

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

ACC

10000/120/170

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No. 785020

000/120/170

AQ/27

Welfare. Italian Army

3rd Cover

Mar. - Apr. 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Army Welfare.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
A/27.

23 Mar '45.

C.G. Fifth Army.
C.G. Penbase.
C.G. AAFSC/MTC.

1. It is planned to include one trained Italian Welfare officer in the T/O. of Italian Adm Div HQ (and Combat Group HQ.).

2. This officer would be responsible to the Div. Commander for the Welfare and provision of welfare (Special Service) facilities for all Italian troops under command and for liaison with appropriate Allied Special Service Officers.

3. Will you please notify this Mission if you agree to accept such an officer within the ceiling of Italian troops allotted you.

4. In the event of you agreeing, suitable trained officers will be posted as soon as they become available.


CLANTON P. KERR, Colonel
for Major General
Land Forces

except such as are direct within the ceiling of Italian troops
allotted you.

4. In the event of you agreeing, suitable trained officers
will be posted as soon as they become available.



CLAYTON P. KERR, Colonel
for Major General
Land Forces
Sub Commission, AC. (AMIA)

Internal:- A.D.A.N.S.

4485

100-100-100

Subject : Italian Welfare Officers.

Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.
M.M.I.A.
R O M E.
A 247.

7 May 45.

To : C.G. P.B.S.

Captain RIBONI.

1. The above named officer of 212 Italian Division has already attended a course of instruction at the Welfare Training Centre.
2. Will you please say whether this officer is acceptable as the Welfare Officer on the staff of 212 Division within the T/O.

S.P. Archer
S.P. ARCHER. Capt.
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

/vsi

Copy to : ADAWS.

4434

785020

Subject: - Welfare.

M.M.I.A.

A

50 British Liaison Unit.
G/4.
14 April 45.

Ref my G/4 dated 17 March 45.

1. Can I please be informed whether or not it has been found possible for you to act as requested?
2. I am informed by a mutual acquaintance that Mme MILO has not yet received any acknowledgement.

ARCS/EHS.

Lt. Col.
GS.

Letter has been delivered.

W.P.

4483

151
SUBJECT: Italian Army Welfare.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

A/27.

14 Apr '45.

To : C.G. AAFSC/MTO.

1. Reference your R 36833 of 29 Mar.
2. This HQ A/27 of 23 Mar. asked whether or not a Welfare/Special Service officer would be acceptable within the WE/TO of an Italian Adm. Division. HQ.
3. It is desired to know whether such an amendment to the WE/TO would be acceptable.
4. The question of which individual officer would fill the vacancy at HQ 205 Adm Div. would be decided if the proposed amendment to WE/TO was made.
5. It is the desire of the Director of Welfare at the Italian Ministry of War that the vacancies for Welfare/Special Service officers, if approved, should be filled by officers nominated by Divisional Commanders.

W. P. ...

Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Internal:- A.D.A.W.S.

4482

A 27

150

SUBJECT: Allocation of Ensa Show to
"Mantova" Combat Group.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/B.

6 Apr '45.

To : 56. BW.

Reference your letter on the above subject of 2 Apr.

1. This HQ has no knowledge of Ensa shows being available for performances before Italian Combat Groups. The only information available on this point is the AFHQ ruling circulated by this HQ under AQ/27 of 17 Feb., a copy of which is attached.
2. However, if you will state from what source your information came, the matter will be pursued.

Koffler
Lt. Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

RVC/

Internal:- "A" Branch. (without enclosure)

SPH
17/4.

4481

149

SUBJECT: Italian Army Welfare Policy.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

A/27.

5 Apr '45.

To : A.F.H.Q. (2)

1. Reference CR/9904/G-1(Br) of 11 Feb.
2. The attached draft policy directive for the Italian Army Welfare Service is now forwarded for consideration. It has been prepared on the lines indicated by you.
3. Para 5 on supplies has been inserted as a result of the receipt of your directive on this subject.
(AG 400/005 GD B-0 of 12 Mar)

W. P. Delaney Colonel

Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Internal:- A.D.A.W.S.

Q
SD
2 1/2

4480

Directive to MMIA on Italian Army Welfare.

1. Object.

It is wish of the Supreme Allied Commander that Welfare, as it is understood in the Allied Armies, should, as far as possible, be given the same prominence in the Italian Army working with the Allies. While the organisation of the Welfare Service and the provision of the necessary staff, personnel and material are primarily Italian responsibilities, the Supreme Allied Commander has directed that the fullest possible support should be given by Allied Commanders concerned within the conditions from time to time approved. To this end an officer of the Allied Welfare Service is appointed to M.M.I.A. and will deal directly with the Italian Welfare Directorate of the Ministry of War.

2. Allied Assistance.

The Italian Army Welfare Service must be, both in conception and in execution, Italian: nevertheless allied assistance will be made available to enable the service to be built on a sure foundation, and advice, arising out of the Allies wide experience of welfare will be given.

The necessary materials for the successful operation of the various projects are to be provided, wherever possible, from Italian sources: but it is recognised that certain items are, and will, for some time, remain unavailable to the Italian Government. Where the operation of a scheme which can properly be regarded as an essential part of the service will be rendered impossible for lack of materials, then releases from Allied sources on repayment may be considered, in accordance with availabilities and regulation in force. (see para 5.)

3. Organisation.

In all dealings with this subject it must be stressed that the responsibility for the welfare of the soldier is and remains that of the unit commander. The duty of the Italian welfare service will be to assist advise, and provide amenities as follows:-

The Italian army welfare service will be responsible for the welfare of all categories of the army. The establishment will consist of a directorate at the Ministry of War and there will be service representation at Adm. Div HQs and at Combat Group HQs.

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The Italian army welfare service will be responsible for the welfare of all categories of the army. The establishment will consist of a directorate at the Ministry of War and there will be service representation at Adm. Div HQs and at Combat Group HQs. All personnel on authorized W/Es will be held against the same category as that of the HQs with which they are serving.

There will not be welfare service representation at 4479 other HQs. Unit welfare officers will be nominated by commanders from the officers under their command.

4. Scope.

The service will provide for all three categories of the army. There will be no priority to any one category except for any priority given to forward troops by reason of the conditions in which they are living.

5. Supplies.

Certain supplies for canteens are being furnished from Allied sources on an approved scale and include Flour, Fish or potted meat, Sugar and Coffee, as well as Olive Oil and Salt from Italian sources. Details of the amounts allowed monthly to Armies, Districts and Base Section will be published periodically.

(2)

6. Transport.

Transport, as authorized, will be provided, from Italian resources, within the category using it. Transport serving troops of more than one category will be held in the Iti-Iti category.

7. Details of the scope of this scheme and information on various activities which are included in it, such as individual welfare, canteens, entertainments, and sports, will be published by the War Ministry in a pamphlet on Italian Army Welfare, prepared in consultation with MMIA.

785020

A27

~~212~~
(148)

Subject : Officers - Postings.

Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
R O M E
A/II

2 April 45.

Ministry of War

Lt.Col. A. DI ELASE

Lt.Col. E.ROSSI-PASSAVENTE

Will you please arrange for the above named
Officers to be posted as follows :-

Lt.Col.A.DI ELASE as a Welfare Officer to HQ
209 Div.

Lt.Col. ROSSI-PASSAVENTE as a Welfare Officer
to HQ 228 Div.

Please advise this HQ when these postings have
taken place.

S.P. Archer Cgd

S.P. ARCHER, Capt.
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

Copy to :- Rear HQ Eighth Army
for Welfare,

- ADAMS, M.M.I.A.

- A/27

4477

147

Subject : Welfare - IRD Raviscanina.

Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.

(M.M.I.A.)

R O M E

A/27

2 April 45.

ADAMS,
M.M.I.A.

WP

IRD at Afragola is moving to Raviscanina (H 2007) commencing the 11th of April, from which date 750 men per day will be moved. Will you please arrange for the new camp to be visited and report forwarded to Col. PIDSLEY. The O.C. British Cadre should be contacted before the visit is made.

S.P. Archer Capt.

S.P. ARCHER, Capt.
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

SPA/fo

4476

A27 -

146

SUBJECT: Films.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) HQME.
MEL/B/2.
2 April '45.

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

WP

1. Copies can be made of the following films,
held by P.W.B., if the necessary materials can be provided
by you :-

"Cremone Combat Group". "Partisan's Day".

"F.M. Alexander at Cesano".

"Italian Contribution to War Effort".

3. If, therefore, positive film can be supplied
the necessary arrangements can be made. The cost of processing
would be a Ministry of War responsibility.

Dy. Col.
+ Lt. Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

Copy to:- Film Production Section,
P.W.B., A.F.H.Q.

Internal:- "A".Branch.

4475

SPH

SUBJECT: Film

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) Rome
WEI/B.S.
April '48

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benemerito del Soldato

1. Copies can be made of the following films,
held by P.W.B., if the necessary materials can be provided
by you :-

"German Combat Group".

"V.M. Alexander at Cassino".

"Italian Contribution to War Effort".

2. If, therefore, positive film can be supplied
the necessary arrangements can be made. The cost of processing
would be a liability of War responsibility.

M. Col.
A.A.A.W.S.
W.M.I.A.

Copy to:- Film Production Section,
P.W.B., A.F.W.O.

Internal:- "A" Branch.

SUBJECT: Italian Army Welfare.
Interim Report No. 4.

A 27

RESTRICTED (145)

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/W.

14 Apr '45.

Army Welfare Services, (2)
A.F.H.Q.

1. Reference WEL/P/27 of 19 Feb '45.

2. Organisation. The position of Welfare W/Es is now as follows:--

- (i) Ministry of War. The W/E. within the Ministry of War ceiling has been agreed. This gives an adequate staff to the Director.
- (ii) Adm. Divisions. An amendment to existing W/E is being put through to give welfare representation at these HQs.
- (iii) Combat Groups. Welfare is already included in these W/Es.

3. Training. The Italian Officers Welfare courses are going quite well. Two ten day courses have now been held and twelve officers have attended. Attached for information is a copy of the programme of the third course commencing 3 Apr. The Italian director hopes to train welfare officers to fill vacancies on his establishment and also unit welfare officers.

4. Newspapers. Authority has been given for the publication of the third edition at Bari. The Rome and Florence editions are going well and appear to be well received. The handling of reports and pictures of the S.A.C.'s inspection at RTC. ICF. was good. The main difficulty is the quality of the newsprint.

5. Rest Camp. This camp is running well at a ceiling of 232. vacancies being allotted to operational units as follows.

(iii) Combat Groups. Welfare is already included in these W/Es.

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5. Rest Camp. This camp is running well at a ceiling of 232, vacancies being allotted to operational units as follows:-

Each Combat Group	17.	85.
209, 210, 228, & 231	—	
Adm Div. each 16.	64.	
SMRE Liaison Units.	5.	
Geribaldi Div.	16.	
	—	
	170.	
	48.	
	14.	
	—	
	232.	
	232.	

Navy.
Air Force.

(2)

6. Postal Service.

- (i) The field service postcard scheme has been approved by AFHQ in principle and final proposals to cover censorship and other details have now been put forward.
- (ii) NMIA have put up a letter to AFHQ asking for investigation of the question of postal service with a view to reducing delay. The main difficulty appears to be the location of censorship offices.

7. Canteens.

- (i) Supplies. AFHQ. AG/400/005/GDB-0 of 12 Mar authorizes issue on repayment of a scale of canteen supplies within a ceiling of 10,000. Details of sub-allocation to Italian formations are being worked out.
- (ii) Mobile Canteens. Work is in progress in an Italian workshop on the three Br. and three US lorries allotted. Release is approved for Italian material for the 30 uniforms. The Ministry of War is preparing the list of the lady volunteers concerned.

8. Books and Magazines. A number of books have been collected and distributed to formations by Italian welfare, some 1,500, not a lot but more are coming in. An allotment of 1,200 magazines (Mondo Libero, Il Mess and Victory) was obtained from PWB which was handed over to Italian Welfare for distribution. An appeal for books, and other welfare stores, is being made in the Italian press.

9. Italian Combat Forces Reinforcement & Training Centre.

Cesano camp contains a large number of troops; and a considerable amount of welfare work has been done. Canteens are being set up, cinemas are in operation, a theatre has been made, there have been distributions of various amenities, and sports facilities are being improvised. During the last two weeks of Feb. and first two weeks of March 16 concerts or plays were given.

10. General. The Italian welfare service is undoubtedly making progress. The main difficulty is material. The price of welfare

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10. General. The Italian welfare service is undoubtedly making progress. The main difficulty is material. The price of welfare stores is enormous on the open market and prohibitive on the black market, even if it could be used.

448

[Signature]

Lt. Col.
A. D. A. W. S.
M. M. I. A.

Internal:- "A" Branch. -

Subject: Move of BHD A/RAGOLA.

Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.
(M.B.I.A.) R O M
2/84

31 Mar 45

Col.Q.
Col.A. ✓
GSO 1
ST.

CAMP SITE.

RAVISCANINA H2007.

Inspected 30 Mar by Major Spray 3 Dist rep, Q Staff Officer
56 Area, O.C. BHD and O.C. Br Cadre.
All well satisfied with the site and welcome the change.
Plan to move men into four Bn areas, three training and
one holding. Cooking initially to be on Bn basis, later
on Coy basis.

DATE OF MOVE.

Commencing 11 April 750 men a day will be transferred.
Present holding 6000. G requested to avoid any further
intake until these numbers can be reduced.

ADMIN.

Major Spray coordinating arrangements and dealing with
227 Div. ST are arranging packs 42000 to be despatched
to railway station VALERANO on 6, 14, 21, 28 April.
Road from Naples until Bakery can be established at
PIEDIMONTE.

TRANSPORT

BHD are short of vehs on estab. 3 District have matter
in hand. Proposed raise WE to give 10 3 Ton lorries
instead of 5 as at present.
3 Dist will provide transport for move. ST will make available
one pln Special Tpt Coy at disposal 227 Div 7 - 10 April.
both dates incl.

WELFARE

Camp has good cinema but no projector. BHD lacks all
forms of recreational gear which are essential now unit is
to be located in the country. Important Welfare
4/20

ADMIN.

Major Spray coordinating arrangements and dealing with 227 Div. ST are arranging packs 42000 to be despatched to railway station VALHANO on 6, 14, 21, 28 April. Bread from Naples until Bakery can be established at PIRDIMONTE.

TRANSPORT

BRD are short of vehs on estab. 3 District have matter in hand. Proposed raise WE to give 10 3 Ton lorries instead of 5 as at present. 3 Dist will provide transport for move. ST will make available one pln Special Fpt Coy at disposal 227 Div 7 - 10 April, both dates incl.

WELFARE

Camp has good cinema but no projector. BRD lacks all forms of recreational gear which are essential now unit is to be located in the country. Important Welfare arrangements are the best possible and that this unit gets special attention until they settle down.

Advent.

R.A. CURTIS Lt. Col.
AQMG. AMIA.

RAC/hh

A.1/

Please look into the organisation of the BRD with G.S.D and let me know present org and proposals for future.

A.2/

Please ask Welfare to visit by arrangement with Br Cadue and give me a report.

LD
1 Apr

1444

SUBJECT: Appeal to the Italian public
for welfare stores.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.H.I.A.) ROME.

WEL/P.

30 Mar '45.

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

Copy to: A.D.A.M.S.

Hq Rear 8th Army.

no response.
supplied for welfare stores
WEL

1. Reference conversation on the above subject.

2. Hq 8th Army, have suggested that an appeal should be made to the Italian public through the media of the Italian press and radio for contributions, welfare stores, for the Italian soldier, such as :-

- Outdoor games
- Indoor games
- Books
- Playing cards
- Canteen furniture
- Canteen stores (e.g. cups, saucers, plates etc.)

3. You will agree that in view of the shortage of such stores and the difficulty of purchase on the open market any contributions made would be a great help.

4. It is strongly felt that, a well worded appeal given a wide distribution would have satisfactory results.

5. Contributions could be handed in to your representatives at the large centres, such as Rome, Florence, Bari, Naples etc. Your welfare officers would notify you of receipts so that you might give the necessary orders for a fair distribution to formations.

Outdoor games
Indoor games
Books
Playing cards
Canteen furniture
Canteen stores (e.g. cups, saucers, plates etc.)

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5. Contributions could be handed in to your representatives at the large centres, such as Rome, Florence, Bari, Naples etc. Your welfare officers would notify you of receipts so that you might give the necessary orders for a fair distribution to formations.!!

6. If you will forward any articles you wish released to the press on this subject every endeavour will be made by this HQ to ensure a wide distribution.

7. Such an appeal would not, of course, have any political flavour and would be for the benefit of all categories of the Italian army.

[Signature]

Lt. Col.
A.D.A. W.S.
H.M.I.A.

Internal:- "A" Branch.

Col Pickens -

Resh Camp -

① Why not vacancies to
205 & 212 Div?

Why the large number
from Sardinia.

Exactly what I thought
would happen is happening -
but an equal distribution.

(K)

ADAMS.

② Please explain ① above

W.F.
7 April

4470

③
C. A.

The ~~the~~ maximum number of persons authorized is 500. M.O.W. started the camp with an initial ceiling of 200.

2. Having allowed 152 vacancies for Navy, Air Force & the 5 Combat Groups the remaining 48 were allotted to the three Divs. in the operational area 210, 228, + 231. (i.e. 16 vacancies each)

3. On 22 Mar the ceiling was raised by M.O.W. to 231. & the Divisions 209, + Gambaldi were included.

4. The question of the allotment to Gambaldi's Div. is dealt with, in accordance with your instructions. at Folio. 136.

5. up to now four of the com. Divs have received vacancies - if the remaining four are each given 6 vacancies as the ceiling of the camp is raised & further 64 vacancies are required

6. Do you wish orders issued to raise it forthwith?

The 8 Apr.

4469
P. 10

ADAWS

Explain to all concerned the difference between
the WE/TO and the filling of it -
and then again if they wish a place in
the T.O. for a welfare series office
explain about welfare offices & units

Adams
10/2/68

WP
FHL

Cul Pilsley ①

Looks like we don't
know what we are
doing - Rather
embarrassing I think.

(K)

AD.A.W.S.

②
Please sort this out and report to me.

W.P.
rapid

Hickson @ Folio 151
[Signature]

4468

③

Cc. A

1. We do know what we are doing
2. Welfare Service is a job for officers is new to the Indian army, officers appointed to work on Assistants are not of them was always an assistants section in S.M.F.
3. Gen. Panmission hopes to have a job/T/O for welfare officers at Div. ch. approved. There are two objects to his welfare courses:-
 - (i) to train the officers selected by Commissions so that if suitable & if the job is approved they may be posted & regularised as welfare officers.
 - (ii) to train unit welfare officers so that Commissions & units who have no ^{well} service representation may still have trained 'unit' officers.
4. Para 134 to which this letter is an answer asks whether a job/T/O for a welfare officer would be acceptable.
5. One officer has completed the course from 205 Div - unit - to 3 Aviation Group. met Peer & got a good report

P

9 Apr.

4467

210. 1st Ind.
HEADQUARTERS, AAF SERV COMD, MTO, APO 528.

(IT-4-33)
29 MAR 1945

TO: Commanding General, Land Forces Sub Commission, AC, (MMIA) Rome.

1. 205th Division (Italian) now has such a Welfare Officer in the Division Headquarters and General LAMA desires to retain him.

2. This officer and others have been selected for attendance at the War Ministry's Welfare School, in fact one is presently in attendance.

3. Copies of correspondence between the War Ministry and the 205th Division on this subject are attached for your information.

4. Since these 205th Division officers will return to the Division upon completion of the course, no additional Welfare officers are considered necessary.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

W. P. Browne
W. P. BROWNE,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

2 Incls:

Incl 1 - Ltr War Ministry.

Incl 2 - Ltr 205th Division.

See Serial 134

4466

AAFSC/MTO
R. D. K 36833

SUBJECT: Italian Army Welfare.

C.G. Fifth Army.
C.G. Penbase.
C.G. AAFSC/ATO.

Adm
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

A/27.

23 Mar'45.

1. It is planned to include one trained Italian Welfare officer in the T/O. of Italian Adm Div HQ (and Combat Group HQ.).

2. This officer would be responsible to the Div. Commander for the Welfare and provision of welfare (Special Service) facilities for all Italian troops under command and for liaison with appropriate Allied Special Service Officers.

3. Will you please notify this Mission if you agree to accept such an officer within the coiling of Italian troops allotted you.

4. In the event of you agreeing, suitable trained officers will be posted as soon as they become available.

Clayton P. Kerr
CLAYTON P. KERR, Colonel
for Major General
Land Forces

with appropriate Allied Special Service Officers.

3. Will you please notify this Mission if you agree to accept such an officer within the ceiling of Italian troops allotted you.

4. In the event of you agreeing, suitable trained officers will be posted as soon as they become available.



CLAYTON P. KERR, Colonel
for Major General
Land Forces
Sub Commission, AC. (MMIA)

Internal:- A.D.A.W.S.

4484



SUBJECT: Italian Army Welfare.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.N.I.A.) ROME.
A/27.
23 Mar '45.

C.G. Fifth Army.
C.G. Penbase
C.G. AAFSC/WTO.

1. It is planned to include one trained Italian Welfare officer in the T/O. of Italian Adm Div HQ (and Combat Group HQ.).
2. This officer would be responsible to the Div. Commander for the Welfare and provision of welfare (Special Service) facilities for all Italian troops under command and for liaison with appropriate Allied Special Service Officers.
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CLAYTON P. KERR, Colonel
for Major General
Land Forces
Sub Commission, AC. (MMIA)

Internal:- A.D.A.W.S.

TRANSLATION

FROM: HQ 205 Division

REF: 558/17 ASS.

TO: War Ministry, Troops Welfare Office

DATE: 12 March 1945

SUBJECT: Courses for Officers to be employed on
Troops Welfare Duties.

Reference letter 01300/B.S. of 21.2.45 and telegram
797/D. of 9 March 1945.

I notify as follows the names of the officers requested:-

- HQ 205 Division	- Capt. CORRI	Mario
- HQ 2 Aviation Group	- Lieut. MARAGLIANO	Ferdinando
- HQ 3 Aviation Group	- Lieut. PIER -	Desiderio
HQHQ 1 Aviation Bn.	- 2Lieut. BIANCHINI	Sergio
- HQ 11 Aviation Bn.	- 2Lieut. VINCI	Concetto
- HQ 111 Aviation Bn.	- Lieut. CAMPIOTTI	Luigi
- HQ 1V Aviation Bn.	- Lieut. GALVAN	Carlo

I shall notify later the name of the officer of the 1st.
Group, Pisa, which has not yet been received.

I am not making any communication in respect of the other
units under command since they are in the course of disbandment.

I beg of you to inform me whether I will have to send, for the
19th. inst. all of said officers or only one.

Sgd. GUIDO LAMA
G.O.C.

O. Danin Cpl.

TRANSLATION

FROM: War Ministry

REF: 01300/BS

TO: HQ 20~~8~~ Division

DATE: 21 February 1945

SUBJECT: Courses for officers to be employed on Troops Welfare duties.

- 1) - The Troops Welfare Office, in agreement with the corresponding English service, has organised orientation courses for officers attached to welfare services. These courses will be run contemporarily with those organised by the English in Rome (Via 4 Fontane) at the Soldiers Welfare School; they will be under the supervision of Lt.Col.Negri Arnoldi. The officers attending (six for each course in all) will be billeted care of the Garrison HQ and will dine in the mess of the English school.
- 2) - The first of these courses will commence on the 5 March next. Duration of the course 10 days. The programme is shown on the enclosed list. The officers appointed will have to be sent to Rome for the morning of the 4th. March, by the HQ's concerned.

They will report:-

- to the Garrison HQ (Via Po 31) to receive information regarding their billeting;
- to the Soldiers Welfare Office (Via Napoli) between 1630 and 1730 hours of the same day to receive various instructions about the course.

At the end of the course they will be returned to their own unit by the Rome Garrison HQ.

The following are appointed to attend the course :-

- Lt. Col., Cav., Reg.,	ZINCONE	Cesare	"Piceno" Combat Group
- Lt. Col., Inf., Res.,	GIANNINI	Luigi	210 Division
- Lt. Col., Inf., Reg.,	LIBERTI	Gerardo	"Friuli" Combat Group
- Major, Inf., Reg.,	PROVIERI	Carlo	"Cremona" Combat Group
- Major, Inf., Res.,	GRASSI	Alberto	"Legnano" Combat Group
- Captain, Inf., Res.,	ROVET	Carlo	231 Division.

- 3) - Before the 8 March all the HQ's to which this letter is addressed will submit a list of officers proposed for attending the necessary courses (see letter 00132/B.S. of 29.1.45) (the date of commencement will be notified later) in the

corresponding numbers to ensure that in each Higher Formation, Regiment, and Battalion, (and corresponding units) there will ultimately be an officer trained in this particular service.

The Roster of attendance will be maintained by the Welfare Office precedence being given to officers of units in operational areas and bearing in mind the principle of equal allotments among the Higher Formations.

Meanwhile the HQ's are requested to list the appointed officers in the order in which they desire that the officers should attend.

It is not necessary that the officers appointed have a knowledge of English; give preference, however, to those who have this knowledge.

In proposing officers avoid appointing those who are shortly expected to, or who possibly may, leave the corps because of placing on reserve or other reasons.

Sgd. CASATI

O. Danin Cpl.



COMANDO DELLA 205^a DIVISIONE
Nucleo Assistenza

N°558/17 ASS. di prot.

P.M. 3400 li 12 Marzo 1945

OGGETTO: Corsi per Ufficiali da impiegarsi nel servizio per il benessere del soldato.-

AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato

P.M. 3800

Riferimento foglio n°01300/B.S. del 21.2.945 nonché fono
N°797/D. del 9 marzo 1945

Comunico qui di seguito il nome degli ufficiali richiesti:

- Comando 205 ^a Divisione	- Capitano CORBI	Mario
- Comando 2° Gruppo Aviazione	-Ten. MARAGLIANO	Ferdinando
- Comando 3° Gruppo "	-Ten. PEER	Desiderio
- Comando I° Btg. Aviazione	-S. Ten. BIANCHINI	Sergio
- Comando II° Btg. Aviazione	-S. Ten. VINCI	Concetto
- Comando III° Btg. Aviazione	-Ten. CAMPIONI	Luigi
- Comando IV° Btg. Aviazione	-Ten. GALVAN	Carlo

Mi riservo di comunicare il nominativo dell'ufficiale del
1° Gruppo -Fiss - non ancora pervenuto.

Non faccio alcuna comunicazione per gli altri dipendenti
reparti perché in corso di scioglimento.

Prego comunicarmi se dovro inviare costi, per il 19 corr.,
tutti detti ufficiali od uno solo.

IL GENERALE COMANDANTE
- Guido Lama -

- Comando III° Btg. Aviazione - Ten. CAMPIONI Luigi
- Comando IV° Btg. Aviazione - Ten. GALVAN Carlo

Mi riserbo di comunicare il nominativo dell'ufficiale del
1° Gruppo - Fiss - non ancora pervenuto.

Non faccio alcuna comunicazione per gli altri dipendenti
reparti perché in corso di scioglimento.

Prego comunicarmi se dovro inviare costi, per il 19 corr.,
tutti detti ufficiali od uno solo.

IL GENERALE COMANDANTE

- Guido Lama -

4459

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA
UFFICIO BENESSERE DEL SOLDATO

N°01300/ES. di prot.

P.M. 3800 li 21 Febbraio 1945

OGGETTO: Corsi per ufficiali da impiegare nel servizio per il benessere del soldato.-

.....
COMANDO 205^a DIVISIONE
.....

1°)-L'Ufficio Benessere del Soldato, d'accordo con il corrispondente servizio inglese, ha organizzato corsi di orientamento per ufficiali addetti al servizio del benessere. Tali corsi si svolgeranno parallelamente a quelli organizzati dagli inglesi in Roma (Via 4 Fontane) presso la Scuola per il Benessere del Soldato; saranno diretti dal Ten.Col.Me-ari Arnoldi. Gli ufficiali frequentatori (complessivamente sei per ogni corso) riceveranno alloggio a cura del Comando del Presidio e conviveranno alla mensa della scuola inglese.

2°)-Il primo di tali corsi avrà inizio il mattino del 5 Marzo p.v..-

Durata del corso 10 giorni. Il programma risulta dallo specchio al-
legato.

Gli ufficiali designati dovranno essere fatti affluire a Roma a cura dei Comandi interessati, per il mattino del giorno 4 marzo.

Si presenteranno:

- al Comando di Presidio (Via Po, 31) per ricevere indicazioni circa l'alloggio;
- all'ufficio Benessere del Soldato (Via Napoli 42), fra le ore 16.30 e le 17.30 dello stesso giorno, per ricevere istruzioni varie circa il corso.

Al termine del corso saranno fatti rientrare al proprio reparto a cura del Comando Presidio di Roma.

Sono designati per la frequenza del corso:

-Ten.Col.Cav.spe ZINCONE . Cesare Gruppo Combattimento "Piseno"

2°) - Il primo di tali corsi avrà inizio il mattino del 5 Marzo p.v..-

Durata del corso 10 giorni. Il programma risulta dallo specchio al-

legato.

Gli ufficiali designati dovranno essere fatti affluire a Roma a cura dei Comandi interessati, per il mattino del giorno 4 marzo.

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- al Comando di Presidio (Via Po, 31) per ricevere indicazioni circa l'alloggio;
- all'ufficio Benessere del Soldato (Via Napoli 42), fra le ore 16.30 e le 17.30 dello stesso giorno, per ricevere istruzioni varie circa il corso.

Al termine del corso saranno fatti rientrare al proprio reparto a cura del Comando Presidio di Roma.

Sono designati per la frequenza del corso:

- Ten. Col. Cav. spe ZINCONI	Cesare	Gruppo Combattimento "Pescara"
- " " Prr. cpl. GIANNINI	Luigi	210 Divisione
- " " spe LIBERTI	Gerardo	Gruppo combattimento "Friboli"
- Magg. " " PROVIERI	Carlo	" " " " " " " "
- " " cpl. GRASSI	Alberto	" " " " " " " "
- Capit. " " ROVET	Carlo	231 ^a Divisione

3°) - Entro il giorno 5 Marzo tutti i Comandi cui la presente è diretta comunicheranno un elenco di ufficiali proposti per la frequenza ai corsi necessari (vedi foglio 00132/B.S. del 29.1.45) - (riserva di comunicare la data di inizio) in numero corrispondente a quello necessario affinché in ogni comando di G.U., Reggimento, Btg. (e unità corrispondenti) possa alla fine essere presente un ufficiale orientato per il particolare servizio.

./.

Il Turno di frequenza sarà fissato dall'ufficio Benessere dando la precedenza agli ufficiali delle unità impiegate in zona di operazioni e con il criterio di una equa ripartizione fra le Grandi Unità.

Ad ogni buon conto i Comandi sono pregati di elencare gli ufficiali assegnati nell'ordine nel quale desiderano che siano ammessi alla frequenza.

Non é necessario che gli ufficiali designati conoscano la lingua inglese; tuttavia dare la preferenza a chi abbia tale conoscenza.

Nelle proposte evitare di designare ufficiali per i quali si preveda prossimo o possibile l'allontanamento dal corpo per congedamento o per altri motivi.-

IL MINISTRO

F/to Casati

427
143
SUBJECT: Rest Camp,
Via Guidabaldo del Monte 24.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/R.

18 Mar '45.

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

110115 Jactel

SP

1. Reference AQ/27. of 14 Feb.

2. During a recent visit to this rest camp it was reported that formations are not conforming to your administrative instructions as to the dates of arrival and departure of leave parties.

3. In view of the facts that men are limited to seven days and that rations must be strictly accounted for it is clear that formations must comply with the instructions.

4. If formations are not, in fact, complying, will you please state what steps are being taken to ensure compliance in the future.

[Signature]

Lt. Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

Copy to:- "A" Branch, M.I.A.

3. In view of the facts that men are limited to seven days and that rations must be strictly accounted for it is clear that formations must comply with the instructions.

4. If formations are not, in fact, complying, will you please state what steps are being taken to ensure compliance in the future.

[Signature]

Lt. Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

Copy to: "A" Branch, MMIA.

4457

SUBJECT: Military Theatrical Company.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(S.M.I.A.) HQ.
A/27.
28 Mar'45.

Ministry of War.

137/1
With further reference to your letter of 14 Mar. and this HQ. 3/3/20/36 of 15 March, it is regretted that the proposed attachment cannot be agreed.

Transfers involving a change of category of the affected personnel can not be considered.

W.P.
Major General,
S. M. I. A.

Internal
G (SD)
AMAS.

4456

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

785020

LEADS TO NJAR NM1

TRAVE1

FROM BIAO 271033A *Pendase*

TO UNIA FOR COL KERR

INFO 1331

GR51 BT

A/27

N65/27

148

134

40/27

RESTRICTED PD ITALIAN WELFARE OFFICER IS SUBJECT PAREN PENDASE-3691
PD CITE BPLND PD PENDASE TO WHIA FOR KERR FOR ACTION CHA TO CO
PENSOUTH FOR INFO PAREN YOUR ABLE ELANT TWO SEVEN DATED TWO THREE
MARCH REFERS PD TRAINED OFFICER IN ONE OF THE LOWER GRADES WILL
BE ACCEPTED WITHIN CEILING BT 271033A

LDC AR

REGD NR 1 271253A ON AR THX

27/3

4455

8/12/27
4455
[Signature]

SUBJECT: Cesano Training Camp.

Ministry of War,
Ufficio di Benessere.

Copy to:- "F" BLU.

1. Reference 02160/BS. of 22 Mar. and visit to
RTC. ICF. on 22 Mar.

2. The contents of the report and the progress made
are noted. Will you please arrange for a further report to
be forwarded as at 20 April next.

3. Arising from the visit the following suggestions
are made:-

(i) Theatre and Cinema Cesano.

Col. Zinconi should be instructed to make
application to "F" BLU. stating the requirements
for benches for seating.

(ii) Civilian cinema, Bracciano.

The Welfare officer, (Col. Zinconi) should be
instructed to approach the civilian owner of the
cinema with the purpose of arranging the admittance
of soldiers to performances at times convenient to
his HQ. It is suggested that every endeavour should
be made to arrange either:-

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) HOME.
WEL/W.

11 Mar '45.

3. Arising from the visit the following suggestions are made:-
(i) Theatre and Cinema Cesano.

Col. Zinconi should be instructed to make application to "F" BIU, stating the requirements for benches for seating.

(ii) Civilian cinema, Bracciano.

The Welfare officer, (Col. Zinconi) should be instructed to approach the civilian owner of the cinema with the purpose of arranging the admittance of soldiers to performances at times convenient to his HQ. It is suggested that every endeavour should be made to arrange either:-

- (a) Special performances for soldiers or preferably
- (b) an allocation of free seats at each performance now given.

4. Can information be given as to the exact location of the open air theatre ? 4454

5. What arrangements have been made as regards the finishing of the rest rooms mentioned in your report ?



Lt. Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.W.I.A.

Internal :- "A" Branch

139

Subject: Progress report on Welfare.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/W.
26 Mar '45.

"F" BLU.

1. Reference Conversation (DAAQMG & ADAWS MMIA)
on 22 Mar.
2. Attached for your information is a copy of a
progress report on Welfare from the Director of Welfare,
together with reply.

JMcC/

Copy to:- "A" Branch.


Lt. Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

4453

SUBJECT: Material for Uniforms.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/J.
26 Mar '45.

Q.(AE)
M.M.I.A.

1. Reference conversation (Deputy G.4. Q/AE - S/Lieut. AWS).
2. Attached is a translation of Ministry of War, Directorate of Welfare, letter 02127/B.S. of 20 March.
3. A copy of the Minutes referring to this matter is also attached, the reference being in Para 5.
4. The Ministry of War bid is for two uniforms and one additional pair of slacks per lady volunteer.
5. The Minutes of the meeting refer to material for 30 uniforms. May information be given as to when and from where the necessary grey Italian cloth and incidentals can be released.



Lt.Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

Copy to: "A" Branch.

785020

TRANSLATION

20 March '45.

Ministry of War,
Directorate of Welfare.

To A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

02127/B.S.

Subject. Women's Welfare Corps - C.A.F. -
Mobile Canteen Service.

1. Reference Minutes of Conference 3.Feb.(Para 5)
and to letter WEL/J of 11 March.
2. Attached is a model for the contemplated uniform
of the lady members of the above corps.
3. The materials necessary are as follows:

Material g.v; for 31 uniforms	93 metres.
" " " 31 " (B.D.)	93 "
" " " 31 pairs slacks	31 "
" " " 31 Caps & bags.	20 "
Total	<u>237 Metres</u>

Canvas for two uniforms, slacks, caps and bags	52.70 Metres
Lining .	116.25 "
Thread.	60,450. "
Buttons, large	248
" small	372

/S

G.C.TAMASSIA
Gen. of Brig.

4451

785020

SUBJECT: Liaison Officers to
5th and 8th Armies.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

A/27.

28 Mar '45.

Ministry of War,
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

1. Reference 02079/BS. of 18 Mar.
2. The question raised in your letter is under consideration and is being discussed with the Allied HQs concerned.
3. A decision will be forwarded in due course.

JMcC/

Internal:- A.D.A.W.S.

P. Archibald
Major General
M. M. I. A.

4450

SUBJECT: Vacancies at Rest Camp.

A/37- 136
Reshielded
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEI/R.
24 Mar '45.

Ministry of War,
Ufficio di Benessere.

1. Reference 02140/BS of 22 Mar a copy of which letter was forwarded to this HQ.
2. It is noted that an allotment of vacancies has been made to the Garibaldi Division.
3. The future of this division is now under discussion.
4. It is considered that the allotment of vacancies should therefore only be made for the first six weeks of the periods shown in your letter. (i.e. up to and including week commencing 2 May)
5. Prior to any further allotment being made to this division the matter should be referred to HQ MMIA.

Qty - 'A' /
JMcC/


Lt.Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

127
(135)
SUBJECT: Rest Camp Rome.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEI/R.
21 Mar '45.

To: "Q" M.M.I.A.

Copy to:- "A" Branch.
S.T. "

SP
110/11
12 Feb 45
Reference AQ/27 of 14 Feb.

1. The Casa di Soggiorno, Rome, Via Guidobaldo del Monte 24 is entitled to draw rations, against actual feeding strength, to a maximum of 500, under authority of this HQ AQ/27. of 14 Feb.

2. The Commandant has stated that the flour ration is now being drawn in the form of bread.

3. In order to enable the camp to provide pasta the Commandant has requested authority to draw the flour ration as follows:-

75% Bread.
25% Flour.

4. It is understood that as long as the ration scale amount of 150z flour is not exceeded there is no objection from Q/1.

5. Rome Supply Depot state that the flour is available but require authority to issue as in para 3 above.

HQ AQ/27. of 14 Feb.

2. The Commandant has stated that the flour ration is now being drawn in the form of bread.

3. In order to enable the camp to provide pasta the Commandant has requested authority to draw the flour ration as follows:-

75% Bread.
25% Flour.

4. It is understood that as long as the ration scale amount of 15oz flour is not exceeded there is no objection from Q/1.

5. Rome Supply Depot state that the flour is available but require authority to issue as in para 3 above.

6. May the necessary approval be given.

Lt. Col.
A. D. A. W. S.
M. M. I. A.

4448

134

SUBJECT: Italian Army Welfare.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.H.I.A.) ROME.

A/27.

13 Mar '45.

C.G. Fifth Army.
C.G. Penbase.
C.G. AAFSC/MTO.

1. It is planned to include one trained Italian Welfare officer in the T/O. of Italian Adm Div HQ (and Combat Group HQ.).

2. This officer would be responsible to the Div. Commander for the Welfare and provision of welfare (Special Service) facilities for all Italian troops under command and for liaison with appropriate Allied Special Service Officers.

3. Will you please notify this Mission if you agree to accept such an officer within the ceiling of Italian troops allotted you.

4. In the event of you agreeing, suitable trained officers will be posted as soon as they become available.



CLAYTON P. KERR, Colonel
for Major General
Land Forces

3. Will you please notify this Mission if you agree to accept such an officer within the ceiling of Italian troops allotted you.

4. In the event of you agreeing, suitable trained officers will be posted as soon as they become available.



CLAYTON P. KERR, Colonel
for Major General
Land Forces
Sub Commission, AG. (MMIA)

Internal:- A.D.A.W.S.

Scarfoglio 141
~~141~~ 143/1

Ministry of War,
Directorate of Welfare.

10. March '45.

To: Land Forces Sub Commission
(M.M.I.A.)

02079/BS.

Subject: Liaison Officers to 5th and 8th Armies.

1. In my recent visit to HQs of 5th and 8th Armies (Welfare) it was pointed out to me that it was necessary that the Italian Welfare Service should have a liaison officer attached to the corresponding Allied services of those HQs. The reasons given are as follows:-

- to ensure liaison between the Armies and the Welfare Sections of the Italian Groups and Divisions under command:

- to co-ordinate the activities of the Italian Welfare in the Army areas;

- to maintain close contact between the Service at Army HQs and this Directorate.

2. Although the proposal is contrary to the decision of the Allied authorities (MMIA), please inform me of which course you intend to adopt.

This Directorate has no objection to the implementation of the wishes of the Armies, if this will be to the advantage of the Service.

The intention is that the Italian officers at the HQ's of the Armies should have liaison duties only, leaving to the Commanders of Groups and Divisions the responsibility to the Ministry for the Welfare Service in their own units, and maintaining direct contact with the Ministry itself.

3. If this suggestion is put into effect, Major Grego could remain with HQ 5th Army; but I consider it advisable to replace Lt.Col di Biasi by another officer. For administrative purposes, officers could be attached to HQ's of the Italian

2. Although the proposal is contrary to the decision of the Allied authorities (AMIA), please inform me of which course you intend to adopt.

This Directorate has no objection to the implementation of the wishes of the Armies, if this will be to the advantage of the Service.

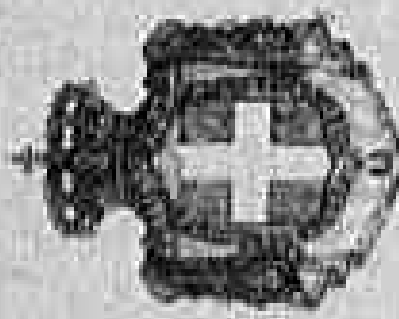
The intention is that the Italian officers at the HQ's of the Armies should have liaison duties only, leaving to the Commanders of Groups and divisions the responsibility to the Ministry for the Welfare Service in their own units, and maintaining direct contact with the Ministry itself.

3. If this suggestion is put into effect, Major Grego could remain with HQ 5th Army; but I consider it advisable to replace Lt. Col di Biasi by another officer. For administrative purposes, officers could be attached to HQ's of the Italian units nearest to the Army HQ's concerned.

/s/ G.C. Tamassia
Gen. of. Brigade.

4446

Lee Polia 137



TA/aa

Roma, 18 marzo 1945

28*

Ministero della Guerra

UFF. BENESSERE DEL SOLDATODivisione
Dir. M. G. 19/BS AllegatiALL LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
(M.M.I.A.)ROME

19/3

Risposta al. Foglio del
Dir.OGGETTO Ufficiali di collegamento presso le Armate V^a e VIII^a.

~~~~~

- I) - In una mia recente visita ai comandi delle armate V<sup>a</sup> e VIII<sup>a</sup> (servizio Welfare) mi si é rappresentata la necessit  che l'Ufficio Benessere Italiano abbia un ufficiale di collegamento presso il corrispondente servizio di Armata per:
- assicurare i collegamenti fra Armata e sezioni Benessere dei Gruppi e Divisioni italiane agenti alle loro dipendenze;
  - coordinare le attivit  del Benessere italiano nella zona delle Armate;
  - mantenere e facilitare i contatti fra il servizio di Armata e questo Ufficio.
- 2) - Poich  la proposta   in contrasto con le decisioni di coteستا autorit  centrale, prego farmi conoscere quali decisioni intendete adottare.
- Questo ufficio nulla ha in contrario all'accoglimento del desiderio delle Armate, se ci  va a vantaggio del servizio.
- Si intende che l'ufficiale italiano presso l'Armata dovrebbe avere soltanto funzione di collegamento, rimanendo i comandanti di Gruppo e di Divisione responsabili del servizio, verso questo Ministero, nell'interno della propria unit  e con-servando relazioni dirette con questo Ministero medesimo.
- 3) - In caso positivo, presso la V<sup>a</sup> armata potrebbe rimanere il mag-

loro dipendenze;

- coordinare le attività del Benessere italiano nella zona delle Armate;
- mantenere e facilitare i contatti fra il servizio di Armata e questo Ufficio.

2) - Poiché la proposta è in contrasto con le decisioni di cotesta autorità centrale, prego farmi conoscere quali decisioni intendete adottare.

Questo ufficio nulla ha in contrario all'accoglimento del desiderio delle Armate, se ciò va a vantaggio del servizio.

Si intende che l'ufficiale italiano presso l'Armata dovrebbe avere soltanto funzione di collegamento, rimanendo i comandanti di Gruppo e di Divisione responsabili del servizio, verso questo Ministero, nell'interno della propria unità e conservando relazioni dirette con questo Ministero medesimo.

3) - In caso positivo, presso la V<sup>a</sup> armata potrebbe rimanere il magg. Greco, mentre reputo conveniente sostituire il Ten. Col. Di Biasi con altro ufficiale. Gli ufficiali potrebbero essere assunti in forza per questioni amministrative dal comando della Unità italiana na che è più prossima alla sede del Comando di Armata interessata.

IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA  
(G. G. Tamassia)

*Caracciolo*

2/27

27 132/1  
Subject:- Welfare.

AGIA.

50 British Liaison Unit.  
C/L  
17 March 45.

1. The enclosed letter marked A was written by me, as the text explains, and submitted unsealed to Base Censor.
2. Correspondence at B, C, D and E has ensued.
3. In view of my reasons as expressed in C para 5, is there any means at your disposal to convey to the addressee the gratitude of this Unit and my apologies for the delay in acknowledgement?.

ARCS/EHS.

*Argentine*  
Lt. Col.  
GS.

*see Folio 152*

4444

27 Feb 45.

A.  
Lt. Col. A.R.C. SOUTHEY,  
50 British Liaison Unit,  
C.F.  
-----

On behalf of all ranks of the Unit, Lt. Col. A.R.C. SOUTHEY wishes to thank the Ladies of FRIULI for their most welcome message of greeting and friendship, and for their extremely kind gift of wine, which is immensely appreciated by the unit.

All ranks are greatly heartened by the spirit prompting the Ladies of FRIULI, and will continue to do their utmost to foster the traditional accord between our two countries.

Mme Marie Luisa Milo di Villegrazia,  
Viale Garizia 250,  
ROME.  
-----

785020

Subject:- Correspondence with Local Inhabitants on the  
Italian mainland.

CONFIDENTIAL.

B

7BCC/LI/8158.

Lt. Col. A.R.C. SOUTHEY,  
50 B.L.U.  
C.M.F.

1. A letter written by you and addressed to Mme. Marie Luisa Milo di Villegrazia, Viale Gorizia 25C, Rome, was intercepted during the course of censorship examination by this Group.
2. It is pointed out that this correspondence constitutes a contravention of GRO 99/44 para 11(c)(1) as amended by GRO 387/44.
3. Postal communication of this category is only possible if:- (a) you are married or engaged to the Person concerned or (b) the recipient is your father or mother sister or brother. (GRO 715/44 as amended by GRO 82/45 refers).
4. Your letter has therefore been condemned.
5. For your future guidance, please.

(Sgd) ? ? ? ? ?

Major,

Head Censor,

No. 7 Base Censor Group.

CMF.  
5 Mar 45.  
EL.

4442

Subject:- Censorship

C O P Y.

CONFIDENTIAL.

C

Head Censor,  
No 7 Base Censor Group.

50 British Liaison Unit.  
G/4  
11 Mar 45.

Ref your ABCC/41/8158 dated 5 March 45.

1. Your statement that the letter in question was "intercepted" is thought to be inaccurate in that the letter, open, was forwarded to you in a covering envelope addressed "Base Censor", for the specific purpose that you should censor it.
2. You will appreciate that this Unit is one of Liaison with an Italian Combat Group.
3. A volunteer civilian welfare organisation connected with the Group was kind enough to send the British personnel of my Unit a present of wine and a message of greeting.
4. On behalf of my unit I replied, formally, in the letter which you have condemned.
5. In order that the Italians may not, with every justification, think the British lacking in ordinary courtesy and gratitude, which in the circumstances in which a Liaison Unit works would be more than unfortunate, may I please be informed how I CAN communicate, formally, and in my official capacity, with the volunteer head of the organisation in question, i.e. the lady to whom my previous letter was addressed.

ARCS/EHS.

(Sgd). Lt. Col. A.R.C. SOUTHEY.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Subject:- Correspondence with Local Inhabitants on the  
Italian Mainland.

7 BCG/41/8438.

Lt. Col. A.R.C. SOUTHERN,  
50 British Liaison Unit,  
C.M.F.

Reference your G/4 dated 11 Mar 45.

1. It is pointed out that when your letter was received by me for censorship no covering envelope addressed "Base Censor" was attached. A letter must, in effect, be "intercepted" and opened, if necessary, before it can be "examined" by the Base Censorship, no matter how it is received.

2. No relaxation or amendment of GRO 367/44 which states:-  
"Correspondence by Troops on the Italian Mainland with Local Inhabitants on the Italian Mainland", (Prohibited Correspondence) has been published and, secondly, no exceptions are made to these existing provisions, except in the case of GRO's 715/44 as amended by GRO 82/45 which do not apply in this instance.

3. British BAPO authorities do not deliver letters destined for civilian addressees on the Italian Mainland.

4. Alternative means of transmitting such correspondence as in question which is not covered by the a/q GROs would involve evasion of censorship and serious violation of British Military Censorship Regulations. (GRO 99/44 Section II para 4 and 6 and GRO 763/44 refer).

5. The letter in question (as received by me) is returned to you, please.

(Sgd) ? ? ? ? ?

Major.  
Head Censor,  
No. 7 Base Censor Group.

except in the case of GRO's 715/44 as amended by GRO 82/45 which do not apply in this instance.

3. British BAPC authorities do not deliver letters destined for civilian addressees on the Italian Mainland.

4. Alternative means of transmitting such correspondence as in question which is not covered by the a/q GROs would involve evasion of censorship and serious violation of British Military Censorship Regulations. (GRO 99/44 Section II para 4 and 6 and GRO 763/44 refer).

5. The letter in question (as received by me) is returned to you, please.

(Sgd) ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

Major.

Head Censor,

No. 7 Base Censor Group.

4441

Subject:- Censorship.

E.

50 British Liaison Unit.

G/4.

No. 7 Base Censor Group.

17 March 45.

Ref your 7 BCG/41/8438 dated 13 Mar 45.

1. The letter returned to me is in fact itself unsealed and folded in two. This was in order that it would go into the envelope which I personally addressed "Base Censor" and personally sealed.
2. It would appear that either your assistants had mislaid or destroyed the envelope or else that you have been misinformed by them.
3. The matter of conveying the required official message to its destination has been submitted to NMIA ROME for solution.

ARCS/ENE.

*A. B. G. G. G.*  
Lt. Col.  
GS.

4440

SUBJECT: Theatrical Company.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.  
( M.M.I.A.) HOME.

A/27.

17 Mar'45.

Ministry of War.

With reference to No.11518, of 14 March,  
the question of transfer of the theatrical company  
to Cesano is dealt with by this Hq. letter S/O/29/26  
of 15 March.

*P. A. W. C. S.*  
Major General  
M. M. I. A.

Internal.

G+SD.  
A.D.A.W.S.

TRANSLATION

SECRET.

137/1

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO  
UFFICIO ORDINAMENTO E MOBILITAZIONE  
SEZIONE ORDINAMENTO

No. 11618.

PM. 3300. 14. March '45.

SUBJECT: Transfer of a Theatrical Company.

TO: Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C. (MMIA) ROMA.

With reference to the telephone agreement between Lt. Col. Grati of this HQ. and Lt. Col. McCann of MMIA on the 4th instant:

This HQ has its disposition a military concert party, giving various shows to the troops: it comprises 1 subaltern, 11 N.C.O.'s and 18 O.R.'s.

In September 1944 the party, with the authority of MMIA, was transferred to Italian Command 212, and attached to the 3rd Group of Battalions.

In order to organise and present entertainment to Combat Groups, Administrative Divisions in advanced localities, and at Reinforcement Centres the unit had been transferred as a whole to the RTC. ICF. Cesano, the most convenient and suitable situation.

In view of the fact that the Allied HQ. Welfare Service has expressed the wish that the entertainments should be commenced as soon as possible, it is requested that MMIA will confirm the verbal agreement for the attachment of the party as detailed above, with all its equipment, to RTC. ICF. Cesano.

/S G LUZZI,  
General.

in order to organize and present entertainment to Combat Groups, Administrative Divisions in advanced localities, and at Reinforcement Centres the unit had been transferred as a whole to the RTC, ICF, Cesano, the most convenient and suitable situation.

In view of the fact that the Allied HQ.-Welfare Service- has expressed the wish that the entertainments should be commenced as soon as possible, it is requested that WMA will confirm the verbal agreement for the attachment of the party as detailed above, with all its equipment, to RTC, ICF, Cesano.

/s/ G. LUZZI,  
General.

4498

131

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.  
( M.M.I.A. ) ROMA.

A/27.

15 Mar 45.

To : A.F.H.Q. (3)

Welfare - Italian Army.

In furthering your instructions for the improvement of welfare in the Italian Army various proposals are received by this Mission from the Italian Ministry of War.

Some of these may be open to criticism on the grounds that they give an opportunity for exerting political influence. I enclose one such proposal relative to the commissioning of certain intellectual and moral advisors.

I have considered this question and am of the opinion that this is a risk we must accept if we are to make any headway with welfare at all. I therefore recommend that the scheme proposed in the attached letter be approved subject to such general supervision as we are able to exercise.

May I have your instructions on this matter in general and on this case in particular.

  
Major General  
M. M. I. A.

WP/

4487

Copy  
G.D.

01681/B.S.

Directorate of Welfare.

TRANSLATION

P.N. 3800 3 March 1945.

Land Forces Sub-Commission  
( M.M.I.A.) ROME.

Formation of "Roll of Mobile Welfare Personnel".

A group of intellectuals, professional men, and men of letters, who are not officers of the Armed Forces, wish to offer their work as a contribution to the war of liberation, in activities amongst fighting soldiers, for morale and welfare.

The request, which is highly appreciated, would have to be accepted quickly.

It would therefore be the intention of this Ministry to organize, under the Welfare Service, a Roll of Mobile Welfare Personnel, comprising such helpers, of high standing, of sound patriotic sentiments, and with wide experience and capability, for employment in Regiments, Combat Groups or Static Divisions, operating in forward areas.

These persons would not be employed in Non-Combatant Commands and units, and would have to be volunteers, willing to operate anywhere required.

As stated, they would be sent to Regiments or units, and would come under the Commander for administration and employment, but under the Directorate of Welfare for briefing: their task would be the dissemination of suitable propaganda and morale work in the form most suited to the soldiers with whom they would come in contact, and whose life they would share.

All political propaganda would be excluded.

The "Roll of Personnel" would include

- 1 Inspector,
- 1 Vice Inspector
- Personnel.

The number of personnel is dependant on the number of units affected; for the present the number can be fixed at 30; subject to augmentation according to the number of units.

They will be taken on in the rank of Captain if over the age of 40, and Lieutenant if under 40. The standard of age is suggested, as it is desired to avoid the difficulty of assessing

operate anywhere required.

As stated, they would be sent to Regiments or units, and would come under the Commander for administration and employment, but under the Directorate of Welfare for briefing; their task would be the dissemination of suitable propaganda and morale work in the form most suited to the soldiers with whom they would come in contact, and whose life they would share.

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- 1 Inspector,
- 1 Vice Inspector
- Personnel.

The number of personnel is dependant on the number of units affected; for the present the number can be fixed at 30; subject to augmentation according to the number of units.

They will be taken on in the rank of Captain if over the age of 40, and Lieutenant if under 40. The standard of age is suggested, as it is desired to avoid the difficulty of assessing the merits of each person and relying on the criterion of experience, rather than that of maturity of years.

Administration will be in accordance with the rank assigned; they will be entitled to normal rations; they will be accommodated by the unit, and will be entitled to all the facilities enjoyed by an officer.

Uniform - in accordance with rank.

Engagement - for the duration of the war.

Discipline - according to their terms of engagement.

Judicial treatment - according to their terms of engagement.

I ask for Allied approval of this scheme, and the necessary authorization to enable it to be commenced, as already requested in a letter from the Directorate of Welfare under reference COM4/B.S. of 6 February.

/s/ A Casati,

Minister for War.

130

SUBJECT: Mobile Welfare Personnel.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.  
( M.M.I.A. ) RMSE.

A/27. —

15 Mar 45.

Ministry of War.

127

1. Reference 01681/BS. of 3 Mar.
2. Your proposal has now been referred to AMHQ for their consideration.

WP  
r

Major General  
M. M. I. A.

J. McG/

Internal: A.D.A.W.S.

4435

785020

SUBJECT: Welfare RTC 109.

129  
11/27

A.D.A.W.S.  
c/o Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.  
(R.M.I.A.) ROMS.  
WEI/X.  
8 Mar '45.

Ministry of War  
Directorate of Welfare.

- 120
1. Reference this HQ A/27 of 26 Feb. para 3.
  2. Will you please forward a progress report.



Lt. Col.  
A.D.A.W.S.

Internal - "A".

PH  
11/3.

4483

SUBJECT: Visits to Army Areas.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.  
( M.M.I.A. ) ROME.

A/27.

6 Mar'45.

Ministry of War  
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

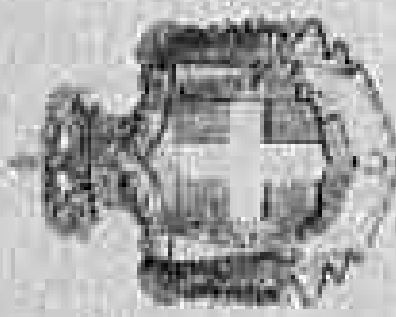
Reference 01620/B.S. dated 1st March.

1. 8th Army, 5th Army and 1 District have now approved the programme of visits proposed by General Tanassia, from 7th to 15th March, accompanied by one Staff Officer.

2. Attached is pass for Captain R. Roncati, authorizing him to proceed into Army areas on the dates indicated.

*officer  
mari*  
6 Major General,  
M.M.I.A.

Internal:- A.D.A.W.S.



Ministero della Guerra

UFFICIO BENESSERE DEL SOLDATO

Divisione *Gen.*

Prot. N. 01681/138 Allegato

Roma

3 MAR 1945

127

LAND FORCES SUB.COMMISSION

A.C. (M.M.I.A.)

R O M A

IN

Risposta al foglio del

Gen.

OCCORRENZA Costituzione di un ruolo transitorio B.S.

A/27

SP. 313

\*\*\*\*\*

Un gruppo di professionisti, intellettuali, uomini di studio ecc., che non sono ufficiali delle Forze Armate, desidera di poter dare la propria opera nella guerra di liberazione in corso, svolgendo opera di propaganda e di assistenza presso i combattenti.

Richiesta e contributo, altamente apprezzabili, dovrebbero essere accettati al più presto.

Sarebbe pertanto intenzione di questo Ministero organizzare, alla dipendenza dell'Ente Benessere del Soldato, un "ruolo transitorio B.S." comprendente simili coadiutori di alta levatura, di sicuri sentimenti patriottici, ricchi di esperienza e di capacità, da impiegare nell'interno dei Reggimenti dei Gruppi di Combattimento e delle Divisioni Logistiche che operano in zona di operazione.

Rimane escluso l'impiego di tale personale presso i Comandi e con unità non combattenti.

Detto "ruolo transitorio B.S." dovrebbe pertanto essere costituito da elementi volontari, disposti ad accettare qualunque destinazione.

Essi verrebbero, come si è detto, inviati ai Reggimenti e Raggrupamenti Logistici con dipendenza d'impiego dal Comandante della unità, tecnica dall'Ufficio Benessere del Soldato, con il compito di svolgere attiva propaganda e assistenza morale nei modi e con le forze meglio accessibili al soldato con il quale verranno a contatto e del quale vivranno la vita.

Esclusa ogni propaganda di carattere politico.

Richiesta e contributo, altamente apprezzabili, dovrebbero essere accettati al più presto.-

Sarebbe pertanto intenzione di questo Ministero organizzare, alla dipendenza dell'Ente Benessere del Soldato, un "ruolo transitorio B.S." comprendente simili coadiutori di alta levatura, di sicuri sentimenti patriottici, ricchi di esperienza e di capacità, da impiegare nell'interno dei Reggimenti dei Gruppi di Combattimento e delle Divisioni Logistiche che operano in zona di operazione.-

Rimane escluso l'impiego di tale personale presso i Comandi e con unità non combattenti.-

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Esclusa ogni propaganda di carattere politico.-

Il ruolo comprenderà:

- n° 1 Ispettore
- n° 1 Vice Ispettore
- - gregari.

Il numero dei gregari è in relazione alle unità (reggimento e similari) costituite. Per ora il loro numero può essere fissato a 30: suscettibile di aumento se saranno costituite altre unità.-

*Dec. 1.100 / 1 x 125-4130*

Verranno assimilati ai gradi di capitano, se di età superiore ai 40 anni, e tenente, se di età inferiore. Il criterio dell'età è suggerito dal desiderio di evitare sperequazioni dovute alla difficoltà di ben valutare i meriti di ciascuno e risponde al criterio dell'esperienza, ascendente equilibrio dovuto alla maturità di anni.

- Trattamento economico in relazione al grado assegnato - Diritto alla razione viveri, alloggio militare, e a tutte le altre agevolazioni di cui godono gli Ufficiali.

- Uniforme corrispondente al grado.

- Obblighi di servizio per la durata della guerra.

- \* disciplinari derivanti dalla loro condizione di assimilato.

- Trattamento giuridico in relazione alle loro qualità assimilati.

Chiedo il benestare dell'Autorità Alleata e l'autorizzazione alla costituzione del ruolo di che trattasi, come già stato richiesto con nota n°00424/B.S. del 6 febbraio tramite il dipendente ufficio Benesere del Soldato.

IL MINISTRO

*Alapah*

*We request the approval of the allied authorities and also the authorization to form the camp which is being dealt with as it was already requested in letter 00424/B.S. dated 6 feb. through the soldiers welfare office.*

*Reddy*

Japan

We request the approval of the allied authorities  
and also the authorization to form the group which  
is being dealt with as it was already requested  
in letter 00024/35. dated 6 Feb 1945 through the  
Soldiers welfare office.

Reddy

126

A/27.

WELFARE MMIA

02 1500.

52 AREA

A6

RESTRICTED

FOR MMIA LO (.) FOLLOWING SIGNAL FROM MINISTRY OF WAR TO EARI  
TERRITORIAL HQ (.) QUOTE (.) PROVISION WILL BE MADE FOR WELFARE  
OF GARIBALDI DIV (.) ITALIAN WELFARE TO PROVIDE GIFT PARCELS  
OF TOILET ARTICLES ETC ASKING HELP FROM LOCAL CIVILIANS (.)  
REPORT FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS (.) SIGNED CASATI (.)  
UNQUOTE (.) ENSURE COMPLIANCE AND GIVE ALL POSSIBLE HELP

RO *[Signature]* Hce.

4481

125

Subject: Mobile Welfare Personnel

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.  
(M.M.I.A.)  
R O M E.  
A/27

2 Mar 45

MINISTRY OF WAR

100/12127

1. The letter No. 00424/B.S. of 6 Feb 45 from your Welfare Directorate signed by General Tamassia and advocating the formation of a mobile propaganda and a moral assistance team has been brought to my notice.

2. Before considering this matter I wish to have an assurance that the formation of such a nucleus has the recommendation of the Minister of War. It is usual in such cases for a recommendation to emanate from the Minister of War and not from a technical service such as Welfare.

3. If the Minister is satisfied that there is a need for such a nucleus, its duties and means of performing them, should be more clearly defined to enable me to assess the practical value of such a scheme.

*W. P. D. S. L. y.*  
Colonel  
+ Major General  
M.M.I.A.

WGP/jrp

4420

ANA/gu

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA  
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato

MINUTA

124

FONOGRAMMA A MANO

W P

AT COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE  
ALLA DIREZIONE CASA SOGGIORNO DEL  
COMBATTENTE

ROMA

ROMA

e, per conoscenza:

AL MINISTERO GUERRA - GABINETTO  
ALLA SEGRETERIA PARTICOLARE DI S.E. PALERMO

SEDE

SEDE

GUERRABENESSERE N° 01679/B.S.(.) LA CASA DI SOGGIORNO DEL COMBATTENTE  
INIZIERA' IL SUO FUNZIONAMENTO IL MATTINO DEL 10 MARZO CON LE MODALITA'  
PREVISTE DALLA CIRCOLARE 01550/B.S. DEL 28 FEBBRAIO U.S.(.) GENERALE  
TAMASSIA IIC03

*Rest. Cap. opera 10 Mar*

*Spd. Tamassia*

4429

123

SUBJECT: Welfare Services

Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.  
(M.M.I.A.)  
SD/1/1  
March 1945

TO : M.G. (Ufficio 2°)  
SMRE (Ufficio Ordinamento)

SP

Ref para 13 of MMIA letter SD/94 dated 7 Feb 45 and para 2 of MMIA letter SD/94 dated 21 Feb 45 and conversation Col. De FONZO and Lt: Col. MONACO - Major CALABRINI of March 1, 1945, will you please arrange to incorporate an Establishment on the lines shown in Appx "A" for the Welfare Branch (Ufficio Benessere del Soldato) of the War Ministry.

f: G.P. Holt. l. n. g. n.  
Major General  
M.M.I.A.

Internals:  
"A"  
"Q" (2)  
ADAWS  
SD/94

4428

122  
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.  
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.  
A/27.  
1 Mar'45.

Ministry of War.

Copy for Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

1. Attached as arranged are notes on the meeting at this HQ on 28 Feb.

*W. Pidsley*

Major General,  
M.M.I.A.

Internal - A.D.A.W.S. MMIA.

4427

Notes on discussion on Italian Welfare 28 Feb

Present - Director of Italian Welfare.

Col. "A" MMIA.

A.D. Italian Welfare.

A.D.A.W.S. MMIA.

1. Distribution of responsibility.

If the Welfare service is to be a success, it is essential that this service should be efficient not only at its HQ but within formations and units.

As examples :-

(i) Cesano La Patria is being sent to the depot but it is not reaching the individual soldiers, i.e. the distribution arrangements are bad.

(ii) Prosinone No arrangements have been made for the provision of army newspapers, writing materials or an information service. Welfare, as branches of the staff and other services, must plan for welfare for new commitments.

In conclusion welfare is for the soldier and if welfare services and amenities do not reach the soldier then the Welfare service fails.

2. Postal Services. The delay in the personnel mail of soldiers is a matter of great importance to the morale and welfare of the army. Agreed that Director of Italian Welfare would consider this matter and make any recommendations be considered necessary through the Minister of War.

3. It was agreed that it is imperative that welfare should produce at once concrete results. The soldiers reaction to welfare and its resultant effect on his morale will vary with the practical results of the service.

4. Mobile Canteens. What the Allies, having given material help, desire to see is a canteen service functioning for the benefit of the soldiers in army areas. The importance of this aspect of the service is that it should bring practical welfare to the soldier and not be an organ for either politics or propaganda.

5. Channels of Communication. It is hoped that the Director of Italian Welfare will have many new projects to put forward for the advancement of his service. It must be borne in mind however that projects entailing any change of policy should be put forward by him through the staff of the Minister of War.

6. It is agreed that MMIA will request AFHQ for a decision on the scheme for a field postcard system originated by Italian Welfare and forwarded by MMIA.

7. Director's visit to field formations. It is agreed that a visit by the Director to formations will serve a useful purpose in that he may see on the spot the

considered necessary through the Minister of War.

3. It was agreed that it is imperative that welfare should produce at once concrete results. The soldiers reaction to welfare and its resultant effect on his morale will vary with the practical results of the service.
4. Mobile Canteens. What the Allies, having given material help, desire to see is a canteen service functioning for the benefit of the soldiers in army areas. The importance of this aspect of the service is that it should bring practical welfare to the soldier and not be an organ for either politics or propaganda.
5. Channels of Communication. It is hoped that the Director of Italian Welfare will have many new projects to put forward for the advancement of his service. It must be borne in mind however that projects entailing any change of policy should be put forward by him through the staff of the Minister of War.
6. It is agreed that MMIA will request ARHQ for a decision on the scheme for a field postcard system originated by Italian Welfare and forwarded by MMIA.
7. Director's visit to field formations. It is agreed that a visit by the Director to formations will serve a useful purpose in that he may see on the spot the problems involved. On receipt of the detailed proposed visit requests will be made to Allied Formation HQs for the visit.
8. Host Hostel Rone. This hostel was approved by MMIA on 14 Feb. It is considered essential that it should come into operation at the earliest possible date. It is agreed that the best system is for a day to day turnover of personnel rather than for a complete turnover to take place after each seven day period.

I 379