd him of order just issued by AAI, which he deprecated on grounds that SICILY had been handed back to Italian adm and that tps there should be left under Italian jurisdiction as much as possible. Discussed personal relations between comd I Dist and comd XII Corps, and agreed that it would have been very much better had the matter been settled by amicable arrangement. — comd 2 i/c

5. CERDA and CERSETI:- he was anxious to have authority to move the personnel for these two orgs to FOGGIA and VERSA to start their duties, as he understood that men were already arriving there. Later phoned through authority. Detailed instrs as to disposal of tps which pass through their hands have yet to be issued, and will first be discussed together. — 2 i/c 0 i

Dept DELL' COMA

6. Service ,ls for ASC:- Sig from SACEO stating that pls being formed at 31 Inf Regt Depot NAPLES. — G iii

7. Bn HQ:- HQ of 43 Lav Artieri Bn is being retained to adm 5, 152 and 163 Artieri Coys, under 209 Div. — G iii

1672

UFFICIO TRASPORTI

8. This branch has now moved out of the SMRE building, and has set up office near the stn. — MOV

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Return to A/B.

LIAISON WITH SMRE

SECRET

9 June 44

Gen OXILIA AMGS

1. Coy ex-CIL for ROME. Informed OXILIA that AAI had told 5 Corps to send one Coy from CIL for cerimonial guard duties at Royal Palace. Coy to be u/c 5 Army on arrival ROME. MOVWIT and 5 Corps arranging movement. — GOC, 2 i/c, G

Col CHIAPPARELLI - Services-Arty Branch

2. GS reserve of armament for CIL and NEMBO. Confirmed that locations of weapons forming the reserve and details of associated stores would be given in SMRE's reply to our SD/2/1/2 of 22 May. Informed him 14 BAD BITONTO is the likely location of reserve once it is concentrated. — G 2

3. Amn for CIL discussed. Saw also Col QUERCIA (who attended the conference at 5 Corps on 4 June) re 5 Corps proposals re amn supply for CIL. — G 2

Col GUIDA SD

4. Hy Mobile Workshops. Informed him 59 and 62 Hy Mob W/S were going to CIL, and that 38 Hvy Mob W/S was remaining at CAPUA. — G 1

5. GT Coys. Informed him GT Coy now forming at POLIGNANO will be designated 1004 GT Coy. Subsequently formed Coys to be numbered 1005, 1006, 1007 etc to conform with designations of the British cadres. — G, ST

Col DI BITONTO SD

6. Saw SMRE signal instructing 31 Corps to alert 480 muleteers (240 for 10 June, 240 for 18 June). — G

7. Units for FDS. Was informed 26 offrs and 154 ORs ready 10 June in CALABRIA. 31 Corps putting in request for transport. Cmr SD/20 of 3 June, dealing with Serials 1090, 1093, 1095, refers. — G

8. Reorg of AA units. Ref our G/3 of 2 June. 150 ORs ex-BARI surplus ready to move to 19 Raggruppamento, NAPLES, 9 June. 150 ORs (again ex-BARI surplus) are available now for training as Dvrs. — G, G2 AA

Maj DE MONACO - MEDICAL

9. 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906 Fd Hosps for CAMPANIA. W.E. of a Fd Hosp is 6 offrs and 40 ORs. Difficulty being experienced in finding the offrs. May the Fd Hosps be sent with only 2 offrs each, the remaining 4 offrs to be scratched for and sent on later? Answer required. — G, DADMS

Wkd 10/6/44.

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4. My Mobile Workshops. Informed him 59 and 62 My Mob W/S were going to CIL, and that 38 Hvy W/S was remaining at CAPUA. — G 1

5. GT Coys. Informed him GT Coy now forming at POLIGNANO will be designated 1004 GT Coy. Subsequently formed Coys to be numbered 1005, 1006, 1007 etc to conform with designations of the British cadres. — G ST

Col DI BITONTO SD

6. Saw SMRE signal instructing 31 Corps to alert 480 muleteers (240 for 10 June, 240 for 18 June). — G

7. Units for FBS. Was informed 26 offrs and 154 ORs ready 10 June in CALABRIA. 31 Corps putting in request for transport. Our SD/20 of 3 June, dealing with Serials 1090, 1093, 1095, refers. — G

8. Reorg of AA units. Ref our G/3 of 2 June. 150 ORs ex-BARI surplus ready to move to 19 Raggruppamento, NAPLES, 9 June. 150 ORs (again ex-BARI surplus) are available now for training as Dvrs. — G G2 AA

Maj DE MONACO - MEDICAL

9. 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906 Fd Hosps for CAMPANIA. W.E. of a Fd Hosp is 6 offrs and 40 ORs. Difficulty being experienced in finding the offrs. May the Fd Hosps be sent with only 2 offrs each, the remaining 4 offrs to be scratched for and sent on later? Answer required. — G DADMS

10/6/44.

R P Hattersley 1671

Major
CSO 2

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

4 & 6 Feb

A/A

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

6 Jun 44

Gen CALLIA

1. Incidents with MEMBO Div:- infd him verbally of contents of MAI letter of 2 Jun. — comd

2. Central HQ for 210 Div: and Tomaselli gp:- requested details on proposed org and size of the HQ, also GOLD/BELLI's mil background. — 2 i/c, 6 i

3. Gen pol HQ for PUG:- requested mil history of Gen MESOLI — 2 i/c

4. Postal service for ROME:- infd him that tariff card was satisfactory from MAI pt of view. Necessary sanction was now being sought; in the meantime he might like to go ahead with the printing. — 2 i/c

5. Coy of CIL for ROME:- infd him of change of plan, and that units under comd 5 Army was being planned to move. — comd

Lt Col SC DA

6. Carabinieri:- collected copy of letter from Carabinieri HQ informing ~~XXXX~~ SMRE, M of War, and M of Interior that CCRR for mil duties were no longer available. — 2 i/c, 6 i

7. Bakery Sec for 8 Army:- collected opt info relating to first sec and five ovens; it is confirmed that they are endeavouring to raise the second, with ovens, in SICILIA — 6 i

8. Thousand men from CALABRIA:- the order that these should go to complete est of MANTOVA (see log 5 Jun para 10) has been countermanded, and they are now being made available for programme. It has been decided by SMRE that they will have to be main source for 480 muleteer rtis, as it will be some time before the 1922 class men can be utilized. One batch is to be ready to move 10 Jun, and the balance 18 Jun. — 2 i/c, 6 i

9. Serial 2610/- 1022 Gp Autocarri Sussistenza, strength 5 offrs and 230 ors (incl 200 dvrs and 6 mechanics) available in CAMPANIA immediately, but short of some items of unit eqpt. About one week needs to make these — 6 i

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6. Carabinieri:- collected copy of letter from Carabinieri HQ informing XXXX SMRE, M of War, and M of Interior that CCRR for mil duties were no longer available. — 2 i/c G i

7. Bakery Sec for 8 Army:- collected tpt info relating to first sec and five ovens; it is confirmed that they are endeavouring to raise the second, with ovens, in SARDINIA — G i

8. Thousand men from CALABRIA:- the order that these should go to complete est of MANTOVA (see log 5 Jun para 10) has been countermanded, and they are now being made available for programme. It has been decided by SMRE that they will have to be main source for 400 muleteer rtls, as it will be some time before the 1922 class men can be utilized. One batch is to be ready to move 10 Jun, and the balance 18 Jun. — 2 i/c G i

9. Serial 2610/- 1022 Cp Autocarri Sussistenza, strength 5 offrs and 230 ors (incl 300 dvrs and 6 mechanics) available in CAMPANIA immediately, but short of some items of unit eqpt. About one week needs to make these good from APULIA. Query whether unit should be offered as it stands, or completed first. — G i

Gen CHILD:

10. Clearing of battle-fas:- AMG with 5 Army has sent urgent request to Comando Supremo with copy to Gen Staff, requesting immediate provision by arrangement with Army Sub Commission of unit for removing mines and booby-traps from towns just occupied by 5 Army. AMG state that everything held up in these towns on this account and that 5 Army NOT doing anything to clear mines etc. SMRE have no trained personnel available other than in three coys on mainland already employed by Allies, and two units in SARDINIA already earmarked for some purpose. Intd CHILD that he should reply that application has to be made to AAI. — 1670 cond. G i/c G i SMRE

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE 5 Jun 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Postal service for ROME: collected draft for printed card, for which they await our approval. He quite agrees with the suggestion that same card should be used for the reply. — 2 i/c G i

2. Coy of CIL for ROME:- they already knew all about this via Comando Supremo, and are under impression that rd tpt is already being laid on to move the coy to ROME. A mixed coy is being alerted, incl pls of parachutists, inf and bersaglieri, or some such combination. They have also heard that a bn of 67 Regt is ~~xxxx~~ getting ready to move - presumably for lab duties. — 2 i/c G i

3. Supo for G'RIBaLDI Div:- infd them that MMLA now infd, and defined situation. IAF HQ had sent sig implying MMLA directly concerned with allocation of supos, or alternatively of communicating to 266 quantities needed by the div. Confirmed that no new instrs recd by MMLA and that matter entirely outside Sub Commissions terms of ref. OXILIA dictated sig to IAF to this effect. — 2 i/c A/Q

4. Central HQ for PBS:- OXILIA spoke to INFANTE over the phone while I was there and outlined proposals discussed at this mornings meeting. It is confirmed that Col BRUNO is NOT available, and it is stated that infm to this effect has already been passed to CC PBS in reply to enquiries made direct. OXILIA proposes following appointments: — 2 i/c G i

- GOC Gen di divisione RENICCLI (NOT at present emp'd)
- 2 i/c Gen ? LA FERLA (Present comd 212 Div) if acceptable to PBS

C of S- Lt Col CARPRESE (C of S XXXI Corps)

Orders have been given for the selection of the 30 offrs required for this HQ, half of whom to be senior offrs, plus the 180 ors.

5. Central HQ for 210 and units under Gen TOMASELLI: in anticipation of move fwd of this fmn and units, request — 2 i/c G i

and defined situation. I&F HQ had sent sig implying MMIA directly concerned with allocation of supp, or alternatively of communicating to 266 quantities needed by the div. Confirmed that no new instrs recd by MMIA and that matter entirely outside Sub Commissions terms of ref. OXLLI dictated sig to I&F to this effect. — i/c

4. Central HQ for PBS:- OXLLI spoke to INFANTE over the phone while I was there and outlined proposals discussed at this mornings meeting. It is confirmed that Col BRUNO is NOT available, and it is stated that infm to this effect has already been passed to CC PBS in reply to enquiries made direct. OXLLI proposes following appointments: — 2 i/c G i

- GOC Gen di divisione RENSOLI (NOT at present emp'd)
- 2 i/c Gen ? L'A FERRA (Present comd 212 Div)

if acceptable to PBS

C of S- Lt Col CROPRESE (C of S XXXI Corps)

Orders have been given for the selection of the 30 offrs required for this HQ, half of whom to be senior offrs, plus the 150 ors.

5. Central HQ for 210 and units under Gen TOMASELLI: in anticipation of move fwd of this fmn and units, respectively with 5 and 8 Armies, and consequent removal from under comd FFSA CAMPANIA, they are anxious to implement proposals discussed at this mornings meeting, and would like formal approval to constitution of small HQ, for which they propose to nominate Gen di divisione SOLDARELLI, former comd of CUNEO Div. — 2 i/c G i

1669.

6. Clearing of battle-fds:- (present Gen CRIVELLO, Engr Inspectorate M of War) - as a result of further accidents in which civilians have been killed by mines and booby traps, they would like to have urgent infm on Allied policy on clearing of vast mine fds in battle areas. They point out that while mine fds are clearly marked in early stages, with the passing of time these indications are apt to disappear. Furthermore, the areas involved are vast and require to be cultivated. They wish to know if, and to what extent, the Italian authorities are to be responsible for the clearing. They are anxious to play their part, but have no trained personnel outside the 163, LL 11 and 12 compagnie d'armesto on the mainland, and 13 and 164 coys in SARDINIA. contd.... — 2 i/c G i SORE

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6 Gen OXILIA contd
Clearing of battle-fds - contd. First three coys presumably already employed for the Allies, and the two in SARDINIA waiting to come to mainland to serve as basis of ten new artillery coys. If they are to undertake the task, they request they be allowed to have proportion of personnel from each coy, say 50 per coy, up to total of 200.

7. Battaglione AZZURRO:- the air force bn formed for combat is holding fd firing exercises 6 Jun, in conjunction with arty of PICENO Div, between MESSARA and MARTINA FRANCA. BERARDI will be present, and any o fr from AMI who cares to be present will be welcome. 2 i/c G i

8. CERZA and CERZETI:- these are the designations given to the two orgs set up EAST and WEST to deal with individuals liable for mil service passed through the Allied lines. Info from Comando Supremo indicates that in the ROME area there are likely to be 6000 offrs and 10.000 to 14.000 men who come in this category, and have been offering token or active resistance to the enemy. Suggest that definite instrs are given to SMRE as to disposal of these men, to avoid possibility of misunderstanding. 2 i/c G i A/Q Col PIDSLE

9. Lt Col GUIDI and Lt Col DI BITONTO
Serial 2610:- could NOT state exact poen, but will look into the matter and advise later. G i

10. Serial 1127:- the first thousand men to be made available in CALABRIA following discussion between LO XXXI Corps and OXILIA/CORONATI have been allotted to MANTOVA Div, to bring it up to strength. It is stated to be considerably below est, and requires full strength to meet commitments on L of C, gd coys on loan and men required for harvesting. 2 i/c G i

11. 1150/51:- SMRE are awaiting figures from CAMPANIA relating to specialists of 1913 - 19 classes available for recall there. G i

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the two orgs set up [illegible] A/Q
Gards liable for mil service passed through the Allied Col RIDSLE
lines. Info from Commando Supremo indicates that in
the ROME area there are likely to be 6000 offrs and
10.000 to 14.000 men who come in this category, and have
been offering token or active resistance to the enemy.
Suggest that definite instrs are given to SMRE as to
disposal of these men, to avoid possibility of misunder-
standing.

Lt Col QUIN and Lt Col DI SITONTO
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10. Serial 1127:- the first thousand men to be made available 2 i/c
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and OXILIA/COMONATI have been allotted to MANTOVA Div,
to bring it up to strength. It is stated to be considerably
below est, and requires full strength to meet commitments
on L of C, gd coys on loan and men required for harvesting.

11. 1150/51:- SMRE are awaiting figures from CAMPANIA relating to G i
specialists of 1913 - 19 classes available for recall there.
It is assumed that these will incl proportion of rly constr
specialists. Requested them to hurry these figures along
as much as possible.

12. Serial 1096B:- no progress here, as unable to trace the G i
serial on their records. 1668

13. Serial 1098D:- stressed the importance of getting the G i
service is delivered by 15 Jun. They will follow the
matter closely and report progress.

14. Serial 1200/+ a part of the 480 muleteer pts may be found G i
in IX Corps, the remainder may have to come from part of
the 1922 call-up in CAMPANIA

15. Order of Battle SARDINIA:- collected copy of return at G iii
27 May showing units working for the Allies there. Source:
Gen MAGLI.

16. Our SD/20 of 3 Jun:- ready to move at once from CATANIA G i
56 ncos and 240 men. Balance by 10 Jun.(Serials 1093/5)

17. Shipwrights in Italian Army for 1 Water Tpt Coy:
Availability NIL. Staff Sept Q

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1st Sept 46 A/Q

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S E R E 4 Jun 44

Col MICALETTI

1. Mil band for CIL: there is a band available at C'SARANO, strength about 35, complete with instrs. Ready to move within 2/3 days, and would travel in Italian rd tpt. Awaits our order to depart. A/Q

Maj LUNARDONI

2. 15 horses for rest camp at M'NCUSO: according to his info, this matter has already been arranged direct with the M of War, and the horses already supplied. G iii

3. Lt Col G'LLO
Additional phones for CIL:- they are trying to get together all the phones the can lay hands on. Left message for G'LLO that they should send up a first consignment, without waiting to collect all 30. SOSigs

Lt CHIERICI

4. Pigeons:- left word that the 14 female birds should be brought up to 'PULIA. SO Sigs

5. Pigeon food: they will confirm that this can be sent by air to S'RDINIA, if necessary by instellments. SO Sigs

Maj VERONI

6. Bilingual WEs:- the fourth and last remaining est is being photographed, and should be ready evening 5 Jun. G i

Gen M'NTIOLI

7. Handed him copy of AMG FOG LA cdm instrs on harvesting, for info and to be returned. G i
   a) he will immediately correct number of days rations to be brought from S'RDINIA,
   b) info him that contrary to statement in para 2, AMI had recd no instrs about expending accn for offrs reception. This has already been seen to by them.

waiting to collect all 30.

Lt CHIERICI

4. Pigeons:- left word that the 14 female birds should be brought up to APULIA. — SO Sigs

5. Pigeon food: they will confirm that this can be sent by air to SARDINIA, if necessary by installments. — SO Sigs

Maj VERONI

6. Bilingual WEs:- the fourth and last remaining est is being photographed, and should be ready evening 5 Jun. — G i

Gen MATTIOLI

7. Handed him copy of AMG FOG IA adm instrs on harvesting, for info and to be returned. — G i
   a) he will immediately correct number of days rations to be brought from SARDINIA,
   b) info him that contrary to statement in para 2, MGIA had recd no instrs about expending accn for offrs reception. This has already been seen to by them.
   c) Provision of med offrs has already been arranged by SMRE.

   MATTIOLI stated that most of SMRE adm instr (of which we have a copy) will have to be re-written.

Col CHIAVARINO

8. It has been provisionally arranged that he will visit LECCE Tuesday next 6 Jun to meet Gi and for gen discussion on figures etc. — 6 i 1667

9. AA in SARDINIA:- handed him draft of plan for disbanding AA units in SARDINIA, to enable him to make provisional plans and preparatory arrangements for breaking up units concerned. — G i

Lt Col GUIDA

10. 13 and 164 compagnie d'arresto:- these units are awaited from SARDINIA to form the basis of ten lav artieri coys forming in CAMPANIA. BASSO has signalled to know if their arrival cannot be hastened. — G i SORE

11. TC increments:- requested investigation as to why no cooks or ovrs had been sent with first two secs. Interpreters will have to be supplied by SMRE if and when available. — G i

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Ie 16 dr A.G

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 3 Jun 44

Gen OXILIA

1. CIL:- Gen BERARDI was lunching at LI Coprs HQ to-day, and due back at LECCE during the afternoon. OXILIA knew nothing of a meeting at 5 Corps to-morrow, but will, if necessary ring us back on BERARDI's return. — comd 2 i/c

2. News of ROME:- discussed situation as affecting several members of the staff. Submitted memo to G iii(I) — G iii(I)

3. Band for CIL:- they will probably send the band from the Inf Depot LECCE. Col MICHELETTI will definite answer and strength later today. Will probably move by rd in Italian tpt. — G i

Gen MATTIOLI

4. Mil harvesters FOGGIA:- just back from seeing Lt Col WHINERAY at FOGGIA, TEMPERLEY being away. MATTIOLI found the org for reception totally inadequate, and by arrangement with WHINERAY will set up transit camp at FOGGIA to take 3000 men, staffed by personnel from the 25000 unsuited for harvesting - 50-60 men in all needed. It would seem, however, that rations for this camp are to be provided from Italian army sources. Told MATTIOLI that this was NOT as agreed, and that we should have to sig AMG accordingly. Latest programme is as follows:- — 2 i/c G i

- arrivals will terminate	....	28 Jun
- all working , no movement	....	28 Jun - 20 Jul
- departures	....	21 Jul - 7 Sep

The transit camp will also look after collection of sick and regrouping and sorting out personnel prior to departure.

Capt C'VANI

5. Re MARLETTA-MONTRONE:- instrs were given to War Ministry in accordance with our request. C'VANI will contact Ministry for explanation, and advise later in the day. — G i

the org for reception totally inadequate, and by arrangement with WHINERAY will set up transit camp at FOGGIA to take 3000 men, staffed by personnel from the 25000 unsuited for harvesting - 50-60 men in all needed. It would seem, however, that rations for this camp are to be provided from Italian army sources. Told MITCHELL that this was NOT as agreed, and that we should have to sig AMG accordingly. Latest programme is as follows:-

- arrivals will terminate	....	28 Jun
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- departures	....	21 Jul - 7 Sep

The transit camp will also look after collection of sick and re grouping and sorting out personnel prior to departure.

Capt C'VANI

5. Re MARLETTA-MONTRONE:- instrs were given to War Ministry in accordance with our request. C'VANI will contact Ministry for explanation, and advise later in the day. — G i

Lt Col GUIDA

6. Two bakery dets for 8 Army:- One sec of 50 men with 5 ovens can be made available immediately in APULIA. Usual strength details for tpt later. Second sec can be found in due course on mainland as to personnel, but ovens only available in SARDINIA, and they are uncertain if the ovens there are in working order. — G i

1666

7. CCRR for 210 Div:- Revised order of yesterday has been modified and the original request for rft of 30 men confirmed. — G i

Lt Col DI BITONTO

8. Parachutist rfts left for LEDDA to-day. — G iii

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LIAISON WITH S M R E 2 Jun 44

Gen GRILLI

1. General discussion on dispositions of CIL with 5 Corps and chain of comd. G i

2. Tps for harvest:-
   a) M of War has put in a request for 10.000 men for helping the harvest in MATERA province. SMRE has turned the thing down. G i
   b) Prefect of Brindisi has put in SOS for 1000 men as the harvest is going to waste. Suggested that 1000 men from PICENO, of those destined for FOGGIA, should be loaned for two weeks, and shipped to FOGGIA as the last contingent of the PICENO. G i

Lt Col GUID:

3. Two Bakery dets for 8 Army:- he is trying to find these, personnel probable, but all ovens NOT likely to be available. Strength: 50 - 60 men per sec. He feels however that they should definitely be included in the Allied programme, and NOT charged against Italian adm. G i

4. Extra CCRR sec for 210 Div:- in view of special circumstances in this div area, SMRE are producing complete additional sec ex reorg camp staff. Will be ready to leave 5 Jun. G i

5. CCRR for AAI:- 711 CCRR Sec 1 offr, 5 ncos, 25 ors will be reporting to Camp Comd AAI by 4 Jun. NOT necessarily travelling in one body. G i

6. 520 Gd Coy:- passed instrs as to changed destination and measures taken with regard to adv party. G iii

7. Serial 1093:- infd them that this unit requires to be filled by non-specialist personnel G i

Lt Col DI BITONTO

8. Parachutist rifts:- requested explanation of sig calling for move to VATICANO. Rifts now required at LEBBA, and fresh instrs

Lt Col GUID:

3. Two Bakery dets for 8 Army:- he is trying to find these, personnel probable, but all ovens NOT likely to be available. Strength: 50 - 60 men per sec. He feels however that they should definitely be included in the Allied programme, and NOT charged against Italian adm. — G i

4. Extra CCRR sec for 210 Div:- in view of special circumstances in this div area, SMRE are producing complete additional sec ex reorg comp staff. Will be ready to leave 5 Jun. — G i

5. CCRR for TAI:- 711 CCRR Sec 1 offr, 5 ncos, 25 ors will be reporting to Comp Comd TAI by 4 Jun. NOT necessarily travelling in one body. — G i

6. 520 Gd Coy:- passed instrs as to changed destination and measures taken with regard to adv party. — G iii

7. Serial 1093:- infd them that this unit requires to be filled by non-specialist personnel — G i

Lt Col DI BITONTO

8. Parachutist rifts:- requested explanation of sig calling for move to VIBRANO. Rifts now required at LESSE, and fresh instrs explanations given to LECCE 47 Inf Depot accordingly. — G iii

9. 1313-19 specialists in CAMPANIA:- he will ask PBS's Campania to give exact numbers by different categories of specialists. — G i

1665

Capt DELLA CORNA

11. Twelve bn hqs for PBS:- collected mob order for twelve new HQs to be formed in APULIA, in view of PBS sig just recd. First HQs to be ready 6 Jun, balance to be completed 10 Jun. — 2 i/c G i

Lt Col GUID:

12. Italian TC Coy being formed for 5 Corps:- (for info) 209 Div is forming from existing personnel one TC Coy, to work alongside CMPs, drawn from 3 Coy I/522 Regt. Strength: 3 offrs, 7 ncos, 98 ors. — G i

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE 1 Jun 44

Capt CAVANI

1. Borrowed file relating to Italian offr employed by 62 Service Gp, whom the SMRE wishes to exchange for more suitable type, as having unsatisfactory political background. Due to be defascistisized (?) — G iii(I)

Gen ORLANDINI

2. SMRE staff:- further talk about SIMONETTI and other members of the Gen Staff and the sort of job they are doing. ORLANDINI appears to have a very fair appreciation of the suitability or otherwise of some of the staff, and promises to bring about changes gradually. — G i

3. Gen ENRIONI is on a visit to 209 Div in connection with move of Italian combat fmn. Expected back to-morrow. — G i/c G i

4. Col [illegible]CI, of whom ORLANDINI has very high opinion, has been sent to visit Italian units in fwd areas of 5 Corps. See log 30 May para 2. — G i

Lt Col DI RIDONTO

5. Rit comp 3 MAGATA DEI GOTI:- further details have now come to hand of personnel: 18 offrs, 30 nocs, 300 ors, 3 tons stores. See log 29 May para 10. — G iii

6. Adv Med Depot Store, VASTO:- 1 offr and 4 ors to be found by IX Corps, who will notify when ready. — G

7. CCRR for MAI:- Instrs sent for sec to be formed as detailed, to be named 7II CCRR Sec, and to leave 4 Jun under own arrangements. — G iii

8. Rifs for 209 Div:- our SD/19 of 16 May requested rifs to be sent, which were later substituted by decision to recall Abendath in 5 Corps area, though above letter was never cancelled. Can this request be taken as cancelled ? — G i

Lt Col GUIDI

9. Our sig SD834:- info him that the request contained in this sig for Stretcher Bearer unit was to be considered in — DADMS

4. Col [illegible], of whom O'FLYNN has very high opinion, has been sent to visit Italian units in fwd areas of 5 Corps. See log 30 May para 2. — G i

Lt Col DE RIDDER

5. Rit comp 3 MGBn DKI GORI:- further details have now come to hand of personnel: 18 offrs, 30 ncos, 300 ors, 3 tons stores. See log 29 May para 10. — G iii

6. Adv Med Depot Store, VASTO:- 1 offr and 4 ors to be found by IX Corps, who will notify when ready. — G

7. CORR for MAI:- Instrs sent for sec to be formed as detailed, to be named 7II CORR Sec, and to leave 4 Jun under own arrangements. — G iii

8. Rits for 209 Div:- our SD/19 of 16 May requested rits to be sent, which were later substituted by decision to recall Abruzzi in 5 Corps area, though above letter was never cancelled. Can this request be taken as cancelled ? — G i

Lt Col GUIDI

9. Our sig SD834:- inid him that the request contained in this sig for Stretcher Bearer unit was to be considered in abeyance. — DADMS

1664

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A/9.

LIAISON with U.K.C.B. SECRET

31 May 44.

General GIGLIA A.C.C.B.

1. Handed and translated to him SD/?/1/2 of 31 May, subject "Org of C.L.L." He will ensure we get request for tpt of the extra staffs to C.L.I. and 209 Div HQs as soon as possible.

Col. De BIASIO S.D.

2. Rfts for 93 Med. Sec.9 Corps have put in tpt request for 4 Offrs and 117 O.Rs rfrm. Entraining Stn. BARI

3. 62 Dvrs from SICILY for CONVERSANO by 5 June. 4141/Mob of 22 May refers. Still no tpt request from SICILY; HQ Corps therefore instructed to send the dvrs to BARI.

4. 68 Rfts Dn. Was informed Adv. party leaving today or tomorrow for Rear 5 Corps H.Q.

5. 1200 Amb. Sec. Confirming conversation C.2 (L) 30 May De BIASIO has instructed Amb. Sec to stay put until completely equipped.

Col. GUIDA. S.D.

6. 52 Carabinieri for 5 Army. 30 CC.RR from CC.RR HQ in liberated ITALY ordered to move to C.RR Sec at 210 Div. Should be there by 5 JUNE. Remaining 22 difficult to supply and SHAEF consider 30 should suffice. If 22 more are definitely needed they will scratch around and find them.

Col. CHIAPPARELLI - Services - Arty Sec.

7. Went through sun letter, AG/90 of 29 May with him.

8. Informed him C.L.I. receiving 45 6-pdr A/T guns to replace 47/32's.

9. Confirmed to him that he was entitled to make in all, 8 withdrawals of 9 mm sun (1,000,000 rds each withdrawal) up to and including NOV. 44

tomorrow for [illegible]

5. 1200 Amb. Sec. Confirming conversation C.2 (L) 30 May Do RITONTO has instructed Amb. Sec to stay put until completely equipped.

Col. GUIDA. S.D.

6. 52 Carabinieri for 5 Army. 30 CC.RR from CC.RR HQ in liberated ROME ordered to move to C.RR Sec at 210 Div. Should be there by 5 JUNE. Remaining 22 difficult to supply and [illegible] consider 30 should suffice. If 22 more are definitely needed they will scratch around and find them.

Col. CHIAPPARELLI - Services - Army Sec.

7. Went through sum letter, AG/90 of 29 May with him.

8. Informed him C.I.L. receiving 45 6-pdr A/T guns to replace 47/32's.

9. Confirmed to him that he was entitled to make in all, 8 withdrawals of 9 mm ammo (1,000,000 rds each withdrawal) up to and including NOV. 44.

Maj. De MENCO - Medical.

10. Gave him warning order to alert 1 offr and 4 O.Rs to form small Adv. Med depot store at VASTO.
L.A.D.M.S. to confirm.

G.
MED.

G.1.

G.

G.
MED.

1663

A.H. Hawarth

Major.
G30.2.

tws. HGB.

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SECRET

30 May 44

LIAISON WITH SMRE

Gen O'LEARY:-

1. Refugee camps:- was shown sig from MESSE 13310 of 27 May purporting to be result of meeting with Gen M'FARLANE and requesting SMRE to get into touch with Gen BROWNING regarding org of two or more camps to receive civilians, individual soldiers and patriot bands as the line advances. Pending definite arrangements, 209 and 210 Div comds to undertake the task provisionally, which they have already been instructed to do by SMRE. Info G i, and subsequently sig was sent to MESSE advising that WOT had NOT recd instrs in the matter. — 2 i/c G 1

2. SMRE contact with 209 Div:- info him that we had heard unofficially that Italian units in this area were out of touch with Italian high comd, and that noone had been to see them for a long time. He confirmed that this was so, and will send someone up there shortly. — G i

3. BRANDI letter of 27 Mar:- he showed me a copy of this, which corresponds with the letter recd from AMI. He will send us a copy officially, together with a statement on the carrying of arms by Italian tps. — 2 i/c G iii(I)

4. Activities of TARANTO and TROIA in SICILY:- SMRE state they know nothing of these two, and will make enquiries at once. Requested him to confirm this in writing, which he promised to do in the course of the day. — 2 i/c

5. Move mistakes:- info him of visit of Lt Col CIRO from AMI in connection with recent incidents and errors in moves of Italian units. Suggested that staff should be under complete control of SMRE Mov Branch, as understood M of War has been posting offrs away without consulting this Branch. Col SIMONETTI was called into the office and given slight grilling, and [redacted] definite orders on this and other aspects. Took opportunity to suggest to O'LEARY that it would be in everyones interest if Col PULIZZI were brought back to the War Office. — G i Mov

3. Bde HQ letter of 27 Apr:- he showed me a copy of this, which corresponds with the letter read from AFHQ. He will send me a copy officially, together with a statement on the carrying of arms by Italian tps. — 2 I/C G iii(I)

4. Activities of BARBANO and TROIA in SICILY:- SMHE state they know nothing of these two, and will make enquiries at once. Requested him to confirm this in writing, which he promised to do in the course of the day. — 2 i/c

5. Move List Mess:- held Conf of visit of Opt Offr from AFHQ in connection with recent incidents and errors in moves of Italian units. Suggested that staff should be under complete control of SMHE Mov Branch, as understood AFHQ Mov Branch has been posting offrs away without consulting this Branch. Col SIMONETTI was called into the office and given slight grilling, and definite orders on this and other aspects. Took opportunity to suggest to COLLI that it would be in everyones interest if Col PULIZZI were brought back to the Tpt Office. — G i Mov

6. German parachute found and men detained:- recd info and passed on by phone immediately to G iii(I). — G iii(I)

7. FOGGIA harvest:- it is confirmed that MATTIOLI is to be responsible for that part of the adm and disciplinary organization which devolves on the Gen Staff. — G i

1662

Lt Col GUILD

8. Just back from SARDINIA, with message from MASSOLI that proceedings in connection with DE MARTINI trial will be concluded by 15 Jun. After that the trial will start ! — G iii(I)

9. Dvrs for IPL Coys - see log 28 May para 13:- clarified that vehs in BARI are for two coys still to come over from SARDINIA. Consequently had sig sent to SARDINIA REQUESTING THAT ALL IPL coys being formed there are sent over with 16 dvrs apiece. — G i DALL

10. 68 Rit Bn:- instructed that adv party proceed forthwith to report to Rear 5 Corps Q at PALERMO. — G iii

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AK

SECRET

liaison with s m r e 30 May 44 ... contd

Lt Col DI BIASIO

11. Info him of reasons for withdrawal of 100 dvrs from two tpt pls being formed for 100 in Campania. Sig to this effect had already reached SMRE from B.A.S.O. C i

12. Additional CCRA for 210 Div:- they will send rifs, but are most anxious NOT to attach another sec, as many divs have been clamouring for a second sec and they have had to take a firm line to economise in Carabinieri. C i

13. Serial 10628:- the dvrs destined to this unit are going instead to 1019 GT Coy, as the 62 dvrs from SICILY will NOT arrive in time. When they do arrive they will go to this serial. C i

14. 14 Gruppo Guide, pack tpt unit with Italian combat fmn, has 50 men of the 1913 class who require to be replaced as they are unfit for this type of work. SMRE ask if 50 younger men from the next go recalled in CAMPANIA may be utilized. C i

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A/12

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE 20 May 44

Gen DEL PANTA
1. Army horses on loan to farmers:- Only formality is that farmer signs a declaration making him responsible for the well-being of the animal, and liable to pay damages if the animal suffers or dies through neglect; he must also be prepared to release the animal immediately on demand. Carts are NOT loaned to farmers. Animals are only loaned to bona fide farmers only. Any deposit or payment made for use of horses is NOT legal. Latest returns of animals on loan are as follows:- G iii

- IX Corps	69
- XXXI Corps	564
- LI Corps	358
- Sardinia	75
	1066 (Sicily excluded)

Maj PASCHETTA
2. Gen di brigata MORO:- has been sent to comd all arty units of Italian combat fmns. Pass granted to-day for COLLI DEL VOLTURNO. G iii(I)

3. Mil harvesters for FOGGIA:- requested despatch 30 May of five offrs to deal with CONGEDATI, at request of AMG FOGGIA. Passes required as soon as names forthcoming later to-day. IMPERATIVE to be info that these are additional to the offrs arranged with PASCHETTA, and that they should be returned to SMRE as soon as their special assignment with the CONGEDATI is completed. G i / G iii(I)

Col CRIAVARINO
4. Harvesters ex PICENO and MANTOVA:- warned him that move would take place on or about 8 Jun. DI BIAGIO to produce dpt details in 2/3 days time. They are still struggling with the total required from PICENO, to-days figure being little over 4000. G i

Capt DELLA CORNA
Cars for AMAIO:- confirmed readiness as follows:- G i

Maj PASCHETTA

2. Gen di brigata MORO:- has been sent to comd all arty units of Italian combat fmns. Pass granted to-day for COL I DEL VOLTURNO. — G iii(I)

3. Mil harvesters for FOGGIA:- requested despatch 30 May of five offrs to deal with CONGEDATI, at request of AMG FOGGIA. Passes required as soon as names forthcoming later to-day. — G i
FRAMPTON-LEY to be info that these are additional to the offrs arranged with PASCHETTA, and that they should be returned to SMRE as soon as their special assignment with the CONGEDATI is completed. — G iii(I)

Col CHIAVARINO

4. Harvesters ex PICENO and MANTOVA:- warned him that move would take place on or about 8 Jun. DI BITONTO to produce dpt details in 2/3 days time. They are still struggling with the total required from PICENO, to-days figure being little over 4000. — G i

Capt DELLA CORNA

5. Coys for ANZIO:- confirmed readiness as follows:- — G i
- 541 Coy 30 May 1700 hrs MOLFETTA — Mov
- 542 " 30 May 1200 " NICASTRO
- 543 " 30 May 1200 " CASARANO

6. Twelve bns Hqs for PBS:- collected mob order, which, however, omits to disband the HQs of 120 and 121 Regt. Have requested him to issue supplementary order, which he has promised to do forthwith. — 2 i/c G i

1660

Col CHURCH

7. Port det for receiving personnel and stores at NAPLES:- (see log 20/21 May) - CHURCH is just back from his visit to NAPLES, where he saw Capt MONICO and made the necessary arrangements to overcome the situation complained of. — 2 i/c G i

8. Visit to NAPOLI:- thanks to the assistance recd from Liaison office and other Allied offrs in Naples, he was able to travel to Bosco N G/309, recently occupied by Allied forces, and find his family. Very bitter complaints about the behaviour of MOROCCAN tps and the sacking, pillage and rape they committed. The sentiment was expressed that the population even regretted the departure of the GERMANS, so terrified were they by the behaviour of the coloured tps. — comd

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Admiral FIORENZO

9. Has just given up post of comd of the Naval Base at T'RANTO, where he was also senior Italian official for the province. Discussed with him gen situation in the town, in relation to need for internal security tps for maintaining law and order - see log 27 May para 4 b. There are 25,000 workmen employed in the naval dockyard and shipbuilding firm in T'RANTO. Earlier this year there were civil disturbances in the town over the question of rations, and the authorities feel insecure on account of the large number of workers there. FIORENZO considers the situation is improved, following the decision of Food Sub Commission to grant supplementary rations to 18,000 of the naval workers, and that four coys naval ratings could replace the bn of the PICENO at present employed there. FIORENZO will have charge now of the Historical Records Branch at the Italian Admiralty. — comd 2 i/c

Lt Col CANNONE

10. Rft comp S AGATA DEI GOTI:- this is the rft bn of the Mot Bde. Strength to-day was: 19 offrs, 301 ors, plus 5 tons stores. Up to recently the tatorreparto of the Mot Bde has also been at this location, but has now moved to MONTAGUILA. Should it have to move, it will presumably move in its own tpt. — G i

Maj VANNI

11. Bilingual WEs/TOs:- the four staff tables being translated are in the process of being reproduced. It is anticipated that at least three will be ready to-morrow (30 May) — G i

Capt DELLA CHIA

12. Our SD/19 of 23 May:- 100 med personnel can be made available from IX Corps, plus up to 268 from port lab. SMRE wish to be told if serials 5201 to 5206, each 6 offrs and 40 ors, incl any particular specialists other than straight med personnel. — G i D'D/S

13. Lt Col DI BISONTO

Lt Col CANNONE

10. Mtr comp 5 'GATA DRI COTI:- this is the rft bn of the Mot Bde. Strength to-day was: 19 offrs, 301 ors, plus 5 Cons stores. Up to recently the tutoreparto of the Mot Bde has also been at this location, but has now moved to MONTAGUILA. Should it have to move, it will presumably move in its own tpt. — G i

Maj VERONI

11. Bilingual WEs/WOs:- the four staff tables being translated are in the process of being re-produced. It is anticipated that at least three will be ready to-morrow (30 May) — G i

Capt DELLA CHIESA

12. Our SD/19 of 23 May:- 100 med personnel can be made available from IX Corps, plus up to 268 from port lab. SUSC wish to be info if serials 5201 to 5206, each 6 offrs and 40 ors, incl any particular specialists other than straight med personnel. — G i DADMS

13. Lt Col DI BITONTO

Dvrs for IRE Coye:- WITTHOLT has requested 24 dvrs to man the corresponding number of vehs stated to have been already delivered to the Italian Port Lab HQ in BARI for the first two regts of Italian phr tps on British est. This refers first two bns already formed in SICILY and the first two to come from SARDINIA. — G i DADL A/Q

1659

14. Driving course in CALABRIA:- the third course commences 5 Jun, and will train 150 men for the next GT Coy at CONVERSANO. — G i

15. Surplus AA personnel: he would like the personnel as from BARI to be made available, at least in part, for a dvrs course, as it is considered that they would be very suitable for this purpose. — G i

16. 1200 Sez 'AUTOAVIAZIONE:- this has been ready for some days, and they are anxious to get rid of it from BARI. Query: is it for temporary attachment to 1002 GT Coy ? — G i

17. 62 dvrs from SICILY:- still no reply from XII Corps to indicate where these men are to start from. They are needed at CONVERSANO 5 Jun. SHAEF sig to XII Corps, 4141/ Mob of 22 May refers. Can MAI chase through LO please. — G i

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785920

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

Lt Col DI SIENO
18. 1943 class recalled in CAMPANIA:- revised figures are as follows: 2 i/c G i

- dvrs	303	
- muleteer rfts	320	plus 100 still to leave
- 210 Div rfts	1662	
- Cagua dump	148	
- AA rfts	229	
- absent	663	for various reasons being investigated
- balance	240	for serial 10751
	3665	

The total is about 600 higher than previously notified.

Capt DELLA CORNA
19. 106 and 107 Terr Bns:- Present strength of 107 Bn is 28 offrs and 216 ors. This includes the rfts from 106, the situation being that although tpt was refused by MMIA, and instns given that the rfts were NOT to be sent, the Allied authorities concerned are alleged to have sent down vehs to fetch the men away, without even IX Corps knowing about it. 2 i/c G i
It is confirmed that CMRE employed in POGGIO area are territorial personnel, and NOT included in army fgns.
SMRC quite satisfied if posn is regularised as it stands at present. Although it would seem that efforts have been made to get the rfts back, SMRC consider there is little chance of having them back without a direct order from MMIA.

Gen CASILLA
20. BERARDI letter of 27 Mar to all comds ref behaviour of Italian tps towards the Allies:- CASILLA knew nothing of this, but promised to make enquiries. C iii(I)

concerned are alleged to have sent down vans to fetch the men away, without even IX Corps knowing about it.
It is confirmed that CRE employed in [illegible] area are territorial personnel, and NOT included in army fans.
SMRE quite satisfied if posn is regularised as it stands at present. Although it would seem that efforts have been made to get the rifle back, SMRE consider there is little chance of having them back without a direct order from MGI.

Gen O'[illegible]LIA

20. BERARDI letter of 27 Mar to all comds ref behaviour of Italian ops towards the Allies:- O'[illegible]LIA knew nothing of this, but promised to make enquiries. G(I)

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

To Hdq Shifley

LIAISON AIR C M R E

S E C R E T

28 May 44

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI G ii

1. Additional 47/32 guns for NEMBO:- further investigations at SMRE have shown that NEMBO was ordered to hand in eight guns on arrival on mainland in accordance with est. These are possibly the eight guns subject of present enquiry. SMRE have already ordered their re-issue from CAIRO.

Maj PASQUETTA 2 i/c

2. Mil harvesters for FOGGIA:- just back from seeing TEMPERLEY. G i
Satisfactory meeting, from which the following emerged:-
a) ripening of the corn is behind anticipated schedule, so that personnel will NOT be needed as fast as was first thought. TEMPERLEY will sig MAI eight days in adv when he needs men from PISTOIA and MANTOVA.
b) TEMPERLEY has agreed the setting up of five HQs by SMRE in the FOGGIA area for adm and welfare of tps;
c) duration of agricultural leave: 60 days
d) proposal to withholding pay NOT practical for technical reasons;
e) PASQUETTA quite satisfied with the arrangements already made on the spot, incl med ors.
f) first gp had NOT been inid until arrival at NAPLES; 60 had escaped on the way. SMRE offr has gone to SARDINIA to ensure men are properly inid.before departure.

Gen OXILIA G i

3. Move of CIL:- handed him copy of AAI sig with infm on move, for his infm, confirming what had been discussed 27 May.

Capt NINNI G iii(I)

4. Senior Postal offr from Comando Supremo to visit AAI:- He phoned through this morning, requesting them to let Col NEGRONI know in adv, so that he could warn SSI (Censorship)

Capt CAVANI G i

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reasons;

e) [illegible] quite satisfied with the arrangements already made on the spot, incl med org.

f) first gp had NOT been infd until arrival at NAPLES; 60 had escaped on the way. SMRE offr has gone to SARDINIA to ensure men are properly infd.before departure.

Gen GRIGIA

3. Move of CIL:- handed him copy of AAI sig with infm on move, for his infm, confirming what had been discussed 27 May. G i

Capt NINNI

4. Senior Postal offr from Comando Supremo to visit AAI:- He phoned through this morning, requesting them to let Col NEGRONI know in adv, so that he could warn GSI (Censorship) G iii(I)

Capt CAVANI

5. 503 Smoke Coy:- no objection to Capt MARIOTTA being IO (Smoke Coys) 2 Dist, nor to Capt MONTRONE replacing him as CO above coy. MMIA to confirm request in writing. G i

Col CHIAVARINO

6. Coys for ANZIO:- it is confirmed that following three coys will be ready to move 30 May - trains should be laid on possibly pm, to give them time to sort out clothing and unit eqpt. 2 i/c 1657

541 Compagnia Servizi	SCLAFANI	5 offrs	200 ors
542(°) " "	NICASTRO	5 "	200 "
543 " "	CASAMANO	5 "	200 "

(°) this coy eventually for serial 1094. It is recommended all three coys be moved to NAPLES, to ensure two coys are definitely available there for 31 May.

Lt Col CHICCHIA

Clothing for ANZIO coys:- M of War stated to have already sent in demands to MMIA; readiness of coys depends on approval being given to Ministry pm 28 May, to enable distribution to be made to 541 and 543 Coys 29 May. 542 already complete except for boots. 2? i/c

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A/Q

SECRET

liaison with smre 28 May 44

Capt BELLA CORMA

8. Serial 1096D:- HQ and four service pls for ACC, Collected mob order for 2004 - 2008 service pls plus HQpl, to be formed from men of 1923 class, who will be replaced in serial 1075A by tps from ISCHIA/CAPRI. To be ready 15 June. — 2 i/c G i

Lt Col DI BITONTO

9. Unit for CAPUA dump:- assurances have been recd from BASSO that complete unit; offrs and men, will be at CAPUA by evening 28 May. — G i

10. Italian rit camp S AGATA DEI GOTI:- sig sent to BASSO requesting usual details for tpt request of personnel and rits at this camp. — G ii

11. Italian dvr courses:- Second course in SARDINIA produced 653 dvrs (for infm). A fourth course is being started at BARI, and further courses elsewhere to produce the personnel for next course at POLIGNANO (end June). — G i

Maj PASCHETTA

12. School of arty, Italian Army:- The academy was formerly situated at TURIN, but was moved in 1942 to LUCCA (with acknowledgement to RAF). — G ii

13. Gd bn on loan to 8 Army:- handed him for infm copy of sig covering move of I/336 Bn BARI to VAIRANO. — G i

Gen CIGLIA — G i

14. Comds of combat fmns:-
- Mot Bde: UTILE, Generale di Brigata,
- NEMBO : MORIGI, Generale di Brigata,

UTILE is the senior of the two, and is designated to comd CIL

Capt CAVANI

11. Italian AVR courses:- Second course in Sicily produced 653 AVRs (for infm). A fourth course is being started at BARI, and further courses elsewhere to produce the personnel for next course at POLIGNANO (end June).

Maj PASCHETTA

12. School of Arty, Italian Army:- The academy was formerly situated at TURIN, but was moved in 1942 to LUCCA (with acknowledgement to RAF). — G ii

13. Gd bn on loan to 8 Army:- handed Mission copy of sig covering move of I/335 Bn BARI to VAIRANO. — G i

Gen CIVILIA

14. Comds of combat fmns:- — G i
- Mot Bde: UTILE, Generale di Brigata,
- NEMBO : MORICI, Generale di Brigata,

UTILE is the senior of the two, and is designated to comd CIL

Capt CAVANI

15. PERRONE Armando: no response to their enquiries; they will follow up and advise if the result is still negative. — Giii(I)

Lt Col DI BITONTO

16. Nine artieri lavoratori coys:- to complete the est of specialists for these units, BASSO has asked to be allowed to recall the specialists of the 1913 - 19 classes in CAMPANIA. Specialists of the 1920 - 24 classes have already been recalled and employed. If MMIA agrees, SAHE will request War Ministry to take necessary action. — 2 i/c, G i

1656

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Feb 42

LIAISON WITH S M R E

SECRET

27 May 44

Lt Col SIMONETTI

1. General disorg of recent moves:- took the matter up with him strongly and explained several recent instances where incorrect infm and incomplete moves had necessitated changes in the arrangements made by Mov PILPOT. Cited in particular latest case of mulemoves. SIMONETTI appeared to be NOT infd of the situation. He promised to investigate and report to us. — C i Mov

Capt FORENZA

2. Move of MANTOVA to CALABRIA:- saw some figures on his table, from which it appears that actual strength moved was approx 25% light on details supplied in advance. Analysis of individual trains showed that every single party was well below advertised strength. This infm NOT officially communicated yet - suggest LO XXXI Corps be requested to advise strengths arrived there. Figures had just been sent to D'ITALIA, but no explanation forthcoming up to the present. — 2 i/c G i Mov

Maj MAIOCCHI

3. Carabinieri with mil fmns:- collected details and inserted in current strength sheet. Totals: 20 offrs, 1527 ors. — 2 i/c G i G iii

Col CHIAVARINO

4. Personnel from PICENO for harvesting:- he still maintains that they are NOT able to produce the 5000 men requested from this fmn. Reasons given are: — 2 i/c G i

a) it is NOT customary in the Italian Army for ncos to do work of this sort, as conducive to lowering their prestige. This puts 1000 men out of the running.
b) certain units, not specified, are required to maintain public order. It is said that the M of War refuses to consider their removal.
c) the remainder of the personnel is said to be required

Maj MAIOCCHI

3. Carabinieri with mil fmns:- collected details and inserted in current strength sheet. Totals: 20 offrs, 1527 ors. — 2 i/c, G i, G iii

Col CHIAVARINO

4. Personnel from PICENO for harvesting:- he still maintains that they are NOT able to produce the 5000 men requested from this fmn. Reasons given are: — 2 i/c, G i

a) it is NOT customary in the Italian Army for nobs to do work of this sort, as conducive to lowering their prestige. This puts 1000 men out of the running.
b) certain units, not specified, are required to maintain public order. It is said that the M of War refuses to consider their removal.
c) the remainder of the personnel is said to be required to look after the div tpt and animals, and guard depots and stores.

Endeavoured unsuccessfully to persuade him that there would still be 5000 men available for the harvest. He has promised to send a letter to-day to MMIA giving details.

1655

5. ~~XXXXXX~~ Two coys for ANCIO:- details for tpt request to be available later to-day. One coy ex CALABRIA, one coy ex BARI area, ~~XXX~~ and an extra coy from LECCE area in case one of the other two fails. All three to be ready to move 31 May. — G i

6. Reorg Camp:- details of the 3500 approx personnel there are as follows:- — 2 i/c

PWs repatriated	600
Alerted for units	900
Offrs	400
Staff of camp	1200

CHIAVARINO admits this latter figure is large, and is having it cut down.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

26 May 44

Gen ORILIA

1. Mil harvesters for FOGGIA:- lengthy discussion on this subject with present Capt ORIO of the War Ministry. They wanted to know all kinds of details about the scheme which only Col TEMPERLEY can answer, so it was agreed that SMRE would send Maj PASCHETTA to LUCERA 27 May. MMIA to advise AMG of PASCHETTA's arrival, to recommend retention of part of tps civil pay until harvesting is over, which SMRE consider an important safeguard for retaining internal security tps and avoiding dispersal, and to enquire about arrangements for mec atteption, as a big proportion of the tps from SARDINIA are likely to be potential malaria cases. 2 i/c G i A/Q

Maj D'ANTONA

2. 520 Gd Coy:- Requested him to have adv party (1offr, 3 ors) sent forthwith to 55 Area SPARANISE. Infd him serial N° 1065H, and that this coy will replace the coy loaned from PISENO Div for gd duties . G iii

3. Unit for range clearing at CAMEROTTA:- 1 offr, 15 ors and 16 horses ready to leave SPEZZANO ALBANESE 23 May for above destination. ? Serial G iii

Designation: 80 Nucleo Montato.

4. Manpower in CALABRIA:- this has NOT yet been settled. CUBONATI had signalled 25 May that remaining unit of TC tps could NOT be touched as required by the Allies for staging areas. CHIAVARINO intervened in the discussion and instructed D'ANTONA in no uncertain terms to issue mob order for these men to form one of the two coys requested for ANZIO. Similarly, 66 Hy MT unit now in CALABRIA is to be broken up, as required, and the personnel and vehs withdrawn. 2 i/c G i

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

from PICENO Div for gd duties .

3. Unit for range clearing at CAMEROTTA:- 1 offr, 15 ors and 16 horses ready to leave SPEZZANO ALBANESE 23 May for above destination. ? Serial — G iii

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Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

5. 100 charges for 75/13 (SD/1/2):- available immediately at LECCE. — G ii

6. Additional 47/32 guns for NEMBO:- requested him to make the 3 extra pieces available immediately at CAPUA. He will find them on the mainland, but in the meantime there are 7 in reserve at CAPUA. — G ii

1654

Maj LA ROCCA

7. Hot meals at FOGGIA stn for mil harvesters:- this offr is organizing these; he would like to be sure that tps from CALABRIA and NAPLES do NOT arrive on the same day. — A/G Mov

Lt Col DI BITONTO

8. Serial 1072:- collected mob order for 1019 GT Coy, to be formed at CONVERSANO. The order specifies that the coy is to occupy the premises vacated by 1003 GT Coy. — G i

9. Rfts for 1101 and 1103 GT Coys:- the dvrs will be withdrawn from the M of War MT Pls, and it is anticipated that the other specialized personnel will also be forthcoming — G i

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Lt Col GALLO

10. Headphones available only in SARDINIA; R2 Receiver sets for 810 Radiocontrollo pl: two in CALABRIA in doubtful state; 30-line switchboard: at BARI undergoing repairs. — SO Sigs

Col CHIAVARINO

11. Clearing battlefields:- anticipating that at some future date the Allies may request the Italian Army to see to the clearing of the battlefields and removal of unexploded shells and mines, or that this task will devolve automatically on the Italians, CHIAVARINO is considering the need to train personnel for this task. He requires to know whether there would be any objection to their organizing a course or courses for this purpose, for which the trg staff and trainees would be taken from within the ceiling allotted to the Italian Army, either Italian Adm services or Internal Security Divs. He would like to be sure, once the thing is approved and set in motion, that the trained personnel is NOT removed for some other purpose. — 2 i/c G i G ii(AA) SORE

Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI

12. Rifts for artieri units:- the 105 men for IX 28 Artieri Bn and 50 men for 21 Artieri Coy have been employed by IX Corps to complete ests of following units:-
- 35 for 28 Artieri Bn
- 20 for 29 Minatori Coy
- 37 for 21 Artieri Coy
- 63 for 163 Artieri Coy

— G i SORE

13. Lt Col CRECCHIA

Collected original of letter dated 18 May sent by HQ 64 Sp Pnr Corps to SMRE direct, ref 643/PC/CLO/2. Although copy of this letter was duly sent to MMIA, this type of direct comm causes confusion at SMRE and it is suggested that this practice should be discouraged. Normal Italian sup channels should be followed. — G i A/Q

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Adm services or Internal Security Divs. He would like to be sure, once the thing is approved and set in motion, that the trained personnel is NOT removed for some other purpose.

Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI

12. Rifts for artieri units:- the 105 men for XX 28 Artieri Bn and 50 men for 21 Artieri Coy have been employed by IX Corps to complete ests of following units:- G i SORE
- 35 for 28 Artieri Bn
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13. Col CHECCHIA
Collected original of letter dated 18 May sent by HQ 64 Gp Pnr Corps to SMRE direct, ref 643/PC/CIO/2. Although copy of this letter was duly sent to MAIA, this type of direct comm causes confusion at SMRE and it is suggested that this practice should be discouraged. Normal Italian sup channels should be followed. G i A/Q

Capt DELLA CORNA

14. 12 Bn HQs for PBS:- the mob order has not yet been issued, they have been authorised verbally to do so on the following basis: 2 i/c G i
- strength of regimental and bn HQs of 120 and 121 Regts: 28 offrs 106 ors
- balance to be supplied (°) 20 " 374 "

(°) this balance to count against 1075A for the programme.

1653

Lt Col DI BITONTO

15. Inid him of warning order for men from MANTOVA and PICENO Divs required for harvest work at FOGGIA, in accordance with provisional arrangements. Later he phoned to say that they would have difficulty in supplying more than 3000 odd men from the PICENO, on account of other commitments for gd duties etc. The matter to be discussed at length to-morrow 2 i/c

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 25 May 44

Lt Col GALLO

1. Reorg engr stores:- their 5/1100/Serv of 16 Jan refers; He would like to know what was eventually decided. — SORE

Lt Col PANDRAI

2. Away from the office to-day; left message with regard to three English-speaking switchboard operators and 600 rolls of teleprinter paper authorised for them. — SO Sigs

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

3. 47/32 Atk guns for NEMBO:- no difficulty about sending further eight guns, but little or no amn available for additional pieces:
   - 20 unfoc for 48 guns = 236.000 rounds
   - total availability amn 47/32 260.000 "

   In view of the fact that AAI has ordered despatch of guns, and that additional pieces are only needed temporarily, recommend that they are sent forthwith; he will arrange accordingly. — G ii

Maj DI MONACO

4. Fd hosps and surgical unit for Sicily:- while fully agreeing on the need for med units in Sicily, he was unable to suggest where they are to come from. Too many med units have already been taken from SARDINIA in his opinion. — G i DADMS

5. Fd hosp for ACC:- 3 Red Cross Hosp Taranto is NOT available The eqpt of this unit is in use at the Red Cross Hosp at CINOSA and cannot be freed as far as he knows. Personnel and tentage is at TARANTO, but NOT employed at the moment.

   He will consider alternatives for 4 and 5 above and advise later. — DADMS

6. 491 Fd Hosp from CORSICA:- they have no idea when this unit is likely to reach the mainland. — DADMS

7. Are any more Fd Hosps required on mainland ? :- Yes, but where are they to come from ? — DADMS

8. For infm, ref para 5 above, he states that one 50 bed hosp — DADMS

Maj DI MONACO

4. Fd hosps and surgical unit for Sicily:- while fully agreeing on the need for med units in Sicily, he was unable to suggest where they are to come from. Too many med units have already been taken from SARDINIA in his opinion. — G i DADMS

5. Fd hosp for ACC:- 3 Red Cross Hosp Taranto is NOT available The eqpt of this unit is in use at the Red Cross Hosp at ISERNIA and cannot be freed as far as he knows. Personnel and tentage is at TARANTO, but NOT employed at the moment. — DADMS

He will consider alternatives for 4 and 5 above and advise later.

6. 491 Fd Hosp from CORSICA:- they have no idea when this unit is likely to reach the mainland. — DADMS

7. Are any more Fd Hosps required on mainland ? :- Yes, but where are they to come from ? — DADMS

8. For infm, ref para 5 above, he states that one 50 bed hosp and one 32 bed hosp are held in CAMPANIA awaiting orders from AMG. — DADMS

Lt Col GUIDA

9. AA rits in CAMPANIA:- on orders from MMIA, SMRE ordered BASSO NOT to furnish rits for AA from 1923 class, in view of the fact that it was proposed to transfer surplus AA personnel from other sites to reinforce CAMPANIA. These orders were duly passed on. BASSO has now signalled that the unit which XIX took 210 of these men refuses to give them up, no matter what MMIA xxxx says. — 2 i/c 1652 Gii(AA)

10. IX Pack Tpt Coy:- FFAA Campania has signalled that 5 Army has employed part of the personnel of this unit, plus men of the 1923 class, to form yet another pack tpt coy which is to be called XI Pack Tpt Coy. Date of mob 11 May. — G i

11. 1101 and 1103 GT Coys:- FFAA Campania has requested rits for these units: 27 dvrs for 1101
56 " " 1103
and suggested they be taken from dvrs from recalled classes in Campania, of whom there are 24[illegible] left according to SMRE. — G i

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SECRET

49

LIAISON WITH S.M.B.E. 24 May 44

Col CHIAVARINO S.D.

1. Informed him 45 muleteers were being sent under AAI arrangements from AFRAGOLA Transit Camp to 7 Mtn Regt at ATELLA, who were 45 muleteers short of W.E., and were about to enter the line. G1 G2

Col DIBITONTO S.D.

2. Instructed him to send the three ALPINI barbers, complete with their tools to 7 Mtn Regt, via 9 Corps HQ. MMIA will confirm in writing. G2

3. Informed him and also Col CHIAVARINO, that there were 1400 "SBANDATI" in 5 Corps area. DIBITONTO is obtaining further facts from 209 Div HQ. Thinks it quite possible that they are the same persons for whom 209 Div has asked clothing and equipt. G1 A/Q

4. Will confirm to BAUMANN on 25 May whether the 150 rfts have been sent to 28 ARTIERI Bn, or not. G2(L)

5. Gave me latest figures for 68 Mixed Rfts Bn: 31 offrs, 720 ORs, 25 animals, 5 carts, 1 baggage cart, 50 tons stores. Comfirmed that they were ready to move wef 25 May. ~~Col DIBITONTO to be told that previous figures given by him for this Bn must stand.~~ G3

6. Unit for CAPPUCCINI Dump. 150 out of the 250 men required have been found. Remaining 100, if necessary, will be drawn from 1923 class. G1

7. Stated that five D~~r~~s for 1000 Coy at MONOPOLI had already been sent. G1 & G2(L)

8. Stated that personnel were being found for 3rd Driving Course at POLIGNANO, but it was a difficult task. G1

Col CHECCHIA - Servizi

9. Is finding out if eight 47/32 A.Tk guns can be found for sending to NEMBO Div(Units u/c 10 Corps). G2
Col CHIAPPARELLI(Arty) was away.

10. 503 Smoke Coy. Ref 64 Gp Pioneer Corps letter 64G/PC/ G10/2 of 18 May, copy of which was sent to MMIA. Para 2 of G

4. Will confirm to BAUMANN on 25 May whether the 150 rfts have been sent to 28 ARTIERI Bn, or not. G2(L)

5. Gave me latest figures for 68 Mixed Rfts Bn: 31 offrs, 720 ORs, 25 animals, 5 carts, 1 baggage cart, 50 tons stores. Comfirmed that they were ready to move wef 25 May. ~~Col DI BITONTO to be told that previous figures given by him for this Bn must stand.~~ G3

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Col CHECCHIA - Servizi

9. Is finding out if eight 47/32 A.Tk guns can be found for sending to NEMBO Div(Units u/c 10 Corps). G2
Col CHIAPPARELLI(Arty) was away.

10. 503 Smoke Coy. Ref 64 Gp Pioneer Corps letter 64G/PC/CLO/2 of 18 May, copy of which was sent to MMIA. Para 2 of the letter asks SMRE to provide for 503 Smoke Coy 3 lorries, 2 M/Cs and 3 bycycles. This is impossible. Only 1 B/C can be provided. G A/Q G2 (AA)

Anyhow, the WE/TO shews WE transport as 1 lorry, 1 M/C, 1 B/C, which(except for the B/C)were to be provided from Allied sources. Clarification required. 1651

W P Mawdsley

Major,
GSO.2.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

SECRET

23 May 44

LIAISON WITH SMRE

Maj MAIOCCHI

1. Visit of Col SANSO:- the offr at the SMRE who would be interested to talk to SANSO is Lt Col TAZZARI, of the map dept. He can be contacted by phone through SMRE, though his office is in Via GALLIPOLI. Requested MAIOCCHI to warn him for 25 May. — G ii

Lt Col DI BITONTO

2. Barbers for 7 Mtn Regt:- three Alpini barbers have been found and await disposal instrs at LECCE Depot. — G ii

3. Dvrs ex CALABRIA course:- the 136 dvrs are ready to move at CATANZARO SALA. Request tpt arranged to CONVERSANO. — G i, G iii

4. Dvrs for M of War:- he will find out why the 80 dvrs have been requested. — G i

5. Serial 1075A, 121 Regt:- confirmed that the ISCHIA/CAPUA gren will count against this serial. See below. — 2 i/c, G ii

6. Serial 1076A, service pls for AOC:- cancelling what had been arranged yesterday - see para 23 - the men for this serial will now be taken from 1923 class in Campania, to compensate additional men arriving from ISCHIA/CAPRI. — G i

7. Unit for CAPUA dump:- it now appears quite likely that a substantial proportion of the 250 men required will in fact be found from depots etc in Campania. The balance will be taken from the 1923 class. — G i

8. 50 med orderlies for ANZIO:- these will be available BARI 5 June. — G i

Lt Col [illegible]

9. 17 Mob Wksp ex CORSICA - SMRE letter 3633 21 May refers:- It is clarified that it is the wksp, i.e. eqpt portion of the unit, that they are interested in and NOT the personnel. — G iii

Col GRIGLIO

5. Serial 1075A, 121 Regt:- confirmed that the ISCHIA/CAPUA gren will count against this serial. See below. — 2 i/c G ii

6. Serial 1076A, service pls for ADC:- cancelling what had been arranged yesterday - see para 23 - the men for this serial will now be taken from 1923 class in Campania, to compensate additional men arriving from ISCHIA/CAPRI. — G i

7. Unit for CAPUA dump:- it now appears quite likely that a substantial proportion of the 250 men required will in fact be found from depots etc in Campania. The balance will be taken from the 1923 class. — G i

8. 50 med orderlies for ANZIO:- these will be available BARI 5 June. — G i

Lt Col [illegible]

9. 17 Mob Wksp ex CORSICA - BARI letter 3633 21 May refers:- It is clarified that it is the wksp, i.e. expt portion of the unit, that they are interested in and NOT the personnel. — G iii

Col GRIGLIO

10. Trial of Gen MANTINI:- he has just been info from SARDINIA that the trial is NOT likely to be over much before two months time. Comando Supremo appear to have already taken the matter up strongly with HQ Sardinia, but it is felt that strong comment from MMIA would NOT be out of place. — G iii(I)

Lt Col SAMPÒ

11. Move of 180 Arty Bde t:- confirmed to him that the move details organized by Mov PILPOT must stand. While every effort will be made to adhere to the schedule, he is doubtful whether the Italian tractors can maintain the pace. — 1650 Mov

Gen [illegible] DI

12. With 2i/c and Col SIMMONS re connection with move of congedanti and other tps from SARDINIA. Importance that former category should have the posn fully explained to them before leaving the island was stressed. — G i

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File 'N/A'

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 22 May 44

Lt Col SAMPÒ

1. 1c4 Arty Regt (NABBO):- gave him warning order of move by rd 24 May - passed on at once to regt. G iii

Lt FERRANDO

2. Interpreter for X Corps(Replacement):- requested him to find offr to replace Capt FRANZI of IAF, with priority immediately after interpreters for 20 Pack Gp HQ G ii

3. GRINENCO:- info him that this offr had NOT reported for his new duties, and quoted this as another instance of poor staff work by this branch. He has promised to look into it at once. G ii

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

4. 9mm amn for CIL:- info him that there is no amn of this type at CAPUCCINI. He will have 1.000.000 rounds sent at once, but points out that there are still 2.300.000 rounds at IOPPOLO, according to the latest return at 29 Apr. G ii

5. Monthly allocation of 9mm amn from Allied sources:- The offr sent to collect the May allocation from 14 BAD Bitonto was told he had already had it - i.e. the amount withdrawn 11 and 13 Apr would count for the month of May. CHIAPPARELLI contends there is no connection, as the Apr withdrawals were specifically authorised by sig Q701 of 5 Mar. Clarification please. G ii

N/A

Maj MAIOCCHI

6. SMRE strength return, part 5:- various units of corps tps shown under this heading so as NOT to include them in strengths of individual corps HQs, which have to be limited to 300 each. Only a temporary arrangement. Those indispensable to Corps services will have to be included in strength of internal security divs. MAIOCCHI was doubtful whether he would be able to make adjustments before new state is issued on 25 May. G i

type of ammunition. He will have 1,000,000 rounds sent at once, but points out that there are still 2,300,000 rounds at ISERNIA, according to the latest return at 29 Apr.

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Maj MAIOCCHI

6. SMRE strength return, part 5:- various units of corps tps shown under this heading so as NOT to include them in strengths of individual corps HQs, which have to be limited to 300 each. Only a temporary arrangement. Those indispensable to Corps services will have to be included in strength of internal security divs. MAIOCCHI was doubtful whether he would be able to make adjustments before new state is issued on 25 May. — G i

Capt FORENZA

7. Rly stores in SICILY:- our Tn/1 of 27 Apr requested certain infm on this subject which SMRE supplied in their 1493/TS of 1 May. Reply requested by above. — A/Q

Maj VERONI

8. Artieri coys:-

GARIBALDA Div	10 Artieri Coy	7 offrs	122 ors		SORE
BARI "	55 " "	6 "	218 "		
206 "	details NOT available - being obtained				

9. 225/226 Mista Genio Coys:- explained to him that engr portions of these units to go towards lavoratori artieri coys, and that if rifts required for combat fmn matter to be discussed first with SORE. — SORE

Lt Col PANERAI

10. Phone batteries:- infd his office that after the May quantity has been drawn, subsequent demands to be on 3 Sub depot 557 AOD NAPLES. — SO Sigs

1649

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Lt Col DI BITONTO

12. Dvr situation:- G i
86 dvrs available at BARI: 79 for MT Pl of M of War,
7 for 1200 Motor Ambulance Sec

dvrs in CAMPANIA : 42 for nine lavoratori artieri coys

136 dvrs in CALABRIA } to be moved forthwith to CONVERSANO
62 " " SICILY* } (he has to sig to XII Corps first to ascertain location)

13. 160 men and offrs for 3rd dvr course POLIGNANO:- he is getting about immediately finding the numbers required. M of War to be consulted about putting offrs on the course. No difficulty anticipated in filling the demand. G i

Lt Col GUIDA

14. New GT Coy to be formed at CONVERSANO:- orders are being given at once to IX Corps to start the new unit by 30 May, to incl the following: G i
- 136 dvrs ex CALABRIA
- 62 " " SICILY
- 50 approx ex 2nd course at POLIGNANO

Offrs and balance of personnel to be found by IX Dvr Regt.

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

15. This offr joins SMRE SE branch, having relinquished the post at War Ministry now filled by MILLEFIORINI. C iii(I)

Lt Col DI BITONTO and Lt Col GUIDA

16. Additional 12 bn hqs for PBS:- Info them that 12 additional bn hqs had been approved, each 4 offrs and 40 ors, subject to deduction from the total strength involved of the regt and bn HQs of 120 and 121 Regts now forming. The net additional strength, offrs and men, to count against the programme. 2 i/c G i

Lt Col DI BITONTO

17. Italian personnel liable to mil service at present employed by Allied units:- he will write to Col NEGRONI along the lines discussed with A/Q this am, with copy to M/IA and M of War. C i A/Q

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May, to incl the following:
- 136 ovrs ex CALABRIA
- 62 " " SICILY
- 50 approx ex 2nd course at POLICORO

Offrs and balance of personnel to be found by IX Dvr Regt.

Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO

15. This offr joins SMRE SL branch, having relinquished the post at War Ministry now filled by MIRABELLINI. — G iii(I)

Lt Col DI BIFONTO and Lt Col CURIA

16. Additional 12 bn hqs for PES:- inform them that 12 additional bn hqs had been approved, each 4 offrs and 40 ors, subject to deduction from the total strength involved of the regt and bn HQs of 120 and 121 Regts now forming. The net additional strength, offrs and men, to count against the programme. — 2 i/c G i

Lt Col DI BIFONTO

17. Italian personnel liable to all service of present employed by Allied units:- he will write to Col NEFRONI along the lines agreed with A/Q this am, with copy to MAIA and M of War. Figures involved for 1920 - 24 classes are:
- personnel considered indispensable 664 men
- personnel NOT indispensable 1252 "

— G i A/Q

18. Dvr rits for 36 Veh Coy MONOPOLI:- IX Dvr Regt have been asked to supply 3 dvr rits for ~~xxxiii~~ 1000 GT Coy. Approval wanted please. — 1648 i

Lt Col CURIA

19. Serial 2000:- Confirmed that 250 men are wanted for this serial. He will deal with this to-day, taking the men from some other surplus unit in CALABRIA. Query balance of TC bn, or 14 Arty Gp. Exact details later. — G i

Capt CAVANI

20 Col MOCCIA:- this offr was head of the army lab org in PARI and has now been posted as 2i/c MEMBO Div. Sig IDL 2 Dist refers. — A/Q DADL

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Capt CAVANI

21. Re our I/103 of 24 Apr, CAVANI states that enquiries are still proceeding. He is following the matter closely to ensure reply. G iii(I)

Lt Col DI BITONTO

22. Unit to handle stores at CAPUA dump:- he is having a phone call put through to BASSO this pm to ascertain posn in relation to their sig of 21 May. BASSO will be authorised to take whatever men he is unable to find from local sources from the men of 1923 class. Any gap created in this way in 121 Regt (serial 10754) will be made up by the strength of on hqs - see para 16 above. G i

23. CAPUA/ISCHIA gren:- have infd them that it will be in order to employ these men for serial 1098D - service pls for ACC. G i

Maj MAIOCCHI

24. 179 coma gp ex CORSICA:- he has no infm on this unit G i

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24. I/O conf ex COMSTCA:- Re has no info on this unit G 1

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LIAISON WITH SMRE 20/21 May 44

Col QUERCIA

1. Following G i's report of the situation in NAPLES as regards reception and despatch of men and stores arriving in the port there from SARDINIA, which was referred in gen terms to OXIDIA, Col QUERCIA has been ordered to proceed to NAPLES 22 May with full powers to take whatever steps he considers necessary to put the thing on a proper basis. Infd him that Capts MORICO or THORP would be able to give him full details. G i

Lt Col DI BIASIO

2. Units for combat fmn:- infd him that V Pack Bty and 71 Bersaglieri Bn now required to join CIL. G i

3. Rits for combat fmn:- C ii
   a) ex 68 Rgt Regt MANDURIA, ready to leave 25 May:
      Inf - 29 offrs 35 ncos, 541 ors (incl moleteer rits)
      Arty 4 offrs 9 ncos 91 ors
      plus normal quantity of stores.
   b) ex 47 Inf Depot LECCE, ready to move at once,
      Parachutists - 2 offrs 37 ors
      It is suggested that these be allowed to proceed to VAIRANO on their own arrangements.
   c) 200 commando rits:- they expect to find these shortly.
   d) balance of parachutist rits (100):- very doubtful about these, but will advise in a few days.

Lt Col GUIDA

4. Personnel for CAPUA dump:- sig sent to SACSO ordering personnel as requested in AAI sig, to be found from local units and installations. "Guide" are under comd Comando Supremo, and could NOT be employed without consultation with MESSE. G i

5. WEs of diluted units:- left with him three new WEs for G i

a) ex 68 Rtr Regt MANDURIA, ready to leave 25 May.
Inf - 29 offrs 85 ncos, 541 ors (incl muleteer rifs)
Arty 4 offrs 9 ncos 91 ors
plus normal quantity of stores.
b) ex 47 Inf Depot LECCE, ready to move at once,
Parachutists - 2 offrs 37 ors
It is suggested that these be allowed to proceed
to VAIRANO on their own arrangements.
c) 200 commando rifs:- they expect to find these shortly.
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about these, but will advise in a few days.

Lt Col GUIDA

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5. WEs of diluted units:- left with him three new WEs for translation into Italian and setting out bilingually. G i

6. 50 med orderlies for ANZIO:- they can find these, and await our firm order and instrs.

DADMS 24/5

1646

Lt Col SIMONETTI

7. Hot meals at FOGGIA etc for tps on agricultural leave:- Ufficio Trasporti will org this on receipt of firm instrs. A/G

Gen CASILLA

8. Infd him in gen terms of arrangements for meeting the demands of agricultural workers in FOGGIA area. He would like to bring over as soon as possible the HQ of one internal security div from SARDINIA. G i

Maj LUNARDONI

9. Owing to uncertainty of situation at BARI Remount Sta, it is decided that all 436 animals destined to BARI will go to Depot of 402 Arty Regt. LO 2 Dist to arrange for use of 150 men of this regt, temporarily, for watering etc. SMRE agree - approval 2 Dist required. G ii

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4-201 AG

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S A R E 19 May 44

Gen CHILIA

1. MONTEGRANERO Bn:- infd him that this unit was now arriving and that they had been authorised by AAI to retain the 181 mules they brought with them from SARDINIA. Query: Have they brought with them the guns of a pack tp ? — G i

2. Rft unit for CIL:- handed him back his memo, approved in principle, and requested that proposed strengths be inserted for each unit and arm. — 2 i/c G i

Gen MATTIOLI

3. Org of Italian units in PBS:- he is getting impatient of the delay in implementing the various HQs discussed and requested. Infd him that in the present situation little further requires to be done immediately, and that number of tps employed by PRS is NOT likely to increase substantially in the near future. — 2 i/c G i

Maj DI MONACO

4. 12 Hygiene Sec:- actual strength of this unit according to IX Corps is 1 offr and 59 or's, which leaves nothing for the third pl, on the basis of 30 men per pl as proposed. The suggestion is that each pl be of 20 men, and that the third pl go to IX Corps. There is no objt for any of the pls. — DADMS

Lt FERRANDO

5. Interpreters:- outstanding requests for 5 Army, all recd through Comando Supremo, are for 16 offrs. These demands are in abeyance until officially confirmed by us. — G ii

6. 20 Pack Gp HQ:- later to-day they will pass us names of three offr interpreters for this unit. — G ii

7. Interpreters in SARDINIA:- collected list of offrs and or's in SARDINIA, with a knowledge of English. Query whether these should be tested over there and those suitable given priority passage to the mainland. — G ii

Maj DI MONACO

4. 12 Hygiene Sec:- actual strength of this unit according to IX Corps is 1 offr and 59 or's, which leaves nothing for the third pl, on the basis of 30 men per pl as proposed. The suggestion is that each pl be of 20 men, and that the third pl go to IX Corps. There is no eqpt for any of the pls. — DADMS

Lt FERRANDO

5. Interpreters:- outstanding requests for 8 Army, all recd through Comando Supremo, are for 16 offrs. These demands are in abeyance until officially confirmed by us. — G ii

6. 20 Pack Gp HQ:- later to-day they will pass us names of three offr interpreters for this unit. — G ii

7. Interpreters in SARDINIA:- collected list of offrs and or's in SARDINIA, with a knowledge of English. Query whether these should be tested over there and those suitable given priority passage to the mainland. — G ii

Maj D'ANTONA

8. 120 Regt:- balance of strength can be considered ready to move from S. PIETRO VERNOTICO forthwith: 29 offrs 476 or's and normal stores. — G iii

1645

Maj LOMBARDONI

9. Balance of 700 mules available as follows:- — G iii

- MASSAFRA	53	mules	all ex PICENO div ready to move 22 May
- LOCOROTONDO	38	mules	
- FASANO	38	"	
- OSTUNI	15	"	
- ZOLLINO	180	"	ex MANTOVA for 22 May

10. Destination for above:- it is agreed 436 go to BARI. However, there is suspected case of glanders at BARI Remount Depot. It is recommended this is investigated by Allied VR personnel on the spot. If desirable, the 436 animals can be accomodated at depot of 402 Regt in BARI. Decision required forthwith. Balance of 264 animals to APRICENA; — G ii

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11. Maj VERONI
106 Telegrafisti Coy and 2-5/226 Mista Genio Coys:- Infd him that fresh instrs had been recd for these units, that they were no longer required as rifts for NEMSO, but would possibly be used as rifts for CIL. VERONI to sig BASSO to hold fast pending fresh instrs in a day or two. — G ii, SO Sigs

12. PW coys in transit to NAPLES:- SMRE had been sent copies of sigs covering move of the three PW coys by Mov FILMOT. VERONI wanted info as to what it was all about. Told him that we had already investigated the matter, and that it did NOT concern either the mission or SMRE, and that it would be quite in order to file the papers. It is quite on the cards that further questions will be asked. — 2 i/c, G i Mov

Lt Col DI BITONTO

13 Agricultural assistance for FOGGIA:- requested him to alert two offrs with staff car at disposal to go to LUCERA to help with the aim and org of the scheme. Definite order shortly. — G ii

14. Rifts for NEMSO:- they are holding at 47 Inf Depot LECCE 2 offrs and 47 ors parachutists. If rift bn at MANDURIA is approved, they should be transferred there. — 2 i/c, G i

15. Ovrs required by SMRE for own services:- request has been made for following to be released from present availability of trained ovrs, either in CAMPANIA, or one of the other sources at disposal:
- 68 ovrs for two MT pls for M of War. (preferably ex BARI) also
- 42 ovrs to complete est of nine reparti lavoratori artieri.

Infd him that whole question of disposal of ovrs was under consideration, and that above would be taken into account in reaching a decision. — G i

Tpt Office

16. Move of offr cadets to SICILY and CAMPANIA:- these moves ... — G ii

alert two offrs with staff car at disposal to [illegible]
LUCERA to help with the adm and org of the scheme.
Definite order shortly. 2 i/c

14. Rifts for NEMO:- they are holding at 47 Inf Depot LECCE G i
1 offr and 47 ors parachutists. If rift on at MANDURIA
is approved, they should be transferred there.

15. Dvrs required by SMRE for own services:- request has been G i
made for following to be released from present availability
of trained dvrs, either in CAMPANIA, or one of the other
sources at disposal:
- 88 dvrs for two MT pls for M of War. (preferably ex BARI)
also
- 42 dvrs to complete cot of nine reparti lavoratori artieri.

Infd him that whole question of disposal of dvrs was under
consideration, and that above would be taken into account
in reaching a decision.

Tpt Office

16. Move of offr cadets to SICILY and CAMPANIA:- these moves G iii
are a matter of internal org of the Italian Army, so
returned the two sigs to tpt office SMRE with instrs to
incl in normal weekly tpt request.

1644

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Ch 205 N/S

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

18 May 44

Lt Col GUIDA

1. 650 and 651 TC Increments:- departed SARDINIA for NAPLES 15 May. — G iii

2. 12 bn HQs for PBS:- the decision to authorise these awaits Col LEEMEY's visit to MMIA. SMRE would like reply when convenient . — 2 i/c

Maj LUNARDONI

3. 700 mules and 100 horses for Allies:- arrangements being concluded are that all 800 animals will be concentrated at BARI, part in the Remount Sta there and part in the barracks now housing 402 Regt. 300 men required from latter regt, on loan, to look after the animals, under the direction of the BARI Remount sta. Lab Inspectorate SMRE have no objection. Final details shortly. — G ii

Lt Col GUIDA

4. Serial 1065E:- 1050 QM Truck Bn is ready to leave SADRINIA at once.
Serial 1066:- Four QM Truck Coys will be ready to leave 22 May. — G ii

Lt Col DI BITONTO

5. First dvr course in SICILY:- this has yielded 62 trained dvrs.
Second course is held up pending issue of petrol — G i / A/Q

6. 480 muleteer rits for May:- details ready for collection as follows:- (serial 1096A refers)
- 200 muleteer rits at depot of 15 Ini Regt SALERNO
- 180 " " c/o 210 Div TRIPERISCO
- 100 " " at 12 Arty Depot NOLA

7. 1923 class recalled in CAMPANIA:- this recall is concluded, yielding 3050 men, and instrs have been issued to SMRE for disposal. 1922 class is estimated to produce about the same. Query: do we propose giving instrs to Ministry to proceed with this class ? Also, the — comd / 2 i/c / G i

1613

Lt Col GUIDA

4. Serial 1065E:- 1050 QM Truck Bn is ready to leave SADRINIA at once. G ii
Serial 1066d:- 1051 QM Truck Coys will be ready to leave 22 May.

Lt Col DI BITONTO

5. First dvr course in SICILY:- this has yielded 62 trained dvrs. G i
Second course is held up pending issue of petrol A/Q

6. 480 muleteer rits for May:- details ready for collection as follows:- (serial 1096A refers)
- 200 muleteer rits at depot of 15 Inf Regt SALERNO
- 180 " " c/o 210 Div TRIPOLISCO
- 100 " " at 12 Arty Depot NOLA

7. 1923 class recalled in CAMPANIA:- this recall is concluded, yielding 3050 men, and instrs have been issued to SMME for disposal. 1922 class is estimated to produce about the same. Query: do we propose giving instrs to Ministry to proceed with this class ? Also, the 1924 class in CALABRIA is estimated to produce 5000. comd 2 i/c G i

8. 100 med pco's and or's for 8 Army:- IX Corps has been ordered to produce these by 31 May. Details later. G i DADMS

9. 870 Nucleo Costruttori (mine clearing sec):- collected copy of letter from 'S' Force, dated 9 May, declining to release this unit, which was requested on loan by 5 Army f.r CASSINO. SORE

10. 415 and 416 Lab Bns ex SARDINIA:- collected mob order to FAAA SARDINIA ordering these units for 30 May and 15 Jun respectively. G i DADL

11. 550 Train Gd Coy:- This has been ordered in CALABRIA from personnel of 80 Terr Bn and excess men of depot of 16 Inf Regt. To be formed in conjunction with MOV REGGIO. G i

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SECRET
17 May 44

LIAISON SMRE

1. Maj PASCHETTA

Informed him that 502 Guard Bn had arrived from SARDINIA and will relieve 1 Bn of 336 Inf Regt at present on temporary Guard duty in BARI. When relieved 1 Bn 336 Inf Regt will move to CISTERNINO. G 1 G 11

2. Col CHIAPPARELLI

Infmn him that 5 Corps want for Italian troops under command:- A/Q

(a) 10,000 rds of 9 mm for PISTOLA 34.
(b) 25,000 rds of 8mm ball (carbon) m g rimless.

Was informed that:-

(a) 5,000 rds of 9mm for PISTOLA 34 are immediately available.
(b) 25,000 rds of 8mm m.g. rimless also available.

It is hoped that the NEMBO Div will bring over more 9 mm ammunition.
Was asked to inform 5 Corps that a/m may be collected fromthe SEZIONE STACCATA ARTIGLIERIA - LECCE.

3. Maj D'ANTONA

Gave him signal requesting 100 medical personnel for 8 Army. Med

These men are available in CALABRIA and D'ANTONA will signal for their despatch. Details will follow to-day.

Was told that the demand in Serial 1,075A will be met by using one Regiment of the 211 Division. G1

4. Maj LUNARDONI

Told him that the 171 mules now at ZOLLINO are an AAI requisition and that further instructions from AAI as to their destination are awaited. G 1 Mov

1642

9 mm ammunition.
Was asked to inform 5 Corps that a/m may be collected fromthe SEZIONE STACCATA ARTIGLIERIA - LECCE.

3. Maj D'ANTONA

Gave him signal requesting 100 medical personnel for 8 Army. — Med

These men are available in CALABRIA and D'ANTONA will signal for their despatch. Details will follow today.

Was told that the demand in Serial 1,075A will be met by using one Regiment of the 211 Division. — G1

4. Maj LUNARDONI

Told him that the 171 mules now at ZOLLINO are an AAI requisition and that further instructions from AAI as to their destination are awaited. — G 1 Mov

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH C M R E

15 May 44

Maj PASCHETTA

1. 184 Arty Regt:- infd him that this unit is now ordered to move to conc area NORTH of BENEVENTO and that 12 hy vehs can be brought down to SQUINZANO. Move by rd. — G i / G iii

Interpreters office

2. Interpreters for port dets:- confirmed that noone needed at SALERNO, but that two interpreters required at TARANTO. — G ii / ST

3. Interpreters for 3 Dist:- Enquired as to whereabouts of VISCONTI Ottorino; infd them that two further interpreters needed by 3 Dist, one offr and one or for RATD. — G ii

Capt DE GIORGI

4. IX 332 and 486 fd Hosps:- infd him that eqpt for these units had arrived, and he agreed that the units should be employed as follows: 332 for CIL
486 in res — G i / DADMS

Maj LUNARDONI

5. Mules from CALABRIA for ALLIES:- the 520 animals due from here are being collected, and he hopes to have details in a day or so. Discussed question of saddles, see para 6. — G i

Lt Col CHIARELLI

6. Saddles for 700 mules:- Requested him to see that any saddles now spare as the result of reduction of mules for Italian fmns are made available to be sent with the 700 mules shortly to go to the Allies. Agreed. — G i

7. Amn return:- it would be convenient for them to make the weekly return for Wed instead of Monday; query - is this agreed ? — Staff Capt

Lt Col GUIDA — 2 i/c

8. 46 Sec CCRR:- this unit, strength 1 offr 48 ors, is needed to reinforce Carabinieri for 212 Div. Est laid down by — 164 F i

5. Maj LUNARDONI
Mules from CALABRIA for ALLIES:- the 520 animals due from here are being collected, and he hopes to have details in a day or so. Discussed question of saddles, see para 6. — G i

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI
6. Saddles for 700 mules:- Requested him to see that any saddles now spare as the result of reduction of mules for Italian fmns are made available to be sent with the 700 mules shortly to go to the Allies. Agreed. — G i

7. Amn return:- it would be convenient for them to make the weekly return for Wed instead of Monday; query - is this agreed ? — Staff Capt

Lt Col GUIDA
8. 46 Sec CCRR:- this unit, strength 1 offr 48 ors, is needed to reinforce Carabinieri for 212 Div. Det laid down by PBS covers. Authority required to move. — 2 i/c 164 i, G iii

9. 5 Regt HQs from SARDINIA for PBS:- infd him that no tpt, animals or carts, need be brought to the mainland by these HQs. — 2 i/c, G i

10. Regt HQs for PBS:- 10 required in programme; 5 already there, 5 coming from SARDINIA (serials 3410 - 3414), 120 Regt HQ forming (serial 1058A); query: should serial 1075A also have regt HQ. There are two available ex 211 Div. — 2 i/c, G i

Maj DI MONACO
11. This offr is just back from SARDINIA and is taking over from DE GIORGI who goes as med offr to Mil Academy. — DADMS, G iii(I)

Gen OXILIA
12. Corps HQs:- outlined revised plan, with which he is in full agreement. Will discuss with BERARDI and let us have written proposals by to-morrow. — comd

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

File ST

Interdiction Aeroports regul
at NAPLES, BARI + TARANTO
Interdiction regul de SALERNO

Bryant - Steen

1640

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

14 May 44

Ufficio Personale e Segreteria

1. Showdown with the offrs of this branch for the slack way they are handling our business. In particular the following were dealt with:- G ii G iii(I)

a) BUGLIE and MACAGNI: after waiting three weeks LERICI has at last replied. Reply NOT satisfactory (see below)
b) Impressed on them that requests for interpreters are to be met only when made through MMIA channels.
c) Five offr interpreters for 20 Pack Gp Hq: agreed that these be found from the CUNEO offrs. Their letter 8360/21A/SP of 11 May refers.
d) Interpreters for Italian port dets- explained that these are required for Italian dets ~~AnXXtHXX~~. Someone has already been found for NAPLES, so LENZI Sergio will go to TARANTO or BRINDISI. They point out, though, that according to their inim, an interpreter is required at SALERNO. ---> NOT REQUIRED Pse. ST

Gen OXILIA

2. MARTINI trial:- requested him for further inim. The original documents in the plane that crashed have never been found and are now written off. There are photographic copies in SARDINIA. He has promised further inim in a day or two. comd 2 i/c G iii(I)

3. Corps HQs (see log 9 May para 9):- to clarify posn, comd 2 i/c G i

a) desi~~g~~nation of Corps HQs:

SARDINIA	XIII Corps	
SICILY	XII "	
NORTH OF LINE	~~VII~~ "	(Rome)

Provisionally to comd PICENO and MANTOVA dive SOUTH of LINE but available as additonal ~~XX~~ Corps HQ NORTH of line if subsequent events require it /..... LI Corps

b) Territorial HQs:

Forze Armate APULIA	}	In the event of ~~PICENOXXXX~~ LI Corps going NORTH, it is proposed that PICENO and MANTOVA
" " CAMPANIA	}	

required at SARDINIA. ~~→~~ Not required now

Gen OXILIA

2. MARTINI trial:- requested him for further infm. The original documents in the plane that crashed have never been found and are now written off. There are photographic copies in SARDINIA. He has promised further infm in a day or two. — comd 2 i/c G iii(I)

3. Corps HQs (see log 9 May para 9):- to clarify posn, — comd 2 i/c G i

a)designation of Corps HQs:

SARDINIA	XIII Corps	
SICILY	XII "	
NORTH OF LINE	VII "	(Rome)

Provisionally to comd PICENO and MANTOVA divs SOUTH of LINE but available as additonal ~~XX~~ Corps HQ NORTH of line if subsequent events require it ..... LI Corps

b)Territorial HQs:

Forze Armate APULIA
" " CAMPANIA
" " CALABRIA

In the event of ~~XXXXXXXX~~ LI Corps going NORTH, it is proposed that PICENO and MANTOVA Divs come under comd territorial HQs

1639

4. BUCLIE and MACAGNI (see above):- complained of way this and other matters had been handled by Personnel branch. After three weeks LERICI had replied that the two men had been given 15 days detention for attempting to cross the enemy lines. Intimated that this was most unsatisfactory, OXILIA fully agrees and is taking the matter up with LERICI. — G iii(I)

5. GRADO Marine Bn and Para Bty for BARI:- infd OXILIA that on the infm in our possession there was no prospect of these units being employed in combatant role. Duly noted - no comment. — 2 i/c G i

Lt Col GUIDA

6. 120 men for VP duties in 55 area:- being mobilised by IX Corps - to be ready to move 20 May. — G i

7. AA in Campania:- BASSO asking for 610 men to complete est shown in appx A to I605/50/2/SDI of 15 ~~MAY~~ Feb, ref our G/3/18 of 18 Feb. — G i Gii(AA)

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

13 May 44

comd
2 i/c
G i
AQ

1. Gen OXILIA (and Gen MATTIOLI) With Lt Col TEMPERLEY to discuss details of org of project to supply Italian mil personnel for agricultural work in FOGGIA province.

a) Info OXILIA of various alternatives we had in mind, but that decision rested with AAI.

b) That on account of highest priority of the matter AAI decision would almost certainly be in the affirmative, and that choice of alternative would probably be PIGNO (5000) and MANTOVA (1000);

c) that consequently he should be prepared to receive an order to this effect.

d) All agreed that most suitable personnel for the work are:
- i. Men with agricultural experience;
-ii. Men whose homes are in enemy-occupied Italy, & FOGGIA area.
Without prejudice to para (c), OXILIA is having sig sent to all corps HQs (incl SICILY and SARDINIA) requesting details of tps of these two categories.

e) Arising out of discussion of org details supplied by Col TEMPERLEY, the following pts were made:
- i. men to take shorts (if available), small kit and one blanket.
-ii. ground sheets on scale of one to four men to be issued to AMG in bulk, to be given on charge to Communes for issue where needed.

f) In the case of men with homes in FOGGIA area, they will be allowed to work at their own homes. It will be the responsibility of the Italian Army that they are entrained for the proper destination.

g) On other details, no comment.

h) OXILIA's chief anxiety is that they will lose all control over the men of the internal security divs. For this reason he would like to see only a part taken from this source, and the remainder from SARDINIA, SICILY and their own adm services. He considers there is a real danger that the men will return to their own homes once they get to FOGGIA, particularly if they have land of their own

-ii. Men whose homes are in enemy-occupied Italy.
Without prejudice to para (c), OXILIA is having sig sent to all corps HQs (incl SICILY and SARDINIA) requesting details of tps of these two categories.

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g) On other details, no comment.

h) OXILIA's chief anxiety is that they will lose all control over the men of the internal security divs. For this reason he would like to see only a part taken from this source, and the remainder from SARDINIA, SICILY and their own adm services. He considers there is a real danger that the men will return to their own homes once they get to FOGGIA, particularly if they have land of their own to cultivate, and that many of the men will have disappeared by the time they should return to their units. For this reason he would have preferred some measure of control exercised by unit offrs and nco's. Col TEMPERLEY however considered that this was impracticable, as it would tend to lower the output of work if the men were continued under mil discipline.

1637

Col CHIAVARINO

2. Arising out of our request to place firm order with SARDINIA for three regts for lab (serials 1125/6/7), he produced his appreciation of the gen man-power situation as at 15 Apr, which shows that on his reckoning there was a deficit of 4000 men against Allied requirements at that date. An up-to-date appreciation is in course of preparation, and he will give us a copy. This will be based on latest priority list. To complete his calculation he requires a firm figure for AA and CD requirements in SARDINIA. comd

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SECRET

12 May 1944

Liaison with S.M.R.E.

Gen OXILIA A.C.G.S.

1. Re provision of 5,000 soldiers for agriculture in FOGGIA area. OXILIA put up proposition which he said he would be very grateful if the Allies could see their way to accepting.. GOC 2 i/c G

It was:-

Postponing till (say) end of July the formation of some of the less urgently required serials in Priority List 3. Personnel thus made available (up to 5,000) would be sent for FOGGIA agriculture.

Either MMIA (or SMRE) could choose the serials whose making ready was to be postponed.

OXILIA said that if it was impossible to agree to above proposition, he would draw on the PICENO Div for the 5,000.

He would like to know proposed ~~duties~~ cafes for this agricultural work.

Maj D'ANTONA S.D.

2. Instructed him that HQ 120 Regt and remaining personnel (approx 685) to complete serial 1058A were to go direct to CAMPI FLEGREI. d'ANTONA will send his request for tpt of the above HQ as soon as possible. G

3. Saw SD signal instructing the making ready of a Coy for VP Guards in 55 Sub Area. G

A Pfaltzgraff

Major
GSO 1636

ABC

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E — 11 May 44

Maj D'ANTONA

1. 35 Squadra Panettieri:- Remainder of unit being made available as follows:- — G iii
- Nil offrs 60 or's, 6 tons st res, WEISS ovens 4.
Tpt required to move: 2 trucks for personnel, 1 box truck, 2 flats. Entraining sta LECCE
Date of readiness: ~~xxxxx~~ 11 May .

2. 504/5/6 Smoke coys:- Info him of anticipated delay in departure of these units, due to leave 10 May. He will pass on to XXXI Corps. Query: is anything to be done about re-clothing in the meantime ? — G iii

Lt Col MILITERNI

3. This offr is leaving SMRE to-day to take up appointment at War Ministry effective 12 May, as Head of the Ufficio Primo of the Gabinetto. — G i / Gii(L)WM

Maj PASCHETTA

4. SB gets:- the unit for FOGGIA can be attached for adm purposes to Comando Tappa FOGGIA. Mage Fotoelettrico FFAA Campania is agreed for the POZZUOLI unit. — G ii(AA)

5. Rail mounted guns at NAPLES:- it is now definitely est that Ufficio Trasporti SMRE signalled Delegazione Trasporti Naples 10 May instructing them to make all necessary arrangements in concert with Movit Naples. — G ii / Mov

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

6. Primary charges for 81mm Mortar bombs:- no spare charges available, total stocks being used for making up the bombs shown in latest ~~xxxmmxx~~ amn return. If 3.500 charges now wanted they will have to be taken from complete bombs at TARANTO. Query: the extra charges ordered from SARDINIAare due in to-morrow 12 May - they should get there as soon as the ones from TARANTO. — Staff / Capt Q

Maj D'ANTONA

7. VP Gd unit for 55 area:- requested him to alert 120 men — G ii

Ufficio Primo of the Gabinetto.

Maj PASCHETTA

4. SB gets:- the unit for FOGGIA can be attached for adm purposes to Commando Tappa FOGGIA. Mage Fotoelettrico FFAA Campania is agreed for the POMIGLIANO unit. — G ii(AA)

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Maj D'ANTONA

7. VP Gd unit for 55 area:- requested him to alert 120 men in self-contained unit to be ready to move soonest. — G ii

Capt DE GIORGI

8. 91 and 83 Fd Hosps to go to PICENO Div at MARTINA FRANCA; 521 Fd Hosp: agreed to LANCIANO for 5 Corps; Assured him that eqpt for all six fd hosps from SARDINIA was coming over gradually and that nothing further could be done to accelerate mov. — DADMS 1635

Gen CAILLI

9. 5000 men for harvest in FOGGIA province:- requested him to let us have a reply to-day certain. — 2 i/c

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 10 May 44

Maj PASCHETTA

1. 184 (NEMBO) Art Regt -see log 30 Apr para 3:- 2 i/c
Original intention was to assign the 12 hy lorries from LI Corps, but this is now NOT possible. They therefore request permission to collect 12 hy vehs already landed with the NEMBO from SARDINIA. G i
Adv party of the regt has already gone fwd, and infm is that regt will concentrate at FRAGNETO MONFORTE N6394 when it moves up.

Maj D'ANTONA

2. Serial 1070:- 1200 Sezione Autoambulanza, located BARI, strength 1 offr and 66 or's, ½ ton stores, ready to move 11 May. G i

3. Service pls for ACC:- G i
-serial 1087A ... 2000 Pl Serv } 2 offrs 60 men BARI ready 20 May
1087B ... 2001 " " }
-serial 1098 ... 2002 Pl Serv } 2 offrs 60 men BARI ready 25 May
2003 " " }
To be taken from surplus personnel of IX Corps HQ.

4. 120 Regt:- Mob order issued 30 Apr; tpt request to be made 14 May. Provisional details: G i

- HQ 120 Regt	19 offrs 87 or's	S. PIETRO VERNOTICO
- Four AP coys	10 " 400 "	
- Rits from reorg camp	266 "	GALATINA
- 207 AP Coy	3 offrs 180 "	CROTONE
- 80 Bn Terr	6 offrs 350 or's	CROTONE
	9 animals 9 carts	

Lt Col GUIDA

5. MANTOVA HQ ex APULIA:- this was part of the LEGNANO Div HQ and it has now been decided that the bulk is to remain in situ to serve another purpose. Strength for move to CALABRIA is modified as follows:- 2 i/c G i Mov
- 4 offrs 8 ors 1 car, and the following are cancelled:
- 28 offrs 311 or's etc etc.

-serial 10874 ... 2000 Pl Serv } 2 offrs BARI ready 20 May
10873 ... 2001 " " } to move

-serial 1098 ... 2002 Pl Serv } 2 offrs BARI ready 25 May
2003 " " } to move

To be taken from surplus personnel of IX Corps HQ.

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- 207 AP Coy	3 offrs 180 "	CROTONE
- 80 Bn Terr	6 offrs 350 or's 9 animals 9 carts	CROTONE

Lt Col GUIDA

5. MANTOVA HQ ex APULIA:- this was part of the LEGNANO Div HQ and it has now been decided that the bulk is to remain in situ to serve another purpose. Strength for move to CALABRIA is modified as follows:- — 2 i/c G i Mov
- 4 offrs 8 ors 1 car, and the following are cancelled:
- 28 offrs, 311 or's etc etc.

6. Lab bns ex SARDINIA:- LAB/4/71 of 1 May to SMRE substantially alters the latest arrangements for fmn and est of the twelve bns ordered in SARDINIA, and max ready to move 15 May. Suggest original order be confirmed and latest instrs countermanded. — 1634 i

Maj MAIOCCHI

7. Queries on transit camps:- — G iii

- AFRAGOLA	2 offrs and 55 or's incl in 120 transit camp
- VAIRANO	will be known as 254 Comando Tappa with eventual strength 4 offrs and 24 or's. Present 4 and 8.
- ISERNIA	nothing known or projected
BARI	206 Comando Tappa, formerly at MATERA; personnel partly to 203 at POTENZA and partly to BARI, latter numbering 5 and 25 and available for other duties.
- APC	10 and 100, nothing known or projected.

8. Lt Col PANERAI — 50 sigs
Jelly and insulating tape:- passed on details of where to collect; query - will they be able to draw tape for arrears ?

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GSO.1 Re Item 10

Bill Jenkins expressed
in SICILIAN language that
SLAV steaming hammered one a
menace of the highest order.
Slavs in Sandwich were
command post

Refer
to
FAR
Gen

10/5

1633

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Requested Ops branch for official details.

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 9 May 44

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

1. Handed him to-days sig disposing of personnel of 1923 class in CAMPANIA. Fully understood; will be combined with action referred log 8 May para 14. — G i

2. TC Increments ex CALABRIA: all six dets moving from SANBIASE Y 9743; first two ready 10 May. — G iii

Lt Col CHIAPARELLI

3. 61mm smoke bombs:- Total availability in liberated territories is 120 bombs at BRINDISI. — Staff Capt Q

4. Pack tp for BAFILE Bn: (ref log 15 Apr para 11, and 26 Apr para 3d) ; advance infm is that unit will be ready in few days; strength 5 offrs 155 ors 24 mules 4 guns 65/17, location ALEZIO Q 4670. Requested Ops branch for official details. — 2 i/c G i

Lt Col CRICLIO

5. Re CRICOLETTO:- he has never had a reply to his sig of 23 Apr to BASSO requesting ETA at BARI, nor had he thought about sending a chaser. Matter now in hand. — G iii(I)

6. Interpreter substitute for CRINCOC:- confirmed that 2nd/Lt LAURI Vincenzo reported to 71 Sub Area 6 May. — G ii

Lt Col DI BITONTO

7. Wksps ex SARDINIA:- Aliberti back from his visit with infm as follows:
   - Two wksp coys to be formed there, for mainland.
   - Fifteen lt mob wksps (instead of 20) to be alerted for the mainland, each of 8 men and 5 vehs.
   - Twelve lt mob wksps to remain in the island.

— G i DADME

8. Maj PASCHETTA
Rail-mounted guns at NAPLES:- arrangements appear to have been made by Mov MEDIA whereby the move to TARANTO is organized by DELEGAZIONE TRASPORTI NAPOLI. — G ii

Lt Col GRIGLIO

5. Re GRIGOLETTO:- he has never had a reply to his sig of 23 Apr to BASSO requesting ETA at BARI, nor had he thought about sending a chaser. Matter now in hand. — G iii(I)

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Lt Col DI PITONTO

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- Two wksp coys to be formed there, for mainland.
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— G i DADME

8. Maj PASCHETTA
Rail-mounted guns at NAPLES:- arrangements appear to have been made by Nov MMIA whereby the move to TARANTO is organized by DELEGAZIONE TRASPORTI NAPOLI. — G ii

Gen OXILIA and Gen MATTIOLI (at Lequile) — comd

9. With 2 i/c: — 2 i/c

a) designation of Corps HQs:

SARDINIA	XIII Corps
SICILY	XII "
SOUTH of line	LI "
NORTH of line	VII "

b) Territorial HQs — G i

APULIA	IX Corps
CAMPANIA	FFAA Campania
CALABRIA	XXXI Corps

OXILIA anticipates need for additional HQ NORTH of the line, and reserves the right to apply for authority when the time comes.

10. SLAV-speaking bns in CORSICA:- OXILIA made a particular pt that these units be returned to SARDINIA, and NOT to the mainland, in the event of their being eventually removed from CORSICA.

11. Recce Sqn for 5 Corps:- ref log 8 May para 19, infd OXILIA that this was NOT a suitable opportunity, in our opinion, for employing the Guide, but that this bn should be kept in reserve in its entirety for suitable employment as a unit.

1632

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

AB

SECRET

8 May 44

LIAISON WITH S M E E

	Gen CHILIA	
1.	5000 men for agricultural duties in FOGGIA province:- Will discuss this with BERARDI. Main pts were: - PICENO Div only source in APULIA from which personnel can be drawn; two bns already loaned for go duties. -Very doubtful in any case if he can find this number of men experienced in agricultural work. - Query: arrangements for billeting and organizing these men once they get there.	comd 2 i/c G i
2.	PRS documents loaned to him: will let us have these back in a day or two.	2 i/c
3.	Trial of Gen MARTINI:- He was NOT familiar, but promised to look into the matter and expedite.	G i
4.	Request for loan of two tents:- these will be made available and time and place for collection to be notified shortly.	Staff Capt Q
	Lt Col PANERAI	
5.	Cells authorised for May: He has already instructed the Ministry to arrange collection through 6 BSA.	SO Sigs
6.	Insulating Tape:- At the third attempt to collect, this time from MONOPOLI, he has again been info that there is none available.	SO Sigs
	Lt Col GALLO	
7.	SI acts for FOGGIA and PONTELANDO:- for adm purposes under comd AA HQ IX Corps.	Staff Capt Q
	Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI	
8.	A tk guns for CIL: 75/34 guns are available on mainland, but adm only in SARDINIA. They still await info on adm from SARDINIA.	G ii
9.	Amn return for CIL:- this was ready in draft form this am, but details by depots available only for APULIA. Ministry making difficulties over CALABRIA and CAMPANIA depots, if wanted more than once a month. Insisted that infm re-	Staff Capt Q

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6. Insulating Tape:- At the third attempt to collect, this time from MONOPOLI, he has again been info that there is none available.

Lt Col CARLO

7. SI ects for FOGGIA and POMIGLIANO:- for adm purposes under comd AA HQ IX Corps. — Staff Capt Q

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

8. A tk guns for CIL: 75/34 guns are available on mainland, but amn only in SARDINIA. They still await infm on amn from SARDINIA. — G ii

9. Amn return for CIL:- this was ready in draft form this am, but details by depots available only for APULIA. Ministry making difficulties over CALABRIA and CAMPANIA depots, if wanted more than once a month. Insisted that infm requested should be obtainable if properly organized. Some trouble also anticipated on account of present move of NEMSO and the 20 unloc they are taking with them. — Staff Capt Q

1631

Lt Col CHECCHIA

10. Smoke coys:- second batch of three coys will be ready by 10th, but require very large amount of eqpt and clothing, incl BD. Their sig 3/4592/Serv of to-day refers. Re to notify destination and if clothing etc to be issued on arrival. — G i Q

11. Return of animals required on mainland:- Requested him to prepare details similar to those produced by NAPLI for SARDINIA of minimum number of animals needed on mainland. Figures to be based on units and men on mainland at present moment, and by categories according to Allied programme. — G i

Lt Col GUIDA

12. Collected further details of bn ects, and explanations on previous figures. — comd

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dr 915 AD

13. Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
Additional muleteer units for V Army:- Infd him that two further muleteer units were required in CAMPANIA by 11 May, strength 2 offrs and 60 ors. Suggested they be drawn from gp of 500 of 1923 class being readied as rfts for May. Sig sent to BASSO accordingly. — 2 i/c G i

14. 1923 call-up in CAMPANIA:- following are latest details: — 2 i/c G i

- rfts for 210 Div	1600	
- muleteers for May	500	(see above)
- dvrs	150	
- AA personnel	250	
- med orderlies, commissariat, etc for Italian territorial orgs	130	
- balance (? muleteers June)	400	
	3050	

Have requested him to sig BASSO at once to the effect that a) there is no Allied authority for the 250 AA gunners and cancelling any arrangements made;
b) querying who gave authority for the 130 men to be earmarked for Italian services.

Lt Col GUIDA

15. 35 Fd Bakery:- the second half of this unit has already been broken up and most of the sixty men reallotted to other fmns. However, he will find out exact posn to-morrow. — G iii

16. Ambulance Car Pl:- this is nominally due for 10 May - he will advise exact details in the morning. — G i

Maj D'ANTONA

17. Balloon units:- he has signalled for details from MESSINA; in the meantime collected our own figures for the mainland. — G i

- balance (? muleteers June) 400

3030

Have requested him to sig BASSO at once to the effect that a) there is no Allied authority for the 250 AA gunners and cancelling any arrangements made;
b) querying who gave authority for the 130 men to be earmarked for Italian services.

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Maj D'ANTONA

17. Balloon units:- he has signalled for details from MESSINA; in the meantime collected our own figures for the mainland. — G i

Col MICALETTI

18. Mob Cinema unit:- They are arranging to send a veh and offr to CAMPANIA to pick up the unit that has arrived there, the unit's 1t truck having broken down there. We to take no action. — G iii

1630

Gen OXILIA

19. Recce sqn for 5 Corps:- he asks that we should consider selecting personnel for the new recce sqn from the I° Raggrupp "Guide" at CAVA; strength 44 offrs and 657 ors. This is a dismounted cavalry unit and the men reputed to be first class. Comando Supremo is anxious to find special emp for them. Could 5 Corps rep be invd and given an opportunity to see the men ? — G i

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 7 May 44

Lt Col GUIDA

1. Obtained from him ests of various types of bns in the Italian army.

2. 'N' Recce Sqn:- info him that this was to be held in abeyance pending revised est at the moment under consideration. G ii

3. TC increments ex CALABRIA:- XXXI Corps had signalled requesting that the remaining TC Bn down there be retained for staging camps etc. Info him that there was no special provision for such ops other than the Mantova Div, and that he should confirm that the six TC secs will be made available forthwith. G i

Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI

4. Eight Alpini barbers for 7 Mtn Regt:- No such personnel immediately available in reorg camps; they have requested the corps HQs to find, together with tools as specified. G ii

5. Output of Italian Dvr schools - 2nd course:- Only BARI has replied to date, with 82 dvrs already passed out and a further ten to be ready in ten days time. G i

6. MT Pl of offices of the Italian Cabinet:- Ministry has requested that ten dvrs be made available for this purpose. As they are wanted in Campania, agreed that they should come from the 1923 class, instead of bringing them over from BARI, as originally decided. G i

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

7. 250 men for Forestry unit at CROTONE:- Info him that this unit was agreed for insertion in the programme; if they had to leave this number of men in CALABRIA out of those selected and alerted for 120 Regt, the deficiency would have to be made good elsewhere. Agreed. G i

8. Moves from CALABRIA:- clarified that while every effort was being made to synchronize arrival of Mantova and de- G i

4. Eight Alpini barbers for 7 Fan Regt:- No such personnel immediately available in reorg camps; they have requested the corps HQs to find, together with tools as specified.

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7. 250 men for Forestry unit at CROTONE:- Info him that this unit was agreed for insertion in the programme; if they had to leave this number of men in CALABRIA out of those selected and alerted for 120 Regt, the deficiency would have to be made good elsewhere. Agreed. G i

8. Moves from CALABRIA:- clarified that while every effort was being made to synchronize arrival of Mantova and departure of units from CALABRIA, nevertheless, should trains for outward moves be laid on first, units alerted would have to move immediately. COLONATI to be info accordingly. G i

Lt Col GUIDA

9. Additional lab bns ex SARDINIA:- After some discussion on the remaining eight ons still to be nominated, he agreed to sig to SARDINIA requesting official info on availability. Their concern is that personnel to complete the ten internal security divs will NOT be available if SARDINIA is drained much more. 1629c C i

10. Muleteer rits ex CALABRIA:- C i
- 200 for V Army ex VIBO VALENTIA, ready 10 May
- 100 for 5 Army ex CASTROVILLARI, ready 10 May
(latter includes 2 apprentice saddlers and 2 apprentice farriers, all there is available of these specialists)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785920

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

To ST by bearer

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE 3/4 MAY 44

1.	Capt PO ENZA Still having trouble over the petrol for MT move to CALABRIA of MANTOVA Div. Requested ST to clarify with War Ministry.	ST
2.	Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI Handed to him draft form of our amn return for CIL and explained various pts, also that first return expected in by 8 May.	Staff Capt Q
3.	Amn for BASILE Rm:- Told him that this unit now under comd CIL and that amn would have to be moved from present location TORA to CAPUA. He will see this is done, though original move to TORA made under unit arrangements, and he anticipates transfer will be made accordingly.	Staff Capt Q
4.	Gen CARLIA Handed him most secret sig for BERARDI concerning NEMBO Div. Left him with the impression that something had occurred at the last moment. Particularly stressed need for no action on SMRE's part. Promised to keep him info of further developments.	2 i/c G i
5.	Long account of bother over two Italian soldiers allegedly enticed from 'B' mess SM E to US mess at Hotel RISORGIMENTO. Details referred to 2 i/c.	2 i/c
6.	Maj D'ANTONA Urged need for immediate tpt request for tps coming out of CALABRIA, so as to take advantage of trains taking the MANTOVA down there. Collected details of rifts for 120 Regt - others NOT available yet.	G i
7.	Lt Col DI BENEDETTO 500 muleteer rifts for May:- these are being raised [illegible] from the 1923 class. FFAA Campania say	G i

Gen GALLIA

4. Handed him most secret sig for BERARDI concerning NEMBO Div. Left him with the impression that something had occurred at the last moment. Particularly stressed need for no action on SMRE's part. Promised to keep him info of further developments. — 2 i/c, G i

5. Long account of bother over two Italian soldiers allegedly enticed from 'B' mess SM E to US mess at Hotel RISORGIMENTO. Details referred to 2 i/c. — 2 i/c

Maj D'ANTONA

6. Urged need for immediate tpt request for tps coming out of CALABRIA, so as to take advantage of trains taking the MANTOVA down there. Collected details of rifts for 120 Regt - others NOT available yet. — G i

Lt Col DI RITONTO

7. 500 muleteer rifts for May:- these are being raised in CAMPANIA from the 1923 class. FFAA Campania say they can have them read clothed by 31 May, but NOT before. Further, it is unlikely that they will be trained by then. — G i

Maj LUNARDONI

8. Exept for 212 Vet Hosp:- In view of new situation and smaller number of mules to be catered for by the Italians, Lunardoni hopes to be able to scrape together enough eqpt for the second vet hosp. He will let us know definitely to-morrow. — 1628

Gen GALLIA

9. Requested favour of loan of two large tents for Casa D'Africa. No difficulty, but will let us know to-morrow. — PMC

Major [illegible]

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

SECRET
5 May 1944

AQ

Liaison with SHAEF

Maj D'ANCONA (SD)

1. Inform re Dvr Trg Courses BARI - CALABRIA - SICILY in two days time.

2. Re the 8,000 "sbandati" notified by M of W. The 8,000 is a statistical figure of all "sbandati" recovered to date; they are disposed as follows:-

Re-org Camps	2 - 3,000
Reabsorbed into units	2 - 3,000
In Depots in CALABRIA SICILY, APULIA	2 - 3,000

Direzione Generale Sottoufficiale Truppe, M of W, can give more detailed breakdown if required.

Col MILANESCHINI (SD)

3. Gave him SOE Sigs letter (X 14 of 5 May) requesting SHAEF proposals re Italian Signals School to be established under supervision Royal Sigs Sch [redacted]. SD will phone SOE Sigs re meeting 8 May to discuss.

Col CHIAVARINO (SD)

4. Showed me 51 CORPS signal to SHAEF saying "On arrival 54 gunners from 31 CORPS and eqpt at present deficient, 5 Gruppo of 58 Arty Regt (which is the Pack Bty for [redacted] Div) will be able to leave on 25 May. Transport requirements same as for 4 Gruppo".

Maj LUMACHI (Vet Sec)

5. Eqpt for 212 Vet Hospital is available from Italian resources, and will be drawn. He will confirm this in writing.

Gen OXILIA (A.C.C.S.)

6. Gave him warning order that he would shortly be instructed to send 5,000 soldiers from APULIA for agriculture in FOGGIA area.

7. Passed on C.C.S's instns re tightening up Security generally. OXILIA passing on definite instructions to his Corps. He understood the seriousness of the matter.

8. Possible designations and locations of the new Corps HQ. Details separately.

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SD will phone SOR Sigs re meeting 8 May to discuss.

Col CHIAVARINO (SD)

4. Showed me 51 CORPS signal to SACS saying "On arrival 54 gunners from 31 CORPS and eqpt at present deficient mt, 5 Gruppo of 38 Arty Regt (which is the Pack Bty for NEMBO Div) will be able to leave on 25 May. Transport requirements same as for 4 Gruppo".

Maj LUNARDONI (Vet Sec)

5. Eqpt for 212 Vet Hospital is available from Italian resources, and will be drawn. He will confirm this in writing.

Gen OXILIA (A.C.C.S.)

6. Gave him warning order that he would shortly be instructed to send 5,000 soldiers from APULIA for agriculture in FOGGIA area.

7. Passed on C.C.C's infmn re tightening up Security generally. OXILIA passing on definite instructions to his Corps. He understood the seriousness of the matter.

8. Possible designations and locations of the new Corps HQ. Details separately.

A Gruenther

ABC

Maj
GSO 2

1627

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

2 May 44

Col CHIAVARINO

1. V Gruppo 75/13 of 58 Arty Regt, which is the pack bty for the NEMBO Div, will be ready to move 20 May. They will be carrying out firing practice during the first decade of May. Strength: exactly as IV Gruppo. Located SAVA. Snag as regards numbers is that this unit is comprised in 184 Arty Regt on WE/TO of CIL, and the 184 Regt less pack bty (seelog 30 Apr) is already up to the strength authorised by the est. — 2 i/c G i

2. 20mm AA guns for NEMBO Div are in SARDINIA and will be coming over with the fmn. — G i

Lt Col GUIDA — 2 i/c G i

3. Collected their letter 3235 to-days date in connection with 2II Div and the smoke coys being formed with personnel of this fmn. They want to know if the services which this div is carrying out at REGGIO (250 men) and at CROTONE (450 men) on behalf of the Allies (gd duties and lab) [redacted] are to continue or not. Personnel involved is needed for the last three smoke coys.

Gen OXILIA

4. With 2 i/c in connection with reorg scheme in PBS. Oxilia very pleased with the proposals, and had only to suggest additional HQs on divisional level when the full 50.000 men are employed, to be in their turn under comd of central HQ on Corps level. This would be an independent comd, and would relieve BASSO of some of his present hy responsibilities. — 2 i/c

5. On the subject of mules, OXILIA underlined his serious concern over the plight of the Italian units which will result from the continued requisitioning of mules and — comd 2 i/c

personnel of this fmn. They want to know if the services which this div is carrying out at REGGIO (250 men) and at CROTONE (450 men) on behalf of the Allies (gd duties and lab) [redacted] are to continue or not. Personnel involved is needed for the last three smoke coys.

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5. On the subject of mules, OXILIA underlined his serious concern over the plight of the Italian units which will result from the continued requisitioning of mules and horses. Already he estimates that with the latest demand on the mainland he will be unable to run the internal security divs, incl the Mantova and Piceno. 2 i/c raised the question of availability of mules in SICILY; they do NOT have recent infm on the subject and further consider that large numbers are required in the island for its economy. — comd 2 i/c

6. Army personnel employed with balloon barrage:- the gen situation was discussed and various alternatives examined. It was decided that I.A.F. should contribute an equal number in compensation, for port lab at TARANTO or BRINDISI (so as NOT to confuse the issue with the Avieri already at BARI). Left figures with them for addition of MESSINA details. — comd 2 i/c G i DADL G i(L)

1626

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

AR 2/5 AR

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 1 May 44

Maj IRACE and Capt SORRENZA

1. Eet that they were fully info about arrival of NEMBO Div, but that they rather expected to be involved in move from port to conc area. Explained that div was under comd 3 Dist for time being and that latter would be seeing to all necessary arrangements. — Mov

Gen Oxilia (and Gen BRUNETTI)

2. Info him in very gen terms of recent situation in PBS and that 2 i/c would be glad of an opportunity of explaining it fully to BERARDI some time to-morrow. BERARDI at the moment in SALERNO and NOT likely to be back before evening 2 May. If 2 i/c wishes to deal with the matter before Wed, Gen OXILIA will be very pleased to receive Col KERR himself. — 2 i/c G i

3. OXILIA still very harassed about situation of GARIBALDI Div; sigs continue to come in requesting boots and clothing, med sups, and advising casualties. One cannot help feeling that this is distracting him from his other work, as he spends long periods each day poring over maps of the Balkans. — comd

Col CHIAVARINO

4. He is reorganizing the SD branch into four gps: — G i

- i. Dealing with fmn of units for Allied programme, mob orders etc;
- ii. Dealing with ests and ors of internal security civs;
- iii Collecting men together from redundant units NOT authorised in the programme for the purpose of (i).
- iv Other work of SD branch.

Info him that G i was very satisfied with the recent results of their labours; this office is working much better now and getting on with the job. 100% co-operative. They have a good appreciation of the situation,

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- iii Collecting men together from redundant units NOT authorised in the programme for the purpose of (i).
- iv Other work of SD branch.

Info him that G i was very satisfied with the recent results of their labours; this office is working much better now and getting on with the job. 100% co-operative. They have a good appreciation of the situation, and have put MILLEFIORINI in charge of gp iii.

Lt Col GUIDA

5. 1051 Carristi Bn: info Him that this unit would NOT be moving by rd, for infm. — G i

1625

Maj D'ANTONA

6. 1200 Motor Ambulance Sec:- Stressed the importance of getting this unit ready by ~~xxx~~ 5 May. Instrs have already been given for mob at depot of IX Dvr Regt. — G i

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

7. Left message about situation of dvr courses at BARI and in CALABRIA and SICILY. — G i

Lt Col DI BITONTO

8. HQ Balloon Units TARANTO have requested SMRE to furnish 20 dvrs, in addition to the 200 men already agreed. Info him that this could NOT be considered as no dvrs available. — 2 i/c G i

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

AFD

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 30 Apr 44

Lt Col SAMPÒ

1. Handed him sig and confirmed arrangements for evacuation of building in S PIETRO IN LAMA occupied by local HQ of MANTOVA Div by 2 May. — 2 i/c, G i

2. NEMBO Div is reported due to arrive between 1 and 7 May and to be concentrating in area S. AGATA DEI GOTI. — comd, 2 i/c, G i, Mov

3. Lt Col GIACCONE, OC 184 Arty Regt, was in SAMPÒ's office in connection with move of NEMBO arty regt to conc area of NEMBO Div. Authority is requested for the following moves by rd on own vehicles:

- (a) adv party, 3 offrs, 3nccos, 9 ors in 1 lorry, immediately;
- (b) main party, 57 offrs, 888 ors, 24 tractors and 10 guns, 35 lt lorries, 12 hy, 7 MCs, lcar } as soon as possible

both parties from SQUINZANO to S. AGATA DEI GOTI.
No arty amn is being taken with the unit.

4. II Bn 119 Inf Regt OTRANTO to CASTELLAMARE:- Adv party departed 28 Apr 0540 hrs to report to 3 Dist. — G i

Gen ORLIA (and Gen BRUNETTI) — comd

5. Infd him of latest developments in mule situation; — 2 i/c
visit of comd to AAI and ACC; — G i
poor view taken of continued insistance of War Ministry on finding accn on WEST side;

6. Order for move of Mte CRANERO Alpini Bn from SARDINIA:- — comd
Very pleased to hear this bit of news. Out of this arose friendly discussion on fate of combat units when reorg is undertaken. Present situation is as follows: — 2 i/c, G i

-CIL less BAFILE Bn	18.400
-BAFILE and CHADO Marine Bns	2.000
-Battaglione AZZURRO (Air Force)	1.000
-MONTEGRANERO Alpini Bn	1.000
	22.400
RIt unit	1.400
	23.800

4. II Bn III Inf Regt OTRANTO to CASTELLAMARE:- Adv party departed 28 Apr 0540 hrs to report to 3 Div. — G i

Gen ORLIA (and Gen BRUNETTI) — comd

5. Info him of latest developments in mule situation; — 2 i/c
visit of comd to AAI and ACC; — G i
poor view taken of continued insistance of War Ministry on finding accn on WEST side;

6. Order for move of Mte GRANERO Alpini Bn from SARDINIA:- — comd
Very pleased to hear this bit of news. Out of this arose friendly discussion on rate of combat units when reorg is undertaken. Present situation is as follows: — 2 i/c G i

-CIL less BAFILE Bn	18.400
-BAFILE and CHADO Marine Bns	2.000
-Battaglione AZZURRO (Air Force)	1.000
-MONTEGRANERO Alpini Bn	1.000
	22.400
Rit unit	1.400
	23.800

Reorg on present basis will involve the elimination of one entire internal security div.

Maj D'ANTONA

7. 8 Pack Tpt Coy (formerly 8 & 9):- ready to leave 5 May:- — G i
From COSENZA: 6 offrs, 262 ors, 186 mules, 10 tons stores;
From CROTONE: 4 offrs, 223 ors, 156 mules, 5 tons stores.

1624

8. 166 Arty Bty, S PIETRO VERNOTICO: earmarked for an internal security div; — G i
217 Arty Bty, MANDURIA: disbanded and pieces stored.

Lt Col GUIDA

9. Comando Supremo has signalled SMRE requesting details of breaches of discipline committed by 800 mil detainees offered to 8 Army. GUIDA thinks they may be able to employ them in port lab. — G i

Maj Eyatt

Col CHIAVARINO

10. Requested him to prepare details of composition of rit unit approx 1400 strong for CIL, MANTOVA & PICENO Divs. — G i

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

28/29 Apr 44

Lt Col RICHOWANSKI

1. Camouflage unit (Reparto mascheratori):- they have ascertained that suitable personnel is available at IX Engr Depot, and have asked for usual clothing indent so as to be reddy to move when we give the word 'go'. See log 24 Apr para 4 — G i SORE

Maj D'ANTONA

2. Italian TC increments:- see log 27 Apr para 10; These will be taken from remaining TC bn in CALABRIA, first two secs to be ready 10 May, and remaining four secs 31 May. They would prefer, if possible, to have the last four secs away together. — G i

3. Collected revised mob order for 16 bns ex SARDINIA, now to be: four gd bns
forty-eight IPL coys, org in bns and regts.
Date of readiness unchanged: 15 May — G i Gi(L) DADL

Lt Col GUIDA

4. 120 Inf Regt:- personnel will be found partly in CALABRIA and partly in APULIA. Tpt request for the former to be made immediately to enable regt to form up in Apulia; Calabria contingent ready to move 5 May and complete regt 5 days from arrival of Calabria contingent in Apulia. — 2 i/c G i Mov

Capt DELLA CORNA

5. 1200 men detained in prison (see log 16 Apr para 4.):- This matter is being handled by War Ministry. Gen Staff suggested suitable ests at Ministry's request but are no longer interested in what happens to the formed units. — 2 i/c G i

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

6. 300 rits for pack tpt coys:- these are being found from arty personnel of 211 Div and will be ready to move 10 May. — G i

7. Personnel due for demob in SARDINIA:- (log 21 Apr para 9) Requested cheese to be sent as data urgently needed. — comd 2 i/c

Lt Col GUIDA

4. 120 Inf Regt:- personnel will be found partly in CALABRIA and partly in APULIA. Tpt request for the former to be made immediately to enable regt to form up in Apulia; Calabria contingent ready to move 5 May and complete regt 5 days from arrival of Calabria contingent in Apulia. — 2 i/c G i Mov

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7. Personnel due for demob in SARDINIA:- (log 21 Apr para 9) Requested chaser ~~xx~~ be sent as data urgently needed — comd 2 i/c G i

Gen OXILIA

8. GARIBALDI Div:- infd him of comd's talk with Brig MILES and Air Commodore BOWEN BOSCAWLEN and stressed need for requests of the div being made through Maj HUNTER. Their wireless link is through Italian Navy; OXILIA is very confident of the effectiveness of their code. — comd

9. Reports of inspecting offrs visiting Italian units:- Explained procedure and told him we were thinking of sending copies to him; he approved of the idea. Told him copies would be sent to him personally. — 1623 2 i/c G i

10. Designation and approx locations of Corps HQ: Reminded him that we were awaiting this infm - he will give it in writing in a day or so. — comd

Lt Col ~~CHI~~CHIAPPARELLI

11. 81mm mortar ammn; following are the facts:- 42.000 bombs less charges etc supplied from CALABRIA to save tpt from SARDINIA. Charges and fuzes for same subject of SMRE sig 4/1231 of 6 Apr. — A/Q

all satisfied 30/4/44

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 27 Apr 44

Gen OAILIA

1. Wanted to know whether there was any possibility of the comd calling on MESSE together with BERARDI. Infd him that comd's programme was fully booked for next ten days, that in any event the present was NOT a suitable moment for discussion of programme, which was most likely subject, and that in ten days time the comd would be better infd of the problems of Italian Army. He ~~programme~~ later phoned that we should forget about it. — comd

2. Projected move to West side:- infd him privately that this project must be abandoned on present form - he stated that nothing was being done about it as far as the Gen Staff was concerned. — comd

Maj PASCHETTI

3. Requested him to obtain for us from SIM latest infm on strength and locations of Italian Republican Army, under two headings:
   a) strength represented by classes recalled to the colours, plus volunteers for various special units;
   b) Locations of units and fmns by regions. — G i

Lt Col CHIPPARELLI

4. a) collected answers to various queries on amn;
   b) passed to him request for 25.000 rounds 8mm rimless amn for MG required by 5 Corps. This is being made available immediately at LECCE. — Staff CaptQ

Cap FORENZA

5. Requested additional infm concerning move of MANTOVA Div - he promised to ring LI Corps and advise us later. — G ii

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

6. 100 dvrs for POLIGNANO:- after some trouble it is agreed that the balance of the 100 will report at — G i

b) Strength represented by classes recalled to the colours, plus volunteers for various special units;
b) Locations of units and fmns by regions.

Lt Col CHIPPARELLI

4. a) collected answers to various queries on amn; — Staff Capt Q
b) passed to him request for 25.000 rounds 8mm rimless amn for MG required by 5 Corps. This is being made available immediately at LECCE.

Cap FORENZA

5. Requested additional infm concerning move of MANTOVA Div - he promised to ring LI Corps and advise us later. — G ii

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

6. 100 dvrs for POLIGNANO:- after some trouble it is agreed that the balance of the 100 will report at POLIGNANO by 29 Apr. — G i

7. Italian Cadre of instructors and staff at POLIGNANO:- They will obtain exact details of personnel and will then give the cadre a number. Query: suggestions on our part for designation ? — G 1

8. Six smoke coys forming in CALABRIA:- SMRE are in touch with XXXI Corps about their mob order - ref sig from LO XXXI Corps. — G i

9. Personnel for balloon units:- these are now required all non-specialists and will be made available by 7 May. — 1622

10. Six increments for British TC Coys:- passed him details of est required - possibly the men can come out of the second TC ~~xxx~~ bn in CALABRIA. — G i

Lt Col CHECCHIA

LL. Eqpt needed at POLIGNANO:- he is looking into the question of the typewriter, tables and forms. There shouldbe no difficulty. — ST

TO S.T

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783420

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785920

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

26 Apr 44

Gen OXILIA and Gen BRUNETTI

1. Handed to Oxilia our letter with ref to minutes of meeting of 23rd. No comment. Took the opportunity of stressing need for more infm from SMRE about their policy and aspirations, and also need for keeping the Chief of Staff more fully in the picture. He promised to keep 'B' under control in future. A very friendly and useful talk. — comd, 2 i/c, G i

2. 501 Smoke Coy:- infd him that infm in our possession indicated that this unit had moved 60 men light on an est of 280. It seems that he has already put up a suggestion to the Chief of Staff that an example be made and one or more men shot in order to put a stop to this sort of thing. It is a matter for discussion in the Govt. We agreed that this would be a suitable headache for the new Under-Secretary to start on. — G i; comd, 2 i/c

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

3. Personnel for pack tpt coys:- — G i
   a) 300 rfts for 5 and 8 Armies: these will be found out of the Arty personnel of 2II Div;
   b) 500 rfts for May and June: this a big headache for them, as the men have to be of good physique and should know something about mules. Suggested men could be picked from the 1923 class in Campania, but he says that after 1600 have been picked for 5 Army he doubts if there will be anything left worth having. They have signalled for infm on call-up.
   c) infd him that rfts for 7 Mtn Regt would come out of the pool for pack tpt coys.
   d) Most of the men returned by 7 Mtn Regt are malaria cases. 24 are being selected to assist trg of 65/17 pack tp for Bafile Bn - see log 15 Apr para 11.

4. Rfts for Balloon units:- gave him translation of the sig calling for approx 200 men for RAF. Does NOT foresee any major difficulty. — G i; G ii(AA/CD)

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Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

3. Personnel for pack tpt coys:- G i
   a) 300 rits for 5 and 8 Armies: these will be found out of the Arty personnel of 2II Div;
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   c) infd him that rits for 7 Mtn Regt would come out of the pool for pack tpt coys.
   d) Most of the men returned by 7 Mtn Regt are malaria cases. 24 are being selected to assist trg of 65/17 pack tp for Bafile Bn - see log 15 Apr para 11.

4. Rfts for Balloon units:- gave him translation of the sig calling for approx 200 men for RAF. Does NOT foresee any major difficulty. G i / G ii(AA/CD)

5. Twelve bns from SARDINIA:- infd him that the 9600 men involved have now to be org on est of IPL coys. They are issuing instrs immediately for imn of 48 coys & corresponding bn and regt HQs, coys to be numbered 225 onwards. Date of readiness unchanged: 15 May. 2 i/c / G i / DADL / Gi(L)

Lt Col GUIDA

6. 1051 Carristi Bn:- He is visiting the unit to-day to make arrangements for their move in accordance instrs just to hand. Later infd me that four secs will be reddy to move 5 May and the fifth sec and HQs 10 May. Should they move by rd, three trucks are estimated as sufficient to carry each sec, personnel and baggage. 1621

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787120

MINISTRY OF WAR LIAISON. 25 April 44

LIAISON OFFICE.

I. Was informed by Col. PAVAGLI that an Italian Liaison Office with No 1 District, CATANIA has been established wef 1o April. The Officer i/c of this office is Capt. MARTELLA Aide and comes from CARABA. Div. — A. G GI(L)

2. In view of the fact that 6C sub-area has been formed in the VASTO Area, M of W would like to know whether it will be necessary to form an Italian Liaison office with them. — A. GI(L)

3. Informed M of W of message to Lt. GABRIELI PASCA RAIMONDO as requested by A.C.C. N.C. & M.G. Sectionmin letter I72/2I/CA dated 2I April. Lt. PASCA is now employed in M of W. — A.

CABINET.

Col. FIORE informed me that Gen ORLANDO is leaving on 26 April for an Impo tant Council of Ministers in which he is to be the principal speaker. He is consequently extremely busy and would very much prefer if his meeting with Comd. could take place on his return which should be Friday 28 April or Saturday, 29 April. I will be kept informed. — Comd.

Doctor FRANCHI. (P&T)

Again pressed question of labour pay for 62C & 32I Coy. Telegraphists. was informed this matter was being given attention and delay was due to change in Finance Ministers. — C.O. GI

Lt. Col. GUALANO. (Pers. Adm.)

I. Pressed Col. GUALANO about the making available of more reinforcements for P.B.S. Col. GUALANO assured me that matter was being given full attention and hurrying messages would be sent to all Corps. — 2 i/c A. G

2. Pressed Col GUALANO about Italian Army prisoners in civilian gaols warning him that if action would not be taken soon, the men would find themselves without rations. Col. GUALANO informed me that Gen, ORLANDO has issued an instruction that necessary labour units be formed and prisoners be out of jail in 15 days time. — 2 i/c A. G

Col. BASILE. (Commissariat)

[illegible] 25/26 [illegible] April) in reply to W/6965/V from

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of Saturday, 2. April. I will be kept informed.

Doctor FERRETTI. (P.W.)

Again pressed question of labour pay for 2nd & 3rd Coy. Telegraphists. Was informed this matter was being given attention and delay was due to change in Finance Minister. C.O. Sig

Lt. Col. GUALANO. (Pers. Asm.)

1. Pressed Col. GUALANO about the making available of more reinforcements for P.W.B. Col. GUALANO assured me that matter was being given full attention and hurrying messages would be sent to all Corps. 2 i/c A& G

2. Pressed Col GUALANO about Italian Army prisoners in civilian gaols warning him that if action would not be taken soon, the men would find themselves without rations. Col. GUALANO informed me that Gen. GUALANO has issued an instruction that necessary labour units be formed and prisoners be out of jail in 15 days time. 2 i/c A& G

Col. BASILE. (Commissariat)

1. Ref. A& 15/10 dated 2 April in reply to M/643/V from M of W. The troops in question are not AA personnel. AA in this case was meant to be Anglo-Americans. A&

These troops are Artillery personnel minus guns who have come from the Re-organisation Camp and have been allotted to an Allied formation in Campania. They were to be employed in operational areas. Have asked for further particulars.

2. Col BASILE has suggested that in view of the fact that on many occasions Allied personnel have come to Italian Depots and have insisted on removing articles of clothing or equipment (this with special ref. to Major WEBB at Bari), he be issued with notices which would refuse assistance to all Allied personnel except those authorised by Army Sub Commission. 1620

This would help to avoid many awkward circumstances which Depot Commanders often find themselves in.

Major.

A/8 — SECRET — K 264

LIAISON WITH S M S E — 24 Apr 44

Lt Col GUIDA

1. Delivered our sig ordering 200 all ranks approx to be made available from MEMBO on arrival in Italy for duplicate of 'F' Recce Sqn for 5 Corps. Requested that particular attention be paid to selection of men to avoid all undesirables of the div being drafted for this purpose. GUIDA suggests that new unit be named 'N' Recce Sqn to maintain identity with parent div. — G i

2. Est of 'F' Recce Sqn:-

HQ Pl	Pl	Pl	Pl	Pl	Hy Pl (°)
6/3/53	1/2/19	1/2/19	1/2/19	1/2/19	1/4/46

(figures are offrs/ncos/men) Overall total: 11/15/177 = 203
Continuous lines represent approved est; dotted lines additional est proposed but NOT agreed by MMIA. It is NOT known, however, if in actual fact the additional two pls have been formed.
(°) Hy Pl arms: 2 Breda MGs and 3 81mm mortars.

Capt DELLA CORNA

3. Sig just to hand from BASSO advising that he had incorporated in 10 Pack Tpt Coy the six rft secs recently arrived from SARDINIA, plus additional volunteers recruited in CAMPANIA. This at the direct request of 5 Army. — G i

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

4. Camouflage Unit (Reparto Mascheratori):- There should be no difficulty in finding the personnel listed in AAI letter of 20 Apr, nor in having the unit ready to move in three weeks from when the order is given. — G i / SORE

5. Fmn comds in SARDINIA:- — G i(L)
- GRANATIERI Bp — Gen TICCHIONI
- 226 Div — Gen LAZZARINI (at present in CORSICA)
  Gen GUIDOTTI (acting comd)

6. 5° Comp Scaricatori Portuali:- ref our letter SD/9 of 6 Apr, he wants to know if we are really interested in this unit, in view of the fact that the [illegible] — SORE

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(°) Hy Pl arms: 2 Breda MGs and 3 81mm mortars.

Capt EMILIA CORNA

3. Sig just to hand from BASSO advising that he had incorporated in 10 Pack Tpt Coy the six rft secs recently arrived from SARDINIA, plus additional volunteers recruited in CAMPANIA. This at the direct request of 5 Army. — G i

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   - GRANATIERI Gp — Gen TICCHIONI
   - 226 Div — Gen LAZZARINI (at present in CORSICA)
     Gen GUIDOTTI (acting comd)

6. 5^ Comp Scaricatori Portuali:- ref our letter SD/3 of 6 Apr, he wants to know if we are really interested in this unit, in view of the fact that the four docks operating coys have already been completed with suitable personnel. Further, he believes that the personnel of the above coy is NOT specialized to any extent, as far as handling mechanical dock eqpt is concerned, and there would be little advantage in bringing them over here. He awaits our further confirma — SORE

1619

7. 824 Telegrafisti Coy departed CATANZARO by rail 21 Apr for CASTELMARE, with est complete 4/119. — G iii SO Sigs

Maj PASCHETTI

8. Handed in Italian version of sig concerning move of NEMBO Div. Also to-days letter on move of MANTOVA Div. — G i

Col PALLAVICINO

9. Brief chat in the corridor on yesterday's meeting. Seemed quite happy about things, but took the view that the general situation is by no means definite, particularly in view of an article in the "Civiltà Proletaria" of 16 Apr, which suggests that the new Govt will put pressure on the Allies for a larger and more active Italian share in the prosecution of the war. Failing this it will threaten to resign. Article attached. — comd

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Translation of special article in "CIVILTÀ PROLETARIA"* of 16 Apr 44

*(Weekly paper of the Communist Party)

Italian workers in the south will be celebrating the First of May in a new atmosphere of liberty. Our brothers in the north will be able to do so only in secret, as on that day the German fist will still weigh heavy upon them. Our friends in the north will that day swear continued resistance against the agents of Hitler and the miserable attempt of the fascists to compel them to make arms for the oppression of all our people. A stiffening of the fight against nazi-fascism will bring closer together the workers of Free Italy and those of Italy still dominated by the barbarous invader and by the band of traitors of Mussolini. All that is done to-day and all that will have to be done to-morrow must be founded on the unity of the whole people, of all workers, in face of the Hun and of fascism, in an all-out battle which strikes the dying beast in every quarter and delivers the final blow. To-day more than ever before the unity of our efforts and of our will must be directed with but a single aim: war without truce against the enemy.

The First of May is not a holiday: it is a day of battle. The day on which the forces of the working people pass in review the results achieved and the tasks still to be done. Therefore on this First of May which for the first time we can freely celebrate, we define the essential needs of the moment:

- UNITY AGAINST FASCISM
- FORMATION OF A NATIONAL ARMY
- ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE WAR
- INTENSIFICATION OF WORK FOR THE WAR
- RETURN OF PRISONERS OF WAR
- A SHOW OF REAL SOLIDARITY WITH THE SOLDIERS.

1618

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Apr 44 AA

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

24 Apr 44 (contd)

Gen OXILIA

1. Called on him to clarify posn of 120 Regt, arising out of which the matters dealt with at the meeting of 23 Apr came up for discussion. As we disagreed over some pts, arranged to call later in the day to see a copy of their minutes of the meeting. — comd, 2 i/c, G i

2. Went over minutes together in detail and pointed out to him two pts where BERARDI's ideas were rather wide of the mark. Collected copy for infm MMIA and warned him that rejoinder would probably be forthcoming from the Mission to clarify things. — comd, 2 i/c, G i

3. On the subject of 120 Regt, it appears that they consider that as a result of the meeting of the 23rd and the situation described in the minutes, no further action is required of the Gen Staff until the comd gives his decision (see last para of the minutes). He would NOT agree that they should proceed along the lines of their counter-proposal without first receiving our comn. — comd, 2 i/c, G i

4. For infm only:- OXILIA was highly worked up over the question of the GARIBALDI Div and threatening a demonstration in protest over no action being taken to alleviate the plight of his former div. Sigs continue to come in from Gen VIVALDA. Explained to him once again the situation and the action taken by the comd well beyond his terms of ref, which would undoubtedly produce results. Fortunately a message came through before I left to the effect that Air Force Sub Commission were interesting themselves in the matter, and later learned that supps will be dropped for the Italians during the night 25/26 Apr. OXILIA expressed his thanks for what the comd had done. — comd

25 Apr 44

Gen MATTIOLI — G (L)

agree that they should proceed along the lines of their counter-proposal without first receiving our comm.

4. For info only:- OXILIA was highly worked up over the question of the GARIBALDI Div and threatening a demonstration in protest over no action being taken to alleviate the plight of his former div. Sigs continue to come in from Gen VIVALDA. Explained to him once again the situation and the action taken by the comd well beyond his terms of ref, which would undoubtedly produce results. Fortunately a message came through before I left to the effect that Air Force Sub Commission were interesting themselves in the matter, and later learned that supp will be dropped for the Italians during the night 25/26 Apr. OXILIA expressed his thanks for what the comd had done. — comd

25 Apr 44

Gen MATTIOLI — G1 (L)

5. a) He is already infd about 200 men to move from TARANTO to BARLETTA. — DADL

b) Definite denial that any men have been taken from BARI for 209 or 210 Divs. Shortage of 600 men is due to gen wastage for normal reasons, and slight deficiency in replacement of 541 Regt. Gen Staff are reluctant to produce the rifts as long as there is no place for them in the programme. MOCCIA's estimate of rifts needed is 100 per regt per month, i.e. 325 per month. Policy decision required here. — G i

1617 — Comd

c) He will contact 'Q' branch regarding boots for II Bn. This unit also needs socks, knives, spoons and forks, and mess tins. He states that demands have already been sent in.

d) Rel reorg programme in 5 Corps, he awaits a sign from us before moving. Suggestion is that he awaits the bn for 5 Corps from Sardinia and uses this as a stop-gap while the other units are being re-organised. He asks what about the units of 209 Div under comd 2 Dist ? — DADL

Capt DELLA CORNA

6. 300 POGGIAVI Coy:- Released by 435 Sig Construction ~~Bn~~ Bn (US Aviation) as being no longer needed, and now at Base depot TRANI. — SO 5/65

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Col MICALETTI

7. Cinema unit in SARDINIA:- they want to bring this unit to the mainland (their sig 1051/T/M 18 Apr) to enable shows to be organised for isolated units who never have a chance of seeing a film. It is NOT proposed to use it for units in combat areas. G iii

Maj PASCHETTI

8. He confirmed quite definitely that the siding at BELVEDERE has been made available by Italian Navy without any trouble at all. Oii

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

9. Reorg of Pack tpt coys:- G i

a) ref serial 1061A, he points out that personnel of this serial is being brought over from SARDINIA for the Remount sta at PERSANO - see SMPE letter 15 Mar 2834/Mob

b) Serial 1063R: personnel of this serial ~~are~~ originally intended for 7 Mtn Regt. He wants to know

i) could 50 of these men be earmarked as rits for 7 Mtn Regt ?

ii) what are our intentions for employing these men ?

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE 23 Apr 44

Capt FORENSA
1. Handed in authority for rail tpt 1 - 7 May and collected details of amn to be moved. — Staff Capt Q

2. Arranged by phone with Mov LO that Gen Staff put in supplementary request for tpt of wine, involving 133 wagons, to be completed by first week in May. — Mov LO

Gen MATTIOLI
3. Infd him that comd would be going to BARI 28 Apr. — comd DADL

Lt Col GRICLIO
4. Interpreter offr to replace Lt GRINENCO:- it appears that offr originally nominated (Lt PETROZELLA) was himself NOT confident of being able to do the job, because of the limitations of his English. In his place they have selected 2nd Lt DI SALVO Giuseppe, who has a much better knowledge of the language, and will be at BRINDISI before the end of the month. — G ii(US)

Maj PASCHETTI
5. 255th Bty mounted on rly wagons:- after further enquiries, it transpired that there is no need for Allied authority for use of the siding at BELFIORE, as this is controlled by the Italian Navy; Gen Staff do however want authority to withdraw wagons from siding in NAPLES and tpt them to TARANTO. — G ii Mov

Lt Col SAMPÒ
6. Maps for combat div and other combat units:- there would appear to be some difficulty over issue by British fms to dependant Italian units, possibly because Italians are NOT making request through proper channels. Present situation is that map dept of Gen Staff is struggling with very limited means at its disposal to produce maps for Italian combat fmn and units. Infd Sampò that higher British fmn would undoubtedly sup maps on the spot and Italian comds to be infd accordingly. — G i

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end of the month.

Maj PASCHETTI

5. 255^ Bty mounted on rly wagons:- after further enquiries, it transpired that there is no need for Allied authority for use of the siding at BELFIORE, as this is controlled by the Italian Navy; Gen Staff do however want authority to withdraw wagons from siding in NAPLES and tpt them to TARANTO. G ii Mov

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Gen BERARDI (and Gen OXILIA, Col CHIAVARINO)

7. With Comd, for discussion of following subjects at BERARDI's request:- comd 2 i/c

a - Rits for combat fmn

b - Strength of combat fmn, in relation to strengths of MANTOVA and PICENO Divs and ceiling of 34.100 G 1

c - Our request for release of 120 Regt for Allied programme. 1616 A/Q

In the course of a somewhat heated discussion (~~xkixk~~ during which Berardi showed on several pts a poor appreciation of the situation), the comd est the following pts:-

a - All requests for rits for Italian combat fmn and units must flow through recognised channels of comd, i.e. Corps, Army AAI, MMIA and so to Gen Staff.

b - Programme of 6 apr represented AAI proposal for org of Italian Army sent to Combined Chiefs of Staff. If and when approved by Washington, it would then be up to Gen Alexander to determine what should be done about the surplus strength of the combat fmn. Italians would have opportunity to express their views on this and other aspects of programme at that time.

cont' overleaf

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c - The question of emp of 120 Regt was being considered by by the Mission Staff Offrs, but the comd would give sympathetic consideration to the representations made by the Gen Staff.

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 22 Apr 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Discussed contents of our SD/19 of 20th and SD/21/Z of 21st, neither of which had reached him up to that moment. He requested time for consideration, and I arranged to call later in the day. — 2 i/c G i

Gen MATTIOLI

2. Lab units with 5 Corps to be reorg:- Infd him that 28 Art Bn should be crossed off the list. It has NOT been decided yet at the Gen Staff what part Mattioli is to play in this. Discussed the practical side of the reorg, as it affects units actually engaged on important work. He wishes to be infd of date if visit of comd to Bari in connection with 2 Lab Bn. — DADL

Lt Col GALLO

3. Eqpt for docks operating coys:-NOT many items likely to be available. Some are NOT easily identifiable from the English text; they suggest an engr offr should visit one of their stores to settle this difficulty. — SOMS

Col CHIAVARINO

4. Four gd bns from Sardinia:- explained that four of the sixteen bns alerted are to replace the four on loan from Mantova and Piceno. They will sl Sardinia and have four suitable bns designated for this purpose. — G i

Lt Col CHECCHIA

5. 200 water containers for Mot Bde:- arrangements already made for supplying these 20 Apr. — DAQ

Gen OXILIA

6. Frank discussion about CIL and 120 Regt. As things stand at present they are compelled to reply to our two letters (see para 1), but in view of the very definite situation explained by me, OXILIA felt that a letter from the Mission was required along the following lines:- — comd G i

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6. Frank discussion about CIL and 120 Regt. As things stand at present they are compelled to reply to our two letters (see para 1), but in view of the very definite situation explained by me, OXILIA felt that a letter from the Mission was required along the following lines:- comd — — G i

1. Units of combat div to be reduced in strength and definitely brought into line with agreed est.
2. Excess personnel, if the General Staff so decide, to be transferred to Mantova and Piceno Divs. Otherwise to be made available for the Allied programme.
3. Overall strengths of Mantova and Piceno divs, after excess personnel of CIL referred to above, not to exceed agreed ests. All personnel in excess to be made available for Allied programme forthwith and allotted to aerials in programme.
4. If and when rifts are needed for CIL, these to be provided in the shape of complete bns (OXILIA would like complete rgts) from MANTOVA and PICENO Divs, in such a way, however, that est of CIL is never exceeded.

Such a letter, if definitely worded, would, Oxilia considers, clear the air once and for all, and give them something definite to work on.

1615

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AQ-

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S W A E 20/21 Apr 44

Gen OXILIA (20 Apr)

1. Handed him comd's letter of 20 Apr in connection with the four gd bns, and other outstanding matters. He at once phoned comd LI Corps and ordered two bns to be readied at once from each div (Mantova and Piceno). They can find the clothing but may have difficulty over the boots. Arranged that 2 i/c of the Mission will call pm 21 Apr for general discussion on contents of letter. — comd 2 i/c

2. GARIBALDI Div:- OXILIA very concerned over situation which has arisen during past few days, and wanted Mission to authorise Air Force Sub Commission to employ a number of planes for the purpose of dropping food etc to isolated Italian det. Reminded him of recent talk with Brig Duchesne when situation was fully explained. Collected letter from Chief of Staff requesting Mission's assistance. — comd 2i/

3. 21 Apr:- info OXILIA of action taken by comd to help the Garibaldi Div. He was just going into a meeting which was attended by the following:- — comd
Gen LEMICI (IX Corps)
" PROPERZI (209 Div) Gen SCCCIONE (PICENO Div)
" BOLOGNA (Mantova Div) and Gen De Lorenzis (2 i/c)
" DE MARTINI (Area comd LECCE)
and several others whom I did not know.

Maj D'ANTONA

4. Twentyfour bns from SARDINIA:- collected copy of their mob order 2990 of 21 Apr alerting ten bns of inf and six btys of artymen to be ready to move 15 May. They anticipate being able to form the remaining eight bns in the island when they see what the situation is after these sixteen have been formed up. — 2 i/c G i

Lt Col MILLEMIGLINI

5. 8 Army enquiry for Alpini bns:- collected situation which reveals that following are available in SARDINIA:- — 2 i/c G i
- Monte CRAMERO Bn, immediately ready 32 offrs 1011 men
- Monte MARCANTUR Bn preparation well advanced, good material 25 offrs 700 men

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3. 21 Apr:- Inld CAMERA of action taken by Garibaldi Div. He was just going into a meeting which was attended by the following:-
Gen LEMICI (IX Corps)
" PROPERZI (209 Div) Gen GUCCIONE (PICENO Div)
" BOLOGNA (Mantova Div) and Gen De Lorenzis (2 i/c)
" DE MARTINI (Area comd LECCE)
and several others whom I did not know.

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Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
5. C Army enquiry for Alpini bns:- collected situation which reveals that following are available in SARDINIA:- 2 i/c G i
- Monte CRANERO Bn, immediately ready 32 offrs 1011 men
- Monte MERCANTOUR Bn preparation well advanced, good material 25 offrs 700 men
- Monte ALBERGIAN Bn } older and less suitable men
- Monte BICOCCA Bn } 50 offrs 1000 men

On the mainland there is only the PIEMONTE Bn already in the line.

6. Inld him of 2 offrs and 50 or's arriving LECCE 23 Apr from 7 Mtn Regt. They are looking into the possibility of finding 50 pack arty mts which could be kept available for this unit. G i

7. 1001 GT Coy:- Remaining personnel may have already been sent, but they have promised to follow the matter up, particularly as regards offrs and ngts. 100 men for driving school at POLIGNANO have been promised during the coming week. G i

8. Capt DELLA CORNA
S/O Nucleo Constatori:- this unit was placed under "S" force by Comando Supremo. Requested them to apply to Comando Supremo for loan of unit to 5 Army. SOR Si

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1614

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Col CHIAVARINO - Lt Col MILLEFIORINI - Lt Col CUTRA

9. Discussion of situation in SARDINIA as regards demob of personnel in the various Arms on the island. comd 2 i/c G i
Present policy is to incl in units moving to mainland only those men with a right to be demobilised whose homes are in German-occupied Italy. Present practice on mainland is that these men have to remain under arms ~~xxxx~~ unless they can produce written evidence of having secured employment in civilian capacity.
Approx figures of men legally liable to demob in ~~xxx~~ SARDINIA at 29 Feb were as follows:
- 1912 class 11.000
- 1911 " 6.000
- 1910 and earlier 33.000

It is NOT known what proportion have their homes in German-occupied Italy. Have requested them to sig for this infm. Men with homes in SARDINIA have already been demob'd, as have also a proportion of those with homes in SICILY.
It appears probable, therefore, that about 10.000 men with homes in Liberated Italy and a legal right to be demob will have to be taken into account in calculating available manpower for Allied programme.

10. Accom ~~xxx~~ for Italian units working with Allies (SHAEF letter 2000/Org of 16 Apr):- infd them that the matter is under consideration and that a decision will be given as soon as possible. Their fmns have been considerably disorg and disrupted following recent moves of Allied high fmns, and the question arises again with the forthcoming moves of twenty-four bns from SARDINIA. 2 i/c G i

Capt DELLA CORNA

11. 823 Telegrafisti Coy:- collected nominal roll and list of eqpt. SO Sigs

Lt Col CHECCHIA

12 AAI request for pigeons:- contacted through him Col Iammarino) SO Sigs

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men with homes in SARDINIA have already been demob'd, as have also a proportion of those with homes in SICILY. It appears probable, therefore, that about 10.000 men with homes in Liberated Italy and a legal right to be demob will have to be taken into account in calculating available manpower for Allied programme.

10. Adm HQs for Italian units working with Allies (SMRE letter 2660/Ord of 16 Apr):- inid them that the matter is under consideration and that a decision will be given as soon as possible. Their fears have been considerably allayed and disrupted following recent moves of Allied high fums, and the question arises again with the forthcoming moves of twentyfour bns from SARDINIA. — 2 i/c G i

Capt DELLA CASA

11. 825 Telegrafisti Coy:- collected nominal roll and list of eqpt. — SO Sigs

Lt Col CHECCHIA

12 AAI request for pigeons:- contacted through him Col Iammarino of the Ministry and arranged that Capt DICKSON will meet Iammarino at BARI 22 Apr to see what birds are available at the lofts there, which are the only ones still functioning. — SO Sigs

13 824 Telegrafisti Coy fully clothed and equipped, except for items to come from Allied sources already notified. — SO Sigs

14. 501 and 502 Smoke Coys:- their requests for clothing to hand. Requested him to have everything ready at NAPLES for 501 and at BARI for 502, so that the two coys can collect on arrival at destination. — 1613

15. Docks operating coys and port lab:- our letter Lab/1/35 of 16 Apr requests 800 rifs for port lab. This has caused confusion at the General Staff as it is an item NOT in the programme, and some consternation in view of the fact that replacements for the docks operating coys were to be provided by naval personnel. It is many weeks that these sailors have been talked about, and the impression is gaining ground that Italian Navy has no intention of meeting its obligations. If it is intended that these 800 rifs be found from army personnel, can they be allotted a Serial ? — 2 i/c G i

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

S E C R E T

LIAISON WITH S M R E — 19 Apr 44

Gen CAILLA

1. Asked him for infm about frontier posts on FIUME - ZAGREB rly. Passed to G ii, together with infm given by 2nd Lt PALOSCIA. — G

2. General moan about
a) our basis of calculation of the amn situation;
b) urgent need of transferring part of SMRE to WEST side. — comd 2 i/c

Lt Col CHECCHIA

3. Boots and clothing for four gd bns on loan:- passed to him verbal authority for release of what they require. — A/Q

4. Collected two sigs that we are to send to CALABRIA for them: — SO Sigs G
a) ref clothing and boots for smoke coys
b) ref clothing and eqpt of 823 Telegrafisti Coy

Col CHIAVARINO

5. SD Branch busy "stock-taking", so left note on following:
a) 503 Smoke Coy, to be ready to move at once; — G
b) AA and CD units in SICILY and SARDINIA to be incl in 180.000 working for Allies; no decision as to Italian tps in CORSICA. This infm in answer to their request. — 2 i/c
c) Requested him to obtain designation of Corps HQs as required by Policy letter and proposed locations, also if they had decided on final locations of internal security divs. — comd

Gen OXILIA

6. He will call on the comd 1030 hrs 20 Apr and will make arrangements for return visit to BERARDI during the afternoon of the 20th. — comd

Capt VINCI

7. Left at their liaison office copy of the new est for pack tpt coys to be translated and returned to us. — G

Capt DE GIORGI

8. Left message from DADMS in connection with 93 Med Sec. — DADMS

5. Col CHEVALLIER
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a) 503 Smoke Coy, to be ready to move at once; 2 i/c
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Capt DE GIORGI
8. Left message from DADMS in connection with 93 Med Sec. DADMS

1612

Lt Col TAZZARI
9. Had letter in his possession advising that Mot Bde front had been extended to the EAST, and requesting additional maps. He would like to have copies of our 25.000 sheets to cover additional territory: 2 i/c G
- sheet 153 III SE
- ~~XXX~~" 161 IV NE G ii

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1957

NOT

O

To:

CA KFUC Should like your indication as to the likely

AQ Sec ind

752/4

at to understood that visits or

formalities are to be complied upon

arrival at Rickmansworth and not at

former place. This will be the general

policy but exceptions where circumstances

indicate may be allowed.

Steph 1641

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

AD

S E C R E T

18 Apr 44

LIAISON WITH S M R E

Lt Col SANPO (and Capt GIPUNI, staff offr LI Corps) — 2 i/c

1. Discussion of details of four bns on loan for gd duties, with following conclusions:- — G — A/Q

I Bn 93 Regt PICENO Div - CRISPIANO to BARI 24 Apr
II Bn 93 Regt PICENO Div - MASSAFRA to BRINDISI (½) BARLETTA (½) 24 Apr
II Bn 119 Regt MANTOVA Div - OTRANTO to CAMPANIA 24 Apr
I Bn 120 Regt - - already at TARANTO 25 Apr
50 men additional to above for VASTO 24 Apr

Strengths: all bns
- 30 offrs, 40 nco's, 700 cr's, 9 carts, 9 mules, 2 box vans stores.
This strength represents approved est less personnel with surplus mules NOT required for gd duties.
Dates of readiness depend on prompt authority for issue of boots and clothing and immediate collection and distribution. — A/Q
B Bn already at TARANTO does NOT belong to any div and is engaged on maintaining public order, in which duties it will have to be relieved before it can be available for gd duties.

2. Second bn of San Marco Regt (Marines):- Known as GRADO Bn, after a small town near VENICE, this unit has similar est to BAFILE Bn and is located at PARABITA Q 5269. Its trg will be completed in about ten days. The 2 i/c of the Regt is visiting the BAFILE Bn, to find out if the trg of the second bn can be improved in the light of the experience of the first. Requested them to notify the Naval authorities that we should be visiting the GRADO Bn in the near future. — comd — 2 i/c — G

Col CHIAVARINO

3. Info him of situation regarding their request to bring over 400 men of LXXI Bersaglieri Bn: present strength with Mot Bde 600/700 in excess of est, therefore plenty of margin for releasing offr cadets. The question of the offr cadets is an important issue with them, so he would like a reply in writing. — 2 i/c

4. Designation of internal security divs:- additional infm — comd
- SICILY (should read) SABAUDA, 226, BARI — 2 i/c
- SARDINIA CALABRIA and 204 — G

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- SICILY (should read) SABAUDA, 226, BARI
- SARDINIA CALABRIA and 204
- Mainalnd SOUTH MANTOVA and PICENO
- Mainalnd NORTH CREMONA, FRIULI and GRANATIERI

— comd 2 i/c G

Capt DELLA CORNA

5. Pack tpt coy being formed by BASSO for 5 Army, (~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~):- while MILLEFIORINI was over in CAMPANIA recently hewas told that this unit was being formed mainly out of the rift secs from SARDINIA. He has signalled to have confirmation. Basso's unit has been given the number 'IO', and they would like to have our instrs ~~[illegible]~~. — G

1610

6. Trained dvrs in SARDINIA:- Allied authorities in ~~[illegible]~~ the island have taken part of the outpgt of the first drivers course to form two GT Coys to remain on the island. SMRE letter 11 Apr ref 2707 refers. Is this authorised ? — G

6. Lt Col MIL GFIORINI (and Capt DE GIORGI)
93 Sezione Sanità:- this unit has been split into two and is being used for anti-malarial work. The unit consists of stretcher-bearers, medical orderlies etc. They query whether this is best use that can be made of this p/personnel. They suggest ordinary unskilled men would be more suitable. — G DADMS

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789120

Subject:- Employment the Italian Army

To :- Maj Gen BROWNING

With reference to your letter G/6/7 of 20 Apr MMIA. I bring to your notice the gravity of the notes which you have brought to my notice which make me appear contrary to the loyalty which I believe I have always achieved with regard to my obligations due to the trusts I have assumed from Italy with the Allied Nations.

For this reason I feel I must explain every point, making it clear that I believe I am not in the wrong with reference to the circumstances outlined in the abovementioned letter.

a (1) With ref to the verbal demands of the 16 Apr and those (written) on the 18 regarding the four Bns of the 'Piceno' and 'Mantova' Divs plus one Coy. The following verbal and written orders were issued, amongst which was included that of 17 Apr copy to your Mission.

In the two abovementioned letters no mention was made of the date on which the Bns were to be ready to move. However it was confirmed that the Coy was ready to move as from the 18 Apr (see signal 4138) and it was later agreed verbally by Major Baumann that the four bns would be ready as asked for by this Mission on the 24 Apr. On the 21 Apr, in agreement with Major Baumann, the demand for transport for the four Bns was signalled to the Mission.

a (2) The proposal to have the three Bns of the 'Piceno' and one Bn of the 'Mantova' stand by instead of two Bns from each was made in order to hasten the state of readiness in circumstances which it is not a matter of specifying here. It was thought that by so doing the wishes of the Allied Command would be fulfilled. However the counter proposals were not forthcoming nor did they come, delaying the date of preparedness as from 24 Apr.

a (3) In connection with the observation made in the paragraph of the same number I must point out that Major Baumann signalled the head office of the SD Q Branch General Staff that the four bns in question would be equipped with Allied uniforms. In view of this a signal was sent (no. 3/38/84 of 18 Apr) asking for uniforms and boots which were agreed to on the 19 Apr - copy to AQ 15/11. This agreement however was later cancelled and an explanation was given only in paragraph a (3) of the letter to which I refer.

No doubt can therefore be raised on this point.

However I wish to make it clear that the availability of Italian uniforms is not as simple as it appears in paragraph 3 of the letter to which I refer. It is in fact necessary to take uniforms from each soldier in order to distribute them to others by improving and repairing them so as to by-pass the acute shortage of transport.

a (4) Again that the letter to which I am replying refers me to the

of the 'Mantova' stand by instead of [illegible] the state of readiness in circumstances which it is not a matter of specifying here. It was thought that by so doing the wishes of the Allied Command would be fulfilled. However the counter proposals were not forthcoming nor did they come, delaying the date of preparedness as from 24 Apr.

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a (4) Seeing that the letter to which I am replying refers me to the failure to distribute boots, I would point out that - on the 25 Feb 2,450 pairs of boots which were destined to equip men still in civilian clothes were released. On 13 Mar 7,338 pairs of boots were released. These boots were held to:-

(1) make up the number required to equip 1,936 men still in civilian clothes.
(2) to equip 400 military personnel destined to guard the Silani installations, whose boots were worn out.
(3) to equip 5,000 men of various units of the XXXI C.A. whose boots were beyond repair: of these only 890 pairs were handed over to the Mantova Div in Calabria and not in Puglia.

On the 30 March 4,000 pairs of boots were released. These boots were to be issued to equip some of the men of the Piceno Div, while the number asked for at the time was fixed at 7,000 pairs.

All the above/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 781920

All the abovementioned distributions were approved by the Sub Commission. It is true that the total number of boots released can meet the demand to equip the four bns; but since the necessity exceeded the allotment it can be clearly seen that some are still without boots. This happened with the Mantova Div which received the smaller quota. Col Kerr also admitted this yesterday, realising the necessity for distributing 742 pairs of boots for the two bns of the Mantova Div.

(b) It is true that the original instructions to concentrate the Mantova Div in Calabria date from Mar 10, but the Sub Commission will remember that the transfer of the Mantova to Calabria was linked up with the problem of the transfer of the 211 Division and the participation of Italian troops serving the Allies in No 2 District. Regarding this, as you know:-

1) I waited many days for explanations from the Allies in respect of supply services for Calabria, explanations which were promised me by Brig Duchesne, which should have been furnished by Comd 2 Dist at a meeting which was to be attended by 31 Corps Comd, and which were given only on 27 March by your G/17/5.

To define the question more accurately it was necessary to send an officer of this SMME to Calabria. On return of the officer, our 3755 of 6 April was sent to you, and it has not been answered.

2) At the same time, the question of collecting the MANTOVA in Calabria was dealt with at Salerno at a conference at the end of March with Marshal MESSE and General MACFARLANE.

The written decision to concentrate the Division in Calabria did not arrive, therefore it was indicated verbally that it was intended to use the transport destined for the MANTOVA for moving 211 Division.

3) At any rate the Regts of the MANTOVA are ready.

The order for movement rests with the Sub Commission. As soon as the order arrives it will be promptly executed. Until now it has not arrived.

(c) The problem of the inclusion of 211 Div in the Allied programme has always been considered, as said above, to be linked with (and is certainly indispensable) the movement of the MANTOVA into CALABRIA.

(d) 209, 210, 227, 212 Divisions have been placed at the disposal of the Allies and the Army Sub Commission has never informed us that their preparation and transfer was slow.

Evidently the same speediness was not possible for the units drawn from the depots because it was necessary to assemble into companies personnel who were scattered.

III CONCLUSION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

Calabria was dealt with at Salerno at a conference at the end of March with Marshal HESSE and General MACFARLANE.

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Evidently the same speediness was not possible for the units drawn from the depots because it was necessary to assemble into companies personnel who were scattered.

III CONCLUSION

Measures to ensure that the Bns of the MANTOVA and the PISTOIA were ready not later than 24 April were taken before receipt of your Excellency's letter.

Prompt compliance with the orders given by the Allied C in C, through your Mission, will be assured, as in the past, when such orders are contained within the limits of reciprocal obligations.

1609

(sgd) BERARDI

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

Col SANPO

8. Ref para I. - Following our objection to nomination of bn from 120 Regt, following are revised nominations: 2 i/c G A/
-I Bn 93 Regt PICENO Div - CRISPIANO to TARANTO by rd
-II Bn 336 Regt PICENO Div - FASANO to BARI
-I Bn 336 Regt PICENO Div - CISTERMINO to BARLETTA (?)
to BRINDISI (?)
- II Bn 113 Regt MANTOVA Div - OTRANTO to CAMPANIA
- 50 men TORCHIAROLO to VASTO

Strength unchanged; date of readiness for all units 24 Apr, subject authority for clothing and boots - see para 9.

Lt Col CHECCHIA

9. Collected SMRE request for clothing and boots for above bns. A/G

10. Clothing and boots for 823 and 824 Telegrafisti Coys:- Examined their files in connection delay in refitting personnel of these units. SD Branch of SMRE has been very slack and has failed to follow the matter up. Mob order was issued 15 Mar allowing ample time before date for move fixed originally for 15 Apr. Took the matter up strongly with CHECCHIA, but suggest a firm letter is required drawing attention to the way this has been handled. SO Sigs

11. Clothing ex SARDINIA:- they realise that the situation is now very different to what it was six months ago, and that there is little possibility of getting any clothing at all out of the island, but rather that the need will be for clothing to be shipped there to enable units forming there for the Allied programme to be refitted before they sail for the mainland or Sicily. Staff offr from SMRE could still usefully accompany AMGOT, they consider, to settle the clothing requirements on the spot. A/G

12. Maj D'ANTONA 2 i/c
Smoke coys:- A/G
- 503 Coy location LATTARO for MANFREDONIA G
- 502 Coy location CROTONE
- 501 Coy location CATANZARO MARINA

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10. [illegible] Examined their files in connection delay in refitting personnel of these units. SD Branch of SMRE has been very slack and has failed to follow the matter up. Mob order was issued 15 Mar allowing ample time before date for move fixed originally for 15 Apr. Took the matter up strongly with CHSC HIA, but suggest a firm letter is required drawing attention to the way this has been handled.

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12. Maj D'ANTONA 2 i/c A/Q G
Smoke coys:-
- 503 Coy location LATTARO for MANF SDNJA
- 502 Coy location CROTONE
- 501 Coy location CATANZARO MARINA

503 Coy to be clothed LATTARO and request for items required to be notified 19 Apr. Other two coys to be clothed at destination. Mob order for remaining six coys will be issued 19 Apr, all to be drawn from 211 Div. It is proposed to proceed forthwith with refitting personnel in CALABRIA.

Lt Col DI BITONTO 1608
13. He attended meeting at the Ministry to-day at which DADME and Gen ALIBERTI were present with the object of finding personnel for MT wksps. Decisions reached involved combing SARDINIA of all specialists except for 100 to be left in the island. BITONTO ~~XXX~~ asks if it is realised that this involves the removal of all wksp personnel from isms who will require them replaced in their est when they are moved to the mainland or Sicily for the allied programme. A/Q DADME

14. Col FIORE-VERNAZZA comd
Called on BERARDI 18 Apr in connection with move to WEST side. AOC has requested examination of possibility of effecting move on limited basis, with only part of present personnel, both MINISTRY and SMRE. 2 i/c

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 17 Apr 44

Gen BERARDI - Gen ORLIA, Col CHIAVARINO, Lt Col MILANESI-INI

1. With Brig Duchesne; 2 i/c; MEDIA LO SARDINIA:- gen discussion on following subjects: comd 2 i/c
   a) SARDINIA - tpt of NEMBO Div; move of LXXI Bersaglieri Bn to replace offr cadets with Mot Bns; boots and clothing.
   b) Size of combat div compared with WE and method to be used to bring it into line;
   c) Policy letter: explanations of various pts and discussion of numbers allotted to static tms and services for Italian Army.
   d) Long term policy on boots and clothing; also tyres and spares.
   e) Designation of internal security divs:
      -SICILY BARI, 226 and one other coastal div,
      -Mainland, north of Naples Foggia line: CREMONA, FRIULI, GRANATIERI
      -SARDINIA: CALABRIA and one other coastal div.
      SMRE reserve the right to review size and proposed locations of the internal security divs, within the ceiling laid down by regions in the policy letter.

   No decision reached on items b) and c), which BERARDI proposes referring to MESSE for decision on higher level. BERARDI will also put into writing his ideas on item d).

Lt Col MILANESINI G

2. 242 Gp RAF have requested via Italian Naval authorities Taranto further 200 Italian Army personnel for balloon barrage. They are needed to replace British personnel shortly to be removed. There are already 500 Army personnel on this work in APULIA; additional personnel required for NAPLES. Infd rep that they could only be obtained through AAI and Allied programme. G (i) (AA/CI

3. 800 Posacavi Coy:- Report to hand from IX Corps that this unit no longer needed by the Allies. They require confirmation. If correct proposing to send the men to IX Engr Regt. SO Sigs

Lt Col SANPÒ 2 i/c

4. Coy on loan for gd duties at CAMPOBASSO:- a coy of II Bn 130 Regt Piceno Div has been alerted at TORCHIAROLO and will be ready to move pm 18 Apr. SMRE suggest the coy be moved by rd, for which they estimate 12 vehs will be needed. However, distance is G

by regions in the policy letter.
No decision reached on items b) and c), which BERNARDI proposes referring to MESSE for decision on higher level. BERNARDI will also put into writing his ideas on item d).

Lt Col MIL MPTON INT — G

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3. 800 Possessivi Coy:- Report to hand from IX Corps that this unit no longer needed by the Allies. They require confirmation. If correct proposing to send the men to IX Engr Regt. — SO Bigs

Lt Col SANPÒ — 2 i/c

4. Coy on loan for gd duties at CAMPOBASSO:- a coy of II Bn 120 Regt Piceno Div has been alerted at TORCHIAROLO (1446) and will be ready to move pm 18 Apr. SMRE suggest the coy be moved by rd, for which they estimate 12 vehs will be needed. However, distance is considerable for move by rd. — G

5. Collected order to LI Corps alerting four bns for temporary gd duties. They have selected three from PICENO - so as to utilise one complete regt - and one from MANTOVA. Bns to be ready to move 21 Apr. (Subsequently Cancelled). — 2 i/c G

6. Air Force Bn "Duca D'Aosta": location COZZE K 6476, on coast just SOUTH of MOLA DI BARI. Requested SMRE to notify Air Force that the unit will be visited by offrs of the mission in the near future. Details of strength etc to follow. — 2 i/c

1607

Gen ORLIA

7. With Maj LOWLES, LO 5 Corps, about personnel for recce unit for 5 Corps. The order transferring the 40 men from VIBO VALENTIA was issued from SALERNO, the men being destined to BOSCHETTI assault bn of Mot Bde. For interest, MESSE commanded a unit of this type in the last war, and regrets the BOSCHETTI unit with particular interest. For 5 Corps requirements there are two possibilities: Sardinia (Nembo) or Mot Bde (Boschetti or Nembo Bn). LOWLES to discuss with AAI. — G

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND NO. 785420

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

N/S

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E 15 Apr 44

M 1814

Gen OXILIA

1. Discussion of agenda for this evenings meeting. Infd him that 24 bns subject of our letter 15 Apr are additional to the ten bns already alerted in Sardinia. Infd him that we are awaiting definite instrs for four bns to be loaned from M and P divs, and that these should be nominated forthwith. Requested further coy on loan for guard duties at CAMPOBASSO, required immediately. — comd, 2 i/c

2. Additional engr coy for CIL:- Gen Utile has requested that an additional sapper coy be sent immediately to combat div for special work on Monte MARRONE. Request received through MESSE. They have in mind to employ 25 Artieri coy on loan to 3 Dist, which if necessary would be replaced by sapper coy from Piceno Div. — 2 i/c, G, SCRE

3. Gen BONETTI
Took up with him strongly the question of the arrest of one GRICOLETTO, requested by us 18 Mar. This matter has been handled in a most unsatisfactory way. He promised to look into it at once. See sig to-day's date to FFAA Campania. — G ii

Capt DELLA CORNA

4. 1200 men detained in prison:- War Ministry have requested SMRE to form these into units, excl those considered potentially dangerous. Probably 800 are considered as likely to be suitable. They propose forming them into coys 100 strong with suitable offrs and nco's. Suggested they should be emp as isolated units, away from other tps. They would like our suggestion for utilising them in the programme. — 2 i/c, G

Maj D'ANTONA

5. 51 Carristi Pn:- Infd him that this was required immediately with strength of 8 offrs and 255 or's, and rep to proceed immediately to report to Capt MONICO. 140 rifts no longer required for this unit. — G ii

6. Collected nominal roll of 824 Telegrafisti Coy; details for 823 being followed up. — SO Sigs

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7. 9 Pack Tpt Coy will be ready to move at month end. — G

Lt Col PANTRAI

8. Allocation of cells:- infd him of additional quantity authorised. He would like to know if this applies to month of MAY, and if he will have an authority for drawing the 2000. Also does he now have to apply each month. — SO Sigs

1606

Maj MAIOCCHI

9. Strength state in new form ready 15 Apr. He would like our comments and suggestions soonest, to enable him to get on with the next one. — G

10. AQ/2 letter of 12 Apr:
101 men at MANFREDONIA - probably AA def IX Corps with 20 mm pieces.
179 men at FOGGIA - no infn off-hand. He will find out. — G

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785920

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

AQ

SECRET

15 Apr 44

LIAISON WITH S M R E

Col QUERCIA

1. With AAQMG for gen discussion on boots and clothing. Following decisions were reached: SMRE staff offr will accompany AAQMG on visit to SARDINIA with powers to decide on the spot in concert with AAQMG on shipment of clothing to the mainland; QUERCIA to prepare an estimate of boot and clothing requirements of Italian Army based on classifications and numbers of Policy letter of 6 Apr; SMRE to continue applications for boots and clothing for units under Italian comd; MMIA to consider possibility of ~~exxixxxxx~~ clothing men at depots instead of at destination - see 6 below. — comd 2 i/c A/Q

Gen BRUNETTI and Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

2. Just back from rather a rough time with MESSE. Following were main subjects raised by MESSE. — comd

3. Rfts for pack tpt coys with 8 Army:- 1000 men required before the end of Apr. As in other recent cases, it appears that discussions have been going on between Allied comds and CO's of Italian fms, resulting in negotiations outside normal channels, and culminating in this instance in MESSE's intervention. Explained the situation and that no action to be taken until authority recd from proper quarter. Sig sent to MESSE with similar explanation. — G

4. Replacement of offr cadets with Mot Bde:- discussed our letter with him, to which he will reply in writing. Somewhat incensed at the suggestion that rits nominated by SMRE should require to be vetted by UTILE. They had already suggested the transfer of a Bersaglieri Bn in their letter of 27 Feb ref 2221 ops. — G

5. The 1600 men of the 1923 class going to 210 Div as rfts, are to be allocated: 600 to pack tpt coys, 1000 to other units. — G

6. Men from depots and districts: MESSE very angry at the reports of groups of rits proceeding from place to place in very ragged conditions, and info BRUNETTI that it is NOT to happen again. It is a reflection on the Italian administration and bad propaganda for the army. See para 1 above. — comd 2 i/c A/Q

7. Handed to BRUNETTI our letter of to-day ~~xxxxx~~ requesting nomination of 24 bns subject of serial 1092 added to programme. [illegible] returns this evening or — G

of Italian fms, resulting in negotiations outside normal channels, and culminating in this instance in MESSE's intervention. Explained the situation and that no action to be taken until authority recd from proper quarter. Sig sent to MESSE with similar explanation.

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7. Handed to BRUNETTI our letter of to-day ~~xxxxxx~~ requesting nomination of 24 bns subject of serial 1092 added to programme. Details will be supplied when BERARDI returns this evening or to-morrow. G

Capt DELLA CORNA

8. Collected copy of their mob order for GT Coys in SARDINIA. G

Maj D'ANTONA

9. Rits requiring boots etc at 47 Inf Depot LECCE:- these men are destined for CIL and consist of 74 Bersaglieri and 34 men of different inf units who have volunteered to fight. 1605 G(Air)

Maj PASCHETTI

10 Had just heard from an offr back from Mot Bde that PIEMONTE Alpini Bn had been placed under comd XIII Corps. G

11. Arty for Bafile Bn: It would appear that there is in existance a tp of four 65/17 guns for this unit, and that the ammn is already with the Mot Bde. They are getting full details prior to submitting a request to fwd the tp to the bn. 2 i/c G

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

Ltr 150 AA - Secret
14 Apr 44

LIAISON with SHAPE

1. Maj D'ANTONA. Informed him that:

(a) their request for five offrs on N.E. of Smoke Coy had been approved.
(b) 180 Spec Lav Coy had arrived from SARDINIA instead of 163 Coy - strength 6 offrs 137 ORs arrived NAPLES 8 Apr has since moved to TERMOLI.

2. Was informed by Maj D'ANTONA that 301 and 302 Cps of 21 AA Regt would be ready, one on 30 Apr and other on 5 May. Reasons are that rfts difficult to find and collect and personnel being used for dismantling of AA guns which are to be sent to BARI.

3. Col MILLEFIORINI. His visit to Armed Forces CAMPANIA ref Pack Tpt Coys in combat zone there brought out the following: EIGHTH Army need 1000 rfts for Pack Tpt Coys under command in order to meet increased WE for Coys and at least 400 immediately.
FIFTH Army is OK since 1923 recruits have been used to bring units up to strength.
He suggests that Serial 1085 be used as 300 of the rfts required for EIGHTH Army - difficulty is where to find these men, and particularly men with some knowledge of animals.
For remaining 200 rfts brains will have to be racked still further.
According to the Col GEN A LO CAMPANIA has sent a letter to us on the subject.

4. Col ALOIA (Servicing)

(a) Informed him that following inspection of Driving School at POLIGNANO MOLA offrs had suggested the supply to the school of cement for building up and improving kitchen, the formation of a refectory for 200 men and the necessary tables and chairs to be provided. The supply of 50 more white overalls. Old clothes which were there and seemed to be unwearable to be used for cleaning rags for vehs of which there exists a shortage at the school. Steps are being taken to supply the necessary deficiencies.
(b) That the Mobile Bath unit should visit 1004 G.T. Coy.

5. Gen MANTELLI
Informed him that two coys of 409 Labour Regt were to be formed at once at BRINDISI and a third at TARANTO for transmission when completed to BARI. Warned him that tpt had been ordered for after 17 Apr.

6. Lt Col PICCHIANESSI. Ref rfts for 1001 G.T. Coy (for 17

required for EIGHTH Army - difficulty is there to find these men, and particularly men with some knowledge of animals.

For remaining 200 rifts brains will have to be racked still further.

According to the Col MEDA LO CAMPANA has sent a letter to us on the subject.

4. Col ALOIA (Services)

(a) Informed him that following inspection of Driving School at POGGIOMARINO MEDA offrs had suggested the supply to the school of cement for building up and improving kitchen, the formation of a refectory for 200 men and the necessary tables and chairs to be provided. The supply of 50 more white overalls. Old clothes which were there and seemed to be unwearable to be used for cleaning rags for vehs of which there exists a shortage at the school. Steps are being taken to supply the necessary deficiencies.

(b) That the Mobile Bath unit should visit 1001 G.T. Coy.

5. Gen MATTEOLI

Informed him that two coys of 409 Labour Regt were to be formed at once at BRINDISI and a third at TARANTO for transmission when completed to BARI. Warned him that tpt had been ordered for after 17 Apr.

6. Lt Col ROCHOWANSKY. Ref rfts for 1001 G.T. Coy (SD 475 of 31 Mar), the Col had promised 28 Inf personnel by 13 Apr and the remainder by 17 Apr. He was asked if the remainder would include the specialists asked for and if they would in fact arrive by 17 Apr, he said that since remainder were to be chosen from recog camps it was unlikely that there would be the required specialists but that he thought good material would be found which could be trained; he does NOT guarantee their arrival by 17 Apr as personnel would have to be clothed and booted from Italian resources which would take sometime. Offr rfts are being sent from 9 Mutieri Regt.

7. Col ALOIA Ref 170 mules from BARI for SPRIGNI only 120 are fit for work - remaining 50 are unfit on account of lack of food. Vet services wanted to know if all 170 had to be sent. Answer given was that all 170 are to go.

AS ✓
G 1

G 1 (L)
DADL

G

1604

G

Allied

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

13 apr 44

Gen MATTIOLI

1. Conveyed message from D/DL about visit to TARANTO to make arrangements for first coy of 2 Lab BN, and to meet Lt Col REID, pur up comd TARANTO. Any day will suit him. — D/DL Gi (L)

2. SMRE letter of 10 Apr ref 1502:- pointed out to him that this matter had already been fully discussed and that in the initial stages of the reorg programme his new lab coys were bound to be scattered and perhaps even separated from on HQs. As however more coys are formed the situation will adjust itself. No reply is needed to this letter. — Gi (L) D/DL

3. Reorg of Italian units in army area following move of 8 Army:- Radical reorg of Italian units with 8 Army, 5 Corps and 3 Dist (i.e. those engaged on lab) was foreshadowed in FLIMBO letter 23 Mar (DDL) as part of a programme to form 10,000 men into lab coys based on British Pnr Coys org. Following move of 8 Army, Italian fmns are thoroughly disorg and SMRE most anxious to have details of units involved in reorg programme. (See log 5 Apr para 2, and 30 Mar para 6) SMRE letter above also refers. — Comd Gi (L) D/DL

4. Italian lab units, both in ports and with army, incl proportion of men of 1917 and earlier classes whose homes are beyond the line. MATTIOLI is arranging that these older men are NOT incl in the new coys being recruited from port lab, and is equally anxious that they be removed from units in army area when the reorg referred to above is carried out. They would be substituted with younger men from port lab and other units outside army area. Object is to have younger men only in combat areas, for practical reasons and because older men have right to discharge. Can proper arrangements be made to put this into effect, and to extend to 5 Army units also ? — Comd G (L)

5. Lt Col MOIR
Handed him list of spares required urgently for MT of Mot Bde, and requested him to inform us earliest what they can supply. — L/Q

Following move of 8 Army, Italian fams are thoroughly disorg and SHAEF most anxious to have details of units involved in recpt programme. (See log 5 Apr para 2, and 30 Mar para 6) SHAEF letter above also refers.

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5. Lt Col MOIL
Handed him list of spares required urgently for MT of Mot Bde, and requested him to inform us earliest what they can supply. — A/Q

Maj D'ANTON
6. Italian GT Coys:- They are about to issue new ests based on TO supplied by us, and will incl a maj as OC and instruct Ministry to make necessary appointments. — G ii

7. Serial 1062:- collected copy of their order for forming these two units in RIMINI ex 551 AA Bty, to be ready 30 Apr. — G ii

8. 6 Pack Tpt Coy:- collected entraining strength. — G ii

Maj VERONI
9. He is enquiring into location and emp of mine-lifting squad destined for ROME and will advise. Also about similar unit referred to by Ops branch in their letter. Ord knew nothing about this. — SCRE

1603

Lt BELLAMY
10. Subject to confirmation to-morrow, he reckons there are still in SARDINIA 2 and CAGLIARI Bakery Secs, both with 10 ovens. Ref our GD/22/4 of 7 Apr, SASSARI Sec arrived without ovens. — G ii

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Capt FOENZA

1. Gave him infm he required on tpt of 212 Vet Hosp, 823/24 Tele-graffisti Coys, 301/2 Btys. — G ii

2. Est that departure of 541 Arty Regt was postponed at request IX Corps, via Delegazione Trasporti P'RI. — G ii

Maj M'IOCCHI

3. Further discussion on new layout of strength return - settled a few minor points which were worrying him. In the new form it promises to be much more useful than in the past and easier to follow. Next return to be ready some time on 15th. — G iii

4. Collected TO on PICENO and M'NTOVA dive. — 2 i/c

Maj L'N'RDONI

5. 20 Pack Gp HQ duly left NOVOLI 11apr as arranged, but only ONE of the eight barriers joined the party in time. Usual explanation of the Easter holidays. Told him to get them off as quickly as possible, to report direct to 4 Pack Gp HQ C'STEL V'LTURNO. — G ii

Gen O'ILIA

6. He is sick and away from the office for the second day running. Expected back to-morrow. — comd

7. Col CHI'VASINO
Italian CC's of CT Coys:- explained the situation and background to him and asked for his views on the desirability of a major in comd of these units, on account of numerical size of the units and number of vehicles involved. It may mean a change in the Italian designation (as in the case of Reggt Portuali) but there should be no major difficulty. He will advise later. — comd G ST

8. Three dive for SICILY:- Coastal dive are almost fully self-contained, but in any case they will see to it that the two dive to come from S'RDINIA will have complete SOS units within the ceiling laid down in the programme for internal security dive. They are anticipating that units of these dive will be scattered, by reason of the size of the island, and would in any event require an adjustment to the div est to make them self-supporting. — G ii

9. B'FILE Bn:- Requested him to take immediate action to ensure that — comd

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Gen CAPIZZA

6. He is sick and away from the office for the second day running. comd
Expected back to-morrow.

7. Col CHI'VARINO
Italian OC's of 2T Coys:- explained the situation and background comd
to him and asked for his views on the desirability of a major G
in comd of these units, on account of numerical size of the ST
units and number of vehicles involved. It may mean a change
in the Italian designation (as in the case of Reparti Portuali)
but there should be no major difficulty. He will advise later.

8. Three divs for SICILY:- Coastal divs are almost fully self- G ii
contained, but in any case they will see to it that the two
divs to come from SARDINIA will have complete SOS units within
the ceiling laid down in the programme for internal security divs.
They are anticipating that units of these fmns will be scattered,
by reason of the size of the island, and would in any event
require an adjustment to the div est to make them self-supporting.

9. BOFILE Bn:- Requested him to take immediate action to ensure that comd
this unit comes under proper control of the Italian army. At A/Q
present the situation is still rather vague. He promised to
phone the Comando Supremo and get the matter settled.

Maj D'AMBONA

1602 G ii

10. Lt Bn CARISTI:- info him that this units is NOT to have its specialists
removed.

Col GUERCI'

11. Clothing and boots:- advised him that AQMG would call on him A/Q
in the next day or so for gen discussion, incl clothing from
SARDINIA and items requested for CORPS. Info him that there
were 10,000 shirts of theirs in CAMPANIA, which he didn't
appear to know about. He would like full info on other items
available there

Gen MITTOLI

12. Very enthusiastic about first Lab bn; second two coys due away G
to-day or rd. All personnel fully clothed and armed, and he was
very appreciative of our assistance. Still awaiting details for
second bn - see log 20/21 Mar and 1 Apr.

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ACTION SLIP

This slip will NOT be removed

To: Ref Para 5

HQ SHIPLEY	We will issue a first consignment of BOOTS to CC RR as soon as you full clear on the method. 11/4

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SECRET

11 Apr 44

LIAISON WITH S M R E

Maj D'ANTON.

1. Smoke coys:- info him of increased est to 2 offrs and 261 or's. Date of readiness of first three coys suggested to Fmns responsible 18 Apr; necessary clothing, boots etc to be supplied at destination, unless departure is retarded to allow for clothing to be transported from BARI. — G ii

2. Serial 1064:- 541 Mty Regt has been ordered to move 14 Apr, but IX Corps has been raising difficulties, and it is requested that MMIS LO 2 Dist follows up with Corps HQ. Little demand on Bari lab at the moment, so there should be no difficulty over releasing the men in the lab pool. These are in the process of replacement from the reorg camps. — G ii D'DL

3. Maj VERONI is being taken on the strength of Org and Mob (SD) branch of SMRE. — SCRE

Lt LOPEZ

4. BATTLE Sm:- Commissario to branch went to know whether they are supposed to be seeing to requirements of boots blankets and kitchen eqpt of this unit - see log 10 Apr para 6. This would appear to be still the responsability of Italian Navy. — comd G

5. Boots and clothing for CCRE:- would like answer to their request for 15.000 sets of each. — A/G

Lt Col SAVIO

6. General discussion on the figures he is taking to BONOMI, who is stopping for a talk with MEDME on the way back. It is NOT likely now that he will be back before Sat or Sun. Requested him to be prepared to designate four bns from Mantova and Piceno Divs on loan, for gd duties with 2 and 3 Dists. On account of commitments of Mantova in Calabria, they may prefer to nominate three or four bns of the Piceno. Very nervous that they will never see the bns back again. — comd

Lt Col SCOHOWANSKI

Lt LOPEZ

4. R:FIES Bn:- Commissariato branch want to know whether they are supposed to be seeing to requirements of boots blankets and kitchen eqpt of this unit - see log 10 apr para 6. This would appear to be still the responsability of Italian Navy. — comd G

5. Boots and clothing for CCRR:- would like answer to their request for 15.000 sets of each. — A/G

Lt Col S.NTO

6. General discussion on the figures he is taking to BARI, who is stopping for a talk with MESSE on the way back. It is NOT likely now that he will be back before Sat or Sun. Requested him to be prepared to designate four bns from Mantova and Piceno Dive on loan, for ga duties with 2 and 3 Dists. On account of commitments of Mantova in Calabria, they may prefer to nominate three or four bns of the Piceno. Very nervous that they will never see the bns back again. — comd

Lt Col HOCHOW'NSKI

7. 47 ovrs ex CaLaBRIa left BARI for 100I GT Coy 10 Apr. He is busying himself with the remaining personnel for P'LO DEL COLLE and POLIGN'NO. — G ii

Capt DRILL' CO'NA

8. 2I2 Vet Hosp:- ready to move from NOLA 15 Apr. — G ii

9. 824 Telegrafisti Coy:- ready to leave C'TaNZaRO 15 inst. — 1600 30 31/8

10. Serial 1051B:- departed MIC'STO 8 Apr

11. Serial 1057':- should have left SPEZZ'NO 7 Apr, but the tpt cio NOT turn up. — G ii

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SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

10 Apr 44

Lt Col PIZZONI.

1. Left word with him that the four remaining coys of 1 L-b Bn may NOT be leaving until 22 Apr. DADL

Gen O'HILL.

2. 516 Bn for PALERMO:- info him in course of conversation that 308 men had absented themselves without leave at the time of departure. He was very annoyed, but puts it down to the Easter holiday. He thinks they will have to make an example sooner or later and shoot some of these people. comd

3. 2II Div:- He has no objection to employing the div forthwith for the programme, but as he has NOT taken part in previous negotiations he would prefer to await BERARDI's return before committing the div. Orders are being given immediately for the first three smoke coys, see log 8/9 Apr para 6. comd 2 i/c G

4. BERARDI is due back Thursday 13 Apr. comd

5. Ll Cerristi Bn:- a suggestion has been made by War Ministry that this unit be composed of its specialists - mechanics etc. Does this cut across eventual emp as R'C unit ? DADME is familiar. G ii

Lt Col CHECCHI'

6. BAFILE Bn:- SMRE had duly authorised all items requested by Navy General Staff, incl grenades, smoke sigs, mess tins, waterbottles etc, but no request was made for boots, blankets or kitchen eqpt and SMRE were under impression that eqpt for this unit had been completed. comd 2 i/c G

7. Italian clothing and arms for GSI Main Hq 8 Army:- Direzione artiglerie T'RANTO had been authorised to release arms and ammn detailed in original request, which was very different to that contained in ours of 8 Apr. Clothing available only in LECCE and boots in BARI. In view of inability of SMRE communicating by phone with T'RANTO, message for their Arty Depot sent via 52 Area. Later arranged for clothing and boots to Taranto by Thursday 13th. G

5. Lt Col Carrieti Sm:- a suggestion has been made by War Ministry that this unit be composed of its specialists - mechanics etc. Does this cut across eventual emp as R/C unit ? DaDME is familiar. — G ii

Lt Col CHECCHI:

6. Lt Col PIZZIS Sm:- SMRE has duly authorised all items requested by Navy General Staff, incl grenades, smoke sigs, mess tins, waterbottles etc, but no request was made for boots, blankets or kitchen eqpt and SMRE were under impression that eqpt for this unit had been completed. — comd 2 i/c G

7. Italian clothing and arms for GSI Main HQ 8 Army:- Direzione Artiglieria TARANTO has been authorised to release arms and ammo detailed in original request, which was very different to that contained in ours of 2 Apr. Clothing available only in LEECE and boots in BARI. In view of inability of SMRE communicating by phone with TARANTO, message for their Army Depot sent via 52 Area. Later arranged for clothing and boots to be delivered to Taranto by Thursday 13th. — G

Col CHIAVARINO

8. The internal org of the SMRE is being reviewed at the moment, and Gen BRUNETTI appears to be concerned in this. It is NOT therefore an opportune moment to ask for a TO. — G ii(US

Lt Col MILLEFIORENI

9. He has been ordered over to Campania in connection with Reorg and new ests of pack tpt coys. He leaves to-morrow. Gave him what info we had on the subject and requested him to get into touch with LO MOI: FLORO and obtain through him copy of the new est. — Gii

1599

Lt Col SUPP

10 Flying to SARDINIA 12 Apr to take some papers to BARI. Will be returning with him the next day. Mentioned to him possibility of emp some bns temporarily of the M and P divs for guard duties. We are to discuss this at greater length and other questions to-morrow. — comd

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SECRET
8/9 Mar 44

LIAISON WITH SMRE

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

1. Drvg School in Sicily (see log 7 Apr). Sig to hand from comd 5th Div informing that course which commenced 20 Mar is at standstill owing to I Dist refusing to allow petrol for this purpose. — comd G A/Q

2. Nine smoke coys required by AFHQ:- gave them translation of relevant part of our sig and suggestion that these units be formed out of 211 Div. Requested that first three coys be made ready to leave 15 Apr. Discussed question of clothing with SD "Q" Branch - their suggestion is that these coys be fitted out at BARI or NAPLES, to avoid long delay in transporting clothing down to CALABRIA. (See Gen CHILLA below) — G

3. 135 Compagnia Marconisti Speciali:- this unit is under comd Comando Supremo and located LECCE. — A/Q

Lt Col PANEBIANCO

4. Insulating Tape :- their monthly allocation is NOT available at 24 CRE PERLETTA, nor is it known there when it will be available. Can they be given an alternative source ? — SO Sigs

Ufficio Segreteria del Sotto capo

5. To assist them in speeding up distribution of MMIA letters to the various branches it is requested that an indication be given where possible of the branch of SMRE concerned. At the present time we are quoting our refs and much time is lost in tracing which office is dealing with the matter. — general

Gen CHILLA

6. Smoke coys:- (with MILLEFIORINI) no objection to their being produced from 211 Div, but they propose utilising first the two CW coys of XXXI and LI Corps, which are immediately available. The third coy of the first gp will come from 211 Div. However, as in other similar cases of late, they are very keen to have an Italian HQ to look after their units att Allied units. They will order the smoke coys as self-contained units, but would like approval to have an HQ to each three or four coys, mainly for disciplinary and gen welfare reasons. — comd 2 i/c G comd

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Ufficio Segreteria del Sotto capo

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Gen OXILI

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7. C. I. L. :- handed him copy of the TO for the combat div, which he was very pleased to have. Brief discussion on numbers permitted on WE in relation to the figure in the policy letter and the actual numbers by the time the NEMBO has arrived. If the div is to be maintained at the figure shown in the TO, the strength of the rit unit will be limited to 400 approx. — comd 2 i/c

8. In connection with above, he has had a letter written to Comando Supremo requesting that they negotiate for incl of Air Force Bn among combat tps over and above the ceiling of 14100%. After examining the TO he asked Villefiorini to draft another letter on same lines for the Bafile Bn, also on account of the fact that this unit is NOT at present with the ir combat div. — 1598 comd 2 i/c

Maj D'ANTONA

9. Ref our letter SD/I/2/13 of ? Jan 44:- they propose transferring 11 75/46 AA guns from CALABRIA to BARI, to replace older pieces at present in use at the latter place. — G ii(AA

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SECRET

6 Apr 44

LIAISON WITH SMRE

Gen MATTIOLI

1. First two lab ~~bns~~ coys of newly-formed bn will be leaving MOLFETTA by rd 8 Mar. Infm received from DADL and passed on to MATTIOLI. — DADL C; 2 i/c

2. Infd MATTIOLI also of arrangements for removal of Avieri from BARI pool and confirmed that they will not be replaced. He will be writing about this, from the point of view that the Comando Supremo wanted representatives of all three services to take part in port lab. Avieri in SARDINIA have been mentioned in this connection. — DADL G

3. Infd MATTIOLI of the veto on issue of further foot soldres body belts and pullovers needed for the new bn. He got into touch immediately with the Q Branch SMRE to have the matter rightec — DADL Q

4. MATTIOLI is going over to NAPLES in two days time and wants to call on DADL FLAMBO for general talk on latest developments. Infd him later that we had no objection. He is still worried about the size of the new bns and continues to insist on the desirability of making them four-coy units. — G; DADL

Gen BRUNETTI

5. ORILIA was out, so left messages about visit to 266. We also discussed emp of 211 Div; their reply to directive about CALABRIA (which will be delivered to us to-morrow); and warned him that our reply to BERARDI's counterproposals for emp of Italian Army would in all probability be delivered to-day, so that necessary arrangements could be made for translation. — comd; 2 i/c; G i

6. It is est that Gen INFANTE has been appointed Deputy Chief of Staff at Comando Supremo, i.e. Sotto Capo di Stato Maggiore Generale. This compares with ORILIA's Sotto Capo di Stato Maggiore R.E. — comd; 2 i/c; G; G iii(L)

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

6. Dvrs for 623 Telegrafisti Coy forming at TARANTO:- infd them that ten of the dvrs from CALABRIA could be utilised for this unit. — G ii

still worried about the size of the new bns and continues to insist on the desirablity of making them four-coy units.

Gen BRUNETTI

5. ORLDIA was out, so left messages about visit to 266. We also discussed emp of 211 Div; their reply to directive about C'LABRIA (which will be delivered to us to-morrow); and warned him that our reply to BER'RDI's counterproposals for emp of Italian Army would in all probability be delivered to-day, so that necessary arrangements could be made for translation. — comd 2 i/c G i

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Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

6. Dvrs for 623 Telegrafisti Coy forming at TR'NI:- info them that ten of the dvrs from C'LABRIA could be utilised for this unit. — G ii

7. Rifts for PBS and 1923 class in C'MP'NIA:- clarified the situation and helped draft a sig to H'QSO, of which we shall be getting a copy. The situation is now under control for the moment, and they will be awaiting our decision as to the allotment to be made. — G ii

Maj LITTO

8. Italian instructors etc for RLION'NO (2 Dist minutes 13 Mar) see log 19 and 28/29 Mar - it is stated that the personnel called for duly reported at POLI'N'NO, only to be told that they were NOT wanted and sent away. — G

1597

Maj LUN'EDONI

9; 8 and 9 Pack Tpt Coys:- Contrary to what was anticipated they are unable to complete thm animals in C'LABRIA. They have to produce from B'RI Remount Sta 14 riding horses, 16 draft horses and 31 mules. In view of dates and the fact that hold the horses are needs for the 8 Coy, can these animals be sent direct to ultimate destination of the two units ? — G ii

Maj D''NTON.

10. Info of units just arrived from S'RDIN'A — G

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'AB' Bgcit

5 Apr 44

LIAISON WITH S M R E

1. Col CHIAVARINO, Lt Col MILLEFIORINI, Maj D'ANTONA — c i/c G
General discussion on future org of units for Allied programme, as follows:-

a) Serial 1052A to be formed with personnel of AA btys in CALABRIA

b) Men recalled to the colours in CAMPANIA with the '23 class to be emp basically for serials 1055A and 1058A. BASSO to be given the broad ests, and allowed a free hand for org the units at depots in CAMPANIA. BASSO to contact PBS for guidance in forming units and any help required over clothing. SMRE point out that the men to be dealt with will be quite out-of-hand and they estimate that one month at the depot will be required to enable their offrs to get a proper grip of the units. They anticipate no difficulty over offrs or nco's for these units, nor over the domestic unit.eqpt.

c) After the above, the following serials to have precedence: -1062A, 1063A, 1065B, 1067, 1068.

d) Info them that men from depots and districts had been assigned to following serials: 1051,1063,1065B,1076 and 836 men towards 1077.

e) Serial 1065D:- they will give us further copy of their of their order.

f) Ll Corrusti Bn:- requested them to hurry forward the 140 reserves from 1X Dvr Regt. The coy in LEC E is being retained for special internal security measures, and they are most anxious NOT to let it go. Suggestion that the men and vehs are to be passed to the CCRR.

g) Enquiring into the present occupation of 166 Bty at S Pietro, as also the situation of the 217 Bty at Monduria. CHIAVARINO was formerly comd of 58 Arty Regt, and states that only handful of low category men are left at Monduria to look after the guns.

Gen CAILLI

515 Regt of 209 Div is at present attached as follows:

-1052A, 1063A, 1065B, 1076, 1077.

a) Infd them that men from depots and districts had been assigned to following serials: 1051,1063,1065B,1076 and 896 men towards 1077.

e) Serial 1065D:- they will give us further copy of their of their order.

f) 11 Carristi Bn:- requested them to hurry forward the 140 reserves from 1X Dvr Regt. The coy in LEC E is being retained for special internal security measures, and they are most anxious NOT to let it go. Suggestion that the men and vehs are to be passed to the CCRR.

g) Enquiring into the present occupation of 166 Bty at S Pietro, as also the situation of the 217 Bty at Mondurie. CHI'VARINO was formerly comd of 58 Arty Regt, and states that only handful of low category men are left at Mondurie to look after the guns.

Gen OXILIA

2. 515 Regt of 209 Div is at present attached as follows:

8 Army	5 Corps
	Regt HQ 8/37
HQ and two coys 556 Bn	Two coys 556 Bn 8/220
Two coys 546 Bn	HQ & two coys 546 Bn 13/212
	353 Bn 16/330
	Total with 5 Corps 45 offrs 790 or's

OXILIA is keen that the two halves of the regt be reunited, and suggests for consideration that the part with 5 Corps be transferred to 8 Army, and that it be replaced by serial 1044 of the programme (gd bn for 8 Army 800 strong) which is due to move 10 Apr.

3. 'F' Recce Sqn:- XIII Corps has taken this unit with them, and 5 Corps requested MAI to have it replaced. This has been agreed in principle and 5 Corps has requested them to provide an Italian offr to go to SARDINIA to select suitable personnel from NEMBO div. OXILIA is opposed to taking any men from the Nembo, but suggests the men of the volunteer camp at VIBO VALENTIA, who are about the right strength and trg at the moment.

4. OXILIA is going to Bari Friday 7th. MAIA LO 2 Dist to be infd with a view to arranging meeting with 266 to co-ordinate SMRE activities.

1596

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AD AQ/20/1.

LIAISON WITH S M R E 4 Apr 44

Lt Col CANNONE

1. Two wksp coys, SARDINIA:- the matter is having their attention, though they anticipate it will take some time to obtain the required details from Sardinia. — G i

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

2. Clothing and boots for 1923 class to be recalled to the colours in Campania. The matter arose through a letter from BASSO to the effect that as there was no clothing for the 4000 men they hope to obtain, he proposed deferring the operation. This letter was addressed to M of W with copy to SMRE. A further phone call to the Ministry to-day elicited the fact that they had signalled Basso to get on with the recall and to get it finished by 15 Apr. — comd 2 i/c

Maj D'ANTONA

3. Dvr unit at MONOPOLI with 32 Veh Coy:- this is in the process of being organised into a unit - we should have details to-morrow. — G ii

4. Discussions of personnel and units for Allied programme:- They now give assurances that further personnel will be forthcoming and that in some way or the other they will find the full 21.000 agreed by the Cheif of Staff. However, they are still under the impression that 211 Div will NOT be utilised unless they fall down on their contract. — 2 i/c G i

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

5. 1923 class in Campania:- they wish to receive instrs as to emp of the 4000 men who should be reporting in the next week or two. As they will be in civilian clothes they want to get rid of them as quickly as possible. — 2 i/c

Rgcd s/m

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Bgen 1/4

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8/201 AD Salerno

LIAISON WITH S M R E 2 Apr 44

1. Lt Col CHECCHIA
Org of adm control of sups for Italian Army:- A/Q
SMRE are in agreement with the details submitted to them.

2. Boots and clothing for rfts for 210/212/227 Divs:- A/Q
Discussed our sig with him and made sure he understood the situation. Their sig 3/3339/ Serv confirms the arrangement to BASSO.

Col QUERCIA

3. Fatima sig 2729: he cannot recall specifically what was discussed Capt VELLA of 7 Mtn Regt. Situation is that the unit is still located at PERSANO according to their infm, and as long as it remains outside the combat area it will NOT qualify for additional pay hitherto awarded to personnel of Mot Bde. Pt of interest is that the Ministry has NOT yet legalised payment of this bonus, so that technically it will be difficult to make the award to additional units in the combat area until the Ministry regularise the posn. A/Q

Lt Col SANPÒ

4. BATILE Bn: he was NOT able to get through to TARANTO yesterday evening by phone and sent a sig instead. Requested him to obtain ack. Infd him that the bn will be moving 4 Apr in two special trains from TARANTO - query why not CHIATONA sta ? G i

5. PICENO Div:- for the benefit of staff offrs visiting this fmn, following are usual hrs of trg: 0630 - 1100, 1330 hrs onwards. G

Capt FORENZA

6. 840 OR's due to leave LECCE for NAPLES 3 Apr:- he had already signalled Ministry with full details (copy to G iii) G iii

7. Warned him of date of departure of Batile Bn G

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Lt Col S'NPO

4. BAFILE Bn: he was NOT able to get through to T'RANTO yesterday evening by phone and sent a sig instead. Requested him to obtain ack. Infd him that the bn will be moving 4 Apr in two special trains from T'RANTO - query why not CHIATONA sta ? G i

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7. Warned him of date of departure of Bafile Bn G

Lt Col 'LOIA

8. 1 offr and 50 dvrs for N'PLES to collect 44 vehs for BARI. They will lay this on, but would like to be assured of having the dvrs back. An offr will call at the Mission 3 Apr to arrange details with SO Sigs. G i

Gen MATTIOLI

9. Infd him that D'DL was on his way to N'PLES and would obtain answers to outstanding queries while there. Infd him also of anticipated additional availability of naval personnel from T'RANTO, BRINDISI and B'RLETTA. He is writing a letter to Comando Supremo making it clear that it is our wish that naval personnel shall be under comd local Italian lab offr (Army) as far as the org of the work is concerned. G i

1504

Col CHI'VARINO

10. Commenced his duties to-day as new head of the Ordinamento and Mobilitazione Branch (SD) comd 2 i/c G

Lt Col DI BITONTO

11. Is anxious for authority for release of 1000 sets of clothing and boots for personnel of 1923 class in C'MPANIA. Operation BI recall is held up pending this authority. A/Q

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LIAISON WITH S M R E 1 Apr 45

	Gen OXILIA and Gen MATTIOLI	G i
1.	Reorg of Italian mil lab - letter from DDL Flambo 23 Mar: they would like further details of the radical reorg envisaged in para 20 subsec (iii) to (v), i.e. what units will be involved, particularly in the case of 3 Dist. Para 20 mentions "fwd duties" - does this involve some of 3 Dist units ? This part of the programme means a radical change in the Italian adm set-up.	DADL
2.	Second bn to be formed in Apulia: can MATTIOLI be infd soonest of the proportions of the personnel to be raised in TARANTO and BRINDISI?	G i DADL
3.	MATTIOLI is rather concerned about tying up the emp of naval personnel due to arrive shortly at TARANTO. He points out that the State Maggiore can NOT give orders to the navy, & that the matter is liable to drag on indefinitely unless firm orders are given by somebody. He would like close touch maintained through MAI / Navy Sub-commission and Italian Ministry of Marine.	Comd G i(L) DADL
	Maj MICCORI	
4.	"Specchio" one day late this time, due to several errors discovered when the work was completed on account of the new system. One drawback of the two parts is that where part of a unit is working unofficially for the Allies, the strength of the unit appears in both/ parts.	G
	Lt Col MILLEFIORINI	2 i/c
5.	96 Inf Bn:- analysis of 230 men delivered short (see log 31 Mar)	
	-in hosp 49	
	-on leave 17	
	-absent w/l 145	
	-rear party 36	
	-on duty 31 (with other units)	
	278	
	-actually	

Maj M'IOCCHI

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Lt Col MILLEFIORINI 2 i/c

5. 96 Ind Bn:- analysis of 230 men delivered short (see log 31 Mar)

-in hosp	49	
-on leave	17	
-absent w/l	145	
-rear party	36	
-on duty	31	(with other units)
	278	
-actually delivered	570	

6. 212 Vet Hosp:- Location:Depot of 12 Arty Regt NOLA Was signalled ~~as~~ to be ready 25 Mar. G ii

Maj D'ANTONA

7. Serial 1053 Pack Tpt Coys:- It is agreed that they will be numbered 8 and 9 G ii

Gen BER'RDI

8. With comd about S'RDINIA and programme for emp Italian Army

1593

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"A"

LIAISON WITH S M R E 31 Mar 44

1. Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
With SORE to discuss trg and eqpt of engr units of MANTOVA, PICENO and CIL

2. 96 Inf Bn:- 230 men delivered short to 8 Army for usual variety of reasons, absent without leave, in hospital, on leave, short-delivery from depots etc. Impressed on him the need to complete the est earliest. G ii

3. Serial 1064 (ex 1083):- to be ready to leave 10 Apr. G ii

4. Maj D'ANTONA
Serial 1054:- he will signal XXI Corps requesting that one pack tpt coy be made available if possible by 10 Apr. G ii

5. Maj LUNARDONI
Serial 1054:- no harness available for 117 mules. G ii

6. Maj ROSSI
BOOTS:- ref logs 28/29/30 Mar, he has now signalled MAAF Campania passing to them authority to issue boots to 212 Div previously given to BARI in error. A/Q Bgdt

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
7. First course for dvrs in CALABRIA:- 90 dvrs were passed out of the first course. Of these, 30 were used to meet the est of XXIII Artieri Bn, being the only dvrs available for this purpose. The remaining 60 have been ordered by sig to report to IX Dvr Regt BARI, whence they will be diverted to POLIGNANO. G ii

Col PALLAVICINO
8. BERARDI is planning to leave for SARDINIA on 2 Apr, flying from LECCE 0830 hrs. He is most anxious to meet the comd before he goes. He asks that a meeting be arranged if possible for evening 1 Apr. comd Base i/c

Maj ROSSI

6. BOOTS:- ref logs 28/29/30 Mar, he has now signalled RFAA Campania passing to them authority to issue boots to 212 Div previously given to BARI in error. K/Q Right

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Gen ORILIA

9. Investigation of why no action had been taken by SMRE to authorise Gen BASSO to move Gen TOMASELLI and staff to 8 Army area to administer Italian units moved to the WEST with Army. Misunderstanding caused by the wording of BASSO's letter and "bureaucratic procrastination" on the part of SMRE ops branch were both responsible for the muddle. A signal is being sent to BASSO forthwith to put matters right. G i

1592

DAA+QMG

"From all ITalians etc
Good Load deliveries!"

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LIAISON WITH S M R E 28/29 Mar 44

Lt Col GALLO

1. DICAT wireless sets at TARANTO and BRINDISI:- these are controlled by the navy and SMRE have no record of them. — SO Sigs

2. Sigs eqpt and park for Mot Bde:- left letter with them for translation - infm will be supplied within few days. — SO Sigs

3. WT sets for PICENO and MANTOVA Divs and NEMBO Arty Regt:- they would like to have a decision in reply to their sigs. — 2 i/c

4. WT sets ex 20th AA Raggruppamento BARI:- they are still awaiting confirmation of the types and quantities of sets to be handed in. — SO Sigs

Col QUERCI:

5. Bonus for NCO's on port lab etc.:- he is infd by Col BALZANI of the Ministry that it has been agreed in principle that the 20 lire bonus is to be extended to those NCO's who actually participate in the work. The necessary decree is being prepared. It is NOT feasible to make this concession to those in attendance at the work, as by implication all WO's and even the offrs would then qualify. — A/Q DADL SORE

6. Spares required by MT Pl of SMRE (seelog of 27th):- it is clarified that this refers to ref 6388 of 27 Mar. Ministry had sat on the request for ten days - can authority be given without further delay please ? — DADOS

7. Boots for CAMPANIA:- for the moment it is est that signal 3478 of 4 Mar (Ministry to FFAA Campania) authorised the collection of 6386 prs boots for 210 div; details for 227 and 212 divs are awaited. — A/Q

8. Italian instructors for POLIGNANO:- personnel called for in 2 dist minutes of 13 Mar has all been found with exception of two mechanics, and will be reporting to POLIGNANO before 31st. Additional 30 driving instructors will be available shortly, but have told them NOT to send further personnel until complete supplementary list is forthcoming. — G ii

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Maj LUN'RDONI

9. Our letter requesting infm about horses and mules:- he has sent an answer, of which the following is a breakdown: — G ii D'ADL

	horses	mules
SARDINIA	3095	1725
IX Corps	690	447(^)
XXXI "	798	1154(°)
LI "	1578	1991
FFAA Campania	321	185

(°) incl 400 to be made available for two pack coys
(^) incl 100 evacuated already reported.

In addition, there are large numbers of fine mules in SICILY, legally and/or illegally in the hands of civilians.

1591

Maj D'ANTONA

10. Dvrs unofficially emp at MONOPOLI:- still no reply. Unable to get through by phone, he is now awaiting clarification from IX Corps. — G ii

11. Pack bty at M'NDURIA:- revised strength of OR's is 520, offrs and NCO's and stores etc remain unchanged. — 2 i/c

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Maj D'ANTONA

12. Serial 1065D:- instructions in course of preparation- copy will be available for us to-morrow. Date of readiness probably 15 Apr. — G ii

13. 196 and 197 GRUPPO ARTY, BARI (Percy's sig RLSB 28th) these are required for serial 1064 (formerly 1083), and are being replaced by 72 Inf Bn ex Brindisi plus 306 men from reorg camp. See log 26 Mar para 4. — G ii

Lt Col SAMPÒ

14. Back from WEST side, where he visited Brig Gen HUME, CCmd 5 Army in connection with their scheme for collecting disbanded tps coming through the lines. It was mutually agreed that the fwd posts just behind the lines were NOT desirable, but that posts behind xxxx the rear areas, one on each side of the peninsula, would be advantageous. SAMPÒ has returned to discuss the matter with the Stato Maggiore and it is agreed that he will return to finalize matters with Brig HUME in a few days. — G i

15. SAMPOalso visited the Mot Bde, which is now under comd Polish Corps. He found things under control. Their HQ is at SCAPOLI. The Piemonte Bn is awaited for the task of occupying Mt MORRONE, which at the moment seems to be in no-man's land. The Mot Bde will be inspected shortly by a Polish General. Activities for the moment are limited to patrols. — comd 2 i/c G

16. Proposed move of Stato Maggiore:- left message for Gen CXIIIth, who was out, to the effect that the school buildings at PAGANI would NOT be available for the SMRT, being already earmarked for other purposes. — G i

Maj D'ANTONA

17. Serial 1054:- collected copy of their order to XXXI Corps for the imm of two pack tpt coys incl mules. To be ready 20 Apr. — G ii

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SMPO has returned to discuss the matter with the Stato Maggiore and it is agreed that he will return to finalize matters with Brig HUME in a few days.

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16. Proposed move of Stato Maggiore:- left message for Gen ONILIA, who was out, to the effect that the school buildings at PAGANI would NOT be available for the SMRE, being already earmarked for other purposes. — G i

Maj D'ANTONA

17. Serial 1054:- collected copy of their order to XXXI Corps for the imm of two pack tpt coys incl mules. To be ready 20 Apr. — G 11

Lt Col CHECCHIA

18 Infd him of the situation in SICILY regarding handing over of Italian mil stores. The depot at CALTANISETTA is in the process of being handed over, and a staff offr of the Ministry is there at the moment making an inventory. He has already signalled that there are no tyres there. — A/Q

1590

Gen MATTIOLI

19. Gen LOMBARDI, gren comd TARANTO, has written that he is infd from Allied sources that 200 evieri will arrive there shortly for port lab. MATTIOLI is NOT infd of this, and would like to know when they can be expected. — 2 i/c D'DL

20. Second bn for Brig HILLARY:- It has been agreed between MATTIOLI and 2 Dist that the second bn of 1200 men will be taken from TARANTO and BRINDISI. MATTIOLI now wants to know what proportion of this strength he is to take from each port. — D'DL

21. Removal of evieri from port lab:- Col BL'DT has infd MATTIOLI, having had it from Col GORDON SMITH, who heard it by phone from Col BRAHAN, that Brigs HILLARY and DUCHESNE have agreed that all 1600 evieri in BARI are to leave shortly for unknown destination; Is this correct? — comd

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'A 2'

LIAISON WITH S M R E 27 Mar 44

Gen SOLDARELLI

1. Collected details for booking seat in plane and warned him to be ready to move at short notice. — Mov

Gen BRUNETTI

2. Personnel of 212 Div NOT accounted for:- reminded him that we are still awaiting an explanation; XXXI Corps to be chased for reply to SMRE signal. — G

3. Rst of pack bty for combat div:- they are unable to account for the numbers in the HQ tp, and are fetching in the adjt of the bty this afternoon to suppply the infm. — 2 i/c G ii

Maj D'ANTONA

4. Pack Gp HQ, serial 1053:- infd him no objection to the inclusion of two additional offrs and one NCO. Location of unit: NOVOLI; query - arrangements for tpt to SESSA as travel by civilian trains is NOT practicable. — G ii

Lt Col GUIDA

5. Collected breakdown of ests of inf units for PICENO and MANTOVA divs; similar infm for other arms and services to be available to-morrow. — G(L) Col.

Lt Col CHECCHI

6. Request for toilet items for tps working for Allies:- Investigated their request and basis of calculation. — A/Q

Lt Col GUERCI

7. Boots for PICENO Div:- as far as they are aware all boots authorised have been issued, and there are ample stocks left to provide the 7000 pairs for above fmn. Although this fmn is NOT working for the Allies, it is replacing allied tps on internal security and has the task of tng for eventual combat, and on this basis should qualify for boots. — 2 i/c A/Q

8. A request for authority to release spares for the MT Pl of the SMRE has been sent in by the Ministry. Can our — A/Q

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8. A request for authority to release spares for the MT Pl of the SMRE has been sent in by the Ministry. Can our approval be given asp soonas possible please. — A/Q

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LIAISON WITH S M R E

AQ

26 Mar 44

Capt DELLA CORNA
1. 211 Vet Hosp: departed 24 Mar — G ii

Lt Col GUIDA
2. Driving School, POLIGNANO:- warned him that number of Italian instructors had been increased to 50. He is doubtful whether this number of capable instructors can be found. Maj LITRO of the SMRE MT branch is visiting the IX Dvr Regt Depot to-morrow and will find as many as he can. — G ii

3. Guard coys for sup trains:- gave him a rough idea of our requirements to enable him to work out an est for discussion. He will try and work in at least a proportion of GCRR. They will need further infm about the volume of traffic in different areas before they can decide on how the unit is to work. — G i

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
4. 372 BN BARLETTA:- Infd him that this unit was to remain where it was; consequently units alerted for serial 1063 will now serve for 1064. 72 Bn at BRINDISI, which was going to complete 372, will now be diverted to port lab, thus releasing 541 Arty Regt for serial 1064. 541 appears to be engaged on port lab at the moment, and without its substitution by 72 Bn, the lab people refuse to let it go. — G ii

5. 551 AA Bty(Marine) BRINDISI:- they are waiting to hear from Comando Supremo about the release of this unit, which is at present under comd Italian Navy. Reputed to be no longer serving useful purpose. — 2 i/c G

Lt Col CHECCHIA
6. Boots for PICENO Div:- there may be a misunderstanding about issue of boots, as he says they have issued all the boots that have been authorised. Have promised to go into the matter again with him. — comd A/Q

7. Italian Mil stores in SARDINIA:- infd him we are looking into [illegible] will advise posn later. Regarding SICILY, — 2 i/c A/Q

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where it was; consequently units alerted for serial 1083 will now serve for 1064. 72 Bn at BRINDISI, which was going to complete 372, will now be diverted to port lab, thus releasing 541 Arty Regt for serial 1064. 541 appears to be engaged on port lab at the moment, and without its substitution by 72 Bn, the lab people refuse to let it go.

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Lt Col CHECCHI:

6. Boots for PICENO Div:- there may be a misunderstanding about issue of boots, as he says they have issued all the boots that have been authorised. Have promised to go into the matter again with him. — comd A/Q

7. Italian Mil stores in SARDINIA:- infd him we are looking into the matter and will advise poss later. Regarding SICILY, he is infd from Italian sources that Col ZELIOLI has commenced to reissue stores to the Italian authorities in the island, and to place mil installations, depots etc at their disposal. — 2 i/c A/Q

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

8. Statement on Italian Army for Washington:- examination of our figures with him and Maj MAIOCCHI. Cleared up certain queries resulting from units being incl under two headings in our state. Their counter-proposals should be ready by this evening. BERARDI planning to go to PALERMO to-morrow. — comd 2 i/c

1588

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

9. Amn required from SARDINIA for Mot Bde(rei letter &X 7 Mar from Comando Supremo):- he will have the figures relating to present availability by this afternoon, and will bring them round himself. — G ii

Gen BRUNETTI and Gen OXILIA

10. First contact with the latter, who is definitely taking over as Deputy Chief of Staff. BRUNETTI will remain at BERARDI's disposal for duties unspecified. — 2 i/c

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785420

LIAISON WITH S M R E 25 Mar 44

Gen MATTIOLI

1. With DADL in connection with fun of lab bns for army areas. Mattioli will write in about proposed designations and suggesting modified est of four coys per bn in place of the six coys at present envisaged. — 2 i/c DADL

2. Boots and clothing for naval personnel on port lab:- Admiral DARETTI had called on Mattioli the day before requesting his help in obtaining boots for 300 sailors on port lab, also clothing (uniforms of any kind) for same purpose. Comd NUCCI, Navy LO with SMRE, was called in and it was explained to him that this was a matter for Navy Sub-commission. Nevertheless, action on our part is desireble to hasten release of boots etc, in the interests of port lab situation. — comd 2 i/c DADL A/Q

3. Naval ~~war~~ personnel from NAPLES for port lab:- approx 350 sailors have arrived at TARANTO and are located at MARUGGIO (QO397). These are part of the 1500 to relieve four docks operating coys. As DADL requires personnel at BRINDISI immediately, comd NUCCI was asked to see that this contingent was directed there forthwith. He said the men were being fitted out and that a weeding -out process was in progress to eliminate "unsuitable elements". Query: do we want this done ? — 2 i/c DADL G i(L)

Gen BRUNETTI!

4. 800 offr cadets with Mot Bde due for promotion: Requested him to put us into the picture before any action was taken. Explained that 8 Army would have to be info, and we should also have to consider the implications of removing 800 replacements from the available man-power for Allied programme. He will write. — 2 i/c G

5. Bn for PALERMO:- Told him we must have the required details forthwith. These were communicated to us by phone in the afternoon: I Bn 518 Regt ready to leave REGGIO 31 Mar. — 2 i/c

3. [illegible] 350 sailors have arrived at TARANTO and are located at MARUGGIO (QQ397). These are part of the 1500 to relieve four docks operating coys. As DADL requires personnel at BRINDISI immediately, comd NUCCI was asked to see that this contingent was directed there forthwith. He said the men were being fitted out and that a weeding-out process was in progress to eliminate "unsuitable elements". Query: do we want this done ? — DADL G i(L)

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5. Bn for PALERMO:- Told him we must have the required details forthwith. These were communicated to us by phone in the afternoon: I Bn 518 Regt ready to leave REGGIO 31 Mar. — 2 i/c

6. Strength of Mot Bde:- they appreciate the difficulty of of the situation. The only way out they can see is to allow units to retain present strengths until arrival of N/ZEMBO and conc of complete div, when they would reduce units to est on TO, utilizing remainder to form rft camp. Long discussion with BRUNETTI, incl arty situation. Told him 2 i/c would be calling to discuss prosply 26 Mar. — 2 i/c

1587

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780120

LIAISON WITH S M R E 24 Mar 44

Lt Col GUILA

1. Italian personnel for POLIGNANO:- he estimates that all instructors will be found by month-end. They are to proceed to POLIGNANO as they are found, and NOT wait until the est is complete. — G ii

2. The 200 dvrs borrowed from Mot Bde by 5 Army have NOT been returned. They want to know whether they can really expect them back in due course, or whether they will count as a dvr unit against the programme. — G

Lt Col ALOIA

3. Italian Mil stores in SARDINIA:- these are being drawn on by local Allied authorities. Is it intended that this should be done without any ref to SMRE or the Mission? What is the position in Sicily in this connection, now that a Corps HQ has been set up there? — 2 i/c ~~A/Q~~

4. 60 vehs for Italian units:- they had selected two divs in Campania this time, so are having another shot. — G i

Maj D'ANTONA

5. Serial 1054:- The two coys will be formed at SPEZZANO ALBANESE to be ready about 15 Apr. Mules to be made available in CALABRIA now total 330 - this figure to be made up to 400 so that both coys will be complete with animals. — 2 i/c G DADL

6. Serial 1053:- personnel selected for the Pack Tpt Gp HQ included a Lt Col and Capt Adjt; they will now try and line up the or's. with the est we have now produced. Tpt required on the est will NOT be available. — G

7. Mot Bde:- long discussion on the strength of the arty, which brought up the whole question of strength of all units in the combat div. This is being reported verbally. — 2 i/c

Gen BRUNETTI

8. Air Force Bn for combat div:- this originated with the [illegible] to ascertain — 2 i/c

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Gen BRUNETTI

8. Air Force Bn for combat div:- this originated with the Comando Supremo, whom they are contacting to ascertain whether Air Force Sub-commission is in the know. Present posn is that est of the bn is being approved and eqpt provided, partly from Army sources. They will be sending official notification shortly. Strength about 1000 — 2 i/c

9. Bn of 8th Div for PALERMO:- personnel is ready but NOT fully clothed. They had to send by road to BARI and LECCE to collect the stores they needed. Location REGGIO. They are getting strength figures for us. — 2 i/c

10. Comd-out of depots:- in the process the Ministry have discovered personnel working unofficially for the Allies in several depots. They will be submitting a list. — comd 2 i/c G

Col PALLAVICINO

11. Arranged that Maj HALL would call on BERARDI on his return to Lequile.

Maj D' ANTONA

12. Officer cadets with Mot Bde:- About 800 cadets have been serving with the combat unit awaiting their commission. It has now been decided that they are to be commissioned in the near future — 2 i/c

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1586

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AD

2483

LIAISON WITH S M R E 21 Mar 44

1.	Lt Col PIZZONIA Communicated contents of Distwo sig SD1/220 and requested him to arrange for move of 12 offrs and 425 ors of 408 Inf Regt from BARLETTA to BARI	G DADL
2.	Lt Col DI BITONTO Serial 1025:- SMRE infd by Sardinia that ⅞ of the eight fd hosps awaiting shipment, two are required to be detained there for meeting local needs and are actually functioning at the moment.	G ii
3.	Lt Col ALOIA Requested him to nominate 60 vehs exactly as indicated in our letter, i.e. from units with allied fmns.	G i
4.	Cap BRUNI Pay of Line Tele Coys:- he is awaiting instrs from Ministry awarding additional pay - he has been told they will be forthcoming shortly.	SO Sigs
5.	Capt RAIMONDI Courier service CROTONE - TARANTO:- left message for Capt VINCI that couriers are to call at Crotone RTO irrespective of the time of night.	SO Sigs
6.	Maj LUNARDONI Told him we would be seeing about the mules at BARI. He will ~~xiii~~ let us have as soon as possible exact figures of mules available in each of the corps.	G ii DADL
7.	Farriers:- he will let me have locations of the available farriers to-morrow.	
8.	Maj PINNA Bn of 211 Div for PALERMO:- CORONATI has signalled that he has the matter in hand. Requested PINNA to signal immediately for details for tpt, which he did while I was there.	2 i/c
	Gen BRUNETTI	2 i/c

Capt RAIMONDI

5. Courier service CROTONE - TARANTO:- left message for Capt VINCI that couriers are to call at Crotone RTO irrespective of the time of night. — SO Sigs

Maj LUNARDONI

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7. Farriers:- he will let me have locations of the available farriers to-morrow.

8. Maj PINNA
Bn of 21 Div for PALERMO:- CO ONATI has signalled that he has the matter in hand. Requested PINNA to signal immediately for details for tpt, which he did while I was there. — 2 i/c

Gen BRUNETTI

9. Distribution of eqpt and clothing to new units:- Discussed at some length the present procedure; he fully agrees with the picture as we see it and appreciates our pt. The main difficulty is the need for conserving their remaining stocks and watching distribution closely. He will investigate the matter thoroughly and see if our suggestion can be put into operation. — 2 i/c

1585

10. Allied arty and WT sets for PICENO and MANTOVA divs:- touched on this and infd him that ~~ike~~ it was premature to raise these matters just yet. — comd 2 i/c

Gen MATTIOLI

11. Lab bns ordered by Brig HILARY:- he is anxious to have our firm order, as he has been infd by Col MOCCIA that Col SLADE has stated that the men are NOT to come from the BARI pool. This is in direct contrast with Brig HILARY's intentions. — comd

12. Two coys loaned to 809 Engr Aviation Bn:- following the move of 408 Inf Regt from BARLETTA to BARI (see above) it becomes necessary to recall the two coys to the BARLETTA lab pool. He anticipates difficulties on the part of the Aviation Bn. — G ii

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13. Maj MAIOCCHI and Lt Col LANDOLFI (Ministry) — comd 2 i/c A/Q G
General discussion on strength returns, with the object of obtaining uniformity. A plan was considered for discussion with the Mission. The following key facts emerged:-
Time lag for the returns to reach LECCE from the corps:

- IX Corps three days(with reserve for 209 div)
- Ll " three days
- XXXl " seven/ eight days or longer
- CAMPANIA six/seven days (these incl 210 div, various pack units and Mot Bde)
- Xll Corps(Sicily) 10 days
- Sardinia ten days or more.

Above are on present form, but it would appear doubtful whether the first two can be accelerated to any appreciable extent.

14. Firing range nr LECCE:- the Lecce range itself is NOT suited for LMGs. The nearest suitable range is at TORRE VENERI (on coast just NORTH of S. CATALDO). It is suggested that the unit concerned should approach Presidio Militare, Caserma ORONZO MASSA (nr market) LECCE. and arrange details for when required. — G ii

Maj D'ANTONA
15. Serial 1053:- 2 offrs and 6 men have been alerted for 22 Mar c/o Ll Corps. Designation: 20° ~~XXXXX~~ Comando Gruppo Salmerie. — G ii

16. Units for the programme:- collected table giving total of 154 offrs and 4081 men. Serial 1054 has been omitted, as they are reckoning on producing the mules for at least one pack coy and perhaps two. They are awaiting the mule figures - personnel is already earmarked. — G

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Maj D'ANTONA

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1584

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785420

AD 211/5

LIAISON WITH S M R E 20 Mar 44

Gen MATTIOLI

1. With DADL to discuss imm of lab bns out of 2 Dist lab pool. G

Maj MAIOCCHI

2. In connection with revised strength returns required by G office. Investigated differences in figures on ration state of War Ministry and corresponding figures on SMRE returns. In particular 212 Div. Ministry had included some corps tps under comd. He will let us have complete reconciliation for this unit later in the day. 2 i/c G

3. For general inim, sources of SMRE and War Ministry figures are the same, i.e. returns sent in by the corps every ten days, copy to Stato Maggiore and copy to Ministry. The Ministry has to collate the figures and get them to the Mission within four days. This means that details for XXXI Corps, and the islands may refer to the previous ten-day period. On the other hand, SMRE tables are sent in after 10 days, and previous 10-day figures from all sources are included, plus any additional late infm which may have come to hand independently of ten-day returns. Such differences are noted in the margin. The new arrangement we have requested from MAIOCCHI will give us end-of-the -month figures for the 15th, and 20th of-the-month for the 30th. G A/a 9

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

4. Specialist units in SARDINIA:- have asked him to confirm officially the units nominated from Sardinia, ref appx A. Ref their letter 17 inst, 13^ Cp Artieri d'arresto is NOT the same as 13 Artieri Coy. Units offered in the above letter are over and above needs of the island. Infd him that these units need NOT be kept hanging about waiting to be shipped, but placed at disposal of Sardinian comd temporarily, at short notice to move. G ii

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Lt Col GUIDA

5. 212 Vet Hosp:- will be formed 25 Mar. — G ii

Maj LUNARDONI

6. Farriers:- NOT more than four will be required for units in the programme, and he is anxious to have the others employed, now that they have been alerted. He asks that we arrange to have the balance sent to X Corps, or otherwise employed. — 1583

7. Mules for Pack Units:- about 100 emeciated mules are available at the Centro Raccolta Quadrupedi BARI. With the proper feeding for 4/5 weeks they will be suitable for emp with pack units. It is suggested someone views them with a view to allowing extra forage. — G ii DADL

Col MILLEFIORINI

As he knows, Maj VERONI will only be going to [illegible] at the end of the month. — SORE

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

2.13 AD

LIAISON WITH S M R E 19 Mar 44

Col PALLAVICINO

1. Handed him first three numbers of "Il Mese" for which he was duly grateful. He proposes circulating them in the Stato Maggiore. Can he have this paper regularly in future? — G iii(I)

2. He wanted to know whether the comd had gone to Sardinia. Told him the comd would be coming to see BERARDI in the next day or two.

Gen MATTIOLI

3. As the result of the Naples conference, he has been asked by Brig HILARY to prepare twelve bns, each 200 strong, total 2400 men from lab pool in APULIA(Taranto 200 ~~xxxxxxx~~ Bari 2200), for transfer to WEST side for lab in zone of ops. Understood move to take place about 5 Apr. Would like our confirmation earliest, as units to go have to be made up from picked personnel. — comd 2 i/c G

Lt Col ALOIA (SD Servizi)

4. This offr joined SMRE last week and has been placed under Lt Col CHECCHIA. He crossed the lines near CASSINO on ~~xx~~ 11 Feb, on his third attempt, having previously been in hiding in Rome. Was formerly on the General Staff in Rome in same posn he now occupies. — general

5. 60 Italian vehs it is hoped to replace with British vehs:- To simplify matters they would prefer making the exchange en bloc with vehs of the Motor Bde. — G i

6. 921 and 923 Reparti Portuali:- positively no vehs available, so they will issue mule and cart to each unit. — G ii SOME

7. Lt Col GALLO

WT sets for Mantova and Piceno divs:- would like to know whether we shall be sanctioning issue of sets to these two ihns. — 2 i/c SO Sigs

5 Apr. Would like our confirmation earlies , as units to go have to be made up from picked personnel.

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Gen BERARDI

8. Ran into him outside his office. Asked about visit to SARDINIA and said he would like to accompany the comd. Told him the comd would be along to see him in the next day or two. He asked how was the comb-out of personnel for the programme going - he understood the War Ministry was making good progress. — comd

Lt Col GUIDA

9. Driving instructors for POLIGNANO:- in accordance with minutes of meeting at ST offices 2 Dist 13 Mar, SMRE have requested War Ministry to produce Italian personnel for the driving school, as detailed in para 10 of the minutes. Ministry LO to follow please. — G i

GSO 1. Pl keep me in the picture as I suppose this will extend to be equipped with Sarcens & Sita! Gen AG

1582

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'A8'

LIAISON WITH S M R E 18 Mar 44

Maj PINNA

1. Arty from allied sources:- one gathers that they are firmly of the opinion at the State Maggiore that arty from Allied sources is just round the corner, and the communication of any infm to the contrary will have to be carefully handled. — comd 2 i/c

Lt Col CHECCHIA

2. 60 Italian Vehs to be replaced by British vehs:- handed him our request of to-day's date. He will try and let me have to-morrow the details requested in para 1. — G i

Maj D'ANTONA

3. He is dealing in detail with men and units for the allied programme. Infd him that next serial that required his attention was 1065 - the dvrs will be obtained from the 100 men exchanged from port lab pool and possibly 60 partially trained at the BARI driving centre. — G

4. Serial 1053:- they propose sending rather more than the two offrs specified, in order to have a self-contained adm centre. The matter is having immediate attention. — G ii

Lt Col CHECCHIA

5. Still awaiting our authority for issue of WT sets for Pack Bty detined for Mot Bde. This unit has been readied for 20 inst, so can we please give required authority. — SO Sigs

UFFICIO OPERAZIONI - Segreteria

6. Courier service TARANTO - CROTONE:- Requested them to arrange this forthwith, written confirmation to follow. — SO Sigs

Lt Col MILLERIOSIMI

7. FRIAGLIA MARIO ex Italian Radio-intercepsec:- he will write to the hospital at BISCEGLIE and find out if this man is officially considered in a fit state to resume duties, in which case there should be no difficulty in posting him to the 810 Radiocontrollo Pl. — SO Sigs

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5.	Lt Col CHECCHIA Still awaiting our authority for issue of WT sets for Pack Bty destined for Mot Bde. This unit has been readied for 20 inst, so can we please give required authority.	SO Sigs
6.	UFFICIO OPERAZIONI - Segreteria Courier service TARANTO - CROTONE:- Requested them to arrange this forthwith, written confirmation to follow.	SO Sigs
7.	Lt Col MILLEFIORINI FRIGLIA MARIO ex Italian Radio-intercepsec:- he will write to the hospital at BISCEGLIE and find out if this man is officially considered in a fit state to resume duties, in which case there should be no difficulty in posting him to the 810 Radiocontrollo Pl.	SO Sigs

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LIAISON WITH S M R E 17 Mar 44

Lt Col SANPO

1. BAFILEBn:- requested details for rail move in respect of 32 offrs and 811 men. Warned him NOT to take this as definite decision that the bn will move. G

2. 300 rfts ex SICILY for NAPLES:- nothing is known of these men at the SMRE. G

3. Collecting posts for Italian tps in army areas:- SANPO is going to CAMPANIA to-morrow and will call on Brig Gen HUME. G

Gen BRUNETTI

4. Allied arty for Mantova and Piceno divs:- Anticipating that at some future date allied guns may be supplied to these two dive, BRUNETTI wants to save time by producing now some abbreviated instrs in Italian on the working of the guns and other relevant data. He asked me to put it up and let him know what the answer is likely to be, as if it is negative it will save him writing in about it. comd 2 i/c Ord.

Lt Col PIZZONIA

5. Fall in strength of port lab at TARANTO between 8 and 15 Mar:- according to their daily returns there has been no reduction either in the "forza presente" or "forza disponibile" Gi(L)

Lt Col CHECCHIA

6. Mules for serial 1054:- a combout of depots in CALABRIA will produce 130-150 mules, and a similar effort in APULIA should bring the numbers up to the strength for one pack coy. For the other they could only suggest SICILY, where it is reputed that there are large numbers of fine mules, some of which illegally held by farmers. His info is that there are no surplus mules in MANTOVA and PICENO divs; 212 div took all theirs with them to CAMPANIA G

7. Supps and amn for Italian tps in MONTENEGRO:- SMRE have current and future programmes which depend on air tpt provided by Allied comd

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7. Sups and amn for Italian tps in MONTENEGRO:- SMRE have current and future programmes which depend on air lift provided by Allied sources. These programmes are based on requests received from Italian HQ in Montenegro by radio, and are worked out independently of Force 133. There would appear to be no liaison beween the latter and Stato Maggiore. SMRE know that sups dropped are collected by partisans and shared with Italian forces. Their problem is that future programme entails emp of more planes and they query through whom it should be arranged. Future programme is said to be based on Italian arms and amn, and food which they hope to obtain from Allied sources. — comd

1589

Lt Col CANNONE

8. 921 & 923 Comp Portuali:- these two coys were ready to move 15 Mar, but are still short of the truck each which are to be supplied from Allied sources. — SCRE

Capt DELLA CORNA

9. Rifts for 7 Mountain Regt:- 122 men will be ready to move 22 inst. — G ii

Lt Col GUIDA

10. Rifts for LOOl GT Coy:- 1 Lt, 4 NCO's, 46 ovrs moved POLIGNANO to PALO DEL COLLE 16 Mar. — G ii

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LIAISON WITH S M R E 16 Mar

Gen BERARDI

1. With 2 i/c in connection with MANTOVA Div and its . /c
emp in CALABRIA on L of C duties. Clarified previous days discussion.

Gen BRUNETTI

2. Accn in BARI for 2 Region:- infd him of signal on its comd
way to BERARDI proposing exchange of accn of 2 Region and IX Corps. Queried possibility of utilizing building presently occupied in BARI by OCRR. He passed infm on to BERARDI straight away. See below.

Lt Col SANPO

3. He infd me by phone in the afternoon that accn for 2 comd
Region would be dealt with by War Ministry, and that A/Q
our sig had been passed on to the Ministry forthwith.
LO with Ministry to please follow.

Lt Col CHECCHIA

4. Tpt for 905 Lav Art Coy:- requested him to try and lay SORE
on one truck for this unit. He phoned War Ministry and later advised that there were none available. Instead, he will arrange for one animal and cart to be supplied.

5. Lt Col CHECCHIA and Maj LUNARDONI:-
Mules for two pack tpt coys, serial 1054:- they are to 2 i/c
reexamine the whole question from three angles, G
- animals loaned to farmers(incl FOGGIA area), though they think these are horses only,
- animals dying from hunger in CALABRIA, incl animals in surplus to present needs of 212 Div,
- animals surplus to proposed ests of MANTOVA and PICENO divs; presentstrength is about 1000 animals more than they should need.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

6. Handed back their rough draft of proposed units for the 2 i/c
programme with our approval. Requested them to furnish G

Lt Col CHECCHIA

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- animals loaned to farmers(incl FOGGIA area), though they think these are horses only,
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- animals surplus to proposed ests of MANTOVA and PICENO divs; presentstrength is about 1000 animals more than they should need.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

6. Handed back their rough draft of proposed units for the programme with our approval. Requested them to furnish us with copy of their figures/ — 2 i/c G

7. BRINDISI Gran:- the break-down of 1000 men approx who have appeared on recent returns is as follows:- — 2 i/c G
551 AA Artyoty (marine arty) 3 offrs 370 men, present emp NOT certain - they will inim us later to-day
185 Arty Bty, 27 offrs 369 men, the majotity have gone to II Corps to supplement PICENO arty, leaving only a few men to guard the pieces at BRINDISI
72 bn, 2[illegible] offrs, 224 men to BARLETTA to complete 372 Bn for serial 1064

8. 212 div:- they have signalled to BASSO and CALABRIA to ascertain just how many men moved to CAMPANIA. Asked them to find out how many men of the div actually remained in CALABRIA. Told them that COCONATI had made the div up to strength by taking 500 men from the depots - this inim per Ministry LO — G

chairman calls

1579

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4 15/3 Pagd 'AA'

LIAISON WITH S M H E 14 Mar 44

1. Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
FdBakery for Mot Bde:- their request is held up for the moment pending further enquiries. They have written to the Bde explaining that all such requests must be made through FF AA Companies and 5 Army. C ii

2. Personnel from depots and districts for the programme:- A letter was sent this morning to the Ministry giving details of how men are to be provided from these two sources, exactly as required by us. MORANDI supported this request with a personal request over the phone to the Minister. It is suggested that our LO with the Ministry follow it up. 2 i/c

3. Serial 1073:- intimated that this item can be deleted from the programme. C ii

4. Ovrs from Civil Schools in CAIRO, and Lt Col :- requested him to find out the up-to-date poop, as the first course should be finishing in a week or two. ii

5. Trained ovrs to be made available from Infantry Regts:- Col Thair decision to make available to the programme 600 men from the Infantry Regts. requested him to inform us how many of these would be trained. He thought very few, but would find out. This with particular ref to Serial 1016. C ii

6. Lt Col Mont:- Col Stone to let us know if we cannot have the 60 men ready by the 15th - Serial will also require as soon as possible after this date. C ii

7. Serial letter fm:- Col Thair req. confirmation to say that this unit moves to Egypt. C ii

8. Serial 1012:- they want to know who wanted the draft to Europe, also
Serial 1013:- what is T°ij - ex [illegible]. C ii

9. 50 ovrs requested for AGC through our Ministry:- can [illegible]/Mob of 5 men. C

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4. [illegible] 11

Requests file to find out the up-to-date [illegible] as the first course should be finishing in 2 weeks or two.

5. Italian Civs to be made available from Asmara. Re t:- 6 11
get their section to make available to the programme
also men from the Asmara depts. requests him to inform
us how many of these could be trained. He thought very
few, but would find out. This with particular ref to
serial 1012.

6. Lt Vat Rep:- Has to have it explained that he cannot have the 6 11
80 men ready on the 15th - He should have them ready
as soon as possible after this date.

7. Asmara letter re:- Shall we do confirmation by air 7 11
this will save IT cost.

8. Serial 10[illegible] :- they want to know who started the order 6 11
to [illegible], also
serial 1012:- what is this - ex [illegible].

9. 50 civs requested for Adi Ugri by Asmara Admin:- can 6
they have a reply to their cable/wire of 5 Nov.

10. Note to 1021 CT Coy:- Our C/6/12 of 11 Nov rec'd by 11
them 13 inst, translated version received their at
dinner this morning. They will see to the matter at once.

11. Serial 1059:- they want to know exactly what is required 6 11
here.

12. Con [illegible] 1578
Projected move to SALERNO:- A senior officer is going to Salerno [illegible]
to recce accn for Staff Headquarters, and similarly an officer from
War Ministry with same object. Their intention is to put the
matter up to the Division in the event of the project proving
feasible. Would like the matter treated as confidential, as
they do NOT want the rest of the staff to know about it.

13. Personnel for programme:- requested this to let us have to-day 2 i/c
or latest to-morrow details of complete units they are making
available, also numbers coming out of transit camps, setting
opposite in their list of the serials on the programme they
propose filling with each unit.

Chairman
Capt

2025

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FOR CAPT. BAUMAN'S DAILY LIAISON LOG. 10 March 44

LIAISON WITH S.M.R.E.

1. Maj. SCHIAVONI Personale e Segreteria. GIII (I) 11/28/3
Clarified questions re Control of Movement and Passes. SCHIAVONI said that in view future demob of 2-3000 offrs, permits for a certain no. to return to their homes NORTH of Combat Zone bdy would be wanted. Letter coming on this subject.

2. Col SANPO G. Ops. G. 1
Informed him arrangements being made to return Gen. OXILIA to ITALY as soon as possible. Asked for posn of ITALIAN Coast Arty Naval personnel TARANTO, BRINDISI. SANPO sending signal to Naval Gen Staff to clarify posn and see if the sailors are still there or have, as requested by us, already gone. G/3/17 of 16 Feb refers.

3. Gen. MATTIOLI Labour Insrectorate G 1 D.A.P.L.
MATTIOLI stated 3 Bn (of 408 Regt) working in FOGGIA u/c 845 American Air Force Bn have finished the job they were sent to do there, and he wants to put them into BARI Port Labour. Americans wish to keep the Bn. for other jobs. Can we help?

A. P. Patterson

Captain
G 3(I)

17/3

A.Q.

LIAISON WITH S M R H 9 Mar 44

Gen BENCIVENGA

1. Left message that MARIOTTI could call any time today to say goodbye to the comd.

2. Info BENCIVENGA of proposed visit to PIEMONTE Alpini Bn.

Gen MATTIOLI

3. Conveyed message from DADL fixing appointment in Naples for 1430 hrs 13 Mar. He will be leaving by rd 12 Mar. DADL

Lt Col [illegible]

4. Referred to the necessity of checking out some of their current requests, errors in which cause long delays by lack of foresight on the part of their Liaison staff. In this case some wheels of the Piemonte Div were to move to [illegible] and they discovered on the move was already on that area and no area for them in the [illegible]. Hence ironic aid to the mission to lay on apt for the xxxxx to prevent the animals starving. He fully agreed and will see that current requests are not done in future. Staff Capt

Lt Col [illegible]

5. G37 Pur Coy:- this unit reports in the latest strength ret rec'd from the General Staff. As it could not be reconciled with the analysis made the other day with AG 201 enquiries were made, and it now appears that it consists of specialised Army personnel under Italian command of Italian type. It has now left [illegible] for [illegible] area. comd

6. In having a list prepared of all the units they have remounted. Central xxx re to have been given the name 500, and the relative one N9 I, II, III.

Capt [illegible] to MA 30 Mar 44

7. Re 1 rolls of Gen Piacentini corps:- he has a copy and is having [illegible]

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[illegible] decision to lay on spt for the [illegible] to prevent the
enemy starving. He fully agreed and will see these urgent
requests are cut down in future.

Lt Col [illegible]

5. 637 Pnr Coy:- This unit appears in the list at strength not re- ceived from the several units. As it could not be ascertained by
during the available time the other day with AA Bde I enquiries
were made, and it now appears that it consists of specialists
incl personnel whose fitness could only be tested on ice. It
was not left with "Sqnderby" for 8 trg. ren. can be given later.

6. In having a list prepared it will be quite they have renumbered.
Colonel xxx re to have been given the strength 500, and the relative
one N9 I. II. III.

Capt [illegible]

7. Re: 1 rolls of def Platoons Coy:- He has a duplicate and is revising
a copy made, also of their equip.

Lt Col [illegible]

8. Collected Admin I's consideration of the figures of personnel C i
available on the Brigade, we agreed to it with [illegible].
Brigade HQ will be analysing the e, and it is suggested
that as soon as he has details showing when and where the
personnel will be available we go over the programme
together, to make sure that correct periods have precedence.

9. Maj [illegible]
OC [illegible] Coy has already been replaced by Capt [illegible]. comd
OC [illegible] Coy will be replaced to-morrow by Capt [illegible] S
Both are regular officers.

Capt [illegible]

10. Can we hasten out of formed authorised 22 for Airborne
Army "C". They applied to [illegible] the next c/y.

1576

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'A Q'

LIAISON WITH S H A E F 913 8 Mar 44

Lt Col SAVRO

1. Maps requested by SHAEF for the purpose/est:- they would prefer to have maps of the DIEPPE/ST VALERY area, where the Algiers are stationed. G iii(I)

Gen MASTROLI

2. With DAAG to discuss the situation in C'[illegible] and MAT [OLI]'s visit to NAPLES, which will be arranged to coincide with visit of Director of Ops. Meeting arranged for 13 Mar in NAPLES, at which DAAG & IA will also be present. comd G i(L) DAAG

Maj [illegible] MI

3. Handed him letter for translation, requesting removal of two NCOs from Redicont Bilo Pl. This will be dealt with through Ordnance channels. SO Sigs

4. Info him that there would be no objection to an int officer being supplied as interpreter to assist CRO in interrogation of civilians. A good French speaker is being nominated. G ii(I)

Col [illegible] VI [illegible]

5. Bernard arrived back the previous night, having seen MPush yesterday and earlier visited the Mot Bde. 60 Regt and Arditi were inspected in the line and everything found under control. Relations with the French quite satisfactory. 67 Regt now out of the line with American corps. Div comd quite happy. comd Dett

Lt Col [illegible]

6. AOC reqd a lor 90 days:- this originated with Ministry of War LO with AOC. Told them to make fire on the account. G ii

7. "F" Recce squadron:- letter coming in to the effect that this title now acceptable to SHAEF. In addition to above as last recently quoted, there is at least one other request going through for additional arms for this and/or allied units, bearing such names as "[illegible] TARI TROILO" and G

of civilians. A good French speaker is being nominated.

Col PAUL VIGNO

5. Bernaul arrived back the previous night, having seen Wood yesterday and earlier visited the Hot Box. 65 Regt and Arabi were inspected in the line and everything found under control. Relations with the French quite satisfactory. 67 Regt now out of the line with American corps. Div Cond quite happy. comd

Lt Col [illegible]

6. ACC report for 30 days:- Units originated with Ministry of War LO with ACC. Told them to hold fire for the moment. G ii

7. "F" Force explanation:- Letter coming in to the effect that this force now accepts is to [illegible]. In addition to increase in est recently quoted, there is at least one other request going through for additional arms for this and/or allied units, coming such names as "[illegible] TANI TROOPS" and "[illegible]". Casualty list just in from the latter incl about 30 lots en masse, missing and wounded. G

Lt Col [illegible]

8. Nothing else known here about the arrest of Italian who seen in transit in [illegible]. 1575

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'AQ'

LIAISON WITH S H A E F 7 Mar 44

Gen MARIOTTI

1. Handed his our letter re connection with personnel to be made available for programme. He is quite in agreement and will submit the scheme to SHAEF on his return this evening. He estimates that the production of the 20,000 should be completed within March. I got him to repeat this to MARIOTTI. comd G i

2. Comment re MARIOTTI:- MARIOTTI will send us a letter, probably to-morrow, giving the proposed date for his departure - about 14th inst. He will travel in his own car, accompanied by two or three others only. The rest of his staff will follow later. One Carabiniers officer has already gone ahead to see to accn. comd

Gen DE COSTI

3. Is already handling routine matters. Spent fifty minutes with him this morning to ensure we start off in step. He gave ample assurances of wholehearted co-operation. I particularly stressed need to keep the mission fully in the picture about xxxix its intentions, especially in the initial stages of any project. comd

4. Staff office of the Mission visiting Italian units:- as a matter of form would prefer if the SAAF were warned of visits planned, even if only in very general terms. If visits arise on the spur of the moment would like to be told just the same. Told him I thought there would be no difficulty over this, but would let us know definitely on return of 2 i/c. 2 i/c

Lt Col MILLER to DF

5. Docks Operation, Coye:- Designation will be as follows: SORE G i

- TARANTO	15 Mar	321 Reparto Portuale		
	31 "	322	"	"
- BRINDISI	15 "	323	"	"
	31 "	324	"	"

As they have a Major in comd they are unable to call them Coye, so instead of one it was suggested we compromise

assurances of wholehearted co-operation. I particularly stressed need to keep the mission fully in the picture about xxxix intentions, especially in the initial stages of any project.

4. Still other of the Mission visitors, Italian units:- as a matter of form would prefer if the SORE were warned of visits planned, even if only in very general terms. If visits arise on the spur of the moment would like to be told just the same. Told him I thought there would be no difficulty over this, but would let him know definitely on return of 2 i/c. 2 i/c

Lt Col MILLER Inf

5. Docks Operating Coys:- designation will be as follows: SORE
- TARANTO 1st Nov 921 Reports Formale G i
3d " 922 " "
- BRINDISI 1st " 923 " "
3d " 924 " "

As they have a Major in comd they are unable to call them coys, so instead of one it was suggested we compromise with "units"

6. Part of 203 Div NOF exp by allies:- discussed the figures shown in the latest strength state, with ref to availability for SORE programme. He mentioned that part of the 2600 men ~~are~~ actually already in the Lab pool - will go into this again to-morrow with HEADQUARTERS. He proposes meeting serials IO34 and IO64 as follows:- G ii

1574

IO34: 96 Bn (BOLZANO/MERANO)
IO64: 372 Bn now at PARLETTA. This bn is said to be on guard duties, but it is also suggested that their duties are very light and could be met by the local "presidio" tps. Query: can we ascertain posn and advise if this can be done?
He proposes to build up the arty regt from remnants and utilise this for IO33, thus maintaining the identity of this arty regt with the xix 203 div.

Lt Col CUNDA

7. He showed me a letter from BASE HQ to CHIEF ENGR (he will give me a copy to-morrow) advising that Gen MACFARLANE had announced that IOOO vehicles would be made available to the Italians, 800 to go to civil authorities and 200 for

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Ikeiland Army MI pool. They are organizing the latter into two coys, each with about 150 personnel, of which 120 Avrs.

8. They are establishing a map-making branch at the SCAP, drawn from suitable personnel on corps T/Es. For the time being it will be concerned with looking after what maps they have already available, as they do NOT have the machinery here to produce maps. G

Gen HAT IOLI

9. Strength of MARKET 1 Iso pool:- surplus personnel here over the revised figure of 600 is for MARI pool, but owing to lack of accn in MARI they will continue to hold the excess at MARKET A until required. G i(L)

10. Requested HQ to have a reconciliation made of the strength figures HQ branch provides and the corresponding figures shown in SCAP/GHI's return. G i(L) G iii

Maj STIDGER

11. 40 Inf Regt, MARKET:- this has now absorbed 54 Lav Bn, the latter having been disbanded G iii

	Please note the reconciliation date of the strength shown in MAJOCHI's return.	C i(L) C iii
	Maj MAJOCHI	
II.	405 Inf Regt, PARLETTA:- this has now absorbed 54 Lav CN, the latter having been disbanded	C iii

1573

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'AQ'

LIAISON WITH S A R E

3 Mar 4.

Lt Col CIAPPARELLI

1. With Maj CROWN to discuss their request for info regarding A/Q
British and American guns and ammn, with a view to enabling them to make up ammn in filling factories in recd Italy, if necessary using fuzes and charges from Allied sources.

2. Our request for Spretz ammn, SD 1/2/27 of 1 Mar:- the 40-round 8 litr, magazines we have also requested are for the machine carbine, therefore query if the rounds are NOT also required for the same weapon. In this event they point out that they have asked us for 1,000,000 rounds, and now we are askin, them for 1,000 rounds.

Gen HULL TCI

3. With Maj CROWN with ref to request for info above:- the comd
General defined the posn as they see it as follows:- either G
a) we want them to utilise all their avail able guns and ammn, A/Q
if necessary making up an/elle in the filling factories with parts from Allied sources, or main their guns with Allied ammn, if interchangeable, or
b) whether it is our intention eventually to xxpxxx make good their deficiency by giving them guns and ammn.
In the vent of course a) being possible, he would like all necessary info to enable them to determine interchangeability of ammn and shell parts, in the event of b) he is anxious to know what type of guns would be supplied and their performance.

4. Lt Col CAPILLO
Handed in our comm to-day's te rel interpreters, and laid par- G i
ticular stress on urgency of meeting requirements of 5 Dist.

Lt Col GUIDA

5. 2I2 Div:- two sigs just to hand, communicated contents to SD G ii
and helped draft sig in reply, requesting exact figures for each bn and bty.

6. Capt JAY's Coy:- comm to hand from comd 5 Corps giving details G i
of additional personnel and eqpt for this unit, which it was

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if necessary making up shells in the filling factories with parts from Allied sources, or using their guns with Allied ammo, if interchangeable, or

b) whether it is our intention eventually to xxxxxx make good their deficiency by giving them guns and ammo.

In the event of course a) being probable, he would like all necessary info to enable them to determine interchangeability of gun and shell parts, in the event of b) he is anxious to know what type of guns would be supplied and their performance.

4. Lt Col [illegible]
Refers in our comm to-days c te rel interpreters, an laid par- G i
ticular stress on urgency of meeting requirements of 3 Dist.

Lt Col [illegible]

5. 212 Div:- two sigs just to hand, communicated contents to SD G ii
and helped dr it sig in reply, requesting exact figures for each on and bty.

6. Capt [illegible]'s coy:- comm to hand from comd 3 Corps giving details G i
of additional personnel and appt for this unit, which it was [illegible] had been agreed in concert with Maj FIELDMAN. Asked them to send us copy of the comm which we would send to Maj Fl Branch for his comments, as to my knowledge we had heard nothing about it hitherto.

1572

Lt Col [illegible]

7. Return of Italian casualties:- ref my lo of ye terday, the A/A
confusion was caused by our letter A/3/374 of 15 Feb, which did actually request additional info by theatres of ops. Can I take it that for original request details for Italian theatre will suffice ?

8. Docks operating coys:- they went to know at what stage in the SORE
processings tpt will be provided from Allied sources?

Gen [illegible]

9. Shooting of Italian sailor by Indian sentry:- he was con= ce ned about this incident, as the sailor had died as the result. While admitting that the sentry had every right to shoot, he queried whether it was essential for the sentry to shoot to kill, bearing in mind the triviality of the offence. It is alleged that some gibberish [illegible]

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AQ K

LAIASON WITH S M H E

2 FEB 44

Gen BERARDI / Gen MARIOTTI

1. With como and 2 i/c in connection with programme and personnel to be found on the mainland.

I Mar 44

Lt Col PIZZONIA

2. With DADMS to find out about withdrawals of men from port lab for transit camps in CAMPANIA. 200 have been taken from BARI, of which 130 have already been replaced. No further withdrawals anticipated, other than the 600 Avieri - and for these no date has been fixed. They do NOT have to precede the Avieri.

G
Med

Gen MARIOTTI

3. Told him of proposed send of naval personnel to replace [illegible] operating ships in TARANTO and BRINDISI, 300 at 15/3 and 300 at 31/3. 1(L)

Lt Col [illegible]

4. With [illegible] - examined files relating to setting up of transit camps and other steps to be taken with refugees. 3 i

Maj [illegible]

5. Collected TD of [illegible] 2 i/c

2 Mar 44

Lt Col [illegible]

6. 1st Army Gty:- one of their officers was seen and reports already : Case No.[illegible]; the remainder will be visited 5 Mar. 3 i

Lt Col [illegible]

7. requested she is [illegible] early return of Italian army A/C

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...ucks operating days in March to end April, 600 at 1/3 and 300 at 31/3.

Lt Col [illegible]

4. With ref to - Remarks filed relating to action to be taken on transit camps and other steps to be taken with refugees. G i

Maj [illegible]

5. Collected TO of Lieutenant iv G i/c

2 Apr 44

Lt Col [illegible]

6. I/5 Arty Bty:- One of their officers has been ordered to Treasury : Case [illegible]; the remainder will be withdrawn 5 Mar. G i

Lt Col [illegible]

7. Requested me to muster casualty return of Italian Army for month of Jan, and arrange for speedier data in future. He stated that since the last return they had received no request for further details, to include actions in Balkans Sicily, Air Force and any other theatres. Will bear this in mind. A/A

1571

8 Six pack kit units in Sardinia:- Informed that these had now been inserted in programme and given a high priority for shipment from GA DIVIA G ii

9 Kits for smoke unit:- Clarified that the 50 men for serial IOO4A were to be non-specialists and due to join 34 Pm G ii

10 200 Div units NOT emp by 5 Army:- 96 Bn is 500 strong and Arty unit is 300 strong. They will at once be made up to 800 and assigned to IOO4 serial, and make up Arty unit for serial IOO4 subsequently. G ii

Gen [illegible]

11 With ref to complaint about units being ordered to work handling with refugees without instructions from GA. [illegible]

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AG dr

LIAISON WITH S M R E 28 Feb 44

Lt Col SANTO
1. Alpini Bn for 5 Army:- they are anxious to have this unit on the move. Told him we had received no authority yet from XXXX ACSF, therefore tpt request cannot yet be put fwd. 2 i/c

Maj L MARDONI
2. Farriers for X Corps:- if we will put this request in writing he will see it gets to the Ministry and the available farriers sent to whatever destination we give. Available personnel is in CA PARIA. C i

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI
3. Mule and horse shoes for French:- stocks of four types requested, on the mainland, are between 11.000 and 26.000 per type. Out of these they have to provide for Genova and Picenо div. They agree that they could release first 20.000 requested, but their stocks ought to be made up from SARDINIA. Confirmed that nails can NOT be spared from mainland stocks. G Sd Ord.
Further messages received from VALLO I indicate that French requirements are 20.000 shoes and nails to match, per month. They await to hear from me what we want them to do.

4. Lt Col SANTO
Alpini and Bersaglieri rits:- looking ahead to the time when rits of these arms are needed for the combat div, he stated that only source was SARDINIA. What steps should they take to ensure such rits are available on the mainland when needed? 2 i/c G i

5. Rits for Pack units:- they are still most concerned over the situation of their pack units, which have been in the line for many weeks, if not months, without any relief. They feel that noone is interested in the fate of these units and would we tell them how to set about getting the matter seen to? 2 i/c G i

requested, on the mainland, are between 11.000 and 26.000 per type. Out of these they have to provide for Nenova and Ploeno dive. They agree that they could release first 20.000 requested, but their stocks ought to be made up from SARDINIA. Confirmed that nails can NOT be spared from mainland stocks.
Further messages received from VALLO I indicate that French requirements are 20.000 shoes and nails to match, per month. They await to hear from me what we want them to do. Ord.

4. Lt Col BARBO
Alpini and Bersaglieri kits:- looking ahead to the time when kits of these units are needed for the combat at XIV, he stated that only source was SARDINIA. What steps should they take to ensure such kits are available on the mainland when needed? 2 i/c G i

5. Kits for Pack units:- they are still most concerned over the situation of their pack units, which have been in the line for long weeks, if not months, without any relief. They feel that noone is interested in the fate of these units and would we tell them how to set about getting the matter seen to? 2 i/c G i

Gen MARIOTTI
Gen BRUNETTI

6. with Gi :
2I2 Div:- discussed situation and recapitulated events since our sig of 19 inst. Delay NOT considered excessive by MARIOTTI in view of difficulties of comms and general situation in CALABRIA. Agreed to repeat sigs through our AT channels. This was subsequently done. 2 i/c 1570 1

7.
Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
I56 Arty Bty, nr BARDIGI:- IX Corps have replied that they cannot be out of present accomodation before month-end - this is being followed up to obtain exact date. Gi(L)

8. Gen MARIOTTI
Gen BRUNETTI
Scrutinising availability of tps on mainland for ACMF programme. Result of their tooth-combing is about 8000 men. Went through the complete strength state, and analysed their units by category, i.e. L or S etc., Corps tps. Final analysis set out on paper. comd 2 i/c

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LIAISON WITH S F H E 27 Feb 44

Maj LUNARDONI (vet)

1. Mule and horse shoes for the French:- thinks they can provide the 20.000 ironstocks on mainland, but NOT the nails. Will let me know definitely to-morrow. — G i Ord

2. 400 small horses from SARDINIA:- they have authorised Gen. MAGLI to provide, but there is nothing to show in their files how or where they are to be delivered. Do we need this inim? — G ii

3. Farriers for X Corps:- the Ministry have told him they can lay their hands on the best part of 20 - further details to-morrow. — G i

Gen MARIOTTI

4. Fixed appointment for comd/BERARDI for 1700 hrs. Discussed letter on programme sent to MESSE, our copy needed before this evening.

Maj VERONI

5. 904/905 Lav Ant Coys:- he has found further 30 specialists in BRINDISI Lab pool and hopes to find remainder in TARANTO. (see below). He estimates that each MM lab bn may have in it 30 specialists, making a total of 300 for BRINDISI alone. Situation of these two coys is now: 904 fifty one short, 905 nine only short. — 2 i/c SOR2 — G i(L) DADL

Gen MAITIOLI

6. While I was talking to him, Gen MARIOTTI came in and asked about releasing the specialists for engr units, the number mentioned being 60. MAITIOLI protested somewhat, but MARIOTTI insisted and it was decided to release them immediately, without awaiting their replacement. — G i(L) DADL

Lt Col GUIDA

7. Air Force combatant bn:- asked him to get details of strength, composition etc, so that we could consider the matter. — 2 i/c

Lt Col MILESI (INI

8. CIC Div and 92 Artisti Bn:- no details of the former yet. He — 2 i/c

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5. Maj VERONI
904/905 Lav Art Coys:- behas found further 30 specialists in BRINDISI Lab pool and hopes to find remainder in TARANTO. (see below). He estimates that each XX lab on may have in it 30 specialists, making a total of 300 to BRINDISI alone. Situation of these two coys is now: 904 fiftyone short, 905 nine only short. — 2 i/c SORE; G i(L) DADL

Gen MAITLAND WILSON
6. While I was talking to him, Gen MARIOTTI came in and asked about releasing the specialists for engr units, the number mentioned being 60. MAITLAND protested somewhat, but MARIOTTI insisted and it was decided to release them immediately, without awaiting their replacement. — G i(L) DADL

Lt Col CUTLER
7. Air Force consultant bn:- asked him to get details of strength, composition etc, so that we could consider the matter. — 2 i/c

Lt Col WILLETTS INI
8. 2Id Div and 23 Artieri Bn:- no details of the former yet. He is sending another sig to-day, though as the mil line is down, it will have to go over the civil circuit. Again offered him the facilities of our WT set. 23 Artieri Bn will be ready 6 Mar - tpt already requested. — 2 i/c; G i

1569

Gen EISENHOWER:-
9. With comd and 2 i/c. Subjects discussed:
- conference with Gen MACFARLANE and Marshal JESSE
- SM-E proposals for meeting the programme to Feb & Mar.
- Gen MARIOTTI's appointment as Corps Comd in SICILY.
- Present emp of 67 Regt
- Tpt of Italian mil personnel from NAPLES and REGGIO
- Despatch of "Quice" to SALERNO
- WT sets for Alpini bn
- tps of class engrs

COMD 2 i/c

'AQ' 26/v

LIAISON WITH S M R E 26 Feb 44

Gen SOLDARELLI

1. Still waiting for further instrs from MESSE about the orders he is to take back to PALESTINE. INFANTE is supposed to be bringing them back with him from SALERNO. — COMD 2 i/c G i(L)

Gen BRUNETTI

2. He is working alongside Gen MARIOTTI and it is assumed that he will take MARIOTTI's place when the latter goes, possibly on a provisional basis. — COMD 2 i/c G

Col PULIZZI

3. With Capt ROBINS:- general discussion, incl rail tpt for mil personnel between NAPLES and REGGIO, tpt of 200 tons petrol to CALABRIA (this has just been approved), etc. — Q

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

4. Personnel for new GT coy at POLIGNANO: already in situ, strength: 1 Capt, 5 lts, 10 ncos, 240 ors. — G ST

5) 300 ovrs at NAPLES ex SARDINIA:- SMRE have designated them as I004 and I005 GT coys and have info PASSO accordingly. They are worrying as Russo has told them that the Allied authorities are calling them 2 and 3 Provisional coys, and fear the same trouble as with the pack t t coys. — G

6. Airforce Bn for combatant div:- they would like to have our views on emp of this unit, which one gathers is being forced onto them by the Aeronautica, for prestige reasons. — COMD 2 i/c G

7) 904 and 905 Artieri Lav Coys:- Maj VERONI has found all but 60 specialists for these units and it is hoped to have the coys ready by the month-end. For the remainder VERONI is obtaining particulars of specialists on port lab, by arrangement with the lab inspectorate, and we will be advised as soon as the numbers required have been found. — G i(L) SOME DALL

8. IX Corps will submit to SMRE names of ovrs they know of who are now in the port lab units, for whatever action we may consider appropriate. — G G i(L)

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Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

4. Personnel for new GT coy at POLIGNANO: already in situ, strength: 1 Capt, 5 Lts, 10 ncos, 240 ors. — G ST

5) 300 ovrs at NAPLES ex SARDINIA:- SMRE have designated them as I004 and I005 GT coys and have info PASSO accordingly. They are worrying as Passo has told them that the Allied authorities are calling them 2 and 3 Provisional coys, and fear they may cause trouble agwith the pack t t coys. — G

6. Airforce Bn for combatant div:- they would like to have our views on emp of this unit, which one gathers is being forced onto them by the Aeronautica, for prestige reasons. — comd 2 i/c G

7) 904 and 905 Artieri Lav Coys:- Maj VERONI has found all but 80 specialists for these units and it is hoped to have the coys ready by the month-end. For the remainder VERONI is obtaining particulars of specialists on port lab, by arrangement with the lab inspectorate, and we will be advised as soon as the numbers required have been found. — G i(L) SORE DADL

8. IX Corps will submit to SMRE names of ovrs they know of who are now in the port lab units, for whatever action we may consider appropriate. — G G i(L) DADL ST

9. Strength etc. of 212 Div:- details NOT yet to hand. Requested him to sig XXXI Corps insisting that info required be sent to-day without fail, if necessary approx figures where actual NOT available. — G

10. Pack arty bty, MANDRIA:- Lt Col SANPÒ advises that this unit will definitely NOT be ready to move before 20 Mar approx. — 2 i/c G

11. Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI:- 75/13 mm - 20.000 rounds in depots as follows: — G sd

TARANTO	3.000	
LOCO OPONDO	3.000	Tot request, except
S. MICHELE	I.000	last item, recd to-day.
LECCE	I.000	
CALABRIA	6.000	

13. Six mule pack tpt rits ofr 5 Army:- these are now ready. Told them they could file the correspondence for the moment, and we would let them know what to do in due course. — G sd

14. Info them that we proposed taking actual strengths of Alpini Bn and Pack Bty for the TO of combat div. We await resulting — 2 i/c

1568

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A Q [illegible] 24/2

LIAISON WITH J S M S 25 Feb 44

Lt Col SUTTA

1. With ADSI about GI Coys. Later a phone message came through from IX Corps informing that 1002 Coy now complete in all five pls and that balance at POZZUOLI will be brought up to 250 personnel by to-morrow. Can we arrange for trg vehicles to be made available so that they can get on with dvr trg. They also await details of SE. G ST

2. Combat div:- collected answers to some previous questions and and left others for answering. On the subject of comn for Alpini Bn and Marine Bn they referred me to Servi i Artiglieria.

3. Bn or truck dvrs for SONSICA:- this sailed 16 Feb by American ship John Drake. Strength: 18 Offrs, 22 Secos, 450 ors. C

Lt Col GILLETTORINI

4. 2i2 Div and 23 Artiera Gn:- stressed urgency of having details for tpt arrangements - what is holding them up is weight of baggage for entraining at each sta. The 204 Gruppo Arty are Corps tps and only shown when the div units for mov purposes. This accounts for about 100 horses. G ii

Maj MARCONI

5. Use of their draftsmen for TO of Combatant div:- no difficulty about laying this on. 2 i/c

6. Our Order of Battle:- He queried whether we had taken into account the Mess Gn for the Hot Bue located MADDALONI, strength 26 offrs and 166 ors. Query also SALERNO BNS ?? G iii

Gen MARIOTTI

7. Told him of comd's visit to NAPLES, in the course of which the question of 67 Re t and pack units will be raised. Explained to him the form as we knew the six rifts of 50 each, and that for these, as for any other units or rifts for Army Gren, the prior authority of Army was required. It would be as well to explain this in writing, to avoid future complications. G i

4. 21[illegible] Div and 23 Artieri Bn:- stressed urgency of having details for tpt arrangements - what is holding them up is want of passage for entraining at each sta. The 204 Gruppo Arty are Corps tps and only shewn when the div units for adm purposes. This accounts for about 1[illegible]0 horses.

Maj [illegible]I

5. Use of their craftsmen for TO of Combatant div:- no difficulty about laying this on. 2 i/c

6. Our Order of Battle:- he queried whether we had taken into account the Hosp for the Mot Bde located NAPLES, strength 26 offrs and 1[illegible]5 ors. Query also SALERNO Pos ?? G iii

Gen MA[illegible]DITI

7. Info him of comd's visit to NAPLES, in the course of which the question of 6/ Re t and pack units will be raised. Explained to him the form as regards the six rits of 50 each, and that for these, as for any other units or rifts for Army area, the prior authority of Army was required. It would be as well to explain this in writing, to avoid future complications. G i

Lt Col [illegible]

8. Mortar and 75/13 amn for Alpini and Marine Bns:- Mortar amn is already being sent to I Mot Bde for the Alpini; and there is also sufficient on mainland for the Marines. Amn for Mountain arty is only sufficient for the tp of the Alpini Bn and there is NONE for the IV Bty of 5[illegible] Regt([illegible]). Until is 250 - the Alpini hold 500 rounds and 20.000 are being shipped for them. 1567 1/c G

Lt Col [illegible]

9. MT eqpt to be taken in:- they are still expecting a list from CAMPANIA . They will send us copy of a letter from IX Corps about outstanding sets in that area. SO Sup-

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'AQ'

LIAISON WITH S R E 24 Feb 44

Gen MARTIOLI

1. Four docks operating coys:- these will be formed by the end of the month. He is anxious that the specialists of the new units shall start tr, as soon as possible. On the question of replacing the men in the lab pool he is just throwing his hands in the air. — G1 (L) SORE

Col POLIZZI

2. Italian offr to trace rly eqpt in STC LY:- he has already signalled twice to NAPLES for this offr, but has NOT recd a reply yet. Will continue to follow. — SORE

Capt FORESI

3. 29 Artillery Coy:- collected copy of their sig of 22 inst requesting tpt from TRANI to TERMOLI. — SORE Q

Lt Col SIGNORI

4. Mob Arty Wksp NUORO:- handed him one copy of MEUSE's letter to us ~~XXXXXX~~ and discussed how the mob wksps could be transported to mainland. He agreed that with present means this is out of the question and will put Comando Supremo in the picture. — G

Lt Col GUIDA

5. Rits for pack tpt coys:- discussed the proper channels through which demands of this sort should flow, coming from Italian units under cond 5 Army. He asked me to mention the matter to Gen MARIOTTI. — G

6. Second transit camp for NAPLES area:- they had assumed that we already knew all/ about the matter as it had originated from Allied sources. Promised to send us immediately what info they had, and in the meantime would we please sanction tpt for the second "tapoa". — G Med

Lt Col PANGRAZI

7. Pigeon service:- told him that we had no interest in the matter at the present time and that we would prefer to leave the decision to them. ~~XX~~ Will we put this in writing, please. — SO Sigs

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Lt Col [illegible]

4. Mob Arty Wksp NUORO:- handed him one copy of [illegible]'s letter to us and discussed how the mob wksps could be transported to mainland. He agreed that with present means this is out of the question and will put Co mmdo Supremo in the picture. — G

Lt Col [illegible]

5. Rits for pack tpt cpts:- discussed the proper channels through which demands of this sort should flow, coming from Italian units under comd 5 Army. He asked me to mention the matter to Gen MA [illegible]. — G

6. Second transit camp for NAPLES area:- they had assumed that we already knew all/ about the matter as it has originated from Allied sources. Promised to send us immediately what info they had, and in the meantime would we please sanction tpt for the second "tapes". — G Med

Lt Col [illegible]

7. Pigeon services:- told him that we had no interest in the matter at the present time and that we would prefer to leave the decision to them. MA Will we put this in writing, please. He proposes to close down subsidiary lofts and maintain only the main ones. — SO Sigs

8. Revised strength state of Italian sigs:- according to him the arrangement was that the original state would be returned to him periodically for revision. He is now having our copy brought up-to-date. — SO Sigs

1566

Lt Col [illegible]

8. 185 Arty Bty:- about to be disbanded - will let us know shortly when accn will be available — Gl (L)

9. Serial 1024:- query about 3 Artieri Coy for 3 Dist - 501/503 BN ? — G

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'AQ'

LIAISON WITH S M R E 23 FEB 44

Lt Col SIMONETTI:-

1. Air service LECCE - SALERNO:- advised him that three seats were available for Italian personnel proceeding to and from SALERNO and that these would be allotted through the tpt office of SMRE. A letter to this effect had already been sent. Q

2. 82 Line Tele Coy:- They had NOT been advised about projected move by rail to CASTELLAMARE. Put him in the picture and he will arrange that OC unit contacts MOV TARANTO G Q Mov.

3. Tpt for Italian Navy:- he wants to know whether there have been further developments with POTALI. Q

4. Their request for additional train accomodation for mil personnel from RECCO:- they have included this in their weekly demand; explained general situation and suggested that flow from SICILY be strictly limited to number of seats on ~~xixxx~~ train. Same principle to apply to moves from NAPLES, where all seats for mil personnel have for the moment been cancelled. Q Mov

5. Lt Col SANPO:- 2 i/c
I80 volunteers for I Mot Bde:- explained to him that this was out of order; the Mot Bde was already over-strength and there was no authority or request from 5 Army for rifts for the bde. Their request I058/T/F of 22 inst is cancelled by mutual consent, and he will see that similar requests flow through proper channels in future. C

6. Alpini PIEMONTE Bn:- This was inspected to-day by Berardi and found to be in good shape. Confirmed that it will be ready to move by month-end. It has 23? mules onstrength, incl pack bty, but these also require feeding up. Location: CISTERNINO; strength state follows. 2 i/c C

7. Mules from SARDINIA:- they have had a final comb-out in SARDINIA and scraped together a further I28 mules. These are reputed to be positively the last. G

8. [illegible]

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seats on first train. Same principle to apply to moves from NAPLES, where all seats for mil personnel have for the moment been cancelled.

5. Lt Col SANPO:- 2 i/c C
IGO volunteers for I Mot Bde:- explained to him that this was out of order; the Mot Bde was already over-strength and there was no authority or request from 5 Army for rifs for the Bde. Their request IO58/T/F of 22 inst is cancelled by mutual consent, and he will see that similar requests flow through proper channels in future.

6. Alpini PIEMONTE Bn:- This was inspected to-day by Berardi and found to be in good shape. Confirmed that it will be ready to move by month-end. It has 230 mules onstrength, incl pack bty, but these also require feeding up. Location: CISTERNINO; strength as state follows. 2 i/c C

7. Mules from SARDINIA:- they have had a final comb-out in SARDINIA and scraped together a further I25 mules. These are reputed to be positiv ly the last. G

8; Gen MANCINOTTI:-
Letter to MESSE about agenda for conference withGen MACFARLANE. Comd
Handed him BRIDI's copy and read it over to him;he was quite unperturbed and promised to let us have the answer to-morrow.

1565

9. Lt Col CUNDA:-
IOO2 GT Coy: advised him that redundent personnel to remain at TOLINARO and that total to be made up to 250 to meet item IOII in programme. WE to be supplied by us later. G ST

10. Further details for table of org of combatant div:- submitted ten questions to which the answers will be forthcoming to-morrow. 2 i/c

785120

DQ.

[illegible] 2 FEB 44

Lt Col PIZZONIA
I. With G I(L) .- Coy emp with US air force unit at CANOSA is being replaced from BARLETTA lab pool. Other coys are reputed to be similarly employed at S. PANCRAZIO and AMENDOLA. Examined graphs of availability of lab at ports and numbers employed - situation satisfactory at present. Small reduction at BARI being made good. Nothing known about intentions of Air Force in the matter of recalling classes to the colours. — DADL

Maj MAIOCCHI
2. Pack Apt coys:- revised strength returns are just to hand and are being included in state at 20 inst. — G

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
3. Italian personnel with IO Veh Coy:- consists of about I20 ovrs supplied by IX Corps last Oct at request 2 Dist. — EME

4. IO6 Territorial Bn:- no longer required by 6 BSA; IX Corps has assigned I03 men for special police duties only - the remainder of coy being broken up. Location CIDIA DEL COLLE.
IO7 Territorial Bn:- proceeding to SAN SEVERO for VP duties. Location: ASCOLI SATRIANO. Has one coy at PAL. S GERVASIO, but this is moving too.
IO8 Territorial Bn:- has been broken up. Personnel assigned to former 53 Bn Lav- now 4 Bn 407 Regt. Location: MONTEIASI — G

5. Mob bath unit at MINERVINO:- this unit is attd LI Corps and travelling round this corps area. SMRS have assigned similar units to 209, 2IO divs and also to I Mot Bde, and they state that they should have joined their respective fmns by now. — CI (L)

Lt Col GUIDA
6. Collected revised table of org of combat div - new totals are between I2,000 and I3,000 men. Later

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about 120 dvrs supplied by IX Corps last Oct at request 2 Dist.

4. 106 Territorial Bn:- no longer required by 6 BSA; IX Corps has assigned 103 men for special police duties on rly - the remainder of coy being broken up. Location CIDIA DEL COLLE. — G
   107 Territorial Bn:- proceeding to SAN SEVERO for VP duties. Location: ASCOLI SATRIANO. Has one coy at PAL. S GERVASIO, but this is movin, too.
   108 Territorial Bn:- Has been broken up. Personnel assigned to former 53 Bn Lav- now 4 Bn 407 Regt. Location: MONTEIASI

5. Mob batn unit at MINDISI:- this unit is attd LI Corps and travelling round this corps area. SMRE have assigned similar units to 209, 210 divs and also to I Mot Bde, and they state that they should have joined their respective fmns by now. — CI (L)

Lt Col GUIDA

6. Collected revised table of org of combat div - new totals are between 12.000 and 13.000 men. Later requested him to add details of rifles issued to all units in the div.

Gen MANTTI

7. With 2 i/c, G I.- Combatent div:- accuracy of tables of org as regards weapons, MT and personnel - figures stated to be latest available and reasonably accurate. — comd G 1564

8. Alpini Bn:- available to leave by the end of themonth — comd G

   San Marco Bn:- available to leave at once.

   Both bns can be inspected at any time, by arrangemnat with LI Corps

   Pack arty bty:- available within 15 days provided supplementary rations of forage are issued to mules. The second pack bty will be coming from SARDINIA with the NEMBO div.

9. Discussion of programme and availability of personnel on the mainland.

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AQ

LIAISON WITH S M R E 2I Feb 44

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
I. Mob Arty Wasp, NUORO:- strength: I offr, 3 nocs, 22 ors, 20 militarized personnel, latter scattered about the island on various jobs. G I

Gen. SOLDARELLI
2. Just back from BRINDISI where he had been instructed by MESSE NOI to proceed to PALESTINE to-morrow and to await further instrs. ✓ Q info

Gen. MARIOTTI
3. Availability of tps on the mainland to meet part of Feb and Mar programme:- After drawing to his attention the advantage of utilising redundant tps on the mainland & thus improving the priority of the NUMBODiv, I submitted the following rough estimate of surplus personnel:- Comd & G 2 i/c

-availability at I Feb according to SMRE state		85.000
-less estimated Italian army needs for L of C tps, depots, districts etc	25.000	
-less tps still to be demob	6.000	
		31.000
		54.000
-less part of the three divs to be found on mainland: 32.000 - 8.000(Mob Bde) - 5.000(NUORO)=	19.000	
-less 2II Div	3.000	
		22.000
		32.000

In reply MARIOTTI stated that
- he did NOT disagree with our calculation
- he too was anxious to get as many more men as possible from the mainland
- unfortunately they were finding it increasingly difficult to ~~xxx~~ get hold of the men that were left
- 25.000 for their own L of C tps was the figure he was aiming to get down to in due course, but it would take some time

-less estimated Italian army needs for L of C
tps, depots, districts etc 25.000
-less tps still to be demob 6.000

31.000
54.000

-less part of the three divs to be
found on mainland:
32.000 - 8.000(Mob Bde) - 5.000(NRTBG)= 19.000
-less 2II Div 3.000

22.000
32.000

In reply MARIOTTI stated that
- he did NOT disagree with our calculation
- he too was anxious to get as many more men as possible from the mainland
- unfortunately they were finding it increasingly difficult to ~~xxxx~~ get hold of the men that were left
- 25.000 for their own L of C type was the figure he was aiming to get down to in due course, but it would take some time
- there was a commission going round in each corps at the moment breaking up unessential units
- additional men would be forthcoming in this way, but NOT fast enough to make appreciable contribution to programme

1563

4. Combatant unit :- owing to miscalculation of the first figures submitted the numbers of the Inn had risen to over 15.000 by this morning. Discussed the implications of this and as a result the figures are being revised and new details will be available to-morrow (22nd). Requested that figures for strength of personnel, animals and vehicles for each unit be included with the revised figures. Comd i/c 2 C

Bgcit 21/2

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AQ.

LIAISON WITH S M R E 20 Feb 44

1. Capt [illegible]:-
   30 open trucks for POL from MONOPOLI to GIOIA and Ipt request delayed at SMRE through overweight until It inst - refers ST/II/I of 3 in t - can we hasten issue ?

2. Capt [illegible]:-
   Collected nominal roll of 222 Line Tele Coy 50 Sigs

3. Lt Col [illegible]:-
   Collected letter and chart re. Battle casualties Col Coy

4. Lt Col [illegible]:-
   Discussed org of HQ at State Warfare as it affects Coad wgpt, clothing and tpt

5. Maj [illegible]:-
   Told him that SD had been unable to find us any more lorriers - he promised to see the Ministry of War and try to raise a few through them. Arranged to [illegible] to Ministry in connection with inst. C

6. Lt Col [illegible]:-
   Appointment of Maj [illegible]:- this offr is on the staff of Engr dept of War Ministry and is also Chief Engineer to assist with fun of new airport units. CORE

7. Fam of Doctor Oberkin, Vienna has been taken in hand by Lab Inspectorate. The 5 Comp Serricatori Portuali (see Ltr I, inst) is confirmed at Cagliari. Strength 3 offrs, 3 NCOs, 54 ors; duties loading and discharging ships. Query: Is it practicable to send these men to mainland and deprive CMTA I of their services ? CORE
   ^ Coy is NOT confirmed.

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1562

told him that SI had been unable to find us any more barracks - he proposed to see the Ministry of War and try to raise a few thousand crowns. Arranged to see him at Ministry in late connection of inst.

6. Lt Col [illegible] of SVE:-
Appointment of key [illegible]:- this affair is on the direct th of Dept of War Ministry and is also going therefore to assist with ten of new expert units.

7. Plan of Double Operation Code has been taken in hand by the Inspectorate. The 5 Coop agricultori Portelli (see Ap. I, inst) is continued at Cagli (Al, strength 3 officers, 3 NCOs, 54 ors; 2 officers leaving and 1 returning, 4 ors). Query: Is it practicable to [illegible] these men as to maintain and organize CC.TT. I of these services ? So, is HQ considered.

8. Further discussion about programme and units from [illegible].Considered that a few ideas can be drawn on for implement of I/O and future units in the programme. Main objectives possibility, as surplus xxx ips on mainland - following is calculation [illegible] made submitted to War Ministry to up their request for recalling classes to the colours:-

- Personnel required for HQs, depots, all arms, and other logistic [illegible]	25/30.000
- Three divs in programme	3.000
- Two units and other units remain for duties	[illegible].000
- Air corps	[illegible].000
- Air [illegible] plant units	[illegible].000
- Coastal art (incl AA & AA etc.)	[illegible].000
- Divs in programme (7)	7.000
- Units to be called	[illegible].000
- Sm units in depots and [illegible]	[illegible].000
- Strength of mainland [illegible]	[illegible].000

Copy.

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'A'

MEETING 11th J A N U A R Y 18 Feb 44

Gen MARSHALL — Secure him copy of policy letter for S.Atlantic and translated it to ether.

Lt Col STARR (ORD) — Handed back their apt request in connection with "Guide" and reminded him that we had NOT yet been notified of their intention to move this unit. He will see that this is taken care of in future.

Pass for Gen MARSHALL:- suggested that this should be left xxxxx over until the Commando Express moves to the other side, and then applied for direct to 5 Army, via our SO with FLAMRO.

Col FAIRVIEW — Proposed move of Stud Maghera:- Ascertained that for the moment this is only being considered as a precautionary measure. They have ordered some camouflage for a small nav party (to be ready within one month) and have a certain number of tents. They consider that nothing is likely to affect the situation for at least four weeks. The War Ministry is NOT involved in these plans. Told him the camel would NOT be moving to SARDINIA for the time being.

Lt Col PIZZOLINI (Ldb) — Ldb coy with American unit at CROTTALEI:- this coy (belonging to 4 in 207 Mtn) has actually moved to CAMOSA on a temporary basis. After two weeks they will be replaced by a coy from MARLETTA.

Lt Col STARR (ORD) — Letter and tables for combat div will be ready tomorrow noon.

PLAMRO comm 0-354 7 Feb:- para 1) , are the 300 dvrs being formed into a unit (QM Truck Coy) and do they require to be given a name and number ?

Where is location of 50(ex "X") Pack Tpt Coy ?

months) and have a certain number of tents. They consider that nothing is likely to affect the situation for at least four weeks. The War Ministry is NOT involved in their plans. Told him the coms would NOT be moving to SALERNO for the time being.

Lt Col [illegible] (Lab) — Lab coy with American unit at CROTTAGLIE:- this coy (belonging to 4 in HQ B.T) has actually moved to CANOSA on a temporary basis. After two weeks they will be replaced by a coy from TARANTO.

Lt Col [illegible] (ord) — Letter and scales for combat div will be ready tomorrow 16th.

PLAIRO comm Obj54 7 Feb:- Item I) , are the 300 ayrs being formed into a unit (GS Truck coy) and do they require to be given a name and number ?

Where is location of 50(ex "X") Pack Tpt Coy ?

Capt [illegible] (t,t) — 201 Line Mle Coy:- destination ?

20 Coy Genio Artieri, TARANTO:- destination ?

Tpt request pending for both the above.

19 Feb 44

1561

Sgt [illegible] — Driving School for CASERTA:- the reason one was NOT proposed here was that there are no tps available in this area who are NOT emp by the Allies.

Lt Col [illegible] (ord & mob) — Raised a few queries regarding Lab and guard units in list atta to polic, letter. These being dealt with SD

Capt [illegible] (ord & mob) — Query in connection with renumbering of Pack Tpt Coys.

3qcat 20/2.

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'AQ'

ITALIAN TIME SCALE . I6 Feb 44

Lt Col SANPO (ops) — Gen AMBROSIO, Inspector Gen of Italian Army, will be moving to CASERTA with the Comando Supremo and has put in a request through Stato Maggiore for a pass to 5 Army re area to enable him to visit Italian units there.

Lt Col [illegible] (ops & mov) — I Aut Artieri Pl, [illegible]:- further enquiries have shown this to be the first Possacavi Pl, which with the latest one formed should go to make the 601 Possacavi Coy. Personnel numbers 50, and NOT 150 as originally indicated.

Lt Col [illegible] (tpt) — Ipt request for 800 Italian Navy personnel:- following our non-acceptance of their request (369/T/F of I4 inst) an offr was sent to TARANTO to secure authorization from [illegible], who is stated to have said that he did NOT know the drill. The matter is at a standstill.

Capt [illegible] (tpt) — Movelit sig ZFI5 of I5 inst:- the small parties are all prisoners under escort whom they wish should travel in one party. Second. Personnel for BARI AA def.

I7 Feb 44

Lt Col [illegible] (ops & mov) — 1002 GE Coy move to [illegible]:- a further call to Bari elicited the fact that the move in small parties was the result of a request by a major of the sub-area (NOT better identified) pending suitable arrangements for escn.

Ferriers to X Corps:- None available on the mainland. ? SARDINIA? -

Renumbering of Pack Ipt Coys:- they do NOT agree one detail of our figures and will give us particulars to-morrow.

Lt Col [illegible] — Italian personnel with IO Veh Coy, [illegible]:- Nothing

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NOI know the drill. The matter is at a standstill.

Capt [illegible] (tpt)

Moveit sig 2FI9 o Is inst:- the small parties are all prisoners under escort whom they wish should travel in one party. Second. Personnel for BARI AA Def.

17 Feb 41

Lt Col [illegible] (ord & mob)

IOO2 GT Coy move to [illegible]:- a further call to Bari elicited the fact that the move in small parties was the result of a request by a major of the sub-area (NOI better identified) pending suitable arrangements for same.

Barriers for X Corps:- None available on the mainland. ? [illegible] -

Renumbering of Pack Tpt Coys:- they do NOT agree one detail of our figures and will give us particulars to-morrow.

Lt Col [illegible] INT

Italian personnel with IO Veh Coy, [illegible]:- Nothing known off-hand - will try and get the details.

3 Artieri Bn from CALABRIA:- signalling for [illegible] poon; at 1 Feb they were 100 men short. They also need 4 carts and 4 trucks to complete tpt. Supt situation NOT known - finding out about this too. He stated that precedence had been given to completing sapper units with 3 Army as requested by us.

Armd train:- the request to put this in order is stated to have come from a Major of British or American unit (NOI better identified) who applied direct to [illegible] Now ready to move; est 4 offrs and 130 ors. Availability of ammn: 300 rounds.

Gen MATTEOLI (Ital)

Supt situation at mid-Feb:-

BARI	Vehicle for	Italy	7200	Esp	4000
B [illegible] ..	"	"	"	5200	"	3700
TAR NTO...	"	"	"	3000	"	3300

Digest

1569

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Lt Col SICOTTI (trt)

Gen MAGRUDER

Very unhappy about bi-weekly train service NAPLES - APULIA (via TARANTO) which is used by mil personnel returning to SICILY, ref MEDSOS's letter 13 Feb , TOIOVI AV. Suggestion is either one extra train per week for tps only, or an increased share for tps on the civilian trains, train ing accn for tps up to 3 Coaches or trucks.

Ovrs for Combat unit:- passed on info which the comd brought back from 5 Army - no comment.

San Marco Bn:- explained the need for Army authority before units or tps are moved into Army area. As we had heard unofficially of intention of moving this bn shortly, requested that we be info officially, to enable necessary authority to be obtained from Army.

Order of battle of Combat Div:- understand that this is ready and has only to be approved by CLARK - should be in our hands to-morrow.

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Copy to Combat Div:- understand that
Russian is only to be approved by
Corps & Army HQ before being sent
to Army Gp.

'AQ'

LIAISON WITH S E R B 15 Feb 44

Lt Col G(Ops)

Coastal det units at PARENT :- the necessary instrs for the move of these units were cd pulled to IX Corps to-day, as per sig hand d to G office.

Met Capt/ MANOA, 33 San Marco Bn, which is completing its trg at CHITARONA. Strength about 950 all ranks. Composition: 3 rifle coys, 1 sp coy. He was trying to get twelve vehs out of the Army, unsuccessfully, and had been told to try the navy. His bn is ready to move and the 1st request will be coming through almost at once.

Lt Col MILITARY ATT

Nat Antieri Pl, AI TRAN TRANO:- they will get the breakdown by trades for us.

ICOs 71 Coy:- Passed on request that three offrs from SARAFAND be allowed to remain on. Also to increase NA to five pls. Also that the entire personnel attd this coy be moved to SARAFAND to-day.

They are anxious to have a reply to their IL3/200/V of 14 Dec concerning setting up of new centres in SICILY.

Camps for personnel back from Balkans:- It is their proposal to set up Quarantine/Isolation/Transit camps for dealing with personnel back from the Balkans at Mad - BELVI I - BARANO - Malta.

3 & 4 Batt Spec Laboratori:- This no in ation is again amended to:eight coys from div engrs. (ex SARAFAND)

Med Arty Regt M CRO:- No detail available at HQ - t dy more already signalled for some.

I Sqt Bde:- An offr visiting SMRE to-day told them that this Bde had been in the line since 8 inst, in sector

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1000 GT Coy:- Based on request that three Offrs from [illegible] be allowed to remain on. Also to increase AB to five pls. Also that the entire personnel attd this coy be moved to [illegible] to-day.

They are anxious to have a reply to their IL.3/Gob/V of 24 Dec concerning setting up of Gun centres in SICILY.

Camps for personnel back from Leisure:- It is their proposal to set up Disembking/Reception/Transit camps for dealing with personnel back from the Leisure at [illegible] - [illegible] - [illegible].

3 & 4 Batt Spec Lever-to-it:- This nomination is again amended to:eight coys from Civ Spheres. (ex [illegible])

Gob Arty Regt [illegible]:- No details available at [illegible] - they have already signalled for same.

1 Kot Bde:- An Offr visiting [illegible] to-day told them that this Bde had been in the line since 8 Inst, in sector [illegible] - Capt L.S. [illegible].

Lyrs to 1 Kot Bde:- In consideration of non-return of 200 Lyrs borrowed by 5 Army, can they make up the deficiency with the surplus personnel of 1002 GT Coy.

Handed in unofficial list of nominations of units due to move from [illegible] - most of these were known to the Sts to Naples.

Read

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'AQ'

LIAISON SECTION

I4 Feb 4,

Lt Col
[illegible] I I
(Ord Adv)

With SOHO:- Lon of Locke Operating coys, two each at [illegible] and [illegible], from existing lab units, if possible to incl personnel from former Italian coy units. One such unit in [illegible]: 5th Comp Port Lo, (Sorice Flora) and possibly a few elements of the 8th. As soon as they receive our ext they will get the new coys organized through Ord Lab in the two ports.

Armd Train:- in answer to a request from the Mission they have put in order the 25 Tp Armd Train of two tree guns, tree and trucks and tree vans. Location: [illegible]

Mob Art, Adap, NTOUO:- details of strength and equt will be phoned through later

Coastal Arty Bty, [illegible]:- they had just recd our C/S/Ij and will let us know the situation re arming the Arty pieces.

Ord Comp Laverton:- Cen [illegible] will let them know in 4/5 days whether this coy can be replaced by AASC

105 Comp Vinitori:- location [illegible]; strength I5/I40 - they say it is shown on the recent strength return.

IOOI & IOO2 CT Coys:- change-over duly according to plan; the I50 tyre from [illegible] arrived at POLIGNANO 13th. 2 Dist have stated that IOO2 must be issued with battle-dress.

Lt Col [illegible]
(Serv Art)

Man from [illegible]:- can we obtain certain figures of men stock in the island & could be dick by [illegible] with figures in their possession - some higher and some lower. Particularly interested in rounds for 3"inch Hows. Discussed method of bringing him to the meeting.

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A2/20/1 '45

I3 Feb 44

Capt [illegible] (tpt) — Notified him of two items on the current ten-day tpt list which we are cancelling: submarine nets and fuel wire for Italian navy. These to be put up through naval channels.

I3 to I00[illegible] are to-day there was no sign of the rolling stock for fourth instalment of 68 Regt due to move to-day. It is suggested that the trucks has been commandeered by MTO BRINDISI.

They are getting a little anxious about move of Air Ministry, requested on I0th for night of I8/I9 inst. No news of the tpt yet.

Lt Col [illegible] (ops) — MAIN Div:- Concentration has now been chosen north of TARANTO, roughly in area bounded by [illegible], FRANCAVILLA, SAN PIETRO, GIOIA, CASTELLANETA. Exact details as soon as possible.

Lt Col CALLO (serviceio) — Handed in request for release of picks and shovels for civilite.

L. Col [illegible] (Ord & Mov) — MILITARY MISSION with Capt FOX. Meeting of I00I and I00[illegible] at Cagnano:- went over the ground with thoroughly and helped them to draft signal to IX Corps Dayin[illegible] on the various moves etc. An officer was instructed to take the signal personally to BARI this afternoon.

From or ten one of non-specialists in [illegible]:- handed over our letter and confirmed that this demand is NOT additional to previous request for I[illegible].000 mt to be cleared.

Maj [illegible] (Ops) — Collected usual ten-day strength return of Italian army revised as at I0 inst. The next return is to incl units in [illegible] which are just to hand.

1556

'A/Q'

LIAISON WITH S.M.A.B. 12 Feb 44

Lt Col MILLINGTON (ops A Sub)

6I Fd Amb:- instructions have already been given that the subs have to be brought with the unit from SARDINIA

Supper offr to co-ordinate new units:- Maj VERONI has been appointed and will be taking up his duties on 14th. He is recently back from the BALKANS.

The situation of new supper units forming is due to be submitted on 15th. This will refer to action stated under about the beginning of the month. This time lag is due to delays in comns between corps and units and corps and State Headquarters. No returns have yet been recd from corps and chaser sigs are being sent.

Discussed visit of SOME to units at VENOSA and TRANI and there should be no difficulty in arranging for Maj VERONI to accompany on 15 or 16.

Lt Col CALLO (serv pers)

With SO Sigs. Discussed turning in of WT sets at BARI etc and supply of additional HF sets for Radiocontrollo Bl.

Lt COLONNI (t-l comns)

With SO Sigs. In absence of Lt Col PANCRAI left message about comns between State Headquarters and SALERNO (for BARI - SALERNO l-g) and between mainland and SARDINIA.

Maj [illegible]TI (ops)

1500 civilians to be employed at T'LES:- letter of instruction to Italian authorities at Naples will be going to-day, with a copy to us. Ascertained later that this copy will NOT be available until late to-night or to-morrow.

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have yet been rec[illegible] from corps and chaser sigs are being sent.
Discussed visit of SOE to units at PINOSA and TRANI and there should be no difficulty in arranging for Maj VISCONTI to accompany on 15 or 16.

Lt Col GALLO (serv gens) — With SO Sigs. Discussed turning in of WT sets at BARI etc and supply of additional MF sets for Radiocontrollo Pl.

Lt CRISTOFORI (tel comns) — With SO Sigs. In absence of Lt Col PANCRAZI left message about comns between Stato Maggiore and [illegible]NO (for BARI - SARDINIA leg) and between mainland and SARDINIA.

Maj [illegible]TI (ops) — 1500 civilians to be embarked at T[illegible]LES:- letter of instruction to Italian authorities at Naples will be going to-day, with a copy to us. Ascertained later that this copy will NOT be available until late to-night or to-morrow.

Col PALLAVICINO — Left message about camp pack.

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Ltr CS MORIARTY.

Re Millefiorum

I'd has queries on drivers.

I will (I hope) bring back most of these answers from MAPAEA, he must install his horses under them. We have not even got the approval in principal for the vaccine yet. Send it is a racket!

11/2

for A/A

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II Feb 44

Gen MACDONALD — Expressed himself as being very satisfied with the very frank talk of last evening with the comd, on the subject of strength of the Italian army and recalling men to the colours. Meant the moment engaged on drafting letter to War Ministry outlining proposals for this recruiting.

States that conc area of NEMBO div would probably be in lower half of APULIA, but that LI Corps had NOT yet advised exact location. I mentioned Jugoslav camps in MURAVINA area, which he quite appreciated, but apparently this area is no longer being considered for the NEMBO.

Engr offr to co-ordinate new sapper units:- an offr has been named by War Ministry - they are waiting to see him before confirming the appointment.

Advised him that we canNOT expect any avns from Italian Navy, following receipt of letter from FOTALI

Lt Col G I LIO (personnel) — ORBAT staff list in course of preparation - will be brought over by MARCHESONI later to-day. (for G III(I))

Lt Col BARBO (ops) — 2 Recpt Camp:- Maj PERCOLA , Campi Rifornimento, LDC 8 will fix an appointment with Gen DEGUIDI, comd 2 Campo Rifornimento whenever Lt Col MC LARTY wishes to visit the camp.

S. AFRICO Bn has moved (by sea) from CIVITAVECCHIA to CRISTONO, where further trg will be carried out lasting 4 or 5 days, after which it will be ready to move up to I Mot Bde. I suggested he put in request for lift in plenty of time to avoid last minute rush.

Maj MARCONI (ops) — Units in BRINDISI area:-

- 4 Bty 75/13 — moved to MONTE SA, formerly in large farm buildings Mess. PIGNICELLA which have since been taken over by lab unit.
- 142 Bty 75/27 — location S.VITO - classified as A/tk unit but now coming part lab, strength 1//130

785120

advised him that we cannot expect any avrs from Italian Navy, following receipt of letter from FOT LI

Lt Col G I BIC (personnel) — some staff list in course of preparation - will be brought over by CAPO LEONI later to-day. (for G III(I))

Lt Col MAYPO (ops) — 2 Reorg Comp:- Maj PERGOLI , Campi Riordinamento, LECCE will fix an appointment with Gen DEGOZZI, comdo 2 Campo Riordinamento whenever Lt Col MCCARTY wishes to visit the camp.

S. MARCO Bn has moved (by sea) from CAMP OLBI to CHIARONE, where further trg will be carried out lasting 4 or 5 days, after which it will be ready to move up to I Mot Rae. I suggested he put in request for tpt in plenty of time to avoid last minute rush.

Maj MAIOCCHI (ops) — Units in BRINDISI area:-
- 4 Bty 75/13 moved to CAMPO DI MARE, formerly in large farm buildings Mass. EX-JOCULA which have since been taken over by lab unit.
- 152 Bty 75/27 location S.VITO - also should be duty unit but now doing duty as lab, strength 17/230
- Det of 47 Inf Repl Depot - owing to mistran lation incorrect details were given. Location: private buildings in S.PIETRO VERNOTICO on the Via di MESAGNE - strength 15/407 part gen duties, part lab.

Lt Col GILLFILLAN (mov & sto) — 601 Possedevi Coy:- Co HQ and second pl left FRANI 5 inst for area of emp.
Recruitment of volunteer svrs:- requires to discuss certain org details. It is suggested that after recruiting at all units, volunteers are passed to MT units belonging to each Italian Corps, for fitting out. He wants to know:
- where they are to be sent after that ,
- the date we shall be ready to take them over,
- the est on which they are to be based. In this connection they have stated that the smaller GS Truck coy is much more convenient for their own arrangements.
- arrangements for drawing pay. It is aim to complicate matters for them if they have to draw from Italian Treasu

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Col [illegible] VICINI — Left message about letters for PWs.

Gen SOLDARELLI — COC CUNEO Div, which is located in PALESTINE. He is over here for consultations as to the future of his Dvn, which is at present unemployed and numbers 5000 men.

Cap FO [illegible]SI (tpt) — 92I Tele Line Coy: arrived at BARI by rail night IO/II inst, strength 3 offrs 121 ors.

IX MG Bn:- The two coys for which tpt was authorised by the Mission on 4 Feb(JI/I[illegible]) are still at BARI, awaiting tpt to TARANTO

68 Inf Regt:- The second days move has been duly carried out.

25 and 152 Artieri Coys also still awaiting tpt for the NAPLES area.

The 250 men scheduled to move from MATINO and MATERA to MANFREDI for work has now gone by rd, and rail tpt is being cancelled accordingly.

Lt Col GALLO — Wishes to see Maj PLATIS to discuss matter re of certain MT eqpt in BARI

'AQ'

LIAISON [illegible] 10 Feb 44

Lt BILLI (Liaison) — They require an explanation of the second column of figures of our AG/I9/? of 1 Feb - sent to them under cover of our SD/I4/I of 8 Feb.

Lt Col SAXPO (ops) — Proposed visit of Lt Col SOMERSET to 2 Base Sub-Depot of SAXBE will be placed at our disposal and date and time of visit will be fixed with him.

Maj SCARPATI (ops) — With Maj ARMFIELD. The Italians in the Naples area have already been approached by the Allied authorities with a request NOT to pay civilians more than the Allied rates, so as to avoid competition and a general rise in wages. SCARPATI says that on a basis of equal pay the civilian worker will go to the Allied employer every time, as in one way or another he manages to secure some rations from latter source, and food being the price it is, particularly in the NAPLES area, this is a big inducement. He says that in the same area a competitive wage is from 120 to 140 Lire per day, plus rations. Conclusion: If civilian specialists are emp by Italian army in same area as corresponding Allied units, in addition to equality of pay, there must be equality of opportunity of securing rations, especially in areas where cost of living is very high, if we are to avoid these xxx civilians transferring from the Italian to the Allied units.

Col. PALAVICINI — Wants to know how he can send letters to Pte, one in EGYPT and one in INDIA.

Lt Col SIDNEY-SMITH (Ord & mob) — Over schools in SARDINIA etc:- a sig is being sent to-day with instructions for collecting the personnel for running the schools. The complete sum instr will follow in a day or two. Output for the first month is planned as follows:-
- SARDINIA 700 In two or more schools, at local discretion
- CALABRIA 140 Under auspices XXXI Corps

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per day, plus rations. Conclusion: If civilian specialists are emp by Italian Army in same area as corresponding Allied units, in addition to equality of pay, there must be equality o. opportunity of securing rations, especially in areas where cost of living is very high, if we are to avoid these xxx civilians transferring from the Italian to the allied units.

Col. PALLAVICINI

Want to know how he can send letters to PWs, one in EGYPT and one in INDIA.

Lt Col [illegible] PWI

(Org & Mob) Over schools in SARDINIA etc:- a sig is being sent to-day with instructions for collection the personnel for running the schools. The complete sum instr will follow in a day or two. Output for the first month is planned as follows:-

- SARDINIA	700	In two or more schools, t local discretion
- CALABRIA	100	Under auspices XXXI Corps
- APULIA	100	" " IX Corps
- SICILY	100	" " [illegible] Div
	1000	

1332

This will take a little time to org, and on the basis of one month's tuition it is NOT expected that the first courses will be available before end Mar. A second course is planned on the same basis, but they have NOT thought beyond this.

1002 PW Coy will definitely be completed and trained by the end of Feb, according to IX Corps.

210 Platoons Radiocontrollo left 5 inst by rail for [illegible]

82I Tele Line Co, left CATANZARO for Bari 6 inst.

It is confirmed that Arditi on sailed from Taranto 5 inst.

3 Pl of PW Tele Co, left CAPUA 22 Oct to disposal of 15 Army Gp - they would like to know present location.

2 Bn 68 Regt left to-day - move of the regt to be completed by 14th.

S.SPIRITO
XXXXXXX.

Regt

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