

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

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10000/120/319

Q/20/1 Liaison Log (Maj Baumann)

Opened Apr 13, 1945 - Closed Sept 20, 1945

Apr - Sept 1945

Major BARNETT'S LIAISON LOG

17 - 20 SEP 1945.

2/20/11

0 of 8

COL PLACENTINI

1. Carabinieri for fascist cages:

(a) PLACENTINI stated that the CC.M. of the 240 Mir sec had been reassigned to reinforce the T.B. in the NORTH, by verbal arrangements with SO MILA and the movement was already under way. He proposed that the camp commandant be met with one of the three CC. Mir. secs belonging to the tall units of the group, which he considered were no longer fully employed.

(b) Later said PLACENTINI that sig had been sent to 2 District requesting transfer of one of the group's men.

(c) In the event of this move NOT being effected in time to take over the FLORENCE women's Camp (22 Sep), PLACENTINI has arranged that the Carabinieri H.Q. in FLORENCE will loan 17 C.O. and 15 C.Ns.

(d) As regards camp 337, the Carabinieri G.H.Q. had already sent a further 50 of their own men, bringing the strength at the camp to 2 officers, 6 NCOs, 90 C.Ns. The balance of the 120, if really needed, will have to be made up with part of the sec coming from the group.

2. Italian NO 2 District:

PLACENTINI raised the question of properly accrediting Capt GIRONA, so that Territorial Commands in the NORTH would know who this officer was. Discussed with G 4 and later with PLACENTINI that:

(a) MILA would notify MILA 10s of GIRONA's appointment,

(b) they should limit itself to informing Territorial Commands that GIRONA had been posted to 2 District as an LO., but that this did not mean that T.B. would in future cut out the MILA LO and deal direct with District through GIRONA.

3. ORBAY:

Further talk on the general org and work of the ORBAY sec. Cited two or three instances of faulty staff work noted by MILA in the current edition, which PLACENTINI investigated. PLACENTINI made a plea for reducing proof corrections to a minimum, which the printers had stated was essential if the ORBAY was to be processed by the 25th of the month. Discussed with G Branch MILA and later agreed with PLACENTINI that:

(a) Information in ORBAY would be as at 8th of the month and amendments subsequent to that date would NOT be made by MILA;

(b) corrections of the first proof would be limited by MILA to printers' errors, or at the most, where some amendments were

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2. Italian LO 2 District:

(d) As regards camp 357, the Carabinieri C.M.2. had already sent a further 50 of their own men, bringing the strength at the camp to 2 officers, 8 NCOs, 90 ORs. The balance of the 120, if really needed, will have to be made up with part of the sec coming from the group.

MACCHINI raised the question of properly accrediting Capt CROCE, so that Territorial Commands in the North could know who this officer was. Discussed with G 4 and later inf'd FIAMMISTE that:

- (a) MIA would notify MIA IOs of CROCE's appointment,
- (b) CROCE should limit itself to informing Territorial Comds that CROCE had been posted to 2 District as an LO., but that this did NOT mean that T.H.Q. would in future cut out the MIA IO and deal direct with District through CROCE.

3. ORDRE:

Further talk on the general org and work of the COMAT sec. Cited two or three instances of faulty staff work noted by MIA in the current edition, which FIAMMISTE investigated. FIAMMISTE made a plea for reducing proof corrections to a minimum, which the printers had stated was essential if the COMAT was to be produced by the 25th of the month. Discussed with G Branch MIA and later agreed with FIAMMISTE that:

- (a) information in COMAT would be as at 5th of the month and amendments subsequent to that date would NOT be made by MIA;
- (b) corrections of the first proof would be limited by MIA to printers errors, or at the most where some correction of the draft had NOT been properly understood;
- (c) the second proof would still have to be seen by MIA, but to save time an MIA rep would do the necessary checking at the printers. Corrections would be printers errors only.

INF, LOBBIA

4. ARMY personnel in the Italian Army:

LOBBIA said that the project of settlement was under consideration by the various Ministries concerned, some of whom still had to give an opinion. It would then have to go before the Cabinet. In all a matter of days.

Subsequently the writer inf'd Lt-Col SERRA of the above, without entering into any details of the settlement, which the writer has never discussed with the ARMY rep.

5. Mine clearance:

The letter referred to in para 7 (a) of log 10/15 Sep has gone forward to the President of the Council, but it is NOT known how soon a cabinet ruling can be obtained.

6. General BELLONZI:

Handed to LOMBARDI original of the late General's letter dated 25 Aug. Quite of his own accord, LOMBARDI promised the best possible financial settlement for the General's widow. He referred to the whole business as "this most pitiful case".

7. CAMP 337 (COITANO): *note*

General ODONE has come whinnying back with drastic proposals for dealing with the ~~else~~ problem. Sixty - repeat sixty - three-man commissions are to be formed for investigating the 32,000 cases, and giving summary provisional decisions on the future of the detainees. One third of the personnel for the commissions will be military, the remainder civilians. LOMBARDI is planning to have the whole thing solved by 15 Oct. In the meantime the obstacle created by the OCS condition on release has been made all too clear by MIA letter A/107 of 18 Aug and attachment dated 11 Aug. Consulted C of S MIA and infd LOMBARDI that "release on parole" (liberta vigilata) will NOT be construed as contravening the above clause. LOMBARDI will accordingly proceed on this basis.

8. Accn in ROME required by Italian Army:

Infld LOMBARDI that C.O.C. had personally intervened with RAAG, and had been infld by Brig 10th that the whole policy on accn in ROME area was under discussion. A policy ruling was expected from AFHQ within a few days. The trouble was that different authorities were bidding for the same accn. In the meantime infld LOMBARDI that:

(a) a number of buildings suitable for hospitals were already vacant in or near ROME (gave details of five such buildings). The Collegio SAINIATI is earmarked for a hosp for another authority.

(b) The Caserma MUSSOLINI is NOT ideal as barrack accn, being inside the town and inadequately provided with parade grounds. It was believed that in any event a bid had been entered, as accn for refugees, at present billeted in schools.

LOMBARDI made the point that the Italian Army had a vast amount of property being used by all and sundry as emergency accn of one sort or another. All the Italian Army asks now is that the small proportion of their property which they want back for their reduced commitments shall at least be the best of what there is, and of their own choosing, so as not to compel the tip of the interim army to live in the most antiquated bug infested barracks, with the repercussions on their morale only to be expected from such conditions.

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giving summary provisional decisions on the future of the detainees. One third of the personnel for the commissions will be military, the remainder civilians. LOMBARDI is planning to have the whole thing solved by 15 Oct. In the meantime the obstacle created by the CCS condition on release has been made all too clear by MIA letter A/107 of 18 Aug and attachment dated 11 Aug. Consulted C of 3 MIA and infd LOMBARDI that "release on parole" (liberta vigilata) will NOT be construed as contravening the above clause. LOMBARDI will accordingly proceed on this basis.

8. Accn in ROME required by Italian Army:

Inf'd LOMBARDI that G.O.C. had personally intervened with RAC, and had been inf'd by Brig 10th that the whole policy on accn in ROME area was under discussion. A policy ruling was expected from AFHQ within a few days. The trouble was that different authorities were bidding for the same accn. In the meantime inf'd LOMBARDI that:

(a) a number of buildings suitable for hospitals were already vacant in or near ROME (gave details of five such buildings). The Collegio SAINIATI is earmarked for a hosp for another authority.

(b) The Cassina MUSSOLINI is NOT ideal as barrack accn, being inside the town and inadequately provided with parade grounds. It was believed that in any event a bid had been entered as accn for refugees, at present billeted in schools.

LOMBARDI made the point that the Italian Army had a vast amount of property being used by all and sundry as emergency accn of one sort or another. All the Italian Army asks now is that the small proportion of their property which they want back for their reduced commitments shall at least be the best of what there is, and of their own choosing, so as not to compel the tps of the interim army to live in the most antiquated bug infested barracks, with the repercussions on their morale only to be expected from such conditions.

The writer recommended to LOMBARDI that a further bid be made, bearing in mind:

- location on outskirts of town;
- suitable facilities for drill and trg.

On the subject of location, LOMBARDI's opinion was that this cuts both ways, since the employment of the tps on gd duties being mostly near the centre of the town, considerable effort would be wasted getting them backwards and forwards to their billets outside the town.

9. GEN BOLOGNA:

Mentioned to LOMBARDI a propos of G.O.C.'s talk with JACINI on 25 Sep, that G.O.C. had intended asking the Minister his opinion of General BOLOGNA. In reviewing BOLOGNA's activities while in command of MANTOVA Div, from the time in CALABRIA up to date, G.O.C. was satisfied that he had done very well throughout and that to-day the MANTOVA Div was in as good, or even better shape than the other eps. LOMBARDI agreed that BOLOGNA had done well, but said that he had many enemies within his fm, although this was of relative importance.

9. (cont'd)

It was all the more unfortunate added LOMBARDI, that POLIGNA would reach retiring age at the end of this year and that nothing could save him. POLIGNA is about 40th in seniority among the Brig Gen's, and as LOMBARDI pointed out, there is no such thing today as accelerated promotion, other than promotion on the field, from which he was precluded since his firm never went into the line.

10. Recovery of Army vehs in the MAREM:

Clarified with LOMBARDI the exact poem as intended by G.O.C. in his conversation with the Minister 13 Sep, i.e. no suspension of the withdrawals, but encouraging users to come fwd by making registrations of the vehs a first step, and secondly deciding in conjunction with A.C. whether the use by civilians was essential to the life of the community. If the services performed by the veh was considered NOT essential then it would be retained by the Army; if the service is an essential one, then the Army will supply an Army driver and loan the veh to the civilian on detail.

A new and precise instr is being prepared and will be sent up within the next 24 hrs, with copy to MIA.

COL FLACCHINI

11. San MARCO Regt:

After consultation with G-1, Inf'd FLACCHINI that:

(a) A.F.H.Q. had agreed that as soon as the 40 Territorial Bde is two thirds complete (i.e. two bns handed over to Italian comd and in working order) the San MARCO Regt will be withdrawn and handed back to the Navy.

(b) It is estimated that this will be about mid October.

(c) The proposal to relieve one San MARCO Bn as soon as the first Army Bn becomes available is NOT acceptable.

COL APPASSO

COL MUSCO

12. Return of 5,000 Slav-speaking Italian bns to TRIESTE:

Inf'd above (of GEN MURRINI's office) of the action taken by MIA and contents of sig to A.F.H.Q., in conformity with the proposals put fwd verbally by the War Ministry. APPASSO or MUSCO should be kept inf'd of further developments.

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A new and precise instr is being prepared and will be sent up within the next 24 hrs, with copy to MIA.

COL PLACENTINI

11. San MARCO Regt:

After consultation with G 1, Inf'd PLACENTINI that:

(a) A.F.H.Q. had agreed that as soon as the 10 Territorial Bde is two thirds complete (i.e. two bns handed over to Italian comd and in working order) the San MARCO Regt will be withdrawn and handed back to the Navy.

(b) It is estimated that this will be about mid October.

(c) The proposal to relieve one San MARCO Bn as soon as the first Army Bn becomes available is NOT acceptable.

COL ANTONIO

COL MUSCO

12. Return of 5,000 Slav-speaking Italian tps to TRIESTE:

Inf'd above (of GEN MARCONI's office) of the action taken by MIA and contents of sig to A.F.H.Q., in conformity with the proposals put fwd verbally by the War Ministry. ANTONIO or MUSCO should be kept inf'd of further developments.

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MAJOR BARNETT'S LIAISON LOG

10 - 15 SEP 1945.

COL. LOMBARDI

1. Sig Corps: Further talk on general situation of Italian Army sig corps:-

(a) Italian Army has own telegraph lines to main centres and will continue to operate same.

(b) LOMBARDI has recd assurances from sigs office SMR that telegraphic corps can be maintained with all pts within 12-hr maxima - i.e. overnight.

(c) Inf'd LOMBARDI (as result of meeting with Lt-Col MILLAR, Comd S/G A.C.) that AFHQ agrees to removal of restrictions on use of W/Y transmitters, and outside serials etc, but frequency allocation will still be made by AFHQ. This is tantamount to AFHQ control, as a transmitter is of no use without a frequency.

(d) Control of frequencies will enable Italian authorities to regulate use of unauthorised transmitters, and thus keep a check on abuses of the proposed decree law, which was agreed by the cabinet during August. SMR was concerned over the use which might be made of W/Y by unauthorised subversive orgs.

(e) Advised LOMBARDI that if the War Ministry is seriously considering the need for W/Y corps they must apply to the Ministry of Posts and Telecoms, which is the coordinating authority that applies to AFHQ for frequencies. Warned him though that very few frequencies have been allotted to Italian authorities hitherto and that there are high priority needs outstanding.

2. Meeting G.O.C./ JACINI:

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The Minister was indisposed a.m. 11 Sep and kept to his apartment. Saw JACINI later in the day and arranged appointment for G.O.C. 1630 hrs 13 Sep, this being the only half day JACINI is free until after his return from the NORTH next week.

Tentatively arranged with LOMBARDI for the General meeting for Thursday 20 Sep at 0930 hrs.

3. PISA Camp (357):

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As the result of an alarmist report from the Chief of Police in PISA, on the "pitiful" conditions in the camp, the Italian Government is sitting up and taking notice and action is about to be taken. The War Ministry is sending GEN ODIERNE post haste to COLEMANO (12 Sep) to make recommendations in situ on the disposal or otherwise of the prisoners and internees. On his return the necessary machinery will be set in motion without delay.

Informed LOMBARDI at the same time of developments affecting Camp 356.

4. Appointments:

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The following amendment is made to para 7 of log 3 - 8 Sep:-
- Brig Gen BARNETT - to 2 1/2 230 hrs.

(a) Control of frequencies will enable Italian authorities to regulate use of unauthorized transmitters, and thus keep a check on abuses of the proposed decree law, which was agreed by the cabinet during August. SIM was concerned over the use which might be made of W/T by unauthorized subversive orgs.

(e) Advised LOMBARDI that if the War Ministry is seriously considering the need for W/T comms they must apply to the Ministry of Posts and Telecomms, which is the coordinating authority that applies to ARHQ for frequencies. Warned him though that very few frequencies have been allotted to Italian authorities hitherto and that there are high priority needs outstanding.

2. Meeting G.O.C./ JACINI:

Comd

The Minister was indisposed a.m. 11 Sep and kept to his apartment.

Saw JACINI later in the day and arranged appointment for G.O.C. 1630 hrs 13 Sep, this being the only half day JACINI is free until after his return from the NORTH next week.

Tentatively arranged with LOMBARDI for the General meeting for Thursday 20 Sep at 0930 hrs.

3. PISA Camp (327):

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As the result of an alarmist report from the Chief of Police in PISA, on the "pitiful" conditions in the camp, the Italian Government is sitting up and taking notice and action is about to be taken. The War Ministry is sending GEN ODORICO post haste to COLEMANO (12 Sep) to make recommendations in situ on the disposal or otherwise of the prisoners and internees. On his return the necessary machinery will be set in motion without delay.

Informed LOMBARDI at the same time of developments affecting Camp 336.

4. Appointments:

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The following amendment is made to para 7 of log 3 - 8 Sep:-

- Brig Gen BERNARDI - to 2 i/o 230 Adm Div.

- Brig Gen CHIESALINI - to hospital for operation.

The post of Comd 5 Bde CHEROIA Div has NOT yet been filled.

5. Conveyed G.O.C.'s approval to appointment of Brig Gen ROMEO to Comd CASANO in place of Brig Gen VERANI who is transferred to ROMA for special duties.

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6. Reduction of offr cadres:

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LOMBARDI now considers that the commissions for grading senior offr should be able to start work about 20 Sep. There will be three commissions, one for majors (headed by VERANI), one for Lt-Cols (headed by Maj Gen FERRONE) and one for cols. The latter will be examined by the existing commission which has already dealt with gen offr.

7. Also spoke LOMBARDI on following points:

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(a) future policy on mine clearance: he confirmed War Ministry's opinion that this ought to be a national and not army commitment, and that the army's responsibility should be limited to providing the necessary instructors for training civilian operators. A letter requesting confirmation of this policy is being sent to PARRI.

(b) ALBANIAN subjects serving in Italian Army:

Following a visit to BELLA by Lt-Col SUKACHEV and Capt LERAKOVA, requested LOMBARDI if he could hasten the Govt decision on the policy to be followed in dealing with these people. LOMBARDI could not recall off hand what the position was and promised to find out and speed things up.

(c) Potential candidate for post of DEZ.

(d) Camp to be set up near FLORENCE for Fascist Wosen Auxiliaries.

(e) Need to shake up gen offrs as they are mostly office bound and rarely get out into their territories to visit depots and installations.

(f) Collected record card for Brig Gen PASCALE.

(g) The ten gen offrs have arrived from GERMANY, with the usual harrowing tales of German treatment. LOMBARDI had already spoken to four or five of them.

They report that in one camp in EASTERN GERMANY (presumably in Russians hands) there are 140 Italian generals and admirals. These are nearly all senior offrs who refused to cooperate with the Germans after the Armistice, and incl two of LOMBARDI's own brothers.

(h) Banks for partisan offrs: LOMBARDI has slipped in a cunning clause in the proposed decree law. Recognition of individual ranks will be based not on the numbers the partisan leaders say they commanded, but on the numbers of weapons handed in by each fm and unit. After all these months this project is still in the discussion stage.

LE COL MCHACCO

8. Fascist Wosen Auxiliaries: MCHACCO will phone Gen DE SIMONE to inform him that:

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(a) C of 3 BELLA will be visiting FLORENCE on 14 Sep to discuss with Gen DE SIMONE the transfer to Italian Army Authorities of 342 female prisoners now in US hands.

(b) buildings exist at MONTESILVANO suitable for housing the prisoners, but that a civil authority in FLORENCE is trying to get its hands on the buildings for other purposes.

(c) Gen DE SIMONE to start thinking about the matter and securing what information he can.

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- (d) Camp to be set up near FLORENCE for Fascist Women Auxiliaries.
- (e) Need to shake up gen offrs as they are mostly officer bound and rarely get out into their territories to visit depots and installations.
- (f) Collected record card for Brig Gen PASCALE.
- (g) The ten gen offrs have arrived from GERMANY, with the usual harrowing tales of German treatment. LOMBARDI had already spoken to four or five of them.
They report that in one camp in EASTERN GERMANY (presumably in Russians hands) there are 140 Italian generals and admirals. These are nearly all senior offrs who refused to cooperate with the Germans after the Armistice, and incl two of LOMBARDI's own brothers.
- (h) Banks for partisan offrs: LOMBARDI has slipped in a cunning clause in the proposed decree law. Recognition of individual ranks will be based not on the numbers the partisan leaders say they commanded, but on the numbers of weapons handed in by each man and unit. After all these months this project is still in the discussion stage.

LE COL MARIANO

- 8. Fascist Women Auxiliaries: MARIANO will phone Gen DE SIENNE to inform him that:
 - (a) C of S MELA will be visiting FLORENCE on 14 Sep to discuss with Gen DE SIENNE the transfer to Italian Army Authorities of 342 female prisoners now in US hands.
 - (b) buildings exist at MARENGLIO suitable for housing the prisoners, but that a civil authority in FLORENCE is trying to get its hands on the buildings for other purposes.
 - (c) Gen DE SIENNE to start thinking about the matter and securing what information he can.

COUNT JACINI

- 9. Accompanied G.O.C. for general talk on following subjects:
 - (13 Sep)
 - (a) BBC broadcast on Italian Army: the Minister thanked G.O.C. for his interest in arranging the talk and for his appreciation of the efforts of the Italian Army.
 - (b) Arrangements were confirmed for meeting 14 Sep 1030 hrs at HQ. MELA. It was stated that a copy of G.O.C.'s address on the future of the Italian Army would be handed to War Minister who agreed that it should be translated and circulated only to those Director Generals who were immediately concerned.

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- (c) G.O.C. reported on his tour of the NORTH and his impressions of the Territorial Comds, whom he considered had been well chosen by CASATI. He had also seen Gen TOMASELLI comd 228 Adm Div, which would be broken up in the near future. G.O.C. stated that TOMASELLI had done very well during his period of association with 8 Army and deserved a good appointment when he leaves 228 Adm Div.
- G.O.C. had also seen Gen SCATTINI and PRALORSI. The former did well in combat but is apt now to find too many difficulties in everything that has to be done, and in particular made a very shocking and irrelevant remark about soon for offrs at GENANO.
- PRALORSI had done well since he took over the comd of the POLONEZ. He had a strong character, was a good general and had made a big improvement in the div since his arrival. G.O.C. mentioned that he was inclined to be restive over orders given by the Allies, and cited the conversation he had had with CASATI on this subject. It was NOT considered serious, as this was rather in keeping with PRALORSI's character.
- G.O.C. spoke also of the particularly good impression made by Gen NEGROVY and of the excellent relationship between him and the Prefect of BOLZANO.
- (d) On the subject of Territorial Comds, the Minister mentioned the following reshuffle he had in mind

- (e) The Minister deplored the situation he had been put into by the political attacks on his most senior generals. He said that there were numbers of gen offrs in prison awaiting trial on charges relating to the period of the armistice, who could only be tried by the few surviving top rankers of the Army. If the judges were to be impeached because of party whims he really did not know what he should do next. The last two who were senior enough to act as judges of senior offrs - AGO and AMANTIA - have been indicated as former senators, and the trials of the gens who have already languished for months in prison are again at a complete standstill.

- (f) G.O.C. mentioned pay reductions which were subject of universal complaint throughout the Army. JACINI stated that matters are being arranged so that up to Lt-Col incl no one will suffer. G.O.C. recommended that publicity be given to this in LA PATHIA. It was also stated that steps were being taken to continue the 20 lire allowance for tys formerly working in Allied service units.

- (g) While the Territorial Comds showed a proper appreciation of the purpose and scope of GENANO, G.O.C. was under the impression that some Op Comds had other ideas on the subject. For instance, some comds had the idea that try should be done within their own fms, and were turning the fan into a sort of watertight compartment. It was important to correct this attitude.

- (h) Try of Combat Comd ending in the

Gen. NICHOLINI and of the excellent relationship between him and the Prefect of POLZANO.

(d) On the subject of Territorial Comds, the Minister mentioned the following reshuffle he had in mind

(e) The Minister deplored the situation he had been put into by the political attacks on his most senior generals. He said that there were numbers of gen of frs in prison awaiting trial on charges relating to the period of the armistice, who could only be tried by the few surviving top runkers of the Army. If the judges were to be impeached because of party whims he really did not know what he should do next. The last two who were senior enough to act as judges of senior of frs - AGO and AMANTIA - have been indicted as former senators, and the trials of the gens who have already languished for months in prison are again at a complete standstill.

(f) G.O.C. mentioned pay reductions which were subject of universal complaint throughout the Army. JACINI stated that matters are being arranged so that up to Lt-Col incl no one will suffer. G.O.C. recommended that publicity be given to this in LA PATRIA. It was also stated that steps were being taken to continue the 20 lire allowance for tps formerly working in Allied service units.

(g) While the Territorial Comds showed a proper appreciation of the purpose and scope of CESMO, G.O.C. was under the impression that some Op Comds had other ideas on the subject. For instance, some comds had the idea that trg should be done within their own fms, and were turning the fm into a sort of watertight compartment. It was important to correct this attitude.

(h) Trg of Combat Gps: owing to the scattered nature of their duties, little or no trg is being done. G.O.C. has recommended that some units of the div be fully employed on gd and security duties, thus liberating one or two complete bns or btys for trg. After a period of trg these bns and btys can replace the scattered units who will have their turn at trg. At the present time all units are partially engaged on gd duties and no trg is possible.

(1) JACINI raised the general question of soon for Territorial bdes and bns, and the need to secure derequisition of suitable buildings. G.O.C. promised to investigate the matter personally.

(2) JACINI read out parts of his letter of 12 Sep on the subject of need for modern arms for G.C.H.R. He said he was forced to bring the matter up again because of circumstances. G.O.C. agreed to review the matter

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(b) Recovery of vehicles and spares: G.O.C. was able to inform the Minister of a big improvement in the situation. Sufficient reserves of army vehicles had been discovered to last the Army for five years. More vehicles were being recovered and placed in circulation.

JACINI explained his own position in this matter, being torn between his anxiety as War Minister to get the vehicles back from civilian use, and his responsibility as member of the Govt for maintaining the essential transport services of the country in being. In consideration of the fact that some of these army vehicles were being used for vital services, G.O.C. proposed that all users of army vehicles be compelled to register at the Territorial H.Q. and declare the use to which the vehicles are being put. It could then be decided whether the need was really vital.

(2) The following subjects were also discussed:

- Maj SCOTTI's case;
- Demobilization plan;
- Change over between SAN MARCO and CARIBALDI Regt;
- Shipping to SARDINIA;
- Army and M.T. Directorate;
- Gas Plant at ONSANO;
- FERRINI's contact with S.A.C.

COL LONGARINI

10. Appointment: Conveyed G.O.C.'s approval of the following move:

Brig Gen PASCALE Arturo to be Army Command UFFICE Territorial H.Q. Vice Brig Gen FERRARI Augusto who is placed at the disposal of BOLOGNA Territorial H.Q. for special duties.

COL MUSCO

LT-COL VALLIN

11. 5,000 Italian type of Slav origin: Conveyed to Gen MANGIACI's office general information about intention to repatriate these men from SOUTH FRANCE and requested their plan for reception, documentation, re-employment (if any) or return to VARELLA GIULIA, where the majority of the men are domiciled.

Future of Italian Army:

12. A meeting was held at MIA at 1030 hrs 14 Sep, at which G.O.C. gave an Allied appreciation of some of the more important aspects of the future of the Italian Army, with particular emphasis on the

- Change over between SAN MARCO and GARIBOLDI Regt;
- Shipping to SARDINIA;
- Arty and M.T. Directorate;
- Gas Plant at GENOVA;
- PIRELLI's com direct with S.A.C.

COL LORRINI

10. Assignment: Conveyed G.O.C.'s approval of the following move:

Brig Gen PASCALE Arturo to be Arty Comd UDINE Territorial H.Q. Vice Brig Gen FERRARI Augusto who is placed at the disposal of BOLOGNA Territorial H.Q. for special duties.

COL MURDO

IR-COL VALLONE

11. 5,000 Italian tps of Slav origin: Conveyed to Gen MARCHINI's office general information about intention to repatriate these men from SOUTH FRANCE and requested their plan for reception, documentation, re-employment (if any) or return to VENEZIA GIULIA, where the majority of the men are domiciled.

Return of Italian Army:

12. A meeting was held at ROMA at 1030 hrs 14 Sep, at which G.O.C. gave an Allied appreciation of some of the more important aspects of the future of the Italian Army, with particular emphasis on trg. Those present were:

M.M.I.A.

G.O.C.

Col A/q.

G.I.

G.II (Trg.)

G.II (L)

Capt PACINI

Capt TEMPLE

Italian War Ministry - Gen Staff.

JACINI

CADENA

CHETRIAN

LUKEL

BONDO

LOMBARDI

1230

Q/20/1
MAJOR BAUMAN'S LIAISON LOG

3 - 2 SEP 1945

COL. PIACENTINI

1. Recovery Dets:

Collected copy of new Directives dated 1 Sep governing the ops of the six authorized recovery Dets.

2. SD Branch SAGE:

Quoted to PIACENTINI instance of ME and ORBAT Secs getting their wires crossed and duplicating list of cooperator units excluded from original AFHQ List.

3. Recovery Det for BLOONA T.HQ:

Infd PIACENTINI of situation reported by Italian LO HQ 5 ARMY - ref 7991/21 16 Aug. PIACENTINI immediately requested explanation from BLOONA T.HQ. for saying the Det was NOT needed, after they had applied in writing to SAGE, and from BOLZANO T.HQ for NOT coordinating with MMIA LO as instructed. He will keep the writer infd.

4. Accon for Cd Bns:

With the handing over to Italian Comd of one or more Cd Bns for each Territorial HQ the question of suitable barracks accon has to be solved. PIACENTINI stated the view that it would be bad policy to push the Bns into just any old place with a roof overhead and thus give these units a poor start in their new role. He would like a suitable modern barracks made available where possible. He will make a specific request for the Bn stationed in Rome, while the other two Bns of the ROMAN T. HQ will go to FOLLIGNO and VITERBO for the time being.

LT. COL. BEOLCHINI

5. CADERNA's visit to SAC:

Requested BEOLCHINI 31 Aug when the C of S SAGE would be back in Rome and able to visit CASERTA. The reply was that CADERNA was expected back on 3 Sep, and would be going to MILAN again on the 9th. BEOLCHINI was infd 1700 hrs 3 Sep that the appointment with Field Marshal ALEXANDER had been fixed for 1100 hrs 5 Sep. At the time the writer spoke to BEOLCHINI it was NOT known at SAGE whether CADERNA had left MILAN and it was decided that BEOLCHINI would phone MILAN forthwith and arrange that CADERNA should fly down on 4 Sep if he was still in MILAN.

Comd
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nal AFHQ List.

3. Recovery Det for BLOCCA T.HQ:

InfD PIACENTINI of situation reported by Italian LO HQ 6 ARMY - ref 7991/21 16 Aug. PIACENTINI immediately requested explanation from BLOCCA T.HQ. for saying the Det was NOT needed, after they had applied in writing to SARE, and from BOLZANO T.HQ for NOT coordinating with MMILA LO as instructed. He will keep the writer infd.

4. Acen for Od Bns:

With the handing over to Italian Comd of one or more Od Bns for each Territorial HQ the question of suitable barrack acen has to be solved. PIACENTINI stated the view that it would be bad policy to push the Bns into just any old place with a roof overhead and thus give these units a poor start in their new role. He would like a suitable modern barrack made available where possible. He will make a specific request for the Bn stationed in ROME, while the other two Bns of the RME T. HQ will go to FALICHO and VITERBO for the time being.

LT. COL. REGOLCHINI

5. CADORNA's visit to SAC:

Requested REGOLCHINI 31 Aug when the C of S SARE would be back in ROME and able to visit CASERTA. The reply was that CADORNA was expected back on 3 Sep, and would be going to MILAN again on the 9th. REGOLCHINI was infd 1700 hrs 3 Sep that the appointment with Field Marshal ALEXANDER had been fixed for 1100 hrs 5 Sep. At the time the writer spoke to REGOLCHINI it was NOT known at SARE whether CADORNA had left MILAN and it was decided that REGOLCHINI would phone MILAN forthwith and arrange that CADORNA should fly down on 4 Sep if he was still in MILAN.

Col. LOMBARDI was immediately infd of the situation up to that moment. On 4 Sep at 1100 hrs Gen. LUZZI stated that CADORNA himself had decided he could not free himself from earlier and most important appointments in MILAN in time to catch the (?) plane to ROME on the same day.

The appointment at CASERTA was accordingly cancelled.

COL. LOMBARDI

6. Reply on Interim Army:

LOMBARDI stated that the Minister had already examined the proposals put fwd by SARE and was awaiting CADORNA's return to discuss the whole question with him.

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7. Inf'd LOMBARDI of GOC's approval of the following appointments:

- Maj. Gen BERNARDI - to Comd 5 Bde CALABRIA I.S. Div.
- Brig. Gen GRIMALDI - to 2 1/2 ESO Adm Div.

8. Future appointments of Gen Offrs and Cols to comd fms:

Mentioned to LOMBARDI that in view of all the thought and effort being directed to improved trg of Offrs and NCO's at CESANO, the comds of fms should also be familiarized with what is being done in this direction. MMIA suggested that all Gen Offrs and Cols be attached to CESANO for a short period before taking up new appointments involving the comd of fms. This particularly applied to Offrs returning from P.W. after having been out of touch with things for several years. LOMBARDI thought it an excellent plan and promised to have the necessary orders issued.

MAJ. GALATIERI

9. Handed to him pass for Gen. CHATHIAN to proceed on leave to AOSTA, within the 25 km Frontier Band. Stressed that this was granted on the understanding that the General would not indulge in public activities of a political nature, in connection with the autonomy granted to the VAL D'AOSTA Region. CHATHIAN was responsible for making the original report and recommendations on which the decree law was based.

LT. COL. SILLI

10. Repatriation of ten Italian Gen Offrs:

Further to para 18 of Log 27-31 Aug, inf'd SILLI that it was now being arranged for the ten Gens to be transported from BERLIN to MILAN by air. SILLI will issue warning order to MILAN T. Hq to be ready to receive these Gens when they arrive.

LT. COL. CANALE

11. ALBANIAN personnel in Italian Army:

Discussed with CANALE the application made by Lt. Col. LEV SULACEV to GOC MMIA for a settlement of the situation of ALBANIAN Offrs and NCO's serving with the Italian Army. An identical statement had already been submitted to MMIA by another Albanian Offr, Capt. ASLAN LIBOHOVA, and forwarded by MMIA to War Ministry.

LIBOHOVA had previously discussed the situation with CANALE and the latter has been elaborating a settlement which has finally received the approval of the Italian authorities. CANALE authorized the writer to inform LIBOHOVA that he would receive comm of the details of the settlement during the present week. SULACEV's name was not mentioned.

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MAJ. GALATERRI

9. Handed to him pass for Gen. CHATRIAN to proceed on leave to AOSTA, within the 25 km Frontier Band. Stressed that this was granted on the understanding that the General would not indulge in public activities of a political nature, in connection with the autonomy granted to the VAL D'AOSTA Region. CHATRIAN was responsible for making the original report and recommendations on which the decree law was based.

LT. COL. SILLI

10. Repatriation of ten Italian Gen Ofrs:

Further to para 16 of Log 27-31 Aug, infd SILLI that it was now being arranged for the ten Gens to be transported from BERLIN to MILAN by air. SILLI will issue warning order to MILAN T. HQ to be ready to receive these Gens when they arrive.

LT. COL. CANALE

11. ALBANIAN personnel in Italian Army:

Discussed with CANALE the application made by Lt. Col. LEV SUKACEV to COS MILA for a settlement of the situation of ALBANIAN Ofrs and NCO's serving with the Italian Army. An identical statement had already been submitted to MILA by another Albanian Offr, Capt. ASLAN LIBOHOVA, and forwarded by MILA to War Ministry.

LIBOHOVA had previously discussed the situation with CANALE and the latter has been elaborating a settlement which has finally received the approval of the Italian authorities. CANALE authorized the writer to inform LIBOHOVA that he would receive word of the details of the settlement during the present week. SUKACEV's name was NOT mentioned during this conversation with CANALE. The writer subsequently phoned SUKACEV and infd him of the state of affairs and that SUKACEV could put LIBOHOVA into the picture as well. It was made clear to both sides during these conversations that the question at issue is fundamentally one to be settled directly between the War Ministry and the Albanian personnel concerned.

COL. LOMBARDI

12. Appointment for Col. NEGROMI:

Reminded LOMBARDI of the efforts made by NEGROMI to keep his liaison Sec alive after the disbandment of AAI, with the proposal to transfer the Sec to AFHQ. This scheme had come to nothing.

- 3 -

Inf'd LOMBARDI that a sig had now arrived from C.G. US Tps in AUSTRIA requesting Col. NEGROMI plus one Oftr and five GRS to serve as Liaison unit on Gen CLARK's HQ. It was NOT known what functions this unit would have, since there existed no Italian Tps in AUSTRIA. Simultaneously, a recommendation had been made by head of G-2 AFHQ that NEGROMI be appointed to command IAI (SIL). This latter move had been provoked by NEGROMI himself who had inf'd AFHQ that AGHIFOLIO had already vacated his post.

LOMBARDI stated in reply that NEGROMI had been to him some time ago saying that Gen. CLARK would be taking him and a few others to AUSTRIA with his HQ. LOMBARDI asked him what he would be doing there and NEGROMI indicated that his work would be similar to that being carried out by FICKE VERMAZZA and other Italian Oftrs in FRANCE. LOMBARDI had mentioned the question of funds, but it appears that NEGROMI intended making the arrangements for himself and his followers, and would make no call on the War Ministry other than for normal pay and allowances in Lire. LOMBARDI added that while the Ministry had neither suggested this mission nor had official business to entrust to NEGROMI, at the same time he felt some good would be done by having this Det in AUSTRIA to help with the repatriation of PWs, refugees, etc.

As regards the second case, LOMBARDI said that there was no question of AGHIFOLIO leaving the IAI service for the time being, nor was he convinced that NEGROMI was altogether the right man for the job when the post does become vacant. He knew that NEGROMI had aspired to the post, but he was certainly NOT authorized to talk to AFHQ about it. If MILA would put this in writing he would see that it was taken up strongly with NEGROMI.

13. Italian Army Property (Recovery):

Asked LOMBARDI if he knew of any order from the Govt to the Prefects entrusting the latter with control of Army vehs and other property now in the hands of civilians etc. He stated that he had rec'd complaints from T. Hqs at GENOA, FLORENCE and was in comm with Ministry of Interior on the subject. He doubted whether a direct order existed, but thought that the Prefects might well be trying to take advantage of some existing regulations which they were interpreting to suit their own ends.

COL. PIACENTINI

14. Notified the Col. of contents of MILA Sig SD 2947 of 5 Sep.

15. Spoke about 112 Div Mil Band and 13 Engr Bn.

PIACENTINI said they had decided NOT to keep the latter unit in being for mine clearance duties as this work will in future be carried out by civilian personnel (under direction of Army Engr Oftrs and a few MCO's) under the auspices of the Ministry for Post War Reconstruction. They are anxious to avoid two parallel forms of org on the same work and

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Ministry rather than for normal pay and allowances in lire. LOMBARDI added that while the Ministry had neither suggested this mission nor had official business to entrust to NEGROMI, at the same time he felt some good would be done by having this Det in AUSTRIA to help with the repatriation of PWs, refugees, etc.

As regards the second case, LOMBARDI said that there was no question of AGRIPOLO leaving the LAI service for the time being, nor was he convinced that NEGROMI was altogether the right man for the job when the post does become vacant. He knew that NEGROMI had aspired to the post, but he was certainly NOT authorized to talk to AFHQ about it. If MALA would put this in writing he would see that it was taken up strongly with NEGROMI.

15. Italian Army Property (Recovery):

Asked LOMBARDI if he knew of any order from the Govt to the Prefects entrusting the latter with control of army vehs and other property now in the hands of civilians etc. He stated that he had recd complaints from T. Hqs at GENOA, FLORENCE and was in conn with Ministry of Interior on the subject. He doubted whether a direct order existed, but thought that the Prefects might well be trying to take advantage of some existing regulations which they were interpreting to suit their own ends.

COL. PIACENTINI

14. Notified the Col. of contents of MMIA Sig SD 2947 of 6 Sep.

15. Spoke about 212 Div Mil Band and 23 Engr Bn.

PIACENTINI said they had decided NOT to keep the latter unit in being for mine clearance duties as this work will in future be carried out by civilian personnel (under direction of Army Engr Corps and a few MCO's) under the auspices of the Ministry for Post War Reconstruction. They are anxious to avoid two parallel forms of org on the same work and they will also be achieving a substantial economy in the War Ministry's financial commitments.

LT. COL. SANSONE

16. In answer to War Ministry query (originated by BOLCONA T. Hq), infd SANSONE that MMIA LC FLORENCE would deal with matters of interest to BOLCONA Mil. Hq.

LT. COL. CHECCHIA

17. Italian Army Postal Units:

With the abolition of censorship and the return to more normal conditions in the civil postal adm, CHECCHIA proposes gradually to eliminate the mil postal units. Phase 1, which he proposes to effect immediately, covers SOUTH ITALY (incl 227 Div Postal Unit), Phase 2 CENTRAL, and Phase 3 NORTH ITALY.

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Discussed with "Q" Branch and infd CHXCHIA no objection on the part of MMIA provided the tps continue to receive their mail regularly.

18. For the purpose of debiting Italian Army personnel for the loss of eqpt through carelessness and neglect, CHXCHIA has requested a priced vocabulary for all eqpt, arms, etc supplied to the Gruppi from British sources. At present he only has prices of clothing.

8 Sep 45

Handled by Lt. Col. Webster
for M. D. W. 13/9/45

Wm.
C/nc.

WS

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

Handled by R. E. L. Nelson
for M. D. W. 12/5/45

W. E. L.
W. E. L.

1226 '42

8 Sep 45

Under BAMBARDI's 14. son Log

8/20/11 27 - 31 AUG 45

Col. BAMBARDI

27 August

ADJ

1. Recovery deta: revised instructions placing deta under usual terms for all purposes, subject assignment of duties being approved by MIA L.A. Discussed with 'G' and 'Q' and approved revised draft. -C - Q-

2. Fascist Camp in PIAA: Can De SIMONE and the camp could recommend that one be only be retained for 1st duties, and that this be constituted with the best elements of the two existing ones. Remaining personnel to be re-allotted, part to serve as nucleus of a second be for duty elsewhere. De SIMONE has also requested two CC.M. men for special duties. Discussed with 'G' and 'C' of 2 and communicated approval to Piacentini. -C-

3. Transit camp arrangements for the travelling between CIVITAVECCHIA and GARDINIA. -C-

Col. BAMBARDI

4. C.C.C. tour in the north, 3 - 8 Sept. -Cont-

5. Article in UNTER: political activities of the stationed at MIA. Matter already under discussion between JACINI and ARPINI, Under-Secretary to the Cabinet. Lombardi reiterated the view that units not fully employed be retrained or disbanded, and surplus personnel disabled. Much of this trouble is due to men having too little to keep them occupied. -Cont - A-

6. War Ministry proposal to abolish La Patria - Lombardi himself seems to be persuaded to this view now. Reason not very clear. Will follow. -A-

7. Chased Lombardi for reply on Italian army - said to be not before the Minister. -C-

8. Big comes with the NORTH: requested Lombardi to ascertain from Ministry of Telecommunications all the facilities and priorities to which the War Ministry is entitled are in fact being made available. -C-

Lt Col. CIVITAVECCHIA

9. Mules and horses: it is confirmed that the War Ministry will be glad to avail itself of the opportunity to bid for 2,500 mules and 1,000 horses about to be disposed of by the British Army. The mules are for eventual Allied units and the horses for the CC.M. Should all or part of the above mules be made available at the Italian Army, it will be necessary to find the type for looking after the mules. Inf 'Q'. -C - Q-

and SABOTAGE.

Col Lombardi

4. C.O.C.E. tour in the NORTH, 3 - 8 Sept.

5. Article in THE NEW YORK TIMES: political activities of the stationed at PULL. Matter already under discussion between JAGHAI and ARFIMATI, Under-Secretary to the Cabinet. Lombardi reiterated the view that units NOT fully employed be reduced or disbanded, and surplus personnel demobilized. Much of this trouble is due to men having too little to keep them occupied.

6. War Ministry proposal to abolish La Patria - Lombardi himself seems to be persuaded to this view now. Reason not very clear. Will follow.

7. Chased Lombardi for reply on interim army - said to be now before the Ministry.

8. Big comm with the NORTH: requested Lombardi to ascertain from Ministry of Telecommunications whether all the facilities and priorities to which the War Ministry is entitled are in fact being made available.

Lt Col GILBERT

9. Mules and horses: it is confirmed that the War Ministry will be glad to avail itself of the opportunity to bid for 2,500 mules and 1,000 horses about to be disposed of by the British Army. The mules are for eventual Alpidi units and the horses for the CC.M. Should all or part of the above mules be made available at the Italian Army, it will be necessary to find the time for looking after the mules. Inf'd 'Q'.

Gen. FORTIN

28 August

10. Handed him 25 Aug and enlarged on the theme of transferring machinery from Army units to MR units where required to complete installations. FORTIN agrees in principle, but has no'd no plans yet for the fourteen mob shops about to be fitted out in TUNIS.

11. Veh maintenance: the one Inspectorate that is badly needed at the moment (MR) does NOT exist. Consequently there is no one in TUNIS whose main concern is MR try and maintenance. Until an Inspector General is appointed it is difficult to see how any improvement will be achieved in MR maintenance, since there is no independent authority on the technical side to see insts are carried out.

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12. CIBEXA - removal of unex. men from old palace; owing to Allied policy not allowing ~~unex~~ personnel to deal with bomb and gas clearance, this work has to be entrusted to civilian contractors and their vehs. Properly stated that there was a big pile of outstanding requests in the contractors hands; he would see what could be done in this case. -Cont-
13. Requested info as to whereabouts of Capt TALLIARI - 53 Regt INFANTRY Div, who was on staff of PW Camp TUNIA in July 42. -A-
14. Gen ROMA has been posted as MIL Attache ROME (as previously agreed), now that Gen BIANCHI has returned to Italy. -Cont- A-
- 25 August
15. Bomb disposal: squads have been organized with MIL personnel -Cont- G-Q- on civilian rations. Inf'd Piacentini that not required for bomb disposal must be inf'd on Territorial HQ Adm. the Corps. Piacentini's comments was that while this procedure was sound enough in theory, in practice it could hardly be expected to work, since Adm. the Corps were so much below strength in most cases that there was already insufficient to for existing requirements.
- Col LOMBARDI
Col PIAZZINI
Lt Col GAVI
16. Fascist Camp in PISA: numerous contacts with above to ensure -C of S- that
(a) additional personnel, officers and NCOs, required for running the camp and camp serviced are despatched without delay;
(b) letters regarding the taking over of the camp are sent to the Italian camp Comd. -C of S-
- Col LOMBARDI
17. Estimated Army Expenditure 1945/46: Borrowed from Lombardi his copy of proposed Army votes for period 1945/46, which the writer will examine in greater detail with com. BIGNARDI, the financial expert at the War Ministry. -A-
- Lt Col De SILLI
18. Repatriation of ten Italian ~~off~~ ^{Gen} officers: informed him of contents of AMM 115 of 28 Aug ref 1946. -A-
- Col LOMBARDI

15. Bomb disposal: squads have been organized with EIL personnel - one on civilian rations. Dr. Piacentini that tpt required for bomb disposal must be inkented on territorial HQ Adm Pys Coys. Piacentini's comments was that while this procedure was sound enough in theory, in practice it could hardly be expected to work, since Adm Pys Coys were so much below strength in most cases that there was already insufficient tpt for existing requirements.

Col Lombardi
Col Piacentini
Lt Col Gatti

16. Fascist Camp in FISA: numerous contacts with above to ensure -C of S- that

(a) additional personnel, cty's and MOs, required for running the camp and camp serviced are dispatched without delay;

(b) instrs regarding the taking over of the camp are sent to the Italian camp Guard.

Col Lombardi

17. Estimated Army Expenditure 1945/46: Borrowed from Lombardi his copy of proposed Army votes for period 1945/46, which the writer will examine in greater detail with camp. MOROTI, the financial expert at the War Ministry.

Lt Col De Silli

18. Repatriation of ten Italian ^{Gen} officers: informed him of contents of AMR, sig of 28 Aug ref P 39062.

Col Lombardi

30 August

19. Fascist Camp in FISA: Lombardi was able to state that all personnel required at the camp would be en route during the course of the day.

Col Piacentini

24 August

20. Ufficio Ordine e Mobilitazione: Long session with the head of 3D Branch ^{Gen} on the internal org, staff duties and personnel of his branch. For gen instr, the following is the present distribution of personnel by room.

Col Piacentini

ED and 23

ORAT

Lt Col GUIDA
Lt Col GRATTI
In-fil service
units and combat
vs & all CC, etc.

Lt Col MILLERONNI
Maj SAVI
XXI-III
category

Lt Col DI RITURNO
Lt Col CRESPI
Maj POME
(Arts, Call-ops
Coordination)

Lt Col D'ALISSANDRO
Maj FINTOZZI

C-A
1227

Warned him that some dissatisfaction existed at MILA with the functioning of the HQ & of his Branch and with general lack of coordination between ED and MS and GREAT sec's. As a result of this discussion it would appear that the basis of a sound enough org exists and that ample provision has been made for exchange of information between sec's. It was agreed that Piacentini would make further efforts to find fresh offers to replace a few of the less capable members of this staff. Also that MILA would discontinue to send in what has become known as "MILACCHI's speeches", which is superseded by the new GREAT. Sub sec's of 'g' Branch MILA are requested to notify the writer of specific instances where the work of their members falls below a reasonable standard of efficiency.

Gen. LITZKE

21. Replacement of unsuitable offers in PIA: LITZKE admitted quite frankly that a number of these offers had to be replaced with better material, but stated that he was up against insuperable obstacles represented by economic conditions. In effect the only offers they can post to the War Ministry are either bachelors or married men with property or connections in Rome. This severely curtails a field of selection which is already very limited because of the IV question. To make matters worse the Italian Govt is still very hostile to the Army and would object, he feels, to any proposal to relieve the situation such as requisitioning a hotel in Rome where married offers and their families could live.

Col. DI MESSICO
1st Col. CAMP

22. Fascist PW camp in PIA: discussed the following pts and requested War Ministry action where applicable: C of S

(a) Col. MONTINI (Italian camp Comd) has request one PW only in addition to the one he has agreed. MILA approve.

(b) Red Cross passes for visitors discontinued War Ministry to consider future procedure.

(c) Control of camp passed to Italian comd 0800 hrs 31 Aug.

(d) Release of PWs to Allied authorities:- only on production of MILA HQ authority.

(e) Release of PWs to Italian authorities:- War Ministry to lay down procedure.

(f) PW entry into camp of individuals already released to Italian authorities: specific cases will be considered and approved by MILA but release by holding Italian authorities to be negotiated by War Ministry.

(g) Processing of internees. (also requested Lombardi to hasten P.W. 1 Aug)

with property or connections in Rome. This severely curtails a field of selection which is already very limited because of the IV question. To make matters worse the Italian Govt is still very hostile to the Army and would object, he feels, to any proposed to relieve the situation such as requisitioning a hotel in Rome where married officers and their families could live.

Col DI MARIANO
Lt Col GAMBIA

22. Fascist PW camp at PISA: discussed the following pts and requested War Ministry action where applicable. C of S

- (a) Col MARIANO (Italian camp Comm) PW request are as follows in addition to the one he has agreed. MIA approve.
- (b) Red cross passes for visitors discontinued War Ministry to consider future procedure.
- (c) Control of camp passed to Italian comm 0800 hrs 31 Aug.
- (d) Release of PWs to Allied authorities:- only on production of MIA HQ authority.
- (e) Release of PWs to Italian authorities:- War Ministry to lay down procedure.
- (f) No entry into camp of individuals already released to Italian authorities: specific cases will be considered and approved by MIA but release by Italian authorities to be negotiated by War Ministry.
- (g) Processing of internees (also requested Lamberdi to hasten P.M. 1 Aug)
- (h) Large stock of German blankets and clothing - hitherto unenclosed - had been found in the camp.
- (i) German personnel ^{Companies} i/o ~~companies~~ and kitchens handling over duties and leaving 31 Aug.
- (j) Italian and let in place with 90 day med reg in hosp; average 400 patients per day.
- (k) Camp comm had been given copy of ^{US} individual records on PWs. 1223

31 02 Sept 45

AYOZ BALMANT'S LIAISON LOG
20 - 25 AUGUST 42.

OF PLACENTINI

1. ~~Plac~~ can devoted to "interim army" problems:

ALL Branches

(a) Territorial blocs: There have been differences of opinion within REGS as to future org (blocs versus regts) - it is agreed that for immediate implementation existing gd hrs can be used with regt H.Q. 100 strong. (This confirms conversation PLACENTINI/ENGLISH) Later the regts can be reorganized on same lines as blocs of I.S. Divs. Following particulars were also mentioned affecting individual gd hrs: 525 Regt 240 Div. (O.C. Col BALMANT), earmarked for TURIN, now consists of only 300 odd all ranks, organized in three coys:

one ~~reg~~ trg coy
one coy on transit ~~of~~ and welfare duty services (mostly waiters, orderlies etc)
one coy on duty at convalescent homes (mostly sanitary personnel)

PLACENTINI (and ~~Regt~~) ^{64L} query whether this odd assortment of personnel will in fact make such a good foundation for a gd bn.

(b) The REGS reply on the "interim army" has already been prepared and is in the hands of the War Ministry, for the Minister's consideration (see LEMARINI below). The reply covers the following points:

- (i) source of regt H.Q.s for Territorial Blocs and of the six missing coys. It is proposed to form the latter from scratch. ~~unsubstantiated information from the War Ministry~~
- (ii) General observations on the main categories as proposed for the "interim army". It is understood that there are no observations.
- (iii) Suggested modifications to lists of Combat Groups.
- (iv) Proposals (in general outline) for increasing the territorial org up to 7,000.

(c) Although the detailed figures for the services category are nearly completed, they have not been included in the above reply and will be forwarded separately. It was agreed that PLACENTINI would request heads of services of the War Ministry to discuss and explain individual blocs with opposite members of MILA, so that everyone is informed and clear as to the objects which it is intended to achieve.

(d) Recruitment and training plan: Several replies to MILA letter have been drafted and submitted to C of S, but CAMERON sent back the latest version this a.m for revision and it will not be despatched until his return in four days time. The writer has seen the last edition, which;

one coy on transit ~~coys~~ and welfare duty services (mostly
waiters, orderlies etc)
one coy on duty at convalescent homes (mostly sanitary
personnel)

PLACENTINI (and ^{bat} Regt); query whether this odd assortment of personnel
will in fact make such a good foundation for a gd bn.

- (b) The 2222 reply on the "interim army" has already been prepared
and is in the hands of the War Ministry, for the Minister's
consideration (see LAMBERT below). The reply covers the following
points:
- (i) source of regt H.Q.s for Territorial Bns and of the six
infantry coys. It is proposed to form the latter from scratch.
 - (ii) General observations on the main categories as proposed for the
"interim army". It is understood that there are no observations.
 - (iii) Suggested modifications to ests of Combat Groups.
 - (iv) Proposals (in general outline) for increasing the Territorial
org up to 7,000.

(c) Although the detailed figures for the services category are nearly
completed, they have not been included in the above reply and will be
forwarded separately. It was agreed that PLACENTINI would request heads
of services of the War Ministry to discuss and explain individual bids
with opposite numbers of MIA, so that everyone is informed and clear
as to the objects which it is intended to achieve.

(d) Recruitment and training plan: Several replies to MIA letter have
been drafted and submitted to C of S, but CADERNA sent back the latest
version this a.m. for revision and it will not be despatched until his
return in four days time. The writer has seen the last edition, which;

- (1) agrees that CADERNA must continue to serve as the central school
for trg instructors, officers and NCO cadres and certain
categories of specialists;

(ii) draws attention to certain difficulties in equitably reducing
an "annual class" of 250,000 to 100,000, (though it is
clarified that these difficulties would NOT necessarily stand
in the way of the "interim army");

(iii) recommends a call-up twice a year (at six-monthly intervals)
and as a corollary envisages numerous difficulties of a
practical and admin nature in recruiting 10,000 men ~~in~~ each month,
both in the call-up process and in the trg stages.

(e) Ref (a) (ii) above, in a normal year the Army "votes" would be too small to permit of an equitable call-up of an entire age-group, and so as to obviate a disparity of military obligations, a larger number than budgeted for would be called up at the beginning of the Army year, some of the men serving only 3 months, and others six, nine or eighteen months. Thus at the end of the Army year the strength would be below the budgeted figure, but taken through the year the average would correspond with that allowed in the Army votes. This system of the "balanced force" (forza bilanciata) also gives the Army a proportion of trained personnel at any time of the year.

The imposition of a rigid ceiling creates a problem not easy to overcome: an "ad hoc" solution can be thought out for the "interim forces" but for the permanent army a satisfactory method has yet to be found. If it is the Allied intention that the authorized ceiling is a maximum strength NOT to be exceeded, this should be authoritatively stated now for the interim army, and in due course for the permanent forces, to enable the War Ministry to plan accordingly.

GEN CADORENA

General talk on a variety of subjects. He confirmed PLACENTINI's comments on the interim army, and added that the 1938 proposals contained a recommendation that failing adequate pay and clothing for the Territorial Does be limited for the time being to two hrs each and if necessary the Internal Security divs reduced to one regt apiece. He leaves later today for an inspection of officer cadets at POTENZA.

Coord
C

COL LOREARDI

CADORENA's visit to A.P.H.Q. after interrogating the Minister, at the writer's request, on the origin of CADORENA's application, LOREARDI stated:

C

"that in recent conversation with JACINI, the Prince had given it to be understood that it had been commented at A.P.H.Q. that CADORENA had NOT yet called on Field Marshal ALEXANDER or his C of S since his appointment as head of STET. From the Prince's remarks it was gathered that such a courtesy call would NOT be out-of-place the next time CADORENA was near CAMBRIDGE."

Interim Army: LOREARDI had just received the 1938 proposals (see 1 (b) above) and estimated that 2 to 3 days would be needed to consider the matter in detail and secure the Minister's approval.

C

Interim Army: Informed 2-1 of general tenor of 1938 reply (see above)

Coord
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A
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(a) proposed additions to combat groups of arm and bridging units, and abolition of a few existing units, no longer needed, resulting in a small margin within the 50,000 ceiling NOT yet earmarked.

(b) services have been planned to within about 3,000 of the ceiling

SEN CADORNA

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Contd
C

COL LOMBARDI

3. CADORNA's visit to A.F.H.Q. after interrogating the Minister, at the writer's request, on the origin of CADORNA's application, LOMBARDI stated:

"that in recent conversation with JACINI, the Prince had given it to be understood that it had been commented at A.F.H.Q. that CADORNA had NOT yet called on Field Marshal ALEXANDER or his C of S since his appointment as head of SEPR. From the Prince's remarks it was gathered that such a courtesy call would NOT be out-of-place the next time CADORNA was near CASERTA."

4. Interim Army: LOMBARDI had just received the 1938 proposals (see 1 (b) above) and estimated that 2 to 3 days would be needed to consider the matter in detail and secure the Minister's approval.

5. Interim Army: Informed G-1 of general tenor of 1938 reply (see above)

(a) proposed additions to combat groups of med and bridging units, and abolition of a few existing units, no longer needed, resulting in a small margin within the 50,000 ceiling NOT yet remarked.

(b) services have been planned to within about 3,000 of the ceiling allowed, but no provision has been made for the requirements of the Repatriated P.S. Org etc, on which several thousands are now engaged.

(c) Alpid units; after further consideration 1938 now favour the conversion - at some future date - of part of some of the territorial Bdes to Alpid personnel, say one bn out of the three in five or six of the MONTENAPOLITANO regions. The plan to convert one or more combat groups has been discarded.

LT COL OLIVETTI

1921
Mules: At request of Q Branch informed the above (in the absence of MELONI) that a further batch of mules would shortly be disposed of by the British Army in Italy, and that it was necessary to know whether the War Ministry wished to bid for all or part of these animals. Discussed the Alpid proposition (see previous para) and requested him to consider, in the event of the War Ministry wishing to avail itself of the opportunity, who would be entrusted with the mules for the next few months, since no tps were immediately available or authorized for this purpose.

GEN LIUZZI
COL. PLACENTINI

7

Accompanied G-1 and G2 (Trg) for conference on trg of interim army
(23 Aug)

Cond
C

(a) The question of the number and size of the call-ups was first discussed, insofar as this directly affects the number of instructors and cadres required. SARE are still thinking in terms of two call-ups of 50,000 each, mainly for seasonal considerations. Three or four call-ups per year, would facilitate the trg plan by reducing numbers of trainees to 33,000 or 25,000 at a time. The loss to the Army of half of its trained effectives at a single sweep was another factor advanced by MIAA reps in favour of a more staggered plan.

(b) SARE accepted in principle the MIAA proposal to allocate 2,500 instructors as permanent regimental instructors for supervising the basic training of recruits. This will allow 50 instructors per trg bn for a call-up of 50,000 men, or 80 instructors per bn if the call-up is of 33,000 men.

(c) SARE further confirmed that after charging the above 2,500 instructors against the 150/trg ceiling of 10,000, the balance would be sufficient to provide trg and adm staffs for the remainder of the trg programme, namely:

- Military Academy
- Staff College
- Specialist courses for oftrs and MOOs;
- MOOs basic trg courses (Sgts)
- Specialist courses for (Rts).

GEN LIUZZI
COL. PLACENTINI

8

Request for comparative figures of cost-per-day for regular and conscripted Gns of Italian Army under the following headings:

A

- Rations
- Clothing (and equipment)
- Accom (light and fuel)
- Overhead
- Pay of conscript for one year's engagement
- Pay of long service volunteer

Figures provided for week-end.

27 August 45.

up to a ceiling of 30,000 man, 10 instructors per bn if the call-up is of 33,000 man.

(c) ARS further confirmed that after charging the above 2,500 instructors against the 1st/2nd ceiling of 10,000, the balance would be sufficient to provide trg and adm staffs for the remainder of the trg programme, namely:

- Military Academy
- Staff College
- Specialist courses for oftrs and NCOs;
- NCOs basic trg course (sgts)
- Specialist courses for GAs.

GEN LIBANI

COL PLACENTINI

8

Request for comparative figures of cost-per-day for regular and conscripted GAs of Italian Army under the following headings:

- Rations
- Clothing (and equipment)
- Accom (light and fuel)
- Overheads
- Pay of conscript for one year's engagement
- Pay of long service volunteer

Figures promised for week-end.

27 August 45.

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1220

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG

6 - 11 AUG 45

GEN. RONCO
GEN. LIVIZZI
COL. PIACENTINI

1.

Accompanied G-1 to SMH (6 Aug) for meeting on "Interim" Army:

(a) G-1 stated that the immediate future of the Italian Army had been under consideration at AFHQ, as a result of which certain proposals had now been put fwd to the CCS at WASHINGTON. The proposed ceiling and strength of the main categories were mentioned. At the same time, it was made very clear that the entire project was only in the examination stage, that no decisions had been taken, nor were any decisions to be implied by this announcement.

(b) Nevertheless G-1 considered that the time had now come for SMH to make a study of certain aspects of the proposals and submit their observations. It was agreed that SMH would reply as soon as possible on the following form headings.

(1) General observations on the whole project;

(1i) Proposed variations (if any) to SM's of Combat Gps, incl the provision, if required, of Arm car Units, and the conversion of one or more Gruppi to Alpini personnel with consequent provision of auxiliary units.

(1ii) Reorganization and increase of Territorial Org from 2,000 to 7,000 all ranks. This info to be by main headings only, and NOT to incl SM's for the present.

(iv) Proposed source of Territorial Bde HQs and the missing 1st Bde. G-1 had outlined his proposals for converting existing Cd Bns and Cops to Territorial Bdes, with an apparent deficiency at this moment of six Cops.

(c) SMH reaction to above was wholly favourable, with the single exception of the proposed exclusion of Arty from Territorial Bdes and I.S. Divs. Grounds of objections were:-

(1) For quelling civil disturbances, Gps armed with small arms and automatic weapons only would have no advantage over the civil population, which is abundantly equipped with weapons of this kind. The Arty is rated by SMH to have very considerable moral value for maintaining law and order.

(1i) It would leave the Italian Army with only the Combat

cisions had been taken, nor were any decisions to be implied by this announcement.

(b) Nevertheless G-1 considered that the time had now come for SARE to make a study of certain aspects of the proposals and submit their observations. It was agreed that SARE would reply as soon as possible on the following form headings.

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(ii) Proposed variations (if any) to WE's of Combat Gps, incl the provision, if required, of Armcd car Units, and the conversion of one or more Gruppi to Alpini personnel with consequent provision of auxiliary units.

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(i) For quelling civil disturbances, tps armed with small arms and automatic weapons only would have no advantage over the civil population, which is abundantly equipped with weapons of this kind. The Arty is rated by SARE to have very considerable moral value for maintaining law and order.

(ii) It would leave the Italian Army with only the Combat Op Arty as a trg medium for this branch of the service, which is proportionately very small for the size of the Army. They say they would also be faced with the necessity of converting large numbers of regular Arty Cofrs and MOCs to other purposes.

SARE will submit their observations and proposals in writing.

COL. PLACENTINI

2. Discharge of 1915 Class:

Informed PLACENTINI that AFHQ had decided to demobilize the 1915 Class and that the Executive Order would follow in a day or two. PLACENTINI stated that the 1914 Class had all been sent home, with the exception of a few units who still held men on specialist jobs whom they had been unable to release without replacement.

COUNT JACINI
COL. LOMBARDI

3.

Fascist prisoners and detention camps:

Accompanied C of S MIA on visit to the War Minister 7 Aug to convey Allied decision to hand over to Italian Govt the custody of 52,000 Fascist personnel in a concentration camp at FISA.

(a) JACINI was told that COS policy was that while the detainees were in Allied hands they would NOT be released before all cooperation in's had been repatriated. But as soon as they were handed over to the Italian Govt for safe keeping it would be up to the Italian Govt to decide what should become of them.

(b) Two Italian Cd Bns and a Regt Bq would be made available for administering and guarding the camp.

(c) The ration for the internees would continue on the same scale as hitherto (2,000 calories). The Minister was handed a list of items showing which were to come from Allied Army sources and which from Italian Army sources. In order to maintain Army control over distribution, it had been laid down that the War Ministry would be responsible for administering rations in the camp.

(d) The hand-over was required to take place as soon as possible, but until the Italian authorities had their machinery working properly, a U.S. Det would continue to remain at the camp in an advisory capacity.

(e) Fascist detainees in civil prisons in NORTH Italy:

A further 24,000 persons were congesting the civil prisons in the Northern Regions and AMG and Civil authorities were pressing for their removal. AFHQ had now offered to turn over to the Italian authorities for this purpose an existing camp site near MCDENA with a capacity of 50,000, until recently used for German PW's. Persons detained here would be on civil rations, but two Italian Cd Bns would be made available for Cd duties.

(f) In reply to a question by JACINI, it was stated that movement of these 24,000 detainees from prisons to camp would be under arrangements of AMG/Civil authorities, and that their tpt would NOT be a War Ministry responsibility.

(g) The Minister said that it would be necessary for him to consult the Govt before adhering to the above arrangements. It looked as though the FISA Camp would become entirely a War Ministry responsibility for all purposes, the Ministry of Grace and Justice concerning itself solely with the classification, exami-

administering and guarding the camp.

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(e) Fascist detainees in civil prisons in NORTH Italy:

A further 24,000 persons were congesting the civil prisons in the Northern Regions and AMG and Civil authorities were pressing for their removal. AMH had now offered to turn over to the Italian authorities for this purpose an existing camp site near MARENZA with a capacity of 50,000, until recently used for German P.O.s. Persons detained here would be on civil rations, but two Italian G.O.s would be made available for G.O. duties.

(f) In reply to a question by JACINI, it was stated that movement of these 24,000 detainees from prisons to camp would be under arrangements of AMG/Civil authorities, and that their transport would not be a War Ministry responsibility.

(g) The Minister said that it would be necessary for him to consult the Govt before adhering to the above arrangements. It looked as though the FISA Camp would become entirely a War Ministry responsibility for all purposes, the Ministry of Grace and Justice concerning itself solely with the classification, examination and trial of prisoners. On the other hand, the MARENZA Camp would very likely have to be a "Grace and Justice" responsibility, with the Army providing the Guards.

(h) JACINI promised to secure a reply by the 11th, so that a Reece party could leave Rome early in the following week to visit both Camp sites. The party would consist of:-

- Rep of War Ministry
- Rep of Ministry of Grace and Justice
- Col commanding the Regt HQ (if not already at FISA)
- (?) Rep of AMH.

(i) AMH to confirm the entire proposition in writing.

1218

- 3 -

COL. PLACENTINI

4. The Conference of Gen. Offrs duly commenced 10 Aug with a session presided over by Gen. GARDINA. A large number of current controversial problems were raised and discussed at length, chief among them being:-

Comd
G of S
C
Q
A

(a) Prestige of the Army is at a very low ebb:

The reasons are many and deep-rooted, and known to all, but the fact remains. Particularly is this serious if in the future the tps have to be used for maintaining law and order. Frequent attacks are made on the Army publicly and in the press, and the authority of those in comd is held in little respect. This has been especially noted by Territorial Comds in their dealings with Provincial Prefects.

The Minister has recently issued a circular reminding Offrs that they are NOT allowed to meddle in politics. The opinion of the Generals was that if the officers are not allowed to defend the Army this should be done energetically and adequately by the War Minister, which is NOT the case at the moment. (The writer has on previous occasions discussed with LOMBARDI - who is in full agreement - the need for a qualified PRO for the War Ministry).

(b) Pay and conditions of the tps:

(1) Gruppi Comds represented strongly that there should be no reduction in the pay of ORs who have taken part in ops, or drawn the higher rate of pay on the grounds of avoiding excessive discontent.

(11) An increase in the basic rates of pay of ORs was pressed for, it being pointed out that the Territorial tps, who were the lowest paid, were now the hardest worked, while the Allied Service tps received a bonus for doing little or nothing which was the situation of many units today.

(111) On the question of better pay and conditions for the Interim Army, it was explained to the Generals that the Italian Treasury was creating serious difficulties over present rates of pay, let alone increases for the future. In the same way, there was only a limited supply of uniforms and boots from Allied sources and little or no Italian Army stocks, so that none could be spared for new recruits of younger age tps. The reaction of the Generals to this was that it would be infinitely preferable to start the Interim Army with fewer tps than authorized by the Allies, and only work up to the approved

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(c) MILA Liaison Officers:

Appreciation was expressed of the help given by LO's and it was stated to be very desirable to have an LO for each Territorial HQ.

(d) Recovery Units:

Dissatisfaction was expressed in some cases with the meagre results achieved by Recovery Units. It was recommended that these units be under the direct command of the Terr. Hqs, and NOT under control of MILA LO's, for reasons of expediency and discipline.

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(e) It was strongly urged that further spares be issued from The S. CANDIDO, as it was stated to be otherwise impossible to continue repairs of inefficient vehs, particularly at BLOONA.

August 45

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1216

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG
30/31 JULY - 4 AUG 1945

GEN. CADORNA
GEN. LIUZZI
COL. PLACENTINI
COL. LOMBARDI

1. ALPINE DIVS:

Comd

Discussion of alleged requirements of two additional ALPINE Divs put fwd by PARRI to Chief Commissioner A.C. - reported in detail separately.

2. LT. COL. MONACO

3. FOGOLA Round-up:

Q A

No reply had been received from Ministry of Interior by 31 July. Chaser sent on that day. MONACO has promised a definite decision within 3/4 days.

OFFICIAL VISITS

3. The following called on COC 31 July:

Comd

Maj. Gen. CARATTI (Inspector Gen. of Arty)
Maj. Gen. PROPERZI (Director Gen. of Arty and NT at War Ministry)

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF GEN. OF THE

4. The following appointments were approved by COC 31 July:

Comd A

2 1/c MILAN T.HQ: Brig. Gen. GAZZINI Manlio
2 1/c BILZANO T.HQ: Brig. Gen. BRIGOTTO Silvio
(From Comd IV Bde AOSTA Div)
Comd IV Bde AOSTA Div: Brig. Gen. BATTAGLINI Cino
President Mil. Tribunal ROMA: Brig. Gen. FANTONI Eraldo
President Mil. Tribunal FLORENCE: Brig. Gen. CARILLO Arrigo

(* FANTONI will replace Brig. Gen. ROCCA Arnaldo who reaches retiring age 2 Sep)

5. COL. LOMBARDI

5. FOGOLA Round-up:

Comd C

LOMBARDI was informed 3 Aug by phone from Ministry of Interior that the latter Ministry recommends that the Call-up is NOT implemented, to avoid possibilities of upsetting the population and causing public dis-

2. FOGGIA Round-up:

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OFFICIAL VISITS

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Maj. Gen. CARATTI (Inspector Gen. of Arty)
Maj. Gen. PROPERZI (Director Gen. of Arty and MT at War Ministry)

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF GEN. OFFERS

4. The following appointments were approved by GOC 31 July:

3 1/c MILAN T.HQ: Brig. Gen. CAPELLI Manlio
2 1/c BELZANO T.HQ: Brig. Gen. BRISOTTO Silvio
(From GOC IV Bde AOSTA Div)
GOC IV Bde AOSTA Div: Brig. Gen. BATTAGLINI Cino
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(* FANTONI will replace Brig. Gen. BOCCA Arnaldo who reaches retiring age 2 Sep)

GEN. LOMBARDI

5. FOGGIA Round-up:

LOMBARDI was informed 3 Aug by phone from Ministry of Interior that the latter Ministry recommends that the Call-up is NOT implemented, to avoid possibilities of upsetting the population and causing public disturbances. Infd G-1.

GEN. PROPERZI

6. Called at the General's request to clarify pts raised by GOC at meeting on 31 July. Gen. PROPERZI's mind at ease that no personal attack is intended against him by GOC's insistence on the amount of attention to be devoted to the MT side of his branch, as distinct from the Arty side of the business. PROPERZI insisted that four fifths of the activities of himself and his directorate are devoted to MT and that all facilities for repairs, incl Arty shops are turned over to repairing engines and vehs.

The General referred to the present efforts of the War Ministry to retake possession of Italian Army vehs in the hands of civilians and to the hostility of certain sections of the population and press. The matter was being discussed at a Cabinet meeting at which JACINI would have to face strong opposition from a number of his colleagues.

The conversation then turned to MT maintenance and to the need for a much greater degree of discipline in MT Units. A special Officer's D & M course at CESANO was discussed, and the possibility of 30 or 40 Officers being picked from other than MT Units on account of their capacity to command and instill discipline and sent on this course to replace the obviously incompetent and not-so-keen Officers now serving with MT Units. PROSERZJ agreed that much could be done in this direction and promised to study the matter. He himself admitted that he had never been to CESANO!

Future requirements of dvf and mechanic rfts for the IMI-IMI Gate-sorry were also touched on and it was explained to PROSERZJ that the re-courses of CESANO would be available for this purpose in the not-so-distant future. In the meantime rfts urgently needed would have to be scraped together from units being disbanded.

GEN. LIUZZI
COL. PIACENTINI

7. Conference on 4 Aug on the future of RVC CESANO and the place it will occupy in the "Interim" Army and later. This raised a number of questions of a very fundamental nature, which had not hitherto been considered either on the Allied or on the Italian side:-

(a) Recruitment for the Interim Army: Sooner or later fresh blood will be needed to replace the classes who have already served in the Army for several years, and also to equalise the military obligations of the whole country. Normal conscriptive procedure is for the majority of the recruits to be called up simultaneously for a maximum period of 18 months, though some are released after 12 months because of particular family or economic conditions. It follows, therefore, that in a normal year the size of the Army is not constant, being at its maximum when a new class is called up, and there is still a residue from the previous class serving the last six of the 12 months, and at its minimum when the new class is between its sixth and twelfth month. This residue or overlap is fully trained and provides the cpls and L/Opls and framework for the new recruits, the Sgts and W/O's being regular soldiers. It appears not to have occurred to SAHE that they would not be permitted to exceed the authorised ceiling in the future to allow this fluctuation to take place. There is an alternative, and that is to conscript a class in three four-monthly blocks. At any period in the year this will result in the Army being 1/3 trained, 1/3 semi-trained and 1/3 with little or no trg at all.

Assuming, for the sake of argument, that of 140,000 Offrs and

future. In the meantime rifts urgently needed would have to be scraped together from units being disbanded.

GEN. LIUZZI
COL. PIACENTINI

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Assuming, for the sake of argument, that of 140,000 Oftrs and men, 40,000 are regular Oftrs, W/O's and Specialists, then 100,000 will need to be called to the colours on conscripted service. In parenthesis it can be said that the Italian General Staff would naturally prefer 140,000 regulars, but this is something that the Italian exchequer can NOT now afford. 1212

Since equality of conscripted service for the whole population is a "sine qua non" it follows that the 100,000 will need to serve for twelve months, and will then be replaced by the next class, the whole operation being started and developed at four-monthly intervals.

(b) Using the above "cock shy" as a yardstick for considering the future of CESANO, it will be seen that every four months there will be 30/35,000 recruits to receive basic trg. CESANO, as at present organised, can deal with 7,500 men in 3 - 4 months (in addition to the specialist courses), so that the CESANO org would need to be multiplied four or five times to deal simultaneously with the normal intake of recruits. This is the long term plan advocated by

LIUZZI, but is considered to be beyond realization at this time through lack of organized camp sites. Normal procedure in the past has been for recruits to be called up at local Military District offices and drafted to local regimental depots, where they received their basic trg. Fortunately, a rump of the Territorial Crg has been allowed to survive, and this can be adapted to the forthcoming requirements. There is the added advantage that by this method the movement by rail of the recruits is kept to local and purely minimum proportion.

(c) Having covered all this ground, LIUZZI was able to conclude and recommend that:-

(1) CSESANO specialist courses be extended and intensified;

(11) CSESANO basic trg units be composed as to rank and file of trained personnel (from the 1st category) to serve as training centre for officers and MCO's, under supervision of existing trg cadres. The intention would be gradually to pass all Oftrs and MCO's through this centre, in the same way as used to be done at the Central Army Schools at CIVITAVECCHIA.

(111) LIUZZI was most definite and categorical as to the great importance which the General Staff attaches to CSESANO for the future of the Italian Army.

____ AUG 45

(11) CESAMO were to be replaced as to the category of trained personnel (from the 1st category) to serve as training centre for officers and NCO's, under supervision of existing trg cadres. The intention would be gradually to pass all Oftrs and NCO's through this centre, in the same way as used to be done at the Central Army Schools at CIVITAVECCHIA.

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— AUG 48

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MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG
FROM 20 JULY 28 JULY 45

COL. PIACENTINI

1. Information Centres:

Comd
O

Confirmed that the 27 Information Centres are no longer authorized to draw rations for their staff of 51 all ranks.

PIACENTINI stated that because such Transit Centres are essential for the running of the Army, for personnel in transit, on duty and recruits & volunteers proceeding to RTD's, they would have to be continued entirely with civilian personnel, although this is most undesirable from the military point of view.

LT. COL. MONACO

2. Military Academy, LEOCE:

Comd
A

Discussed with MONACO the future plans of the Ministry for the Military Academy. MONACO promised to prepare a memorandum on this subject by the week-end together with notes on the past org of Offr trg, numbers for each branch of the service, etc.

NOTE: During the course of this talk it transpired that in addition to the 250 Offrs, half Patriots, half Res. Offrs, whom the Minister is planning for the next series of courses at LEOCE, there is a similar number of cadets whose trg was interrupted by the Armistice and who have not resumed their studies since. The total number of these cadets throughout ITALY was 800, but MONACO reckons that this number will be reduced to about 300 by elimination of those now otherwise employed, casualties, eyuration etc. MONACO himself had no idea how the problem was going to be solved.

COL. PIACENTINI

3. Recovery Det. for BLOCCONA:

Comd
G

As was suggested to him, PIACENTINI duly signaled BOLZANO T.H. with a view to transferring one or part of one of the two Dets in that region to BLOCCONA. His instructions were that the matter was to be negotiated with local MMIA LO.

COL. LOMBARDI

4. CESANO:

Comd
G

Informed LOMBARDI of GOC's visit to CESANO 23 July and of following pts to be brought to the Minister's attention:-

L.T. COL. MONACO

2.

Military Academy, LECCE:

Discussed with MONACO the future plans of the Ministry for the Military Academy. MONACO promised to prepare a memorandum on this subject by the week-end together with notes on the past org of Ofrr trg, numbers for each branch of the service, etc.

NOTE: During the course of this talk it transpired that in addition to the 250 Ofrrs, half Patriots, half Ras. Ofrrs, whom the Minister is planning for the next series of courses at LECCE, there is a similar number of cadets whose trg was interrupted by the Armistice and who have not resumed their studies since. The total number of these cadets throughout ITALY was 800, but MONACO reckons that this number will be reduced to about 300 by elimination of those now otherwise employed, casualties, ex-ur-ation etc. MONACO himself had no idea how the problem was going to be solved.

COL. PIACENTINI

3. Recovery Det. for BLOONA:

As was suggested to him, PIACENTINI duly signaled BOLZANO T.H. with a view to transferring one or part of one of the two Dets in that region to BLOONA. His instructions were that the matter was to be negotiated with local MMIA LO.

COL. LOMBARDI

4.

GESANO:

Informed LOMBARDI of GOC's visit to GESANO 23 July and of following pts to be brought to the Minister's attention:-

(a) Officers: Only the best officers to be posted to the Trg Centre, both as members of the staff and to go on the courses;

(b) Repair Works: The programme of repairs and improvements to the Trg Centre voted by the Govt should be proceeded with as rapidly as possible, with the object of completing asen before the winter.

Enlarged on above, which LOMBARDI promised to discuss with the Minister. LOMBARDI said he thought there was a works programme already in existence, with target dates, and would let GOC have a copy.

LT. COL. SANBONE

5. COL. ACANFORA:

Informed above (and LOMBARDI for info) that MMIA would not object to the posting of ACANFORA as Comd Mil. District TARANTO, in view of the fact that this offer would reach the age limit and retire within the next few months.

COL. LOMBARDI

6. Maj. SCARATI:

Returned UTILE's report on enquiry into the SCARATI case - (Alleged release of PAs).

Informed LOMBARDI that:-

- (a) No further action would be taken by MMIA in connection with the enquiry;
- (b) There would be no objection to SCARATI's reposting providing it is NOT to the LEXHANO Gp.

COUNT JACINI (26 July)

7. Called on the Minister to fix appointment for meeting with GOC and discuss agenda. LOMBARDI was present to brief the Minister for the meeting.

8. Accompanied GOC for meeting with JACINI (27 July) - reported in Special Log.

9. Accompanied G-1 to visit Information Centre for Tps in Transit in ROMA (28 July).

Aug 45

W2

- Informal Learning that:-
- (a) No further action would be taken by MMIA in connection with the enquiry;
 - (b) There would be no objection to SCARATI's reposting providing it is NOT to the LEONARD GP.

COUNT JACINI (26 July)

- 7. Called on the Minister to fix appointment for meeting with GOC and discuss agenda. LOBARDI was present to brief the Minister for the meeting.
- 8. Accompanied GOC for meeting with JACINI (29 July) - reported in Special Log.
- 9. Accompanied G-1 to visit Information Centre for Tps in Transit in Rome (28 July).

Aug 45

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MAJOR BATTAGLIA'S LIAISON LOG.

30 JULY 45.

GEN. CADORENA

GEN. LUZZATI

COL. PIACENTINI

1. ALPINI Divs: Conferred with senior officials of SHAN on the subject of the two Raggruppamenti ALPINI included in the War Ministry's proposals for an interim Army, and also subject of CADORENA's letter of 24 July.

2. Explained that the matter had cropped up again as the result of someone (? PARRI) talking to Admiral SIRONI about the need of two additional divisions for the interim Army. SHAN knew no such proposals emanating from the War Ministry and agreed that it was probably the ALPINI proposal and that someone had got hold of the wrong end of the stick.

3. The writer proceeded to explain that while a decision was still awaited from Higher Allied Authorities on the "interim Army" it was not improbable that some criticism would be made on the disproportion of the "services" category, which was very small, particularly if judged by Allied standards. Accordingly it might be that some readjustment would be suggested increasing the latter category at the expense of the operational troops, probably the combat grey block, which could be considered less important at this moment than the internal security category.

4. It might well be therefore, that there would be no room in the combat group category for the two ALPINI Divs. This possibility was not considered by SHAN to be very serious, in view of the temporary nature of the proposals, and the probability that during the period of the interim Army, Allied troops would be so placed as to prevent frontier problems. The NORTH-ALPINE frontier, for instance, would definitely be an Allied responsibility during this period, and in any case, no troops were allowed within 25 kms of the international frontier.

5. In view of the doubts which have arisen in certain quarters as the result of action mentioned in para 2 above, G.O.C. wished to have assurances from the War Minister

- (a) that no additional request for ALPINI Divs had been made by the War Ministry;
- (b) that a readjustment of categories within the War Ministry's proposals for the interim Army, increasing service troops at the expense of 15,000 of combat group category, would be acceptable to the War Ministry;
- (c) that the urgent representation of the War Ministry to reconstitute one or more ALPINI Divs could be met by converting one or more of the present combat groups to ALPINI Divs on the existing Combat Group W.E., with the addition of auxiliary units when required for operations in mountains. The writer enlarged on the Allied policy in this matter of standardization of units and drew a comparison with current Allied practice for men warfare.

1210

3. The writer proceeded to explain that while a decision was still awaited from Higher Allied Authorities on the "interim Army" it was not improbable that some criticism would be made on the disproportion of the "services" category, which was very small, particularly if judged by Allied standards. Accordingly it might be that some readjustment would be suggested increasing the latter category at the expense of the operational troops, probably the combat group block, which could be considered less important at this moment than the internal security category.

4. It might well be therefore, that there would be no room in the combat group category for the two Alpini Divs. This possibility was not considered by MILA to be very serious, in view of the temporary nature of the proposals, and the probability that during the period of the interim Army, Allied troops would be so placed as to prevent frontier problems. The MONTE-ROSE frontier, for instance, would definitely be an Allied responsibility during this period, and in any case, no troops were allowed within 25 kms of the international frontier.

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- (c) that the urgent representation of the War Ministry to reconstitute one or more Alpini firms could be met by converting one or more of the present combat groups to Alpini firms on the existing Combat Group W.E., with the addition of auxiliary units when required for operations in mountains. The writer enlarged on the Allied policy in this matter of standardization of units and drew a comparison with current Allied practice for mtn warfare.

6. CADORNA gave affirmative answers to all above questions, underlining the fact that the conversion of a combat group to Alpini troops would need to be a 100% change of personnel. Requested CADORNA to discuss the whole question with the Minister before 1800 hrs.

COL. LOMBARDI

7. Outlined the situation exactly as stated above. LOMBARDI had no hesitation in saying that a new repartition on the lines of 5 (b) above would be acceptable to the War Minister. LOMBARDI also spoke to JACINI and obtained confirmation that no proposals had been made by the War Minister for Alpini Divs additional to the original proposals.

31 July 45.

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MAJOR BAIAMANI'S LIAISON LOG

19 - 21 JULY 45

GEN. ROMEO

1. Squadron Lancieri ACSTA (CASA-MO):

This small unit (132 all ranks on W/E) is the last surviving Cav. Unit in the Italian Army. For reasons of prestige and tradition, and because personnel is of good type and to be relied on for discipline and steadiness, Italian Gen. Staff has on several occasions recommended that this remaining Sqn be allowed to survive. Recently, in conformity with above recommendation, SARE requested to be allowed to replace demobilizable personnel with men of Cav. Regts to be taken from the Pack Units now being broken up. ROMEO is keen on this, and wanted to know whether MILA latest negative decision was final. Acquired of "A" Branch and informed him that this was so.

2. Former Co-operators at CASA-MO:

ROMEO fully in agreement with the observations and policy in GOC's letter of 20 July and had informed the Ministry as much. ROMEO had been in telephone conversation with VECCHI several times on 20 and 21 July urging him to take effective action to the same end. VECCHI apparently panicking, but compromise solution reached and situation got under control during the course of the 21st.

3. Major SCOTTI:

Conversation also touched on the case of this Offr. ROMEO produced the SARE file in which there was:-

- (a) Copy of MILA adverse report (a copy also sent to ZALUGI)
- (b) SCATTINI's letter confirming above in very general terms
- (c) Letter from SARE to SCATTINI asking for full particulars (never answered, 7 crossed with (b) above) incl a para addressed PICAMO Div (to which SCOTTI was posted) asking the latter HQ to keep him under observation in view of recent adverse report.

Unfortunately, the PICAMO never answered this letter, nor did SARE follow the matter up. ROMEO agreed it was a case of the system going wrong - to which it might be added that SARE should never have got involved in the first place as SCOTTI is NOT an SARE Offr. Consequently his case should have been dealt with from first to last by FAUOLI's Branch. (Above is confidential and NOT to be quoted).

GEN. GARDINA

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Comd
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2. Former Co-operators at CERS-NO:

RONCO fully in agreement with the observations and policy in GEC's letter of 20 July and had informed the Ministry as much. RONCO had been in telephone conversation with VESMI several times on 20 and 21 July urging him to take effective action to the same end. VESMI apparently panicking, but compromise solution reached and situation got under control during the course of the 21st.

3. Major SCOTTI:

Conversation also touched on the case of this Cfr. RONCO produced the SMRE file in which there was:-

- (a) Copy of AMMA adverse report (a copy also sent to SALUBI)
- (b) SCATTINI's letter confirming above in very general terms
- (c) Letter from SMRE to SCATTINI asking for full particulars (never answered, ? crossed with (b) above) Incl a para addressed FIGMCO Div (to which SCOTTI was posted) asking the latter HQ to keep him under observation in view of recent adverse report.

Unfortunately, the FIGMCO never answered this letter, nor did SMRE follow the matter up. RONCO agreed it was a case of the system going wrong - to which it might be added that SMRE should never have got involved in the first place as SCOTTI is NOT an SMRE Cfr. Consequently his case should have been dealt with from first to last by SALUBI's Branch. (Above is confidential and NOT to be quoted).

GEN. CADORNA

4. Long session with G of S, during course of which CADORNA expressed himself in no uncertain terms on the subject of:-

- (a) Ineffectiveness of the forces available to the Govt for maintaining law and order;
- (b) Urgent need to cut down size of Army and number of Army posts and installations;
- (c) pressing need to solve the Cfr problem.

CADORNA was just as voluble and excitable as usual, but he had no plan nor did he even suggest how he was going to start dealing with any of these problems.

1209

He knows that (a), which is mainly CARABINIERI, is no concern of MILA, but he evidently wants it to be known that the Govt, in his opinion, has no intention of pressing for the reorg and re-equipment of the CARABINIERI which CADORNA considers indispensable to restoring the authority and effectiveness of the machinery for maintaining law and order. Reading between the lines, the suggestion seems to be that it will pay the parties of the left to allow the CARABINIERI (hitherto an instrument of the right) to fall still further into disrepute. CADORNA was all for the Allies insisting on an immediate and energetic reorg and re-eqpt of the CARABINIERI, ordering the Italian Govt to carry this out, and themselves (the Allies) supplying certain essential items of eqpt, such as armed cars for the mobile bus.

CADORNA maintains that until this is done, the people will continue to regard public authority with contempt and that the reorg of the Army itself will be prejudiced.

On the subject of (b), CADORNA is all for cutting down, but he talks in such general terms that one wonders whether he has really gone into the matter at all. He admitted having given no directives to this effect to his staff. He talked about Italian Army property in the NORTH not yet handed over to the Allies, but he had nothing to say when the writer asked about starting with cutting down in the NORTH, where things were already stabilized and where there were no problems such as existed in the NORTH.

On the Ofrr question, CADORNA is already coming under the spell of the SOUTH, and is now singing a different tune to what he was in MILAN two months ago. On "getting rid of Ofrrs and cutting down" he is now saying that these things take time! There are two schools of thought in the Ministry on the method of making the big cuts, and CADORNA has not yet decided which horse he will back. CHATRIAN is for declaring Ofrrs fit or unfit to hold:-

(a) Their present rank

(b) the next higher rank and disposing of them on this basis, plus a reduction in age limits which will be automatic and remove the good and bad indiscriminately.

LOMBARDI is espousing the competitive system (scelta comparativa) under which Ofrrs are graded by pts or in large blocks according to their capacity. (This method has been followed for Brig. Gen's, who have been grouped in 3 blocks - though the resulting action is still awaited!).

Everyone agrees that the competitive system would be ideal if a guaranteed fool-proof and impartial system could be devised, but with the memory still fresh of how the thing was worked during the Fascist period the authorities are generally sceptical. In fact, it is asserted by some that the mere announcement that the competitive system will be continued would result in a minor revolution. LOMBARDI thinks that a sufficiently

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LOMBARDI is espousing the competitive system (scelta comparativa) under which Offrs are graded by pts or in large blocks according to their capacity. (This method has been followed for Brig. Genrs, who have been grouped in 5 blocks - though the resulting action is still omitted!).

Everyone agrees that the competitive system would be ideal if a guaranteed fool-proof and impartial system could be devised, but with the memory still fresh of how the thing was worked during the fascist period the authorities are generally sceptical. In fact, it is asserted by some that the mere announcement that the competitive system will be continued would result in a minor revolution. LOMBARDI thinks that a sufficiently safe system can be devised. CADORNA is sitting on the fence until he sees which way the cat jumps.

Gen. ROMEO
Gen. LUZZI

5. Division of responsibilities:

CADORNA has allotted responsibility for SARE Branches as follows:-

Gen. ROMEO : Personnel (i.e. all OS Offrs)
Tpt
Historical

1208

Comd

- 3 -

Gen. LIUZZI : ED (incl Rfts)
Ops & Trg

Gen. CAIDARA : Will himself control Intelligence Branch
and the Liaison Office with MIA.

Col. LOMBARDI

6. FOGOLA Call-up:

As was half expected, the Minister decided that he ought first to consult the Minister of the Interior in view of the recent serious disturbances in the FOGOLA Area. LOMBARDI states that he has impressed the urgency of the matter on the officials of the "Interior".

7. Col. PLACENTINI

Italian Army Hvy Trg:

A committee is studying present and future requirements. Committee consists of:-

Col. PLACENTINI
Col. BOGLIACCINO
Col. BUTIO

24 July 1945

WS

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

1207

Italian Army RLY Ops:

A committee is studying present and future requirements. Committee consists of:-

Col. PLACCHINI
Col. BOULIACCINO
Col. LUTTO

24 July 1945

WS

Major BABANI's Liaison Log

- 18 JULY 45

BONCO

1. Lt Col HOWARD: Conveyed GAC's thanks for BONCO letter of appreciation of Lt Col HOWARD'S services during the SICILY disturbances and later with the Gruppi etc.

2. Volunteers in the NORTH: Infd BONCO of reports of large numbers of volunteers being turned away by Territorial HQs in the NORTH. He had heard nothing about this. It was agreed that the writer would go into details with PIACENTINI.

3. BONCO mentioned that JACIN will be visiting CESANO 19 July

4. Commissione d'Avanzamento: This is the committee responsible for promotions of Gen Offrs and Cols, being composed of the most senior offrs in the Army. Present members are:

SCGMC (Chairman)

ARPELLINI

ORLANDO

DE SIMONE

BERNARDI

and

CAIORA (As C of S, SRE, acts as secretary)
During the present session BONCO has been called to give an opinion on certain offrs. Referred verbally to GOC

5. SRE Cadres: The offrs who belonged to the GS Corps of the Italian Army (about 800 all told, incl PWs etc) are undergoing process of screening with a view to selection of a limited number of the better elements to continue on GS duties. Two committees are envisaged for this task:

senior committee composed of three gen offrs (BONCO - LUZZI - and one other, plus

CALABRESU as non-voting sec) to examine Cols. junior committee composed of three Cols (heads of branches plus CALABRESU) to consider

Lt Cols and lower ranks.

So far about 25 cols, 80 Lt Cols and a very few Majors and Captains have been passed as suitable. Ultimate target figure for all ranks is 250.

MADEIRA BAND

6. Met Capt. BONCIANI, offrg of above unit, who was at the War Ministry to hasten the award of decorations for

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- senior committee composed of three gen offrs (RUMCO - LIUZZI - and one other, plus CALABRESU as non-voting sec) to examine Cols. Junior committee composed of three Cols (heads of branches plus CALABRESU) to consider Lt Cols and lower ranks.

So far about 25 cols, 80 Lt Cols and a very few Maj's and Capt's have been passed as suitable. Ultimate target figure for all ranks is 250.

MAIELLA BAND

6. Met Capt. BONCIANI, offr of above unit, who was at the War Ministry to hasten the award of decorations for gallantry proposed for the MAIELLA Band; about 80 silver medals and 12 bronze medals. Of the men of the MAIELLA BONCIANI stated that 50 would be demobilised and the remaining 140 posted to the POUICORE. Since they had lived and fought together for over a year he was trying to arrange that postings are effected by pls. He confirmed that they had all received the monthly parachute bonus, amounting to 300 lire.

LT COL SANSONE

7. Procured three GOCs in full dress uniforms for GOC's party 25 July.

COL. LOUBARDI

8. Brig Gen Harold LARIBAND: ref DO letter of 12 July to GOC from comd 52 Area, it is stated by the War Ministry that:

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CCMD
A

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A

1206

CCMD

CCMD
A

Sheet 2

8. (contd)

- (a) Brig Gen LOMBARDI has requested and been given a posting at NAPLES (Commission for interrogating repatriated senior PW officers)
- (b) by virtue of his rank he is too senior for the post of comd TARANTO Mil Dist (maximum rank: Col)
- (c) ACAMPORA has only a few months to go before being retired. Col LOMBARDI recommends that he be allowed to finish off his service as comd of the Mil District TARANTO.

(NOTE: The writer consulted Gen MANNERING on the question of ACAMPORA and was told that he had been carrying out his duties satisfactorily. Most of the responsibilities of the Mil comd TARANTO are in connection with repatriation movement.)

COMD

9.

Proposed meeting of the comds: LOMBARDI stated that recent comms and criticisms from HQs in the NORTH had shown a lack of appreciation of difficulties to be overcome and problems of long standing which the War Ministry had to face. Comds in the Field seemed totally unaware of the efforts and planning which were the constant aim of the central authorities. To remedy this state of affairs he had proposed and the Minister agreed, that they should convene a meeting of all comds of Gruppi, Adm Divs and possible Terr HQs and IS Divs to be held in ROME about 25/26 July. Object would be to ventilate their common problems and hear at first hand the solutions being applied by the Ministry. LOMBARDI asks whether there would be any objection on GOCs part.

COL. PIACENTINI

G Q

10.

CIARPAGLINI driving school: PIACENTINI states that according to his info the facilities at this Centre for advanced trg of mechanics are superior to those at CESANO. Present instructors are that CIARPAGLINI centre be closed and personnel transferred to CESANO by 19 July. PIACENTINI stated that this would deprive the Italian Army of their last remaining centre for trg mechanics. Spoke SD, ST and REE.

G A

11.

Volunteers in the North: further to para 2 above, PIACENTINI stated that initial contact by phone with MILAN Territorial HQ elicited no knowledge of the 3000 alleged volunteers who had been turned back. Further enquiries being made at MILAN Territorial HQ. Meantime, the following are figures up to 16 July of volunteers assembled:

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MILAN THQ	52	to CREMONA CG	52
TURIN THQ	332	to LEGNANO CG	206
BOLOGNA THQ	56	to FOLGORE CG	128
GENOVA THQ	64	to FRIULI CG	32
"	"	to MANTOVA CG	32
"	"	to 230 DIV	

12.

COL. LOMBARDI

The following names of general officers are submitted by War Ministry for appointments to call on COC:-

Gen. CARATTI, Inspector of Arty, SERE.
Gen. PROFERZ, Director of Arty and MT Services, War Ministry.

COND

sheet 2/..

Sheet 3.

COL. LAMBERTI

13. Italian Units in VENEZIA GIULIA : discussed contents of War Minister's letter of 13 July, 215406/II. The situation may be briefly summed up as follows:-
(a) At the time of the Armistice there were a number of Italian Army establishments and installations EAST of the ISONZO River. These included military districts, depots, hospitals, commissariat stores, V & R depots etc. All these installations were staffed by military and civilian personnel.

(b) It is not known now, either by the War Ministry or by Territorial HQ, UDINE,

- (1) whether above buildings are still standing or what they are being used for,
- (ii) whether there are Italian Army records, any stores or materials still in the buildings,
- (iii) what the situation is of the personnel, military and ci vil, left behind at the time of the Armistice.

(c) War Ministry request:

- (i) authority to make recce of above property to find out the present position,
- (ii) decision as to the future of the various establishments and installations,
- (iii) permission to regularise position of personnel, i.e. pay arrears owing and transfer back to WEST of ISONZO personnel domiciled outside VENEZIA GIULIA.

(d) Problem is in two parts, as affecting

- (i) Allied A.M.C. Territory
- (ii) Yugoslav controlled territory.

COL. PIACENTINI

14. FOGGIA Call-up: following enquiry made 12 July as to War Ministry policy, warned PIACENTINI that MIA letter was on the way calling for detailed proposals for implementing the call-up. PIACENTINI stated that SAME was favourable to going through with it, and papers were in the hands of War Minister, whose decision was awaited for the political side. With regard to emp in CARUGLI Regt of men enlisted, PIACENTINI stated he had no objection, only difficulties he could think of were:

- (1) posting to unit so near their home town would make it easy for men to go AWOL - and by the same token correspondingly difficult for the comd to control them;
- (ii) it would be out of the question to employ these men for maintaining public order in their own districts. They

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difficult for the comd to control them;

- (11) it would be out of the question to employ these men for
maintaining public order in their own districts. They
would have to be drafted into separate coys or bn and not
used for this purpose.

Apart from this, he agreed that there would be a considerable
savings of tpt.

COL CARIBALDI

15.

COND

Major GREENESS (?): the incident complained of (ref log
9 - 11 July para 20) occurred at a dinner in honour of ITALIA
Div on 7 July. On being asked to speak, it is alleged that
GREENESS made "an ultra democratic speech" and expressed
the wish for a "democratic and progressive ITALY, ~~and~~ able to
free herself of the monarchy and set up a republic".
It is stated that the above is known to the Ordis and Ansa
news agencies and to IWB, and that GREENESS made a particular
request not to be quoted.

Major RAHMAN's Liaison Log

9 - 11 July 45

Col LAMBERTI

Cond
A

1. **SENKOWSKI** : A sig has been rec'd from BELCHER TIR advising departure of SENKOWSKI from FIUMERA 5 July, confirmation now awaited of arrival at RARI

2. **UTILE** : Utile has applied in writing to be relieved of his post as comd of the LOMBARDI Div, stating that he is feeling the strain of commanding a combat force since the autumn of 1943. He asks to be appointed to duties which will afford him a respite. Lombardi is of the opinion that the request will have to be granted. Discussed candidate to replace UTILE and consequential moves - referred verbally to GOC.

Cond
A

3. **C.A.P.** : Further to para 5 of log 6 - 8 July, Lombardi stated that Treasury continues to set their face against funds for the auxiliary women's services. He thought that a comm from MIA in support of the C.A.P. would make all the difference between winning the battle with the Treasury and losing it. Lombardi quoted the parallel case of "LA PATRIA", in which in addition to informing the Treasury of proposed economies, War Ministry had quoted verbatim the MIA recommendation, which, he was sure, would suffice to silence the Treasury guns.

Cond
A

4. **Assistant Mil Attache' - ANKARA** : Discussed the situation confidentially with Lombardi. A letter will be written by War Ministry requesting Italian Foreign Office (copy to us) to take necessary action, and JACINTI will inform DE CASPARI in gen terms of the reasons the next time they meet. This is really more of a political than a mil matter and follow-up should be maintained between Political French and Italian Foreign Office. As a matter of interest, the Italian Foreign Office is now planning to replace the Mil attache' at ANKARA. The Italian armed services will be represented by the Naval attache', and Lombardi did not know whether the letter had been appointed yet.

Cond

Gen MATTEOLI -
Col FIACCHETTI

Cond
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5. **CARINARDI Regt** : With only a few hours to go before the departure of the regt for the SOE, CARINARDI has suddenly woken up to the seriousness of the situation. The choice of this particular unit for duty in APULIA is thought by WERS to be ill-timed, since 600 of the men who had not yet been home since their repatriation (all leave having been stopped at the beginning of June) were only waiting for the regt to get to the front to have their leave. MATTEOLI was saying yesterday that

that Treasury continue to set their face against fun's for the auxiliary woman's services. He thought that a comm from MIA in support of the C.A.P. would make all the difference between winning the battle with the Treasury and losing it. Lombardi quoted the parallel case of "LA PATRIA", in which in addition to informing the Treasury of proposed economic, War Ministry had quoted verbatim the MIA recommendation, which, he was sure, would suffice to silence the Treasury gun.

4.

Assistant MIL Attache' - ANKARA : Discussed the situation confidentially with Lombardi. A letter will be written by War Ministry requesting Italian Foreign Office (copy to us) to take necessary action, and JACINI will inform us (copy to us) in ten terms of the reasons the next time they meet. This is really more of a political than a military matter and follow-up should be maintained between Political Branch and Italian Foreign Office. As a matter of interest, the Italian Foreign Office is not planning to replace the MIL attache' at ANKARA. The Italian armed services will be represented by the Naval attache', and Lombardi did not know whether the latter had been appointed yet.

Gen MATTEOLI -
Col MATTEOLI

5.

CASIMIRI Regt : With only a few hours to go before the departure of the regt for the NORTH, MATTEOLI has suddenly woken up to the seriousness of the situation. The choice of this particular unit for duty in ARIZONA is thought by MATTEOLI to be ill-timed, since 600 of the men who had not yet been home since their repatriation (all leave having been stopped at the beginning of June) were only waiting for the regt to get to the NORTH to have their leave. MATTEOLI was saying yesterday that it would be very difficult to persuade these 600 to move in the opposite direction. The strength of the regt on 10 July was 1659 (this includes 300 rfts from CASIMIRI who have merely served to relieve an equal number waiting for demobilization). Of the 1659, 601 are due for repatriation leave in the NORTH and are doubtful starters for NORTH. There are a further (?) 394 already on leave in the NORTH, whom they intended picking up in situ. The rest of the situation on 10 July was that they were confident of filling the first train, but that the second would be half empty.

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Comd

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Gen Manmohan
Col Lamberd
Col Piacentini

6. Ind'd all above (9 July) of arrival at MARGO as 13 July of further 100 PW others from MARGO. Manmohan will arrange reception and dispersal and Piacentini will see to postings

Col Piacentini

7. CAPTAIN Regt : At writers request Piacentini investigated delay in co-training of first contingent of the Regt as to leave MARGO 10 July. He reported some tale of delay in availability of part of the rolling stock, which correspondingly retarded the departure of the men for the station. In conclusion he was able to say, though, that 900 out of the 905 men scheduled to leave had actually caught the train.

Lt Col MURDO

8. Rpt for Gen MANMOKHANI : On 12th '62 Branch, Ind'd MARGO that approval was given to increase of War Ministry by 5 vats, subject of recent discussions and correspondence. Clarified that this did NOT mean that the additional vats can be taken from efficient veh park.

Official visits to GOR

9. Gen GADGHA called on taking over his duties as C of B, MARGO. Among subjects discussed:

- officer situation,
- War Ministry property in the MARGO,
- mobilization of older classes.

10. Ranjee OCHAJANI called on taking office as Civil Under Secretary, of State for War. Comm
A

11. Officers : discussed the following cases Comm
A

- LT MARGO - the recommendation for his replacement should go through normal channels : in this case 227 AGM Div and MARGO HQ;
- Col MAL PIERRE - it is confirmed that he is a res off'r and has received the age limit.

1202

Lt Col MEMMO

8. Tpt for Gen MARCONI : On 12th 1921 March, Lt Col MEMMO that approval was given to increase of War Ministry by 5 milia, subject of recent discussion and correspondence. Clarified that this did not mean that the additional value can be taken from efficient war work.

Official visits to Gen

9. Gen CADORNA called on taking over his duties as C of S, Gen. Among subjects discussed:

- officer situation,
- War Ministry property in the North,
- Mobilization of older classes.

10. Maj Gen CHAJARDI called on taking office as Civil Under Secretary of State for War. Comd
A

11. Officers : discussed the following cases Comd
A

- Lt MEMMO - the recommendation for his replacement should go through normal channels ; in this case 227 Gen Div and Major Gen;
- Col DAL FUMES - it is confirmed that he is a res offr and has reached the age limit.
- Maj BRUSOLA (OC 502 Gen Div) - it is confirmed that there is no possibility yet of accelerated promotion in Italian Army, though the committee examining the question (at Allied instigation) should have it's recommendations ready by end July. Now in there any advantage in this instance in a Major having the "Fascist" del resto superiore", since in the Italian Army a bn is commanded either by a Lt Col or Major, and in this capacity the responsibilities of the two ranks are identical. It is suggested that the recommendation for BRUSOLA's promotion be sent to War Ministry through proper Italian channels, and it can then be taken into account as soon as the new machinery is set up, together with the many other recommendations of the same kind initiated by the Allies. In any case, it will be to BRUSOLA's advantage to have the recommendation in his records.

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Gen. PAVONI
Gen. PAVONI

12. Relations for CG. NR. : inv'd above that meeting would be held at MILA 1830 hrs 14 July to discuss contents of letter 4 July sent by CG. NR. HQ to War Ministry. Reps will be:

- Major RAZZIELLA (War Ministry)

- Major CAFFARELLI (Comandante)

Col. PAVONI

13. Closing down of MG's : strength of two corps at 9 July was notified as follows:

- ASTORI : 57 officers 356 CRS

- TRIARI : 92 officers 64 MG's 176 CRS

Remaining personnel being moved away as fast as possible.

Col. LOMBARDI

14. Gen election - postal voting arrangements : Limited to Lombard only of MG 574/45 and relevant para 673 of ATRO G.R.O.

15. Welfare officers 8 Army : Requested Lombard not to send representatives for MG 574/45 and PAVONI until confirmation had been received from 8 Army.

Col. PAVONI (14 July)

16. CARDINALI Regt : Further to para 5 above, PAVONI planned to say that last evening (10 July) JAVONI called on PAVONI to discuss the move of the Regt to ASTORI. Since the War Ministry had not themselves asked for the to be sent there, it was suggested that the request be originated with the President of the Council. Subject of JAVONI's visit to PAVONI was to ask that number of troops moved be limited to 1000 (i.e. first train load), thus avoiding need to send the 500 men waiting to go on leave in the MG's.

Not only did PAVONI strongly deny asking for any troops at all, but he produced a signal he had sent to the Prefect of TRIARI which, it is reported, in effect forbids the Prefect from making any use of those troops. PAVONI added that he was not interested whether 500, 1000 or what number of troops is

was notified as follows:

- ASHREH : 37 of 356 ORN
- TRANI : 52 of 64 NEO's 176 ORN

Remaining personnel being moved away as fast as possible.

Col. LAMARINI

14. Gen election - postal voting arrangements & started to forward copy of ACT 574/45 and relevant para 635 of AFHQ G.R.O.

15. Welfare of 8 Army : Requested LAMARINI NOT to send replacements for 12 HAWK and PAKISTANI until confirmation had been received from 8 Army.

Col. PLACENTINI (11 July)

16. CARIMATI Regt : Further to para 5 above, Placentini phoned to say that last evening (10 July) JACINI called on PARI to discuss the move of the Regt to ADEL.

Since the War Ministry had not themselves asked for the move to be sent there, it was supposed that the request had originated with the President of the Council. Object of JACINI's visit to PARI was to ask that number of the move be limited to 1000 (i.e. first train load), thus avoiding need to send the 600 men waiting to go on leave in the month.

Not only did PARI strongly deny asking for any type at all, but he produced a signal he had sent to the Prefect of PARI which, it is reported, in effect forbids the Prefect from making any use of these troops. PARI added that he was not interested whether 500, 1000 or that number of troops is sent down, since as far as he is concerned the whole thing is superfluous and irregular.

Since therefore urgently request that, the situation being what it is, the move be limited to the first train load which departed yesterday, and that the remainder of the men continue to remain at VITRERO.

Major MORGANTI

17. Collecting post RAGUSA : Further to log 6-3 July para 4, info forwarded that 12th French AG had accepted action and that Lt Col RAGUSA had already been in touch with 6-5 AFHQ. The matter will now revert to routine channels.

- Gen MORGANTI - 12th French.

Col. LAMARINI

18. STACCHI : Report to hand that STACCHI arrived PARI 11 July

19. Assistant MIL Attache' AMARA : Collected copies of signal to LAMBERT and came to Italian Foreign Ministry requesting his recall.

Card

Stanley JACINI

Card

20. Following subjects discussed :

- Move of GARIBOLDI Regt. Inf'd the Minister that second train is temporarily suspended. JACINI will talk to TRATTI and suggest that he join into touch with CG 43 as soon as possible and give him reply both on measures being taken to check disorders and retrieve arms and on the additional 1.5 lbs required in the 37mm.

JACINI recommends that the first train load remains at TRATTI, and that the balance of the regt stays on at VIGEVANO.

- Publication of report on 1st of MAR. The Minister will submit abridged edition to CG for approval of Higher Allied Authority, dealing only with the MIL aspect of the enquiry, and the findings of the commission and judgement passed. Object of the publication of the abridged edition would be to satisfy public opinion that the guilty ones have been identified and punished, and in this way to protect the reputation of the rest of the Army.

- The disembarkment and parade of the ITALIA (Garibaldi) Division PIAZZINI's visit were most successful, according to Gen ARMANDINI, who has been in ROME. ARMANDINI, however expressed to the Minister some criticism of the speech made by a PAB rep (Major CHESSEBROUGH ?), whose remarks were "more openly left-wing than those of Palermo himself".

Col. PIAZZINI

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21. Information Centres : Maj MELA insists that the 27 Infm Centres be disbanded, PIAZZINI stated that:

- 1938 had been committed as to the feasibility of this step;

- The Infm Centres were in fact still filling a very real need, particularly in view of the vast mobilization and transfer movements going on.

- All in all they only amounted to 61 all ranks, which was

to leave alive and on the additional I.S. the required in the event.

JACCHI recommends that the first train load remains at TRIEST, and that the balance of the rest stays on at VIENNA.

- Publication of report on leaf of RHE. The Minister will submit abridged edition to GOC for approval of Higher Allied Authority, dealing only with the all aspect of the enquiry, and the findings of the commission and judgment passed. Object of the publication of the abridged edition would be to satisfy public opinion that the guilty ones have been identified and punished, and in this way to protect the reputation of the rest of the Army.

- The disbandment and parole of the ITALIA (Gariboldi) Division PALERMO's visit were most successful, according to Gen ARMANDI, who has been in RHE. ARMANDI, however expressed to the Minister some criticism of the speech made by a RHE rep (Major CHASTELAIN ?), whose remarks were "more openly leading than those of Palermo himself".

Col. VIACCHETTI

Information Centres : But NALIA insists that the 27 infra Centres be disbanded, VIACCHETTI stated that:

- RHE had NOT been consulted as to the desirability of this step;

- The infra Centres were in fact still filling a very real need, particularly in view of the vast demobilization and transfer movements going on.

- All in all they only amounted to 61 all ranks, which was such a small saving compared to their practical usefulness to the Italian Army.

He urgently recommends need for these 27 Centres to continue.

Col. LORENZINI

22. GARIBOLDI Regt : Insp. Lombardi by phone (2000 hrs 11 July) that decision to cancel the second train had been reversed and that the second contingent would now have leave as originally planned; Lombardi promised to inform RHE, or failing them, to please GERRARD himself.

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MAJOR BARMAN'S LIAISON LOG

6 - 6 JULY 1943

Col. LOMBARDI

1. Maj. SCAPATI:

SCAPATI arrived in ROME 8 July and is being sent on two weeks leave. The enquiry into his case has NOT yet been completed, mainly, it is alleged by SCAPATI, because of delays by the HH in supplying statements. SCAPATI complains that he has been misjudged and backs this by quoting ULLI as saying there is nothing against him. He is anxious for a further appointment with one of the other Gruppi.

2. STECOCCHI:

Urged on LOMBARDI to get this individual to BARI with all speed in view of forthcoming trial at which he will be needed as witness. It appears that STECOCCHI was recently demobilized, but continued to be kept under surveillance. During past month he was given permission to go to MR PIACENZA where his father had just died. The local CC RR Post and BOLGONA T.H. were signalled 2 July to instruct STECOCCHI to proceed immediately to BARI. Further instrs were sent 5 July and on 6 July Gen PALMA who was going to BOLOGNA was told to ensure that there is no slip-up.

3. "ITALIA" (GARIBOLDI) Div:

PALERMO and party duly left by air 6 July. The following further information has been collected about Italian Ipe in JUGOSLAVIA:-

- ITALIA Div, referred to above (about 3000 strong) built up around the "MATEJOTZI", "MAGGI" and "GARIBOLDI" Bns has always fought in Northern JUGOSLAVIA.
- A mass of Italians, nearly all military personnel, estimated at 30-40,000 men, in the area of BELGRADE and district. These men are working and living practically in a state of slavery.
- Smaller gps, scattered here and there, about which no further details are available.
- For those in SOUTHWEST and CENTRAL JUGOSLAVIA there is a collecting post at RAUSA, which has already repatriated some thousands and is steadily increasing its radius of action.

2. STROGOMI:

Urged on LORRARDI to get this individual to BARI with all speed in view of forthcoming trial at which he will be needed as witness. It appears that STROGOMI was recently demobilized, but continued to be kept under surveillance. During past month he was given permission to go to MR PLACENZA where his father had just died. The local CC RR Post and MLCORRA T.Hq were signalled 2 July to instruct STROGOMI to proceed immediately to BARI. Further instrs were sent 5 July and on 6 July Gen PALMA who was going to BICOCHA was told to ensure that there is no slip-up.

3. "ITALIA" (GARIBOLDI) Div:

PALMCO and party duly left by air 5 July. The following further information has been collected about Italian Tps in JUCO-GLAVIA:-

- ITALIA Div, referred to above (about 8000 strong) built up around the "MARTINOTTI", "MARELLI" and "GARIBOLDI" Bns has always fought in Northern JUGOSLAVIA.
- A mass of Italians, nearly all military personnel, estimated at 30-40,000 men, in the area of BELGRADE and District. These men are working and living practically in a state of slavery.
- Smaller gms, scattered here and there, about which no further details are available.

For those in SOUWHEAST and CENTRAL JUGOSLAVIA there is a collecting post at RAUSA, which has already repatriated some thousands and is steadily increasing its radius of action.

On the other hand it has been impossible hitherto to do anything for the men located in NORTH JUGOSLAVIA, not withstanding repeated efforts through Allied and JUGOSLAV authorities.

Major BOSCARDI

4. Collecting Post at RAUSA (see above):

BOSCARDI stated that AFHQ had agreed in principle to supplying rations for former Italian Army personnel concentrating at RAUSA from the interior of JUGOSLAVIA. Rations had been supplied on two occasions, the last time authorized by (Bainbridge) letter of 30 Mar, when 25,000 rations were issued by 22 GRASS (BARI). This was negotiated locally through 37 Military Mission which no longer exists. BOSCARDI now requested information on proper channels for further supp of rations, since the last lot will be exhausted by mid-July. Discussed with J. MIA, Displaced Persons S/C (who would not play) and IFR S/C. Suggested to BOSCARDI in the meantime to push the matter through Italian Commissioner for refugees.

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Col. Lombardi

5. Italian women's services: discussed with Lombardi the contents of 8 Army Comd's letter on the future of 8 Army WVS ladies. War Ministry was about to write to MIA on this subject, proposing fusion with CAF. In view of delicate situation which exists, Lombardi stated that he was confident there would be no objection to WVS continuing to operate independently (as long as they are under contract to some Allied HQ), particularly if they were to concentrate on the static welfare centres, and leave all the mobile centres to the CAF. This is a practical view, in view of the increased benefits accruing to the Italian tpe.

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On the other hand Lombardi did feel that at least nominally the WVS ladies should give some allegiance to the War Ministry, and that he should have a list of their names etc. He rightly pointed out that if anything should happen to them and a question of compensation arose it would be to the War Ministry that they would turn and NOT to the Allies.

Lombardi went on to say that conditions for the CAF ladies were much inferior to those of the 8 Army contract, but what was more serious still was the fact that the Italian Treasury had stated that they would produce no further funds for any women's services.

Pompeo Colajanni

6. Initial contact with new civil under-secretary. Extremely valuable and lacks the "presence" and character of his predecessor. Has no hesitation in expressing his extreme political views. Expressed wish to meet GOC as soon as possible.

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Col. Lombardi

7. British Army voting regulations; Hitherto Italian Army personnel has never taken part in Italian elections, and Lombardi is keen to put this right. He has asked for copies of British regulations on org and procedure to serve as a model.

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Col. Meloni and Lt. Col. Checchia

8. Italian Army vehs ex Switzerland: Meloni reported that 44 Italian Army vehs had been returned by Switzerland and were in the refugee centre at COMO. Lt. Col. CLIVER of Displaced Persons Sub-Com wanted to use them for tpt of refugees. Discussed with G2 and ST and informed CHECCHIA that MILAN THQ should take over vehs soonest with all evrs, but that it would be politic to assist refugees over.

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compensation arose it would be to the War Ministry that they would turn and NOT to the Allies.

Lombardi went on to say that conditions for the CAP ladies were much inferior to those of the 8 Army contract, but what was more serious still was the fact that the Italian Treasury had stated that they would produce no further funds for any women's services.

Fospero COLAJANNI

6. Initial contact with new civil under-secretary. Extremely valuable and lacks the "presence" and character of his predecessor. Has no hesitation in expressing his extreme political views. Expressed wish to meet GOC as soon as possible.

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Col. Lombardi

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Col. Meloni and Lt. Col. Checchia

8. Italian Army vels ex Switzerland: Meloni reported that 44 Italian Army vels had been returned by Switzerland and were in the refugee centre at GCMO. Lt. Col. CLIVER of Displaced Persons Sub-Com wanted to use them for tpt of refugees. Discussed with G and ST and informed CHECCHIA that MILAN HQ should take over vels soonest with all dtrs, but that it would be politic to assist refugee org with the use of the vels at least for a short time.

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Col. Lombardi

9. On the subject of recent demobilisation of welfare officers of the res. the following ages are quoted as a matter of interest, being present age limits for all res officers:-

	<u>Inf and other combat branches</u>	<u>Services</u>
Lt. Cols and Majors	45	50
Cpts	38	45
Lts	28	38
2/Lts	24	35

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MAJOR BURMAN'S LIAISON LOG

2 - 4 JULY 45

Gen. ROMEO

1. Demobilization of older classes:

ROMEO still somewhat agitated about the slow progress of sending home men of the 1914 and older classes, and would like to see the rest of the 1914 class demobilized in the next week or two. In particular, he stated that Gen. VENTRONE of 212 Div had reported 1500 men of the older classes at LEBBERE when RMS refused to allow to go home. This was contrary to the statements made at the meeting held at MELA 17 Jan., when it was announced that all older men of 210 and 212 Divs would be sent home without delay, as no replacements were required.

On the question of further classes being demobilized, the writer ~~advised~~ ROMEO that MELA was endeavouring to work out a definite programme, but as this was dependent on size of the army, availability of rfts, etc, it was not possible to make an announcement until some of these decisions had been made.

2. Article on demobilization for "LA PAIRIA":

Handed in to ROMEO's Office suggested article with message from OGC. They will integrate with another article on similar lines which had already received MELA approval.

Col. LOBARDI

3. Major SCAPATI:

The report on the enquiry into this Officer's conduct in connection with Republican prisoners is overdue. LOBARDI gave assurances (2 July) that he will take hastening action and that SCAPATI will be transferred to HOME forthwith.

4. OMIBARDI Div (ex JUCCALAVIA):

After two day's uncertainty as to 8 Army decision on PALERMO's intervention, was able to inform LOBARDI (4 July) of arrival in HOME by air on that day of MARRAS, the present comd of the Div. (strength under 3000). MARRAS will thus be able to discuss his problems with War Ministry Officials and secure official ruling at first hand. Plan is that PALERMO, MARRAS and the Adm Offr leave by air for UDINE 5 July - the ceremony to take place 6 July.

It is considered that MELA considered it essential that local

17 Jan., when it was announced that all older men of HQ and HQ Divs would be sent home without delay, as no replacements were required.

On the question of further classes being demobilized, the writer ^{advised} ROMEO that MIA was endeavouring to work out a definite programme, but as this was dependent on size of the army, availability of rfts, etc, it was not possible to make an announcement until some of these decisions had been made.

2. Article on demobilization for "LA PABIA":

Handed in to ROMEO's Office suggested article with message from GOC. They will integrate with another article on similar lines which had already received MIA approval.

Col. LOMBARDI

3. Major SCAPATI:

The report on the enquiry into this Officer's conduct in connection with Republican prisoners is overdue. LOMBARDI gave assurances (2 July) that he will take hastening action and that SCAPATI will be transferred to HOME forthwith.

4. CASIERARDI Div (ex JUCCIAVIA):

After two day's uncertainty as to 8 Army decision on PALERMO's intervention, was able to inform LOMBARDI (4 July) of arrival in HOME by air on that day of MARRAS, the present comd of the Div, (strength under 3000). MARRAS will thus be able to discuss his problems with War Ministry Officials and secure official ruling at first hand. Plan is that PALERMO, MARRAS and the Adm Offr leave by air for ULINE 5 July - the ceremony to take place 5 July.

Infld LOMBARDI that MIA considered it essential that local Territorial HQ Comd (ARMELLINI) be present at the parade.

5. Welfare Offrs:

Ref recent comm from War Ministry on demobilization of Col. PASSAVANTI and Lt. Col. DI ELASI and ARMELLONI, LOMBARDI's attention was drawn to para 12(b) of Adm Instruction No. 18. It was explained that while no objection would normally be raised by Allied HQs where Offrs are removed from units under Allied Comd so as to conform with current Italian regulations (providing always that a suitable replacement is made available), nevertheless:-

- (a) Allied authorities must always be consulted before the change is made;
- (b) Replacement must join unit or HQ before the outgoing officer leaves his post.

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The writer recommends that a written reminder be sent to the War Ministry on above lines, for the benefit of War Ministry and GMR Staff Branches who have not studied Adm Instruction No. 18 too carefully.

Lt. Col. BILI

6. Cooperator pay:

Requested info and explanation of article on P.M. conditions which appeared in "ITALIA NUOVA" on 30 June, ref exchange rate for arrears of pay.

Col. PIACENTINI

7. Banda MAIRALLA:

AVV TROLO, the leader of the MAIRALLA Band, has been making strenuous endeavours to be received by MMIA, yesterday (3 July through Patriots Branch) and today through SARE. It was explained to PIACENTINI that the Military Mission could NOT deal direct with TROLO, but the following queries were dealt with through PIACENTINI.

(a) No objection to pay being issued by 225 Div to effective strength of unit, (when this is greater than WE) providing personnel is part of Italian Army;

(b) Request for rear party should be put up to 1 District.

Present location is BRIGHELLA and intention is for disbandment to take place 15 July - possibly at BLOCCA.

8. Enlistment of volunteers:

Results of enlistment of Partisans in the NCHH are very meagre to date (4 July).

MILAN	120 enlisted - expectancy further	100
TURIN	242 " " " "	100
GENOA	3 " " "	100

On current form it is not expected that more than 500/500 of the 4000 authorized will be in fact enlisted.

9. RE/TO of Gd Coye for T. HOS:

Requested PIACENTINI (and Lt. Col. GUIDA) to have prepared a standard RE/TO for the six Gd Coye authorized for the NCHH. On completion it will be submitted for attention Capt. TRUFF.

Gen. CALDERA

AVV TRULLO, the leader of the FALCONE Band, has been making strenuous endeavours to be received by MIA, yesterday (3 July through Patriots Branch) and today through SARE. It was explained to PIACENTINI that the Military Mission could NOT deal direct with TRULLO, but the following queries were dealt with through PIACENTINI.

(a) No objection to pay being issued by 225 Div to effective strength of unit, (when this is greater than ME) providing personnel is part of Italian Army;

(b) Request for rear party should be put up to 1 District.

Present location is BRISIGNELLA and intention is for disbandment to take place 15 July - possibly at SCLORNA.

8. Enlistment of volunteers:

Results of enlistment of Partisans in the NORTH are very meagre to date (4 July).

	MILAN	TURIN	GENOVA	120 enlisted - expectancy further
	242	3	3	100

On current form it is not expected that more than 500/600 of the 4000 authorized will be in fact enlisted.

9. HE/TO of Gd Coys for T. Hqs:

Requested PIACENTINI (and Lt. Col. GUIDA) to have prepared a standard HE/TO for the six Gd Coys authorized for the NORTH. On completion it will be submitted for attention Capt. TEMILE.

Gen. CADORNA

10. CADORNA arrived in ROME 4 July to take up his duties as C of S SARE.

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MAJOR BABAKIAN'S LIAISON LOG

28 - 30 JUNE 45

Official visits to GOC

1. Count C. STATTI called (28 June) on relinquishing the post of Minister for War.
2. Mario PALERMO called (29 June) on relinquishing the post of Civil Under Secretary of State for War.
3. Brigs. Gen. PLACORSI called (29 June) prior to taking over command of ALLIGONE Combat Gp.
4. H.E. JACINI called (29 June) on taking up his appointment as Minister for War. Matters discussed reported in separate log.

Col. LOMBARDI

5. Allied certificates for demobilized Italian Ips:

Ref question put to the Minister by GOC (29 June), LOMBARDI stated that War Minister had further considered and fully approved the granting of such testimonials, providing the issue is extended to all service tps. It is felt that these certificates will put service tps on an equal footing with combat tps and patriots, who are already receiving recognition in this way.

6. Visit to Chief Commissioner:

Inf'd LOMBARDI that to avoid individual visits by all the members of the Govt, Admiral STONE would be issuing an invitation to all the Ministers (including JACINI) to meet him on Monday evening 2 July.

Gen. ROMEO

7. Reductions in Staff of SARE:

In furtherance of ROMEO's policy of maximum reductions in Adm Staffs, particularly at higher HQs, the following changes have been made in recent weeks at SARE:-

- (a) Trg Branch converted to Trg Sec (part of Ops Branch)

Sigs Branch converted into Sig Sec (part of Ops and Trg Branch)

1195

4. H.E. JACINI called (29 June) on taking up his appointment as Minister for War. Matters discussed reported in separate log.

Col. LOMBARDI

5. Allied certificates for demobilized Italian Tps:

Comd
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Ref question put to the Minister by GOC (29 June), LOMBARDI stated that War Minister had further considered and fully approved the granting of such testimonials, providing the issue is extended to all service tps. It is felt that these certificates will put service tps on an equal footing with combat tps and patriots, who are already receiving recognition in this way.

6. Visit to Chief Commissioner:

Comd

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Gen. ROMEO

7. Reductions in Staff of GMR:

Comd
B

In furtherance of ROMEO's policy of maximum reductions in Adm Staffs, particularly at higher HQs, the following changes have been made in recent weeks at GMR:-

- (a) Trg Branch converted to Trg Sec (part of Ops Branch)

Sigs Branch converted into Sig Sec (part of Ops and Trg Branch)

1195

Investigations Branch reduced to a Sec of the Personnel Branch GMR.

- (b) Following "Q" Offices have been amalgamated:-

MED and V and R

Commissariat and Adm

Arty and Engr

- (c) Inspectorate of Auxiliary Tps has been abolished.

- (d) Separate office has been created for the "Military Review" which is now independent of the Trg Branch.

- 2 -

(e) Adm Unit of SARE has been transformed into SARE HQ Coy and is now part of the autonomous Adm Unit of the War Ministry.

(f) As a result of above changes the NR/TO of SARE has been reduced by 69 all ranks.

8. Article in "CARICHIARO":

Cmd
A

ROMCO has taken up very energetically with the Minister the question of a defamatory article against SARE which appeared in the issue of 29 June, written by the Editor (MONICELLI). ROMCO has been to see the Editor and has asked that an apology and a correction be published. The article is certainly inaccurate and libelous, but it is doubtful whether any satisfaction will be forthcoming through ordinary channels.

Col. LOMBARDI

9. CARIBALDI DAY:

Q
A

I told him of proposed repatriation of patriot men from JUGO-SLAVIA, and 8 Army request for War Ministry rep to assist at demobilization parade; also Adm Offr to effect payment etc. LOMBARDI requested a few hours for enquiries as to origin of these men, and for taking necessary decisions.

July 1945

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Col. LOBARDI

CARLENDI Div:

Inf'd him of proposed repatriation of patriot from JUCO-
SLAVIA, and 8 Army request for War Ministry ref to assist at de-
mobilization parade; also Adm Offr to effect payment etc. LOBARDI
requested a few hours for enquiries as to origin of these men, and
for taking necessary decisions.

— July 1945

1197

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG

25-27 JUNE 1945

Gen. LIUZZI
Gen. SUPIMO

1. Mine clearance and Bomb disposal:

Comd
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Q

According to the War Ministry, the situation at the present time is as follows:-

(a) (1) War Ministry accepts responsibility for mine clearance and Bomb disposal in areas handed back to Italian Govt.

(11) In A.M.G. territory it is an A.M.G. responsibility.

(b) War Ministry responsibility in Italian Govt area is delegated to Territorial Hqs, at each of which there are Arty and Engr Branches (the former responsible for Bomb disposal and salvage of Arty arm, the latter for mine clearance). Each Branch has the necessary technical staff for training personnel for these duties.

(c) Present War Ministry organization consists of:-

(1) Mine Clearance: About 1,000 civilians trained and already lifting mines.

(11) Bomb disposal: Haphazard organization consisting of a small number of trained civilians, who carry out emergency disposal, but are NOT working to a programme. They have NO eqpt and NO means of tpt.

(d) Unexploded bombs and Arty arm discovered during mine-lifting ops are dealt with by mine-lifting personnel.

(e) War Ministry, given adequate facilities, could take on responsibility for bomb clearance in all ITALY and would welcome the opportunity for reorganizing the bomb disposal arrangements on a more systematic basis. The employment of civilians for this duty is NOT considered satisfactory, and is very much more expensive for the Italian Govt.

For this purpose a proposed ME has been submitted, based on a sub-division of the country into three zones in relation to the amount of work to be done.

Office: 300a, 62a, Para 5, Subdivisions 1st, 2nd, 3rd

(11) In A.M.G. Territory it is an A.M.G. responsibility.
(b) War Ministry responsibility in Italian Govt area is delegated to Territorial HQs, at each of which there are Arty and Engr Branches (the former responsible for Bomb disposal and salvage of Arty arm, the latter for mine clearance). Each Branch has the necessary technical staff for training personnel for these duties.

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For this purpose a proposed UE has been submitted, based on a sub-division of the country into three zones in relation to the amount of work to be done.

	<u>Civilians</u>	<u>MOs</u>	<u>ORA</u>	<u>Dvrs</u>	<u>3-wheelers</u>	<u>Lt. Trucks</u>
Zone of maximum work. (Territorial HQs 1-5)	10	45	320	30	10	15

Zone of average work. (Territorial HQs VI, VII, VIII, & X)	16	60	16	4	8	
	(Plus 88 civilians already trained)					

1193

- 2 -

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>NCOs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Dtrs</u>	<u>3-wheelers</u>	<u>Lt. Trucks</u>
Zone of minimum work. (Territorial Hqs IX & II)	-	6	18	6	-	6
(Plus 33 civilians already trained)						

(2) NOTE:

War Ministry would welcome any material help and technical information from the Allies in taking over this commitment.

UNPA is the civil Air Raid Precaution Org and NOT the War Ministry operative body.

Lt. Col. SILLI

2. Pay - Italian Army:

The situation is regarded as a tricky one. On the one hand the Treasury is exerting maximum pressure for the abolition of bonuses; on the other hand the inequality of obligations for military service (i.e. half the population liable and the other half NOT liable) requires some compensation for those carrying the unequal burden.

Nevertheless, subject to the Minister's approval, bonus for Combat Gps will be reduced effective 1 July from lire 45 to lire 32. (SILLI agrees "A" Branch proposal to abolish this bonus entirely at ETC ICF, except for personnel already in receipt of it). Next step envisaged, possibly for 1 Aug, is reduction of 32 lire bonus to 20 lire. By making the reduction gradually in this way it is hoped to soften the blow and cause less discontent.

3. Promotion of Officers:

The action initiated by GOC's letter is beginning to hang fire. Proposals are under consideration, but a hastener at this stage will prevent stagnation!

Col. PIACENTINI
Lt. Col. CHECCHIA
Maj. DE LA FOREST

4. Additional quadrupeds for Italian Army:

Further discussion to clarify following pts:-

(a) Summary of additional requirements:

ARMY CC RR Total

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Q
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2. Pay - Italian Army:

The situation is regarded as a tricky one. On the one hand the Treasury is exerting maximum pressure for the abolition of bonuses; on the other hand the inequality of obligations for military service (i.e. half the population liable and the other half NOT liable) requires some compensation for those carrying the unequal burden.

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Col. PLACENTINI
Lt. Col. CECCHIA
Maj. DE LA FOREST

4. Additional quadrupeds for Italian Army:

Further discussion to clarify following pts:-

(a) Summary of additional requirements:

	ARMY	CC RR	Total
Overall requirements	7,500	2,658	10,108
At present held	1,569	1,242	2,811
Additional requirements	5,931	1,416	7,297

(b) These additional requirements are dependent on approval of proposals for interim army, for without some additional personnel to look after the animals the project can NOT be considered.

1192

(c) At present, depots, districts, Territorial HQs and sundry
ests hire animal tpt from local contractors at exorbitant
prices.

(d) Order of priority for various categories is as follows:-

(1) Pack Tpt for Gruppi.

(11) I.S. Divs (SICILY only plus two Bns in CALABRIA.
NO further quadrupeds may be maintained
in SARDINIA due to lack of forage).

(111) Depots & Districts etc.

(1v) Sundry ests.

(v) Territorial Hqs.

(e) All animals handed over to Italian Army should be accom-
panied by harness, saddles, carts and other V & R stores, of
which SERE say they are completely deficient.

(f) Until such time as animals can be consigned to individual
units and ests., it is recommended that they be concentrated
at following Remount Centres:-

MIRANDELA (MODENA)
GROSSETO
PASSO CORESE
FERRARO

plus one new centre which might well be at

PIEMONTE (PIEMONTE)

(g) Forage:

Detailed calculations are NOT available, but a rough esti-
mate places at 3000/4000 the number of animals which can be
maintained from Italian sources this year.

Col. LOMBARDI

5. Arranged following appointments for 000:-

Count CASATI 1100 Hrs 28 June

Brig. Gen. FIALORSI 1130 Hrs 28 June

Marie FALCONE 1300 Hrs 28 June

Contd

(v) Territorial Bdes.

(e) All animals handed over to Italian Army should be accompanied by harness, saddles, carts and other V & R stores, of which SERE say they are completely deficient.

(f) Until such time as animals can be consigned to individual units and ests., it is recommended that they be concentrated at following Remount Centres:-

- MIRABELLA (MODENA)
- GHOSSETO
- PASSO CORESE
- FERRARIO

plus one new centre which might well be at

PINERLO (PIEMONTE)

(s) Forage:

Detailed calculations are NOT available, but a rough estimate places at 3000/4000 the number of animals which can be maintained from Italian sources this year.

Col. LOMBARDI

5. Arranged following appointments for GOC:-

Count GABATI	1100 Hrs 28 June
Brig. Gen. FIALORSI	1150 Hrs 28 June
Mario PALEMO	1700 Hrs 28 June
On JACINI	1100 Hrs 29 June

Lt. Col. ROVELLI

6. War Ministry Domestic Tpt Coy:

With ref to Tpt requirements of Gen. MANERINI (Repatriated PW Office) and Gen. TAMASSIA (Welfare Office), requested ROVELLI to submit to MADA the following information:-

Cond

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Breakdown of average daily detail showing to whom vehs are allotted.

Request for increased eat for above two offices if considered justified.

Lt. Col. SILLI

7. Flashes for Italian Map Org:

A request for distinctive markings of Italian Army Map personnel has filtered through to the "Gabinetto" from a lower level. SILLI wanted to know if this was official.

Gen. LIUZZI

8. MANIOVA Combat Gr:

At request of MMIA LO investigated replacement of Lt. Col. DOMATO (2 1/e 76 Inf Regt) and non-arrival of Majs. ALICICHO and LOMBARDI (2 1/e 1 Bn and CC 3 Bn same Regt). Drew LIUZZI's attention to para 12(b) of Adm Instruction 18 which had NOT been followed.

Col. FLACCHETTI

9. RAVISCANINA:

As a result of MMIA request, Col. ZAVATTARI was posted to replace Col. MUSSO as CC 803 BRD. At the same time, an enquiry was undertaken by Gen. ROMANO, Comd NAPLES Territorial HQ, into MUSSO's activities as Comd of the Camp. The result of the enquiry exculpates MUSSO from major blame for the conditions there, and recommends that he be allowed to remain also because his removal at this juncture would be a cause for satisfaction for the enemy elements in the camp. ROMANO states that he has discussed his report with GOC III District who concurs. It is added that Gen. CLOWES will be writing to GOC MMIA to confirm this opinion. Meantime, MUSSO remains at RAVISCANINA and the new Col. is waiting in NAPLES.

June 1945

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Col. PLACENTINI

9.

RAVISCANINA:

As a result of MALIA request, Col. ZAVATTARI was posted to replace Col. MUSSO as CC SOS MED. At the same time, an enquiry was undertaken by Gen. ROMANO, Comd NAPLES Territorial HQ, into MUSSO's activities as Comd of the Camp. The result of the enquiry exculpates MUSSO from major blame for the conditions there, and recommends that he be allowed to remain also because his removal at this juncture would be a cause for satisfaction for the rowdy elements in the camp. ROMANO states that he has discussed his report with GOC III District who concurs. It is added that Gen. CLOWES will be writing to GOC MALIA to confirm this opinion. Meantime, MUSSO remains at RAVISCANINA and the new Col. is waiting in NAPLES.

June 1945

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

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Major RAINARD's Liaison Log

SECRET

21 - 23 June 45

Gen. PROPERZI

CESANO chemical works: as requested by Mr. DAREVICH, Head of Chemical Div, Industry Sub-Commission, A.C., secured from War Ministry a copy of agreement of 15 June, between War Ministry and Ministry of Industry etc, and of the three appendices, and passed to Mr. DAREVICH.

C of S
Q

Count CASATI

Courtesy call on the outgoing War Minister. Casati is planning to stay on for about two weeks to help his successor to take over, and will be leaving for the NORTH about 5 July. He is very obviously sorry to be going, and blames his party for their lack of support.

Cond
C of S

Casati will be calling at MIA to take leave of GAC and other members of the staff during the coming week.

Lt. Col. CHECCHIA

Italian Army N.T. in the NORTH: general talk on the contents of the Minister's letter of 16 June ref 1/2621/Serv. Checchia was very definite that the intention of the letter was to represent in very mild and unassuming terms the urgent need of the Italian Army for more fuel.

Cond

He said that the General Staff was receiving reports almost daily from officers down from the North about the large numbers of Italian Army vehicles and spares up there. On the other hand they had had no indication of any of these vehicles or stores having been handed over to them.

Checchia and Alora both admitted that they were insufficiently in touch with the recovery data to be aware of the latest position, nor did they know of the battles and negotiations undertaken on their behalf by MIA officers.

In conclusion the writer explained that considerable progress had in fact been made, and it was agreed that when Maj EDWARDS arrived in RME in a few days time SHE would be in of the latest situation.

Gen. RHEE

4. Attended meeting in "A" Branch to discuss experimental disciplinary unit at which the following were present :-

Cond
A

very obviously sorry to be going and blames his party for their lack of support.

Casati will be calling at MIA to take leave of GAC and other members of the staff during the coming week.

Lt. Col. CHECCHIA

3.

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Checchia and Alora both admitted that they were insufficiently in touch with the recovery deta to be aware of the latest news, nor did they know of the battles and negotiations undertaken on their behalf by MIA officers.

In conclusion the writer explained that considerable progress had in fact been made, and it was agreed that when Maj EDWARDS arrived in RAE in a few days time SEHE would be in of the latest situation.

Gen. RANCO

4.

Attended meeting in "A" Branch to discuss experimental disciplinary unit at which the following were present:

MIA
Col PIDSLEY
Capt PACINI

SEHE
Gen RANCO
Col FIACENTINI
Lt Col TROVATI

Cord
A

1184

- (a) It was agreed by both sides, bearing in mind current disciplinary procedure in the Italian Army that the new correction centre would receive the younger offender rather than the "old law". In practical terms, this is the distinction between punishment awarded by unit or fan cards for disciplinary offences and charges and sentences for "crimes" against the penal code, which are handled by the military tribunal.

Maximum award by fan cards is now 60 days, but longer periods of detention at the disciplinary centre can be achieved by "transferring" men from the unit to the centre. Such men will be of the intractable type, not amenable to military discipline, who have already served one or more sentences for breaches of discipline but who are considered capable of reformation with the proper treatment.

(continued)

(b) SARE to submit by the first half of next week:

- (i) report on needs of VITERBO barracks with plan for empl of existing seen and details of work to be done;
- (ii) proposed MS of staff for the new centre (to be known as "Correction Centre") on the basis of 63 all ranks (of whom 54 between officers and NCOs).

(iii) details of curriculum followed at the previous correction centre run by the Italian Army at *Pygshottone*

- (c) At the same time "A" Branch *MSIA* will obtain further particulars of British methods and systems for running similar disciplinary units.

DR. JACINI

Met the new Minister outside the A.C. building on his way to MILAN on private business. He will be back in RAE to take up his duties on Monday 25 June. Mentioned the subject of co-operators (ref log 17/20 Jun para 6) and the urgent need for a reply. CASATI had not discussed the matter with him and JACINI accordingly sent a message back by his secretary asking CASATI to deal with the question on his behalf.

Cond
C of S

Col. LOMBARDI

Cooperators: further to above, Lombardi reported that as a result of JACINI's message CASATI had spoken to PARRI and it had been decided that no action will be taken by the War Ministry. Because of the implications of Italian intervention in the Japanese war, PARRI himself is unwilling to give a decision at this stage. It is Lombardi's opinion that the matter should be raised on a gov't (as opposed to departmental) level and suggests this subject could usefully be discussed between STONE and PARRI.

Cond
C of S

Gen. RUMCO

Pack typ fins: in view of impending disbandment of all pack units now working for the Allies, requested RUMCO for SARE views on disposal or future emp of these units.

C
A
Q

- (a) RUMCO stated that it was hoped that the small Italian Army which might be allowed in the future would be equipped with MT. Until such time as the vhes were made available, a res of animal typ for the needs of the interior army

particulars of British methods and systems for running similar disciplinary units.

On JACINI

5.

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Cond
C of S

Col LOMBARDI

6.

Cooperators: further to above, Lombardi reported that as a result of JACINI's message CASATI had spoken to PARRI and it had been decided that NO action will be taken by the War Ministry. Because of the implications of Italian intervention in the Japanese war, PARRI himself is unwilling to give a decision at this stage. It is Lombardi's opinion that the latter should be raised on a Gov't (as opposed to departmental) level and suggests this subject could usefully be discussed between STONE and PARRI.

Cond
C of S

Gen ROMCO

7.

Pack tpt fms: in view of impending disbandment of all pack units now working for the Allies, requested ROMCO for SURE views on disposal or future emp of these units.

G
A
Q

- (a) ROMCO stated that it was hoped that the small Italian Army which might be allowed in the future would be equipped with MT. Until such time as the vhes were made available, a res of animal tpt for the needs of the interim army could usefully be allocated as follows:

1188

- (i) for two Alpini regiments, or for services with existing combat gns located in the Alps

- (ii) for eleven territorial bdes

- (iii) for three internal security divs

- (iv) for all districts and depots

- (v) for rescount depots

- (vi) for sundry other ests

2500 animals
1650 "
900 "
1000 "
400 "
1000 "

Above figures include animals already with the units and HQ's.

- (b) ROMCO stressed that item (i) above should be first priority both for men and animals, and that existing units ought to be combed for men of Alpini Regt and men whose horses are in the mountains.

(continued)

(c) As a rough guide, org of animals in Alpini Raggruppamenti would be on following lines :

44 mules per Alpini coy (3/4 pack + draft)
three coys per bn - 44 x 3 = 132 mules
bn HQ 28 "

160 mules

three bns per GP - 160 x 3 =
GP HQ and services

480 mules
120 "

600 mules

two GPs per raggruppamento

1200 mules

two raggruppamenti (incl HQs)

2500 mules

Attended meeting later in the day at which following were present :

C-1
CII SD
Asst C-3

AQAC
DLAC

Gen MAMMERINI

8.

Inf'd Mammerni that stores required for camps for PMS repair-
isting at NAPLES and TARANTO could all be released except tentage,
which is NOT available. Any Italian Army huts surplus at this
moment could be utilized for these camps.

two gpa per raggruppamento 1200 mules

two raggruppamenti (incl HQs) 2500 mules

Attended meeting later in the day at which following were present :

G-1 AG-6
GII SD DAAG
Asst G-3

Gen HAMMERLIN

8. Infd Hammerlin that stores required for camps for PWS repatriating at NAPLES and TARANTO would all be released except tentage, which is not available. Any Italian Army late surplus at this moment could be utilized for these camps.

1187

- 3 -

23 Jun 45

SECRET

21 - 23 June 45

Major RAUBACH's Liaison Log

FOR PAPER

C of S
Q

1. USAMO chemical work: as requested by Mr. DANKOVICH, Head of Chemical Div, Industry Sub-Commission, A.C., secured from War Ministry a copy of agreement of 15 June, between War Ministry and Ministry of Industry etc, and of the three appendices, and passed to Mr. DANKOVICH.

Count CASATI

Cord
C of S

2. Courtesy call on the outgoing War Minister. Casati is planning to stay on for about two weeks to help his successor to take over, and will be leaving for the NORTH about 5 July. He is very obviously sorry to be going, and blames his party for their lack of support.

Casati will be calling at MIA to take leave of GAC and other members of the staff during the coming week.

Lt. Col. CHECCHIA

Cord
2

3. Italian Army M.T. in the NORTH: general talk on the contents of the Minister's letter of 16 June ref 1/2621/Serv. Checchia was very definite that the intention of the letter was to represent in very mild and unassuming terms the urgent need of the Italian Army for more trucks.

He said that the General Staff was receiving reports almost daily from officers down from the North about the large numbers of Italian Army vehicles and spares up there. On the other hand they had had no indication of any of these vehicles or stores having been handed over to them.

Checchia and Aloja both admitted that they were insufficiently in touch with the recovery data to be aware of the latest position, nor did they know of the battles and negotiations undertaken on their behalf by MIA officers.

In conclusion the writer explained that considerable progress had in fact been made, and it was agreed that when Maj EDWARDS arrived in NRE in a few days time MRE would be informed of the latest situation.

Gen. RENO

4. Attended meeting in "A" Branch to discuss experimental disciplinary unit, at which the following were present:-

Cord
1A186

very obviously sorry to be going, and blames his party for their lack of support.

Casati will be calling at MIA to take leave of GAC and other members of the staff during the coming week.

Lt. Col. CHECCHIA

3.

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Checchia and Aloja both admitted that they were insufficiently in touch with the recovery deta to be aware of the latest position, nor did they know of the battles and negotiations undertaken on their behalf by MIA officers.

In conclusion the writer explained that considerable progress had in fact been made, and it was agreed that when Maj EDWARDS arrived in RME in a few days time SHRE would be in a position to discuss the latest situation.

Gen. R. MICO

Attended meeting in "A" Branch to discuss experimental disciplinary unit, at which the following were present:

MIA
Col PINSLEY
Capt PACINI

SHRE
Gen R. MICO
Col PIACENTINI
Lt Col TROVATI

- (a) It was agreed by both sides, bearing in mind current disciplinary procedure in the Italian Army that the new correction centre would receive the younger offender rather than the "old lag". In practical terms, this is the distinction between punishment awarded by unit or for conduct for disciplinary offences and charges and sentences for "crimes" against the penal code, which are handled by the military tribunal.

Maximum award by unit is now 60 days, but longer periods of detention at the disciplinary centre can be achieved by "transferring" men from the unit to the centre. Such men will be of the intractable type, not amenable to military discipline, who have already served one or more sentences for breaches of discipline but who are considered capable of reformation with the proper treatment.

4. (continued)

- (b) SMRE to submit by the first half of next week:
- (i) report on recon of VITERBO barracks with plan for empl of existing acon and details of work to be done;
 - (ii) proposed RE of staff for the new centre (to be known as "Correction Centre") on the basis of 63 all ranks (of whom 54 between officers and NCOs).
 - (iii) details of curriculum followed at the previous correction centre run by the Italian Army at *Reggio Emilia*.
- (c) At the same time 21st Branch MIA will obtain further particulars of British methods and systems for running similar disciplinary units.

CR JACINI

5.

Met the new Minister outside the A.C. building on his way to MILAN on private business. He will be back in RMRE to take up his duties on Monday 25 June. Mentioned the subject of co-operators (ref log 17/20 Jun para 6) and the urgent need for a reply. CASATI had MT discussed the matter with him and JACINI accordingly sent a message back by his secretary asking CASATI to deal with the question on his behalf.

COL LOMBARDI

6.

Cooperators: further to above, Lombardi reported that as a result of JACINI's message CASATI had spoken to PARRI and it had been decided that NO action will be taken by the War Ministry. Because of the implications of Italian intervention in the Japanese war, PARRI himself is unwilling to give a decision at this stage. It is Lombardi's opinion that the matter should be raised on a gov't (as opposed to departmental) level and suggests this subject could usefully be discussed between STONE and PARRI.

Gen ROMEO

7.

Pack tpt fms: in view of impending disbandment of all pack units now working for the Allies, requested ROMEO for SMRE views on disposal or future emp of these units.

- (a) ROMEO stated that it was hoped that the small Italian Army which might be allowed in the future would be equipped with MT. Until such time as the vhes were made available, a res of animal tpt for the needs of the Interim Army could usefully be allocated as follows:

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particulars of British methods and systems for running similar disciplinary units.

On JACINI

5.

Met the new Minister outside the A.C. building on his way to MILAN on private business. He will be back in ROME to take up his duties on Monday 25 June. Mentioned the subject of co-operators (ref log 17/20 Jun para 6) and the urgent need for a reply. CASATI had NOT discussed the matter with him and JACINI accordingly sent a message back by his secretary asking CASATI to deal with the question on his behalf.

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Col LONPAUDI

6.

Cooperatore: further to above, Lombardi reported that as a result of JACINI's message CASATI had spoken to PARRI and it had been decided that NO action will be taken by the War Ministry. Because of the implications of Italian intervention in the Japanese war, PARRI himself is unwilling to give a decision at this stage. It is Lombardi's opinion that the matter should be raised on a gov't (as opposed to departmental) level and suggests this subject could usefully be discussed between STONE and PARRI.

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Gen RUMCO

7.

Pack tpt fms: in view of impending disbandment of all pack units now working for the Allies, requested RUMCO for SENE views on disposal or future emp of these units.

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(a) RUMCO stated that it was hoped that the small Italian Army which might be allowed in the future would be equipped with MT. Until such time as the vhes were made available, a res of animal tpt for the needs of the interim army could usefully be allocated as follows:

- (i) for two Alpini reggimenti, or for service with existing combat gns located in the Alps
 - (ii) for eleven territorial bdes
 - (iii) for three internal security divs
 - (iv) for all districts and depots
 - (v) for reserment depots
 - (vi) for sundry other uses
- | |
|--------------|
| 2500 animals |
| 1650 " |
| 900 " |
| 1000 " |
| 400 " |
| 1000 " |

Above figures include animals already with the units and HQ's.

(b) RUMCO stressed that item (i) above should be first priority both for men and animals, and that existing units ought to be combed for men of Alpini Regt and men whose horses are in the mountains.

7. (continued)

- (c) As a rough guide, org of animals in Alpini Raggruppamenti would be on following lines:

44 mules per Alpini coy (3/4 pack + draft)
three coys per bn - 44 x 3 = 132 mules
bn HQ 28 "

160 mules

three bns per gp - 160 x 3 = 480 mules
gp HQ and services 120 "

600 mules

two gps per raggruppamento 1200 mules

2500 mules

two raggruppamenti (incl HQs)

Attended meeting later in the day at which following were present:

G-2 AGC
GTT SD DAAG
Asst G-3

Gen MANNERINI

8. Infd Mannerini that stores required for camps for PAs repairing at NAPLES and TARANTO would all be released except tentage, which is NOT available. Any Italian Army huts surplus at this moment could be utilized for these camps.

two eps per raggruppamento 1200 mules
two raggruppamenti (incl HQs) 2500 mules

Attended meeting later in the day at which following were present :

G-1 AGIC
CIT SD DAAG
Asst G-3

Gen. MAMMERINI

8. Inf'd Mamerini that stores required for camps for PMS repatriating at NAPLES and TARANTO would all be released except tentage, which is M/T available. Any Italian Army huts surplus at this moment could be utilized for these camps.

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cc1 23 Jun 45

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Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

SECRET

17-00-VUN 45

1. (a) Attended meeting to discuss "demobilization", at which were present:-

MIA

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Col "A"

G-1

Staff Capt "A"

SAFE

C of S

Col 1/c SD Branch

(b) C of S MIA opened the meeting by stating that the demobilization of the older classes was NOT proceeding nearly fast enough. Immediately steps must be taken to bring this phase to a conclusion.

(c) C of S MIA had decided on the following measures:-

- all depots to be stripped to a minimum;
- replacements to be on a "man for man" basis and no account to be taken of specialists;
- further publicity to be given in "LA PATRIA" to the demobilization situation with particular ref to what has already been achieved to date and intentions for the future.

(d) Referring to transfer of cooperators to Italian Army, Col KERR stated that Italian adm procedure for documentation of co-operators was much too slow and cumbersome and would have to be speeded up if the men were to be documented at all. Otherwise PAS would transport them to destination undocumented.

(e) In the discussion on stripping of depots, Gen ROMEO himself requested that FRASINONE and IRANI depots be closed down altogether. He proposed that a few III-III rfts be kept at CERNIO. To this Col FIDLEY stated in reply that special arrangements as to clothing, rations etc would have to be worked out, but he thought these difficulties could be overcome.

(f) Col KERR said that ASTRONI camp had already been closed down, and that the staffs of ORVETO and RAVIGNANINA should be cut immediately from 600 each to 200 each. This was agreed. The camp personnel saved in this way, plus the saving at FRASINONE and IRANI would be used as replacements for demobilizable personnel, except that certain NCO ranks and some officers were NOT in demand.

Col KERR stressed the need for the immediate submission of tpt demands in respect of all surplus personnel. If necessary, arrangements would have to be made to move personnel by rd.

(g) On a discussion as to the proportion of the 1914 and older classes that had already gone home it was pointed out by MIA that in 1910 and

- all depots to be stripped to a minimum;
 - replacements to be on a "man for man" basis and no account to be taken of specialists;
 - further publicity to be given in "LA PATRIA" to the demobilization situation with particular ref to what has already been achieved to date and intentions for the future.

(d) Referring to transfer of co-operators to Italian Army, Col KERR stated that Italian adm procedure for documentation of co-operators was much too slow and cumbersome and would have to be speeded up if the men were to be documented at all. Otherwise PAS would transport them to destination undocumented.

(e) In the discussion on stripping of depots, Gen RACCO himself requested that FROSINONE and TRANI depots be closed down altogether. He proposed that a few III-IV rfts be kept at CESSANO. To this Col FIDELAY stated in reply that special arrangements as to clothing, rations etc would have to be worked out, but he thought these difficulties could be overcome.

(f) Col KERR said that ASERCHI camp had already been closed down, and that the staffs of ORVINO and RAVIGNANINA should be cut immediately from 600 each to 200 each. This was agreed. The camp personnel saved in this way, plus the saving at FROSINONE and TRANI would be used as replacements for demobilizable personnel, except that certain NCO ranks and some officers were NOT in demand.

Col KERR stressed the need for the immediate submission of rpt demands in respect of all surplus personnel. If necessary, arrangements would have to be made to move personnel by rd.

(g) On a discussion as to the proportion of the 1914 and older classes that had already gone home it was pointed out by MAIA that in 210 and 212 divs this was proceeding automatically and that these two firms represented a sizeable proportion of the Army. (Col Piacentini phoned the next day to say that actual strengths had been:

1914 (1st four mos and older)	212 div	210 div
1914 (2nd and 3rd four mos)	14909	1507
	1741	546
	15450	2053
		18503)

Gen RACCO estimated that two thirds of the 42000 men liable to demobilization had in fact already gone home, counting authorized and unauthorized demobilizations.

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1. (h) In reply to a question he stated that no penalty would be inflicted on those men who had arbitrarily come home; there was no loss of pay or bonus (except on those volunteers entitled to a bonus) but of course their papers would NOT be in order. This was only relatively serious, as there had been over 500,000 deserters all told in this war and it was inconceivable that they could all be dealt with. In any case popular opinion was counting on an amnesty. (Ronco is dead against this himself as penalizing the high sense of duty and patriotism of those who did well by their country).

(i) In reply to a further question, RONCO stated that in the event of further rifts being required these should be obtained by:

- (1) recall of 20 - 24 classes in MARCHE and UMBRIA to give 13000;
- (11) further enlistment of recruits (34 and 25 classes), in the SOUTH (completion of APULIA and the CALABRIA call-up would produce 20,000). The pros and cons of recruiting in the NORTH and SOUTH were examined and Ronco concluded by saying that he hoped it would be possible to defer all call ups until such time as the mil districts in the NORTH have been organized and the machinery of gov't working properly, and passions got under control, so that the NORTH can contribute its share to the Army's requirements.

2. March on Rome (18 June 45)

(a) By arrangement with Col LOMBARDI, called on Col AGRIFOGLIO and Lt Col DE FRANCESCO, CO and Senior SO of LAI and SP to ascertain what infirm had been gathered on above subject.

Agrioglio explained that the infirm that had reached the Minister came from the Carabinieri and was in no sense mil int. He had specific instrs NOT to get involved too much in political int. Since this specific rumour had been going the rounds he had had his men on the job, but the reports were that there was nothing to it. He considered that the whole thing was just a political manoeuvre to strengthen the hand of left wing parties during the critical days of the government's fall.

(b) Called on G2 Section RAC to pass on above info. Found that they were already in close touch with SIM and fully informed.

(c) Called on G3 Section RAC to discuss procedure for emp of Italian tps to deal with a public disturbance.

NOTE: Although Chief Commissioner's letter of 13 May to ANOMI states that local Italian Authorities should appeal to nearest Italian Mil HQ for assistance in the event of failure on the part of the Carabinieri to control the situation, this seems little or nothing as far as

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in the SOUTH (completion of APULIA and the CALABRIA call-up would produce 10,000). The pros and cons of recruiting in the NORTH and SOUTH were examined and Ronco concluded by saying that he hoped it would be possible to defer all call ups until such time as the all districts in the NORTH have been organized and the machinery of gov't working properly, and passions got under control, so that the NORTH can contribute its share to the 'try's requirements.

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Agrioglio explained that the infm that had reached the Minister came from the Carabinieri and was in no sense all int. He had specific instrs NOT to get involved too much in political int. Since this specific ruseur had been going the rounds he had had his men on the job, but the reports were that there was nothing to it. He considered that the whole thing was just a political manoeuvre to strengthen the hand of left wing parties during the critical days of the government's fall.

(b) Called on 02 Section RMAC to pass on above infm. Found that they were already in close touch with SIM and fully informed.

(c) Called on 03 Section RMAC to discuss procedure for exp of Italian tps to deal with a public disturbance.

NOTE: Although Chief Commissioner's letter of 13 May to BRIGMI states that local Italian Authorities should appeal to nearest Italian Mil HQ for assistance in the event of failure on the part of the Carabinieri to control the situation, this means little or nothing, as Territorial HQ's have few or no Italian Tps under their control. It all rather hinges on definition of "under control" or "operational comd", but it is uncontestable that Italian HQ's can start ordering about Italian tps under Allied comd (i.e. all IRI-ITIS, IR-ITIS, and 84 bns) without authority of local Allied comds. The pt is fairly set out in 3 District operational instr No. 24 of 30 May Appx "A" para 4.

Until the regulations are clarified or altered the next step after failure of Carabinieri is for local Italian civil and/or mil authorities to approach local Allied authorities for permission to employ such Italian tps as can be spared by the Allies.

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Col Lombardi

3. Chemical Works CWSMO: Lombardi ascertained from PROPERZI that an "agreement" had been concluded between War Ministry and Ministry for Industry and Commerce on 15 Jun, to be implemented at a later date by hand over of plant to civilian undertaking. Up to 19 June no firm had been designated to take over the machinery. Properzi will supply copy of "agreement" for use of Industry Sub Comm AC.

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4. FILGORE Combat Gr: infd Lombardi that Brig Gen FIALORSI had been approved by CG 5 Army as new comd of the FILGORE in place of MORICI.

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5. MAJ SCAPATI: Gen UTILI has infd Lombardi by phone that the enquiry (ref log 14/16 June, para 1) is nearly concluded (19 June) will be sent to War Ministry by special messenger. UTILI stated that the irregularities did not appear as serious as the implications suggested. He has asked Lombardi to find a replacement.

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Count CASATI and Col LOMBARDI

6. Cooperators for SEAC: infd Lombardi of intention to send 2000 cooperators from ME to SEAC and requested that a suitable offer be made available soonest to address the men at the commencement of their journey to the EAST. Suggested suitable basis for this talk, i.e.
(a) helping Allies to continue war with JAPAN;
(b) economic conditions in ITALY at this time make it difficult to absorb all the PWs who have to be repatriated
(c) accumulated pay and allowances during service in SEAC will find the PWs on their return better off than they would be in the ordinary course. (Explained also that to avoid incidents the men would be infd of destination only after ship left port)

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Afterwards spoke with the Minister, who stated that he could not take it upon himself to sanction the sending of the officer without consulting the Head of the Government, and that the Foreign Office would probably also be concerned. He said that the Allies were perfectly in their rights to move the PWs about as they wished, but that the sending of an officer would be considered by the Italian people as official approval and acquiescence by the Italian Gov't. And he thought it would be difficult to find any outgoing Minister willing to assume this responsibility at this stage in the proceedings. There was also the technical aspect of official Italian intervention in the war against Japan.

He promised to discuss with BENONI in the morning.

7. MAIELLA Bend: ref enquiry from AFHQ as to proposed parade inROME between 23 and 30 June, CASATI's view is that such a ceremony would be

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Count CASATI and Col LOMBARDI

6. Cooperators for SMAC: infd Lombardi of intention to send 2000 cooperators from ME to SMAC and requested that a suitable offer be made available soonest to address the men at the commencement of their journey to the EAST. Suggested suitable basis for this talk, i.e.

- (a) blighting Allies to continue war with JAPAN;
- (b) economic conditions in ITALY at this time make it difficult to absorb all the PWs who have to be repatriated
- (c) accumulated pay and allowances during service in SMAC will find the tps on their return better off than they would be in the ordinary course. (Explained also that to avoid incidents the men would be infd of destination only after ship left port)

Afterwards spoke with the Minister, who stated that he could NOT take it upon himself to sanction the sending of the officer without consulting the Head of the Government, and that the Foreign office would probably also be concerned. He said that the Allies were perfectly in their rights to move the PWs about as they wished, but that the sending of an officer would be considered by the Italian people as official approval and acquiescence by the Italian Gov't. And he thought it would be difficult to find any outgoing Minister willing to assume this responsibility at this stage in the proceedings. There was also the technical aspect of official Italian intervention in the war against Japan.

He promised to discuss with BENONI in the morning.

7. MALELLA Band: ref enquiry from AFHQ as to proposed parade in ROMZ between 25 and 30 June, CASATI's view is that such a ceremony would be most inopportune at this time and would merely provide an excuse for a gathering of a political nature. He sees no objection to the parade in any other locality.

Col PIACENTINI

8. Bomb disposal org: The responsibility for organizing bomb disposal units had been entirely decentralized and is now in the hands of Territorial HQs. At each of these HQs there is a gen offr at the head of the arty service, and he has on his staff technical personnel for organizing and try the necessary civilian teams. According to Piacentini's experience in Florence, territorial HQs are gradually taking over bomb clearing functions from UNRA. There is no doubt at all that responsibility for bomb clearing is fully accepted by War Ministry. Phoned Col CHIFFS and infd him accordingly.

Count CASATI

9.

GARIBOLDI Regt: The Minister has again spoken to RAVNICH on th. subject of rifts needed to complete the MS. (see log II/13 June para 13) According to CASATI, RAVNICH jumped at the idea of selecting men of the GRAMSCI unit, providing they were commanded by their own GRAMSCI officers. The minister added that in his personal opinion there would be no harm in forming them into a couple of coys entirely of GRAMSCI personnel.

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10.

Deperators: further to para 6 above CASATI let it be known through Lombard (20 June) that as it was now certain that there would be a new Minister for War, he did not propose to take a decision on the despatch of the offer to ME.

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Col PLACENTINI

11.

Disciplinary Bn: arranged meeting to take place at MMIA IC30 hrs 21 June to discuss procedure and org of experimental disciplinary bn. SMER will be represented by Gen ROMEO, Lt Col TROVATI, and an officer from the Gabinetto

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II. **Disciplinary**
1030 hrs 21 June to discuss procedure and org of experimental
disciplinary bn. SSM will be represented by Gen ROMCO, Lt Col
THOVATI, and an officer from the Cabinetto

SECRET
14 - 16 June 45

Major RAINAUGH's Liaison Log

Gen. CACCIARI

1.

FULGONI Combat Gp: the Minister confirmed that there had been no change in his designation of the new comd to replace MORIGI.

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Sig accordingly sent to CG 5 Army requesting approval and authority for Brig Gen PIACENTINI to take over comd. Meantime, Cacciari will call PIACENTINI to Rome and brief him.

2.

Major SCARFATI: In the Minister of serious charges pending against this officer, for having helped Republican personnel and even released Republican officer entrusted to the custody of the LEGHANO. SCARFATI is head of Ops and Int Branch and has been acting C of S of Legnano Combat Gp.

A

Sig is being sent to UTILLI to arrange for enquiry locally. SCARFATI to be suspended and sent to Rome on conclusion of enquiry.

3.

MILO: Major FERRER Ruocco (alias MILO) called at the War Ministry about 1 June with letter of introduction from SIM and saw Col LEMBARDI. The Minister was out at the time. Object of the visit was to regularize his position as Capt in the Italian Army and draw back pay from Sept 43 to May 45 incl. This was duly done.

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LEMBARDI does not recollect that FERRER made any particular request concerning enlistment of the com late RAMBERTI band into the Army. This it may have been mentioned in the course of conversation, in which case LEMBARDI says he would have replied in very general terms. This is borne out by Venetia Region AMG letter of 5 Jun (para 3).

LEMBARDI confirms that he gave no assurances of any kind to Ruocco.

Col. PIACENTINI

4.

UDINE Territorial HQ: handed him copy of 8 Army HQ's letter of 12 Jun to 5 Territorial HQ, with particular stress on:-

- NOT going to PADOVA
- new army control line was unofficial until confirmed through proper channels.

Gen RUOCO and Col PIACENTINI

3. Sig is being sent to MILI to arrange for enquiry locally. SCARATI to be suspended and sent to Rome on conclusion of enquiry.

3.

MILIO : Major PIERRE PRANCESCO (alias MILIO) called at the War Ministry about 1 June with letter of introduction from SIM and saw Col LOMBARDI. The Minister was out at the time. Object of the visit was to regularize his position as Capt in the Italian Army and draw back pay from Sept 43 to May 45 incl. This was duly done.

LOMBARDI does NOT recollect that PIERRE made any particular request concerning enlistment of the can lots. LOMBARDI band into the Army. This pt may have been mentioned in the course of conversation, in which case Lombardi says he would have replied in very general terms. This is borne out by Venezia Region AME letter of 5 Jun (para 3).

Lombardi confirms that he gave no assurances of any kind to PIERRE.

Col PIACENTINI

4.

UDINE Territorial HQ: handed him copy of 3 Army MIA LO's letter of 12 Jun to 5 Territorial HQ, with particular stress on :-

- NOT GO NG to PADOVA
- new spy control line was unofficial until confirmed through proper channels.

Gen RUSCO and Col PIACENTINI

5.

Desobilization: preparatory talks for meeting at MILA on Sunday 17 Jun 45.

Gen PINA (High Commissioner for SARDINIA)

6.

Transportation to and from the mainland in case of Pina's main worries (the others are mostly connected with the food situation: a large part of the crops has been ruined by the drought and the rest is being eaten up by the locusts).

In brief, there are about 1000 refugees waiting to be moved from SARDINIA to the mainland and about 750 demobilizable soldiers at NAPLES waiting to go to Sardinia. Obvious thing is to arrange for one ship to make one round trip, but this seems to be beyond the powers of anyone to arrange.

Lt Col WILSON, Public Safety, rang up to say that the approx 750 demobilized Sards in NAPLES (Garibaldi Barracks) waiting to get back to Sardinia are causing a lot of trouble by demonstrations and acts of hooliganism. Public Safety does not wish to have them put

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6. (Continued)

in jail and would be relieved if they could be got back to Sen. Inda more quickly than at present.

Count CASATI

7.

LA PATRIA: further to log 11 - 13 June 2, the Minister stated that fresh pressure had been brought to bear by the Treasury for the suppression of the paper on the grounds of the high cost involved. Between 30 and 40 million lire had already been spent, and at a time when the utmost economy was required of the country, it was difficult to justify the need for a separate daily Army paper. The arguments put forward by the Treasury officials were :-

- (a) The country is rapidly returning to normality in the matter of daily papers, and in nearly all districts a choice of papers is available;
- (b) in the more out-of-the-way places the PATRIA arrives no quicker than other papers produced in the nearest large towns;
- (c) with the cessation of hostilities there are no longer valid security reasons for a separate Army news sheet - the men will read and buy the paper carrying the views of their own party.

The Minister asked whether a special paper is produced for British troops at home. He said that it was difficult to oppose these arguments, that he had to admit that the Treasury had a case, and that the present expenditure was too great a luxury at this time. Accordingly he would recommend to PATRIA that the present PATRIA be converted into a single edition published twice a week in Rome. This would replace the present weekly paper. He would like to retain the name PATRIA in view of the success achieved by the daily paper and the goodwill acquired with the troops. Such an arrangement would bring the expenditure within reasonable limits, and would still give the Minister the medium he required for publicising ideas and facts among the troops.

8. "March on Rome" : Casati produced a report he had received from MURATTA alleging preparations made and orders given for a march on Rome by armed parties belonging to the left. The rising would take place on the 15th unless the government crisis were settled by that date. CASATI said that while necessary precautions were being taken by the carabinieri, it might become necessary to call on Italian troops to assist, in which event he would like to be able to rely on the intervention of some of the units of the Garibaldi Regt. Accordingly he hoped that their departure could be postponed a few days. The

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matter of daily papers, and in nearly all districts a choice of papers is available;

- (b) in the more out-of-the-way places the PATRIA arrives no quicker than other papers produced in the nearest large town;
- (c) with the cessation of hostilities there are no longer valid security reasons for a separate Army news sheet - the men will read and buy the paper carrying the views of their own party.

The Minister asked whether a special papers is produced for British troops at home. He said that it was difficult to oppose these arguments, that he had to admit that the Treasury had a case, and that the present expenditure was too great a luxury at this time. Accordingly he would recommend to MIA that the present PATRIA be converted into a single edition published twice a week in Rome. This would replace the present weekly paper. He would like to retain the name PATRIA in view of the success achieved by the daily paper and the goodwill acquired with the troops. Such an arrangement would bring the expenditure within reasonable limits, and would still give the Minister the medium he required for publicising ideas and facts among the troops.

a.

"March on Rome": Casati produced a report he had received from BURNETT alleging preparations made and orders given for a march on Rome by armed parties belonging to the left. The rising would take place on the 14th unless the gov't crisis were settled by that date. CASATI said that while necessary precautions were being taken by the carabinieri, it might become necessary to call on Italian troops to assist, in which event he would like to be able to rely on the intervention of some of the units of the Garibaldi Regt. Accordingly he hoped that their departure could be postponed a few days. The writer stated that the move would not take place before the 20th, and that it was unlikely for some days after that. The whole procedure of intervention of Italian troops was discussed at some length, and it was made clear that in the event, this could only be done by arrangement with R.A.C.

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cgl 19 Jun 45

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SECRET

11 - 15 Jun 45

Major RAUHMANN's Liaison Log

Casati

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1. GARIBOLDI Regt: discussed with the Minister the present very unsatisfactory situation of this unit, which is due to leave in the near future and is below 50% of its strength and still losing strength. Reminded him of the pressure brought to bear on MMIA by the War Ministry for the retention of this unit on its repatriation from MONTE-NEGRO, which GOC had succeeded in obtaining on account of:-

- (a) The traditional ties of the GARIBOLDI name
- (b) The valourous fight put up by these men in the 18 months following the Armistice
- (c) The reputed discipline and morale of the Regt as a Unit.

A clear cut order was given to RAVNICH on 2 June that no further personnel would be sent on leave. Notwithstanding this, there had been a further considerable reduction of strength. It looked very much as though (c) above is unfounded.

CASATI fully agreed, and added that RAVNICH had given cause for displeasure on a number of other counts recently.

He had taken advantage of the special powers conferred on him in the Balkans for giving medals for valour in the field to distribute a further 1400 such decorations after his return to Italy. This had placed the Minister in serious embarrassment.

CASATI promised to talk to RAVNICH himself and will then advise as to course of action best indicated.

Comd

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2. LA PATRIA: General talk with the Minister on the control maintained over the publication of the Italian Army paper. Lt. Col. MARALDI, the Editor-in-Chief, is directly supervised by the Minister, who reads the ROMÉ Edition and also peruses the other editions as they arrive. CASATI expressed himself as satisfied with the achievements to date, though admitting that there was always room for improvement. The ROMÉ Edition achieved a slightly higher standard than the BARI and FLORENCE Editions, although he had had to "check" MARALDI recently for occasional "blossoms" in the ROMÉ issue - e.g. a photo of the President of ALBANIA and PALERMO with the caption "The Comd and Deputy Comd of the GRAMSCI Div".

CASATI also said that he considered the objects of the paper were being well served, defining these as:-

- (a) Supplying a paper for the Tps in many localities where no other paper was to be had

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He had taken advantage of the special powers conferred on him in the Balkans for giving medals for valour in the field to distribute a further 1400 such decorations after his return to Italy. This had placed the Minister in serious embarrassment.

CASATI promised to talk to RAVNICH himself and will then advise us to course of action best indicated.

2. LA PATILLA: General talk with the Minister on the control maintained over the publication of the Italian Army paper. Lt. Col. MARALDI, the Editor-in-Chief, is directly supervised by the Minister, who reads the ROME Edition and also peruses the other editions as they arrive. CASATI expressed himself as satisfied with the achievements to date, though admitting that there was always room for improvement. The ROME Edition achieved a slightly higher standard than the BARI and FLORENCE Editions, although he had had to "check" MARALDI recently for occasional "blossoms" in the ROME issue - e.g. a photo of the President of ALBANIA and PALERMO with the caption "The Comd and Deputy Comd of the GRAMSCI Div".

Comd
A

CASATI also said that he considered the objects of the paper were being well served, defining these as:-

- (a) Supplying a paper for the Tps in many localities where no other paper was to be had
- (b) Providing a paper without political bias - thus helping to maintain the non-party character of the Army
- (c) Providing a medium for educational and informative official War Ministry news.

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With regard to the part played by the Allies, the Minister admitted that some unpleasantness had occurred over differences of opinion on matters of policy - details referred to "A" Branch. On the whole, though, he was very pleased with the results obtained to date.

Visit to GOC

3. GRAMSCI Div: Lt. Col. MCINTY, CC Unit, and Capt. COTTA, Arty Offr, formerly Arty Tp Comd in the FINEMER Div, made courtesy call on GOC.

Comd
O

Gen talk on activities of the Unit in ALBANIA, where the 2,000 men of the GRASCI participated in actions against the enemy. 300 of these men fought as the GRASCI Bn, and the remainder were included in the ranks of ALBANIAN Partisan Forces.

They subsequently stated that approx 1,000 men would be returning from leave with full obligations, and reporting part to IRANI and part to ASTROMI. It was explained to them why at this stage of things it would NOT be possible to reconstitute a special unit with the 1,000 men remaining under arms. They requested that these men at least be sent to CESSANO on rejoining.

Gen. ORLANDO

4. This officer is feeling nervous about the atrocity charges levelled against him by the Yugoslavs. He had prepared a "dossier" intended to clear his name, and which he wanted MIA to send to LONDON. GIII(I) agrees that dossier is mostly irrelevant and NOT within MIA terms of ref. Accordingly papers being returned to ORLANDO. They can always be got back again if required. G

Col. LOMBARDI

5. Discussed confidential matter relating to BARI T.HQ. Referred to Col. "A" and G-1. G
A
6. Gen MANCINELLI: infd LOMBARDI that GOC has no objection to the appointment of this Offr as E i/c Guardia di Finanza. A

Gen. INFANTE

7. INFANTE requested copy of PREMIERI's reply to Gen. MAC CHERNY, which GOC showed him recently. He already has copies of Ed Marshal ALEXANDER's and Gen. MAC CHERNY's own letters to PREMIERI. A

Gen. ROMEO (12 June)

8. FLOCCO Combat Op: saw ROMEO on his return from visiting 5 Army and FLOCCO. MORICI duly suspended by 5 Army and on his way down to Rome before ROMEO got there. Situation with the FLOCCO fairly under control - ROMEO recommends leaving Col. DE MICHELIS in Command for a few days. ROMEO added that perhaps as well that FLOCCO stationed in ALTO ADIGE as bands of armed GERMANS are still hiding in the mountains and raiding for food etc, and FLOCCO most suitable Op for dealing with them. Comd
A

9. Demobilization: in the course of his journey ROMEO called on ELO, ROM, EDE and 250 Adm Divs and FRIULI Combat Op and reported that all Comds were most concerned over delays in demobilizing older classes. It was the opinion of the Comds on the spot, said ROMEO, that further procrastination in supplying the necessary rfts might lead to mass desertions among the older men, which might in turn result in desertions Comd
A

agree that dossier is mostly irrelevant and NOT within MILA terms of ref. Accordingly papers being returned to ORLANDO. They can always be got back again if required.

Col. LOMBARDI

5. Discussed confidential matter relating to BARI T.Hq. Referred to Col. "A" and C-1. C
A
A
6. Gen MANDINELLI: infd LOMBARDI that GOC has no objection to the appointment of this Ofrr as 2 i/c Guardia di Finanza. A

Gen. INFANTE

7. INFANTE requested copy of PREMIERI's reply to Gen. MAC CREEVY, which GOC showed him recently. He already has copies of Pd Marshal ALEXANDER's and Gen. MAC CREEVY's own letters to PREMIERI. A

Gen. ROMEO (12 June)

8. FOLCORE Combat Op: saw ROMEO on his return from visiting 5 Army and FOLCORE. MORICI duly suspended by 5 Army and on his way down to ROME before ROMEO got there. Situation with the FOLCORE fairly under control - ROMEO recommends leaving Col. DE MICHELIS in Command under days. ROMEO added that perhaps as well that FOLCORE stationed in ALTO ADIGE as bands of armed GERMANs are still hiding in the mountains and raiding for food etc, and FOLCORE most suitable Op for dealing with them. Comd
A

9. Demobilization: in the course of his journey ROMEO called on ZLO, ZOG, ZSS and ZSO Adm Dirs and FRULI Combat Op and reported that all Comds were most concerned over delays in demobilizing older classes. It was the opinion of the Comds on the spot, said ROMEO, that further procrastination in supplying the necessary rfts might lead to mass desertions among the older men, which might in turn result in desertions of the younger classes not entitled to demobilization. ROMEO was submitting report to the Minister, but he considered that if rfts were not immediately available, then authority should be given for demobilization without replacement. This has in fact been done, but is not proving effective, owing to reluctance on Allied part to release men before the rfts arrive. Comd
A

1176

Col. PLACENTINI

10. Regular Ofrrs: during the course of conversation PLACENTINI stated that 25% of officers now under arms were regular ofrrs. Comd
A
C

Col. LOMBARDI (13 June)

- 3 -

11. **Publican Army personnel in the NORTH:** LOMBARDI confirmed that instns to the Offr screening commissions set up at each of the Territorial HQs in the NORTH are that names and info about offrs who have served with the Republican Fascist Forces will be passed to Comds of Territorial HQs, who will in turn take action via the Carabinieri for the arrest and internment of the offrs involved. No details are yet available of arrests to date but LOMBARDI signalled for these today.

Comd
A

Count CASATI (13 June)

12. **Demobilization:** the Minister handed to the writer a copy of ROMEO's report on demobilization with a request for COC's earnest consideration. CASATI said that he well knew the situation, and that recruitment of further rfts was ruled out because of lack of clothing, boots etc. Nevertheless, it was hoped that a solution to meet the case could be found without delay.

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13. **GARIBOLDI Regt:** the Minister had had RAVNICH on the mat before him, and said that his bearing and demeanor convinced him that he really had the interests of his regt at heart. He was most downcast because of his trouble over the strength. Latest situation was as follows:-

Comd
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Strength at VITERBO 13 June 1424

Plus 58 men on leave in ROME

" 60 " " M.T. Course at CEGANO

" 40 dvrs on detached duty

158

158
1582

Approx 140 men expected back from leave by 15 June

140
1722

This leaves 1041 NOT accounted for.

Of these:

30 are in Hosp

238 have been demobilized because of age or on compassionate ground

96 still to be demobilized for same reasons.

677 still to return from leave.

The writer pointed out to the Minister that even if all 677 reported back, there would still be a deficiency of 300/400. CASATI will find out from RAVNICH whether it would be more in keeping with the character of the unit to make up the numbers:-

(a) From rfts to be obtained in the NORTH when the Regt gets up there (i.e. suitable ALPINI types)

theless, it was hoped that a ...
without delay.

Comd
C
A

13. GABRIELDI Regt: the Minister had had RAVNICH on the mat before him, and said that his bearing and demeanor convinced him that he really had the interests of his regt at heart. He was most downcast because of his trouble over the strength. Latest situation was as follows:-

1424

Strength at VITERBO 13 June
Plus 58 men on leave in ROME
" 60 " " M.T. Course at CERNANO
" 40 avrs on detached duty
158

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1582

Approx 140 men expected back from leave
by 15 June

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This leaves 1041 MOF accounted for.
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96 still to be demobilized for same reasons.
677 still to return from leave.

The writer pointed out to the Minister that even if all 677 reported back, there would still be a deficiency of 300/400. CASATI will find out from RAVNICH whether it would be more in keeping with the character of the unit to make up the numbers:-

(a) From rfts to be obtained in the NORTH when the Regt gets up there (i.e. suitable ALPINI types)

(b) From selected individuale of the GRAMSCI unit.

1175

Col. LONGARDI

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14. Demobilization: inf'd him (for the Minister) of meeting to discuss ROMCO's report to be held at MMIA 1000 hrs 16 June, at which ROMCO and any other offrs he cares to bring with him are invited to be present.

SECRET

7 - 9 June 45

Major RAUHA's Liaison LogCol. LOMBARDI, Lt. Col. SILLI and FALCONE

1. Cooperators with PBS: for the purpose of documenting 3,000 cooperators due for demobilization in the near future, passed authority to LOMBARDI etc for the immediate despatch to CG PBS LEGHORN for duty with 2694 Technical Supervisory Regt of 3 officers and 9 ORs. This detachment will join up with the officer who has already gone to LEGHORN in advance.

A

2. Secret org of left wing parties in ROME: secured copy of SIM report to SMME for GOC's attention.

Cord

Count CASATI

3. 2 1/6 CARMONA Combat Gps: and the Minister of GOC's point of view on acceptance of ZANUSSI's resignation and agreement to seconding Col DONADONI to PREMIER's staff for special duties (see log 4/6 June para 13)

Cord
A

It would appear that ZANUSSI's expatriation, which was suspended while he was with the CARMONA, will now be concluded, after which he may be available for re-employment.

DONADONI is known to MIA as the former OC CERSETI in ROME, in which capacity he appeared a keen and energetic officer. His capabilities are NOT known.

4. FALCONE Combat Gps: the Minister stated that the Prefect and Deputy Prefect of BOLZANO had called on him and BUKMI on 6 June and had expressed their concern over the presence of the FULGORE Combat Gp in the ALTO ADIGE. In their opinion, a repetition of the incidents and disorders which had accompanied the FULGORE and MEMO up the peninsula would be most harmful to the local political situation, and might easily lead to the undoing of the agreement just concluded between CLN and political organizations of the region.

Cord
A

It was a pity, CASATI said, that 5 Army had to pick on this particular firm for duty in an area where such a delicate situation exists. While the ideal would be to replace the FULGORE by the PRIULI, the removal of MORICI and posting of a new cord capable of instilling a new sense of discipline to the division was the least that could be done under the circumstances.

The Minister produced letter from CERIGA with strong adverse criticism of MORICI by Gen HYDEMAN (copy later to GOC), and detailed report on widespread black market activities in which MORICI was himself giving a lead. The latter report was read by the writer. After consultation with GOC and Col 'A', the following action was taken:-

Cord
A

view on acceptance of ZANUSSI's resignation and agreement to second-
ing Col DOMADONI to PREMIERI's staff for special duties (see log
4/6 June para 13)

It would appear that ZANUSSI's separation, which was suspended
while he was with the CREMONA, will now be concluded, after which he
may be available for re-employment.

DOMADONI is known to MIA as the former OC GENESY in ROE, in
which capacity he appeared a keen and energetic officer. His capa-
bilities are not known.

Cord
A

FULGONE Combat Gp: the Minister stated that the Prefect and
Deputy Prefect of BOLZANO had called on him and BUKAI on 6 June and
had expressed their concern over the presence of the FULGONE Combat
Gp in the ALTO ADIGE. In their opinion, a repetition of the incidents
and disorders which had accompanied the FULGONE and MEMO up the
peninsula would be most harmful to the local political situation, and
might easily lead to the undoing of the agreement just concluded be-
tween CLM and political organizations of the region.

It was a pity, CASATI said, that 5 Army had to pick on this par-
ticular firm for duty in an area where such a delicate situation exists.
While the ideal would be to replace the FULGONE by the FRIULI, the re-
moval of MORICI and posting of a new cord capable of instilling a new
sense of discipline to the division was the least that could be done
under the circumstances.

The Minister produced letter from CERCA with strong adverse
criticism of MORICI by Gen HEYDEMAN (copy later to GOC), and detailed
report on widespread black market activities in which MORICI was him-
self giving a lead. The latter report was read by the writer. After
consultation with GOC and Col 'A', the following action was taken:-

- (a) sig sent to G3 5 Army (copy was shown to CASATI before
being despatched);
- (b) MEMO going to 5 Army HQ and BOLZANO to investigate
on the spot and assist with removal of MORICI if necessary.
(MEMO departed ROME mid-day 8 June);
- (c) GOC approved appointment of Brig Gen FALCONI to
succeed MORICI. The new cord is said by the Minister to
be the best disciplinarian they have available. It is
probable that CASATI will brief him personally before he
takes over the cord.

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Press release on Italian Army: the Minister requested that his
appreciation be conveyed to GOC for the articles on the Italian Army
published in the press on 7 and 8 June.

Cord

Gen LIUZAI and Col GUERCA (9 June)

6. Accompanied G-1 for discussions on:-

- (a) Try courses at CESANO: new system for allocation of vacancies and provision of personnel for instr ;
- (b) Urgent need for demobilization of older classes and provision of rfts. LIUZAI explained SAME point of view and G-1 reviewed present situation and measures being taken during next few weeks.

Gen LIUZAI

7. Disciplinary bus. Handed him 14th Branch letter setting forth general ideas on experimental org to be set up. Contents to be discussed on RMC's return. Lt. Col. TRUVATI has been selected as a suitable offr to org the first unit.

Col GRASHAN (Finance Sub-Commission)

8. Guarding of Allied supplies for civilians: the Italian Treasury has applied to War Ministry for approx 1000 tps to assist Carabinieri in guarding food stores located at scattered points throughout the country. Civilian guards have been tried and found NOT reliable supplies are being stolen. Confirmed War Ministry statement that they have no tps under their cond for this purpose. GRASHAN will arrange for FOOD Sub-Commission to contact G-3 Org, AFHQ, to request provision of tps required.

Gen LIUZAI

9. GRASCI Div: this fm of Italian tps which recently returned from ALBANIA was NOT considered to qualify for retention as a unit, in the same way as the Garibaldi Regt. The claim was put fwd by PALERMO, because of the political character of the fm, but was disapproved by MILA (see special log 30 Mar) and was NOT considered a good case by the War Minister.

Resentment has been expressed by PALERMO over the lack of enthusiasm shown by SARE in supporting his request. As a minor concession SARE now ask to be allowed to utilize 5 all ranks for a period of 30 days to wind up the affairs of the fm and give help of a welfare nature to the personnel being disbanded. The 5 all ranks would count against the present unallotted vacancies in the War Ministry establishment.

as a suitable offer to org the first unit.

Col GRAMSHAW (Finance Sub-Commission)

8.

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Gen. LIUZAKI

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SECRET

4/6 June 1945

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

Lt. Col. CHIDA

1. Banda MATTELLA: 4th TRUCCO is in ROME again and reports that the band has been instructed by 8 Army to move 5 June to TRUCCO (provincia RIVIGO) G0007, to look after PWs.

Apart from the fact that this is contrary to the AFHQ order to disband the unit, SAME state that according to TRUCCO this assignment would be most unpopular with the men, who want to go home now that the fighting is over. SAME recently requested that the men be disbanded near their home town (vide log 28/29 May para 10), and NOT at their present location CASTEL S. PIERO (nr BOLLONNA).

Col. LOMBARDI

2. 2.1/c TURIN HQ: infd him of GOC's agreement to appointment of Col. CANTINI Messimo as deputy comd to Gen BERARDU di PHELORNO.

Col. GUY Aurelio is C of S at TURIN, in place of Col. BERTI, who had been provisionally appointed to this post.

3. List of gen. officers collected revised list of gen. officers and their current appointments.

Count CASATI

4. Comd FULCONE Combat Gp: the Minister stated that he had again been prompted by both Allied and Italian sources for the replacement of MONICI. He wished to be advised now as to any action he could take to further the matter. Infd CASATI of the present situation, and suggested that if he cared to send his written observations to MILA, these would be forwarded for the information of 5 Army, under whose comd the Gen had now passed.

5. Discussed very briefly the recent conversations between GOC and CADORNA and TOGLIATTI.

6. NINO MARINETTI Bands: infd the Minister of application made to AC for enlistment of personnel of this band (reported to be 3000 strong) into the Army. The Minister said that he knew about the matter, that the men were mostly of the right sort and that he had no objection to their enrolment.

Col. FIACCHETTI

7. 24 Recovery Unit: he confirmed that this det. would be leaving for BOLLONNA 5 June as instructed.

he will be writing to MILA

2. 2.i/c TURIN HQ: infd him of GOC's agreement to appointment of Col CONTINI Massimo as deputy comd to Gen BERARDINO di PELLARINO.
3. Col GUY Aurelio is C of S at TURIN, in place of Col BERTI, who had been provisionally appointed to this post.
4. List of gen ofrs: collected revised list of gen ofrs and their current appointments.

Count CASATI

4. Comd FULGORI Combat Gpx the Minister stated that he had again been prompted by both Allied and Italian sources for the replacement of M.KICI. He wished to be advised now as to any action he could take to further the matter. Inf'd CASATI of the present situation, and suggested that if he cared to send his written observations to MIA, these would be forwarded for the information of 5 Army, under whose comd the fm had now passed.

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Col PLACENTINI

7. 24 Recovery Unit: he confirmed that this det would be leaving for BOLZANO 5 June as instructed.
8. "A" and "B" Screening Agencies: he will be writing to MIA proposing that personnel of "A" type deta be employed for fan of further Recovery Units, urgently required on account of vast amount of Italian Army stores to be dealt with in the M.KTH.
- The "B" type units have just started to function in the M.KTH, and are likely to be busy for some time to come. He is writing about this too.

Col CRIPPS (Patric Branch A.C.)

9. Banda MATELLA: infd him of latest developments affecting the disbandment of this unit and of the desire of the partisans to be transported to their own area on disbandment. He will see what he can do to help.

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Comd

Comd
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Gen RONCO

10.

(a) Disciplinary bn to be established at VITERBO. RONCO is selecting a suitable col or lt col to organize the unit and will send the effr to discuss the project with "A" Branch.

Comd
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C

(b) Political agitation against the army; political incident at 68 Regt barracks 23 May; bad effect on morale caused by delay in demobilization of older classes - all contributing to weaken discipline.

(c) Base Garibaldi: Ronco not quite sure what is going on at Lecce. The org has now changed name (Ufficio Palcania) and is run by (former Lt Col) STACCHI in civilian clothes. Ronco suspects a political racket in which Palermo is involved. (see para 11 below)

(d) Ronco's ideas on strength of interim Italian Army.

Wing Comd. PEARCE (Air Force Sub-Commission)

G

11.

Base Garibaldi: requested him to find out through security channels what STACCHI is up to in LECCE in connection with air tpt to and from the Balkans. Explained that the activities of this former (?) Italian Army effr are NOT authorized by MBIA nor approved by the Italian Gen Staff.

Gen RONCO

12.

2 1/c "CREMONA" Combat Gp: discussed proposed resignation of Brig Gen ZANUSSI. Ronco had NOT heard about it. He later spoke Gen FRAZIERI and recommended that the resignation be accepted and that ZANUSSI be NOT replaced.

Comd
AGen PREMIERI

13.

Saw Premieri with Ronco. Premieri quite satisfied to let Zanusai go. Instead, he asked that a full col be attached without specific appointment for special duties, such as president of mil tribunal, try duties etc. Spoke Col "A" - later infd Premieri by phone that his proposal was acceptable to MBIA.

Comd
AGen SCATTINI

14.

Called on Col "A" on his way through RUE. Discussed rfts. Estimated that FRUOLI will need 1500 within June - July to replace vacancies and men still to go home. Proposed that this figure be met:

Comd
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- 1/3 from patriots in MBIA
- 1/3 from RTC ICF
- 1/3 from cooperators.

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Wing Comd. PEARCE (Air Force Sub-Commission)

C

11. Base Garibaldi: requested him to find out through security channels what STAGNI is up to in LECCE in connection with air tpt to and from the Balkans. Explained that the activities of this former (?) Italian Army offr are NOT authorized by MMIA nor approved by the Italian Gen Staff.

Gen RONCO

Comd
A

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Gen PREMIERI

Comd
A

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Gen SCATTINI

Comd
C
A

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- 1/3 from patriots in EMILIA
- 1/3 from ETO ICF
- 1/3 from cooperators.

Agreed by Scattini.

Scattini also concerned about offr replacements.

1171

SECRET

30 May - 3 June 45

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

Col PIACENTINI

1. UDINE Territorial HQ: Following receipt of signal from MMIA LO Rear 8 Army advising that 1 District did not agree with move of main body of HQ to PADUA, instructed PIACENTINI to hold up departure until position has been clarified.

2. Recovery Units: informed PIACENTINI that MMIA instructions relating to 24 Recovery unit are unchanged, and that this unit is to proceed to BOLZANO.

Col PIACENTINI and Lt Col's DI RATTOMO and CRESCI

3. Enlistment of volunteers in the NORTH: daily meetings to discuss method of implementing enlistment of 4000 partisans (vide log 28/29 May). SMRE proposed instructions in signal form submitted to "A" Branch comments passed to SMRE. Signal subsequently submitted to and approved by Gen CADORNA (1 June); final discussions with "A" Branch (2 June); and approved by War Minister 3 June. Sig despatched via MMIA 3 June.

Gen CADORNA

4. CADORNA made his first official call to present himself to GOC 1 June.

(a) GOC spoke of achievements of the Italian Army and of the obstacles and difficulties overcome since the Armistice and laid great stress on the need at this moment for:
(1) a rapid and peaceful fusion of NORTH and SOUTH;
(ii) the immediate and complete implementation of the Italian Army organization in the NORTH;
(iii) the education of the partisans and others in recently Liberated Italy on what the Army actually has done during the last 18 months.

(b) CADORNA fully agreed on all these points. However in explanation of the distrust in the NORTH for the Italian Army, he pointed out that Allied and anti-fascist propaganda during the past two years directed against the failure and misdeeds of the Italian Armies in Spain, the Balkans, Africa etc, had naturally discredited the entire Italian Army. It was difficult for the man in the street in the NORTH to distinguish between the defeated Armies overseas and the rumour of the Army which had been helping the Allied in the SOUTH.

(c) GOC and CADORNA agreed on the urgent need to replace a large proportion of the...

ings to discuss method of implementing enlistment of 4,000 partisans (vide log 28/29 May). SMRE proposed instructions in signal form submitted to "A" Branch comments passed to SMRE. Signal subsequently submitted to and approved by Gen CADORNA (1 June); final discussions with "A" Branch (2 June); and approved by War Minister 3 June. Sig despatched via MFA 3 June.

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(c) GOC and CADORNA agreed on the urgent need to replace a large proportion of inefficient officers now in the Army by officers from PW camps overseas and by those who have been serving in the NORTH with the partisans.

(d) CADORNA stated that decisions were urgently awaited on

- (i) granting of ranks to patriot leaders;
- (ii) payment of demobilisation bonus;
- (iii) granting pay and back pay to patriot leaders.

He hoped to take decisions back with him on 2 June.

Col LOMBARDI

5.

Ranks and pay for partisan leaders (see 4(d) above): Informed LOMBARDI of general trend of conversation GOC/CADORNA and enquired in particular into the position of pay, bonus and ranks for patriots.

(a) the granting of ranks had been stymied by unacceptable counter proposals from SOCCINARO (Minister of Occupied Territory) after the draft decree (which had been approved by AC) had already

5.

been passed by the Cabinet. Main purpose of CADORNA's visit was to enable the Minister to hear his views on this subject. It appeared that CADORNA's policy is, if anything, more conservative and reactionary than the Ministers.

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Later the same day (1 June) LOMBARDI stated that CADORNA had been to see SCOCCIMARRO, and had swayed the latter completely to his point of view. The matter ought now to be quite plain sailing.

(b) Apart from the formal passing of the decree by the cabinet next Friday, the decision to pay demobilization bonuses is agreed by all concerned. The Ministry for Occupied Territory already has the necessary funds (160 millions) and it is only a question of transportation of the money to the NORTH.

No decision has yet been reached on back pay for patriot leaders. A sum running into millions is involved and the Treasury still has to give an answer.

Col CRIPPS and Jnr Comd BROW

6.

Partisans: informed Col CRIPPS of that part of the conversations GOC/CADORNA that concerned partisans, and subsequent information elicited from LOMBARDI. Both bonus and rank questions are of more immediate concern to Patriot branch than to MILIA, insofar as they impinge directly on the vexed demobilization and disarmament of partisans. CRIPPS will follow with SCOCCIMARRO.

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Informed CRIPPS at the same time of progress with plan for enlistment of 4000 patriots.

Promised copy of GME signal for his information. At his request supplied copy of decrees on "Ranks for patriot leaders" which he had not seen.

Col LOMBARDI

7.

21/c UDINE HQ: reference proposal to appoint Brig Gen ZAULI Adolfo to serve under ARMELLINI, saw DC letter which ARMELLINI had sent to RISI in which he said, "there are no Generals here." Informed GOC and secured approval of ZAULI's appointment; notified LOMBARDI accordingly.

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It is subsequently turned out that ZAULI had already left with expressed intention of reporting to ARMELLINI at UDINE.

Str-sed to LOMBARDI that under no circumstances must ZAULI cross the Army control line. He is stopping at FAENZA on the way up and they will catch him there.

8.

LERICI: LOMBARDI has already replied to GOC's letter. LERICI is in fact on indefinite leave at his home and does not

Comd

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Col CRIPPS and Jnr Comd HQ

6.

Partisans: informed Col CRIPPS of that part of the conversations GOC/CADORNA that concerned partisans, and subsequent information elicited from LOMBARDI. Both bonus and rank questions are of more immediate concern to Patriot branch than to MIA, insofar as they impinge directly on the vexed demobilization and disarmament of partisans. CRIPPS will follow with STOCCHIMARO.

Informed CRIPPS at the same time of progress with plan for enlistment of 4000 patriots.

Promised copy of SMH signal for his information. At his request supplied copy of decree on "Ranks for patriot leaders" which he had not seen.

Col LOMBARDI

7.

2 1/c UDINE THQ: reference proposal to appoint Brig Gen ZAULI Adolfo to serve under AMELLINI, saw DC letter which AMELLINI had sent to RISI in which he said, "there are no Generals here." Informed GOC and secured approval of ZAULI's appointment; notified LOMBARDI accordingly.

It is subsequently turned out that ZAULI had already left with expressed intention of reporting to AMELLINI at UDINE.

Stressed to LOMBARDI that under no circumstances must ZAULI cross the Army control line. He is stopping at FAENZA on the way up and they will catch him there.

8.

LERICI: LOMBARDI has already replied to GOC's letter. LERICI is in fact on indefinite leave at his home, and does not occupy any official post in the Army. He spends his time now writing long memoranda to the War Minister protesting that he has been misjudged by the Allies.

LOMBARDI confirmed that LERICI had been issued with unauthorized rations in APULIA.

Col FIACENTINI

9.

CARIBALDI REGT: informed him of probability that Regt will receive its marching orders by 15 June, subject to receipt of equipment by that date. Therefore necessary to have personnel complete and training finished before 15 June.

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9.

PLACENTINI had BAYNICH in from VITERBO 3 June. Following liberation of NORTH Italy and destruction of movement for men going on leave further large numbers have been sent home on month's leave and others are waiting to go. Situation is NOT easy at the moment.

Estimate is that by stopping all further departures immediately the strength on the ground will be about 1700/1800 by June 18. Majority of those absent should be back by month end.

Proposal is:

- (a) to postpone departure until 30 June;
- (b) complete establishment (where needed) by taking rfts from RVC ICF.

10.

UDINE TH: owing to difficulties of accomodating and keeping men together in ROSE, the main body of UDINE has gone forward to SENIGALLIA (NORTH of ANCONA), where there are empty Italian barracks lately vacated by the Allies. Regt awaits further instructions at Military District ANCONA.

11.

B26 04 AN CHEVETO: requested him to hasten dispatch of:

- Officers
- automatic weapons - *attached 31 May*
- carts - *AQMCC - 31 May*

for this units, which is only awaiting arrival of above to commence its duties.

Col LOMBARDI and Lt Col MARALDI

12.

Pamphlet on Italian Army: this brochure is in the printers hands and initial supplies are promised by Monday (4 June). First edition will be 50,000. Proof has been read by the writer also by SLO and GILL (I), and appears to respond to Italian requirements. GOC informed accordingly.

LOMBARDI has been urged to effect distribution as rapidly as possible. It has also been suggested that the price ought NOT to exceed 10 lire, even if it means selling the first edition at a loss.

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10. **UDINE TR:** owing to difficulties of accommodating and keeping men together in ROME, the main body of UD.NE has gone forward to SENIGALLIA (NORTH of ANCONA), where there are empty Italian barracks lately vacated by the Allies. Regt awaits further instructions at Military District ANCONA.

11. 526 Od Bn CRIVERO: requested him to hasten dispatch of: C Q

- Officers
 - automatic weapons - *authentic setting*
 - carts - *AQM - empty*
- for this units, which is only awaiting arrival of above to commence its duties.

Col LOMBARDI and Lt Col MARALDI

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LOMBARDI has been urged to effect distribution as rapidly as possible. It has also been suggested that the price ought NOT to exceed 10 lire, even if it means selling the first edition at a loss.

SECRET

28/25 May 1945

8/20/11

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Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

Col LONBARDI

1. 2 i/c GENOA THQ : info Lombardi that Prattini is urgently awaiting approval of appointment of Gen MARTINENGO as 2 i/c. Martinengo was leader of patriots in LIGURIA and is now giving full support and cooperation to Prattini.

Lombardi stated that War Minister entirely approves of the proposal. Discussed with "A" Branch and secured CCC's agreement to the appointment. Arranged for signal to be sent to MILA LO with PRS for onward transmission to Prattini.

Col PIACENTINI, Lt Col DI BERNARDO, Lt Col FRANCHI

2. Enlistment of patriots in the NORTH: passed on info secured during visit to the NORTH and subsequent decisions taken by MILA and Patriot Branch AC to implement enlistment of 4000 patriots within one month, this being the maximum figure that can be entertained at the moment. CADENA is expected in HOME on Wed 30 May, and against his visit draft orders are being prepared by SSM regulating the whole business. Piacentini perfectly satisfied with arrangements as now proposed.

Col PIACENTINI

3. Recovery units (Category 6 C): According to SSM, importance and scope of work to be done in NORTH ITALY by these units call for attachment of at least one unit for each of the six Northern THQs.

Approval has been given for four such units, as follows:

21 Recovery Unit destined BIELLA	THQ, now at VERCELLA
22 " " " " " "	THQ, " " " "
23 " " " " " "	THQ, " " " "
24 " " " " " "	THQ, " " " "

This leaves GENOA and BOLOGNA without. Latest instructions from MILA are that No 24 shall proceed to BIELLA which gives two detts to Biellano area, but deprives Piedmont of its dett. Italian General Staff strongly recommends 24 Recovery Unit be allowed to proceed to TURIN. Discussed with Cols Q, Q2 and G.

4. UDINE THQ : Impressed on PIACENTINI that no further personnel must be allowed to attach to it.

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Col PIACENTINI

3. Recovery units (Category 6 C): According to SMC, importance and scope of work to be done in NORTH ITALY by these units call for attachment of at least one unit for each of the six Northern THQ's.

Approval has been given for four such units, as follows:

21	Recovery Unit destined BOLZANO	THQ, near at VERONA
22	" " " "	UDINE THQ, " " ROVIGO
23	" " " "	MILAN THQ, " " MILAN
24	" " " "	TURIN THQ, still in Rome

This leaves GENOA and BOLOGNA without. Latest instructions from MILA are that No 24 shall proceed to BOLZANO which gives two units to Bolzano area, but deprives Piedmont of its det. Italian General Staff strongly recommends 24 Recovery Unit be allowed to proceed to TURIN. Discussed with Cols 9, 12 and 13.

4. UDINE THQ: Impressed on PIACENTINI that no further personnel must be allowed to start for Udine. In justification of the adv party having gone there, PIACENTINI continues to maintain that Lt Col SCOTT definitely gave him approval for party of 50 to go to UDINE.

5. Special screening data: the five special data, each one gen afir and two cols, subject MILA 8D/25/2 of 16 May are stated by SMC to be carried on permanent est of War Ministry under heading "Commissions for interrogation of affrs below the rank of col" - 16 affrs, 4 MCCs. For the purpose of dealing with the mass of af in the NORTH, these commissions, which normally do this same work at the War Ministry, have temporarily transferred their activities to the NORTH.

1st Col DI BITONTO

6.

Volunteers: in view of the uncertainty about ceiling of Italian Army and need for replacements, and the limitation on the numbers of partisans to be enlisted in the NORTH, the question arises as to whether volunteers in other parts of the country are still to be enlisted. Discussed with "A" Branch.

G
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Col LOMBARDI

7.

Writer's visit to the NORTH: the Minister being sent, infd LOMBARDI of negotiations undertaken in MILAN and TURIN for settlement of the TRABUCCHI question. Lombardi considers that the "rebels" have lost ground, and that the trouble will be settled quite soon. He has rec'd comm from some of Trabucchi's entourage which indicates that the officers he has gathered round him are weakening. Trabucchi has to face a serious charge relating to orders issued by him as C of S of the Italian 4 Army.

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8.

Enlistment of partisans: infd Lombardi also of progress made towards solution of this problem - see para 2 above.

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9.

Cadorna's visit to MILAN: at Lombardi's request, had sig sent to IV Corps for Cadorna, notifying him that plans are being sent to Milan 30 May to bring him to ROME for discussion of mil subjects.

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Col PLACENTINI

10.

Randa MARINA: AVV TROILLO, OC of this Partisan Band, is in ROME today and called at War Ministry. He requests that the Band, which is composed entirely of ARBUSTI, be disbanded at CHIETI, and not left high and dry at CASTEL S. PIETRO (nr BELLORE), where they are now to find their own way home. In view of the excellent services rendered for over 12 mos, this seems a reasonable demand.

G
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The band is at the moment under Gen TOMASELLI's comd.

Troilo stated that these members of the band who had had mil obligations would report to their mil districts on their return home. The remainder, except for a few volunteers, would return to civil life.

11.

UNDER TROILLO: further to para 4 above, the remainder of the personnel of No 5 TR is concentrating at ADOVA, which is within the army sector, but well to the side of the army.

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G A Q

8.

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Col. PIACENTINI

10.

Banda MARELLA: ARR THOLO, CC of this Partisan Band, is in ROME today and called at War Ministry. He requests that the Band, which is composed entirely of ARRUZZESI, be disbanded at ORIENTI, and NOT left high and dry at CASTEL S. PIETRO (or BOLGNA), where they are now to find their own way home. In view of the excellent services rendered for over 12 mos, this seems a reasonable demand.

The band is at the moment under Gen TOMASELLI's command.

11.

Treille stated that those members of the band who had mil obligations would report to their mil districts on their return home. The remainder, except for a few volunteers, would return to civil life.

UPPER THQ: further to para 4 above, the remainder of the personnel of No 5 THQ is concentrating at VIGEVANO, which is within the UMBRE region, but well to the side of the Army control line.

Gen. RACCO

12.

General talk on variety of subjects, incl

- the writers visit to the NORTH;
- RACCO's ideas on co-operation of Italian Army in the immediate future;
- vexed question of dismissal of incompetent officers, size and costs of ARMS and War Ministry.

SECRET

20 - 26 May 45

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

20/21 May Departed ROME arrived MILAN

22 May a.m. Meeting with Col WALKER (Deputy C of S C-5 IV Corps)

p.m. Meeting with Gen CADORNA

23 May p.m. With Lt Col HOWARD at IV Corps to discuss

(1) patriot problems with Col LAURE (C of S IV Corps) and Col WALKER.

(11) situation at TURIN with Gen CRITTENBERGER (CC IV Corps) and Col LAURE.

p.m. meeting with Gen CADORNA and his political committee

24 May a.m. meeting with Col WALKER

p.m. Lunch with Cols POLENTI and HANCOCK (Regional and Deputy Regional Commissioners Lombardi Region AMG)

p.m. Meeting with Col CARNEVALE (C of S MILAN Territorial HQ)

p.m. Departed MILAN arrived TURIN

p.m. Talk with HOWARD re PRELOMO/TRABUCCHI.

25 May a.m. Meeting with Col CRIPPS (Patriot Branch A.C.) Lt Col VINING (Patriot Branch rep Piedmont Region) and HOWARD on patriot problems.

a.m. Meeting with Lt Col MELLANO (Deputy C of S TURIN THQ) on PRELOMO/TRABUCCHI situation. Subsequently spoke HOWARD.

p.m. Departed TURIN arrived GENOA.

p.m. Meeting with Gen FRATTINI and Col CHIAVARELLO (COC and C of S GENOA THQ) on local situation and patriot problems.

26/27 May Departed GENOA arrived ROME.

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

1185

SUMMARY OF CONCERNATIONS ON RECRUITMENT OF PATRIOTS IN NORTH

Patriot enlistment into the Army

1. Gen G. CAZZA and patriot leaders are pressing for the implementation of the promised enlistment into the Army for two basic reasons:

- a) in order to ease the handing over of arms, dead line for which is now 7 June.
- b) in fulfilment written agreement which is alleged to have been signed between patriot leaders and AME about the end of last year or early this year. Under this agreement entry into the Army and granting of rank were to be sponsored by the Allies. It is asserted that non-fulfillment of this agreement would increase sense of discontent and handicap disbandment etc. IV Corps C of S (Col LAMON) and 35 (Col MAXNER) did NOT display such a sense of urgency over the enlistment problem though agreeing that it would undoubtedly help the situation. IV Corps immediate concern is with handing in of arms, which is giving some results and proving a big problem, to date. They have NOT apparently connected the two.

On the other hand, senior AME officials for Lombardy Region (Cols POLATTI and HANCOCK Regional and Deputy Regional Commissioners) were well informed and anxious to learn what action is being taken to meet patriot demands.

2. Numbers involved: the numbers of patriots directly concerned with enlistment into the Army and Polos is generally estimated at 20/25,000, though there is scepticism on all sides as to the numbers who would in fact avail themselves of a chance to enlist. Both Cadorna and Walker were convinced that the numbers would be quite small, and that the clamour is probably raised by those who have an axe to grind or a position they wish to perpetuate. Nevertheless, the premises were made, and at least some show must be forthcoming of their implementation, if only on political grounds.

In discussing a token figure for NORTH WEST Italy, both CAZZA and his political committee (which he consults on all matters affecting patriots) stated that 10,000 was a minimum to start with.

3. Method: the policy for the recruitment of volunteers into the Army was explained in detail to Cadorna, and discussed with Walker and Col CRIPPS (AC Patriot Branch) who were already familiar with current procedure. The obstacles to be overcome in the present system are that

a) the problem is much vaster, geographically, numerically and on every other count than anything attempted hitherto;

b) the authority and organisation of the Italian Army are NOT yet established in NORTH WEST Italy;

c) Patriot Branch do NOT have the machinery to feed, transport etc on such a scale;

d) Organised Italian Army units are few and far between.

in of arms, which is given some results and proving a big problem, to date. They have NOT apparently connected the two.

On the other hand, senior AAF officials for LEBARDY Region (Col POLSTRI and HANCOCK Regional and Deputy Regional Commissioners) were well informed and anxious to learn what action is being taken to meet patriot demands.

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a) the problem is much vaster, geographically, numerically and on every other count than anything attempted hitherto ;

b) the authority and organization of the Italian Army are NOT yet established in NORTH WEST Italy ;

c) Patriot Branch do NOT have the machinery to feed, transport etc on such a scale ;

d) Organized Italian Army HQ's are located a considerable distance away.

e) the screening agencies type 'B' are for dealing with officers and regular HQ's only. They are NOT recruiting agencies, and in any event it is stressed that it would be impossible to do the job with personnel sent up from the SOUTH, who are NOT acceptable to patriots. Screening agencies type 'A' are still under Patriot Branch command, and Col CRIPPS was NOT able to state just where they are located. He considers ~~the~~ work is done and that they should be handed back to Italian comd.

After discussing all these points in detail with Cadorna, he proposed the following solution :

- 1) to be allowed to recruit up to an agreed token figure in NORTH WEST Italy based on Territorial HQs, Districts and Depots ;

- ii) personnel employed for such recruitment, i.e. offt's, WCOs and cadres to be former Italian Army personnel selected by Cadorna from local patriots;
- iii) volunteers to be accepted as individuals and enlisted automatically into the Italian Army; at each centre the rfts to be organised as rfts bns 1000 strong.
- iv) rfts to be drafted in small numbers, to Adm Divs and posted to units as required to make up deficiencies.
- v) responsibility for feeding, clothing, accommodation and general organisation to be Cadorna's responsibility up to the time rfts arrive at Adm Divs.

The above plan was discussed with Cols LAURE and WALKER, and a draft was prepared for IV Corps to send to AFHQ. This was submitted (as a working basis) to Cadorna who was asked explicitly whether he would accept the responsibility for his part of the plan. The writer accompanied Cadorna to submit the plan to his political committee, who accepted the scheme, but made two requests:

- 1) that consideration should be given to enlisting complete bands and allowing them to serve together;
- ii) that enlistment into the ARMY was a right due to them (vide 1 b) and not a favour to be granted.

The difficulties inherent in (1) above were explained to the committee.

The results of this meeting were communicated to Col Walker on 24 May and discussed with Cripps, Vining and Howard 25 May.

4. Other Factors

- (a) Cadorna is well aware of the undesirability of enlisting complete bands and knows Allied policy in this matter. His personal inclinations can be said to be midway between the extreme patriots and the Allies - he would NOT oppose the keeping together of small numbers - pls or coys - as he considers these elements would be assimilated in the character of the parent unit.
- (b) Cadorna is violently opposed to the bulk of the officer element from the SOUTH. He considers the majority to be incompetent and escapist and that few would find a place in a New Italian Army. Therefore the employment of any such officers in the NORTH at the present time has to be proceeded with very warily.
- (c) It has been carefully explained to the authorities contacted by the writer, both Allied and Italian, that the strength and ceiling of the Italian Army just at this moment are rather unknown quantities and that it follows that the requirement of rfts is equally uncertain.
- (d) It has been made equally clear to the Italian Authorities that the Italian Army in the SOUTH is practically destitute of all the

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The difficulties inherent in (i) above were explained to the committee.

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(c) It has been carefully explained to the authorities contacted by the writer, both Allied and Italian, that the strength and ceiling of the Italian Army just at this moment are rather unknown quantities and that it follows that the requirement of rfts is equally uncertain.

(d) It has been made equally clear to the Italian Authorities that the Italian Army in the SOUTH/practically destitute of all the sort of stores needed for an enlistment of volunteers on a large scale. Therefore anything that had to be done in a hurry would have to rely on local resources.

5. Conclusions

It was the common opinion of Allied and Italian authorities that

- a) enlistment of volunteers in NORTH-WEST Italy should be implemented soonest, in any event NOT later than 7 June;
- b) that a token ceiling be fixed, irrespective of actual requirements of rfts - to satisfy the political exigencies of the moment.
- c) that the organisation be left in Italian hands up to the moment the rfts join admin divs (excl tpt from depots to admin divs)

N.B. There still remains the area EAST of IV Corps boundary to be dealt with.

1933

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

SECRET

Major RAUWARTH's Liaison Log

18/19 May 45

Col LOMBARDI

1. Inspector of Auxiliary tps: conveyed GOC's approval of appointment of Brig Gen FANTONI Euclide vice Brig Gen MONO, who has left to take up post of Arty Comd BOLZANO THQ. Comd A

2. Col BORDA: infd LOMBARDI that the case in which BORDA is involved is in the hands of AFHQ. Comd C of S A

Lt Col SANSONE

3. MATELLA Band: infd him that instrs have been issued by AFHQ for the disbandment of this band in accordance with usual procedure for patriot bands. Comd C

Lt Comd DAVIES (Navv Sub-Commission)

4. S. MARCO Regt: Enquired as to progress of negotiations with Italian Admiralty. Very slow - no far matter referred to Italian LO who has RT yet brought back reply. Davies is quite favourable to the idea of S. Marco personnel reverting to the navy. The writer explained that the decision was NOT a pressing one, but that the policy ought to be agreed by all concerned within next week or two, for implementation at the proper moment. (Ref log 11/14 May para 9). Comd C A

Lt Col SILLI

5. AC Truck Unit: ROME THQ has submitted to War Ministry report on numerous incidents at CIVITAVECCHIA between Truck Bn personnel and civilians and Allied tps. Circumstances point to lack of control by the Italian CO's and according to the War Ministry call for strong disciplinary action against the offrs concerned. Comd A

In the absence of Col CARNES spoke to the adjt Maj PEPPER and arranged that ~~ref of ROME THQ~~ will contact PEPPER in 2/3 days (phone 886327) to fix meeting with CARNES at which the whole matter will be discussed. Later spoke SILLI who will act accordingly.

Lt Col SANSONE

6. Rfts for 205 Div requested him to alert 180 Rfts for this fun, to be collected by rd TUESDAY 22 May. Men will be transferred to Cat 2 (US - IT). Comd C

1102

Col LOMBARDI

Lt Cord DAVIES (Navy Sub-Commission)

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Lt Col SAMPSON

1102

6.

Rpts for 205 Biv requested him to alert 180 rfts for this fm, to be collected by rd TUESDAY 22 May. Men will be transferred to Cat 3 (US - IY).

Col LOURBAUD

7.

Situation in TURIN: collected confidential report just received for BERARDO di PIRELLA. Situation continues to be difficult.

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Lt Col FALLACI

8.

SAC Courtesy call on TREZZANI's ADC, who is also responsible for SD/VE duties. Also saw Cap H. CCARDI, assistant Gen to TREZZANI and head of the staff of SAC. Various subjects of gen interest touched on.

Cond

SAC is sharing the same building as IAI & SP.

SECRET

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

15/17 May 45

Lt Col GUIDA

1.

6 Coy 513 Regt: Simultaneously with the arrival of MALA letter of 23 Apr, SAPE recd a comm dated 21 Apr from NAPLES THQ, stating that this unit was disbanded on instr ALL 56 Area. Personnel was disposed of as follows:

- offrs to 803 BRD,
- NCOs and ORs, part to 803 BRD
part to 506 Smoke Coy
part to 182 Par Coy
- stores to 803 BRD.

Gen MANNERINI

2.

POW Reception Centres: MALA letter of 14 May SD/AS/2 instructed War Ministry to close down and disband dets No 2 and 4. No reason was stated and Mannerini asserted that there is still plenty for them to do, particularly No 4 (Roccaforzata di Taranto), that arrivals continue from overseas, and are to be expected at an increasing rate in the future. He cited the arrival at Taranto on 11 May from ARMYA of 335 offrs and 470 ORs who had to be taken care of, documented and interrogated entirely by No 4 det. Discussed with G-1 and later infd Mannerini that above decision was taken on recommendation of BARI THQ. This doesn't make sense to him, and he will investigate.

3.

PW's returning from Germany etc: Mannerini recently returned from tour of Northern regions, where he has been in touch with local Italian authorities and AC orgs (Displaced Persons S.C. and IPW S.C.). Frontiers have now been closed, but there is already in the PO valley an unsorted mass of refugees, repatriated workers and PW's from Germany estimated at 250,000/300,000. First task, according to Mannerini, is to dispose of this mass by sending them all home with as little delay and red tape as possible. Simultaneously the org of camps to be placed on an efficient basis so as to be ready to deal adequately with the larger numbers of PW's when the frontiers are reopened. Mannerini has been requested to provide screening and documentation dets, each 3 offrs and 15 ORs, for the following camps:

TURIN PADOVA
MILAN ANCONA
FLORENCE FORLI
BOLOGNA

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Gen. MANNERINI

2. POW Reception Centres: MILA letter of 14 May SD/48/2 instructed War Ministry to close down and disband deta No 2 and 4. No reason was stated and Mannerini asserted that there is still plenty for them to do, particularly No 4 (Roccaforzata di Taranto), that arrivals continue from overseas, and are to be expected at an increasing rate in the future. He cited the arrival at Taranto on 11 May from KENYA of 335 offrs and 470 ORs who had to be taken care of, documented and interrogated entirely by No 4 det. Discussed with G-1 and later infd Mannerini that above decision was taken on recommendation of BARI THQ. This doesn't make sense to him, and he will investigate.

3. PW's returning from Germany etc: Mannerini recently returned from tour of Northern regions, where he has been in touch with local Italian authorities and AC orgs (Displaced Persons S.C. and IPW S.C.). Frontiers have now been closed, but there is already in the PO valley an unsorted mass of refugees, repatriated workers and PW's from Germany estimated at 250,000/500,000. First task, according to Mannerini, is to dispose of this mass by sending them all home with as little delay and red tape as possible. Simultaneously the org of camps to be placed on an efficient basis so as to be ready to deal adequately with the larger numbers of PW's when the frontiers are reopened. Mannerini has been requested to provide screening and documentation deta, each 5 offrs and 15 ORs, for the following camps:

TURIN PADOVA
MILAN ARECORA
FLORENCE FORLI
ROME BOLOGNA
NAPLES VERONA
and five others

Mannerini is proposing to find the 15 COs from existing deta further South and will request the War Ministry to provide 15 adm offrs. The remaining personnel (15 offrs and 215 ORs) will have to come from the 6000 tps made available by AFHQ.

Meantime he is very busy organizing the transit camp in ROME at the Michele BIANCHI Barracks in Via Nomentana.

MAJ CLACCIA

4. Following is strength state of GARIBALDI Div at 17 May:

- 79 offrs, 137 NCO's, 1642 ORs.

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Gen ROMCO

5.

SICILY: Personnel of the Montegranaro Bn is at present organized in two mixed units at Palermo and Catania, each with a proportion of Carabinieri. In accordance with the original arrangements, now that orders for demobilization have been given, all the men of the Montegranaro Bn will be returning to their homes in the North. Formal approval is awaited by SMRE. Contact has been made with Public Safety S.C., who request that they be given formal notification of the intention to send these men home and not replace them. They will then have a letter sent over CC's signature to Bonomi, in view of the agreement with the Italian Gov't NOT to withdraw any further police forces from SICILY or SARDINIA.

BERARDI now proposes (and has in fact actually issued orders) that two new mixed units be formed with personnel detached from I.S. divs on the following WE:

- 22 offrs, 36 NCOs, 342 ORs (incl 100 CC RR.

These two special units would be the mobile reserve located at Palermo and Catania for dealing with bandits, mob violence etc.

ROMCO is CONTRARY to this proposal and maintains that existing authorized units of SABAUDIA and AOSTA fms are more appropriate for I.S. duties than the mixed units. With MELA approval ROMCO proposes to sig BERARDI that Italian Army units must be maintained on authorized ests only and quoting MELA as disagreeing with Berardi's latest scheme. Discussed with G-1 and Inf'd Piacentini of full concurrence of MELA with ROMCO's pt of view.

Lt Col DI SUTOMIO

6.

Demobilization: collected copy of SMRE sig to all Territorial, Combat and Adm Div HQs passing on MELA instrs of 16 May for demobilization of men with homes in NORTH ITALY. For "A" Branch.

Lt Col SANSONE

7.

Units drawing rations in CALABRIA: collected the explanations put fwd by SMRE in reply to MELA queries about certain unidentified units. Handed to ME branch.

8.

Transfer of NCO's: collected proposed draft of regulations for consideration by "A" branch.

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Lt Col DI MONTANO

6. Demobilization: collected copy of SAME sig to all Territorial, Combat and Adm Div HQs passing on MIA instra of 16 May for demobilization of men with homes in NORTH ITALY. For "A" Branch.

Lt Col SANSONE

7. Units drawing rations in CALABRIA: collected the explanations put fwd by SAME in reply to MIA queries about certain unidentified units. Handed to WE branch.

8. Transfer of NCO's: collected proposed draft of regulations for consideration by "A" branch.

Count CASATI

9. Territorial HQs in the NORTH: the Minister stated that the different HQs which have recently been sent up are settling in and taking over their functions and responsibilities. This is a gradual process, particularly to avoid friction with existing patriot forces. At TURIN the situation is particularly difficult because:

- (a) the patriot forces are most numerous and still armed;
- (b) the local Allied mil comd (a Col) deals with the patriot leaders direct (Gen TRABUCCI) and NOT with Gen BERAUDE di PRELOREO, the War Ministry representative.

Casati requested that the Allied rep in TURIN be asked to deal through BERAUDE insofar as circumstances permit. Discussed with G and inf'd LOMBARDI of action being taken.

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- 3 -

COL LOMBARDI

10.

S. MARCO Regt: Requested him to inform the Minister that the transfer of the Marines to the Navy would NOT take place in the immediate future because the Garibaldi Regt was far from ready. The transfer would be a slow and gradual process, and the Minister of Marine need have no anxiety about being faced with a "fait accompli".

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COL LOMBARDI

11.

Discussed the following pts :

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- official statement By the Italian Gov't on patriots in the NORTH;
- pamphlet on Italian Army for distribution in the NORTH. NOT yet ready - copy for GOC in about 2 days.
- Patria, NORTH Italy edition. Staff is being organized. (Lombardi stated that other Roman dailies were protesting because PATRIA was getting an advantage over them).

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- Patria, NORTH Italy edition. Staff is being organized. (Lombardi stated that other Roman dailies were protesting because Patria was getting an advantage over them).

18 May 1945

SECRET

11/14 May 45

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

Lt Col SILLI

1. Increased pay for Italian Parachutists: Existing regulations lay down extra pay for Italian parachutists at the rate of 27 lire per day for all ranks. War Ministry agree to paying this bonus to the personnel referred to in AFHQ letter of 1 May ref CR/6335/G-1(Br).

Col PIACENTINI

2. Disbandment of MAIELLA Band and "F" Recce Sqn:

(a) MAIELLA Band is NOT Italian Army, therefore the unit should be dispersed in the same way as any other patriot band.

(b) RONGC has expressed a personal wish to maintain "F" Recce Sqn in existence, for purposes of Internal Security etc. Explained to Piacentini that this would NOT be possible. He agrees that in this event personnel should revert to own units, mostly POLONE.

3. Garibaldi Regt: maximum strength at VITERBO (incl 100 men detached at RAVISCANINA) has reached 2300, but new batches are continually going on leave, as further areas become accessible. Present strength is 2006. It is stated that men from first leave batches are still returning, having been delayed by tpt difficulties, particularly from distant places - Sicily etc. Strength will continue to fluctuate on account of leave moves. Maj TAGLIONE visited VITERBO 11 May and states that

(a) Unit has already been reorganized on new est.

(b) Some clothing, arms etc have been issued and trg has started.

4. Future call-ups: further to para 8 of log 1-4 May - Piacentini again expressed concern at the prospect of having to recall further men of the 1915 - 24 classes. He stated that most of these older men had done so many years service already and with the end of hostilities it would be difficult to keep them in the army. There would be considerable discontent and it would add to political unrest. On the other hand it was only right and proper that the younger men should do their share, and it was even preferable that they be drafted straight to employing firms without trg rather than recall more of the older men. This is a reversal of the opinion originally expressed by the War Ministry - see above ref.

(b) MONCO has expressed a personal wish to maintain the Recce Sqn in existence, for purposes of Internal Security etc. Explained to Piacentini that this would NOT be possible. He agrees that in this event personnel should revert to own units, mostly FOLGORE.

3.

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5.

Partisans: Gen Cadorna flew down from Milan for urgent consultations with the Italian Gov't. Patriots in the NORTH were one of the main subjects. From general indications from different sources one gathers that the patriots who took the more active share in events in the NORTH are proving difficult to manage, insofar as

- (a) they have little idea of the reality of the situation of Italy vis-a-vis the Allies; they consider that by virtue of the part recently played by them they are on an equal footing with the Allies.
- (b) they are very ignorant about the Italian Army and seem to think that it should now consist of themselves (i.e. the active patriots) plus the combat tys and other partisans who took an active part in things further south;

Contd. 38

5. (Continued)

(c) It is likely that they will not react very favourably to the idea of joining the army as service tps and doing PL duties;

(d) the idea of their independence is heightened by the fact that in the NORTH they probably could maintain a small army - in rations, clothing and arms - without relying on the Allies.

Requested Lombardi to keep the writer infd of developments.

Lt. Col GUIDA

6. 524 Qd Bn : In reply to an enquiry Guida stated that this unit left FROSINONE 77 all ranks under strength. C A

7. Qd Bn FROSINONE : the third sd bn (6) is taking shape Spoke G-1 about release of stores and weapons.

The poem of the other sd units at FROSINONE is as follows :-

(a) 518 Qd Bn: Bn HQ and one coy (taken from "A" Bn) ready to move and awaiting instrs;

(b) "A" Bn: New Bn HQ and one coy to replace above in process of being formed.

(c) "B" Bn: ready to move and awaiting instrs.

8. Tps required by War Ministry in ROME: Anticipating that occasionally the Grenadier tps will NOT be available for ceremonial purposes etc (despite the good-will of RAAC) SUSE request that they may be allowed to draw on one of the coys at CHSAC for this purpose. Discussed with "A" and subsequently infd Piacentini that MAIA would NOT oppose such a request providing the following conditions are observed: O A

(a) the matter to be arranged in detail between SUSE and RHC ICF;

(b) personnel of the coy nominated to be available for emp as rfts in just the same way as personnel of any other coy, and without any restrictions whatsoever;

(c) the emp of such personnel in ROME for ceremonial or any other duties to be specifically sanctioned each time by RAAC. Contact for this purpose to be made by

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(c) the emp of such personnel in ROME for ceremonial or any other duties to be specifically sanctioned each time by RAAC. Contact for this purpose to be made by SMRE with G-3 RAAC.

COL PIACENTINI

9. San MARCO Regt: following enquiry by the writer as to SMRE view on the return of S.MARCO personnel to Italian Navy and its replacement in the Folgore by the Garibaldi Regt, Piacentini stated :

(a) SMRE fully supports such a proposal

(b) Luzzi had called on the Italian Admiralty to discuss the proposal and the naval authorities were immediately "up in arms" and strongly opposing the suggestion. It was stated that if would be a severe blow to the morale of the S.MARCO personnel if they were to be taken from under comd of XV Army Gp and lose their eqpt.

Col PIACENTINI (Cont'd)

9.

Later in'd Naval Sub-Commission (Capt BLACKBURN) of the poem and requested that the matter be gone into with the Italian Admiralty, with a view to finding suitable emp on naval installations, docks etc. Capt BLACKBURN stated that the regt was already included in the ceiling of the Italian Navy. At a subsequent meeting between GOC and Casati, the Minister said that he was having to ~~explain~~ somebody else's cause, ~~that~~ that the Minister of Marine had already twice phoned him that day requesting most vehemently that the San Marco Regt be left where it is, at least for the time being.

Gen RONCO

10.

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Demobilization of older classes with homes in NORTH ITALY: Ronco stated that the moment had arrived when a decision must be taken without further delay and orders given to initiate the demobilization scheme. He was most concerned because nothing had yet been done, and his latest info showed that offrs would NOT be able to hold the men back much longer. Already a trickle had started (about 5% absent without leave in 212 Div) and if the dam bursts the older men will desert en masse and the younger ones will go as well, and the whole army will disintegrate.

Ronco proposes that fan comds be given the power to send the older men home, by arrangements with local Allied authorities, and according to the circumstances prevailing in each unit. Thus without laying down any complicated regulations, the question of numbers to be sent home straight away would be regulated by unit commitments. This would be understood by the men, and providing they saw a start being made and the situation is explained to them, they will respond and discipline will be safeguarded. But the necessary orders must be issued forthwith to avoid what RONCO called a "catastrophe".

Discussed with "G" and "A". Subsequently GOC inf'd the Minister that the necessary orders had just been rec'd from AFHQ and would be promulgated 14 May.

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15 May 45

1947

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1 - 4 May 45

Ms J BAUMANN's Liaison Log

Count CASATI

1.

Chief of Staff SMRE : Called at the Minister's request (3 May). Casati said that the President of the Council had that morning requested the Chief Commissioner AG for approval to appoint Gen CADORNA Chief of Staff of the Italian Army, with RONCO as deputy C of S. The minister stated that this would be an excellent move tending to bring together the forces of North and South, and was a well-deserved gesture towards CADORNA for the invaluable work he had done as head of the patriot forces in the North. The appointment was very acceptable to Cadorna and Ronco had readily agreed to serve under Cadorna as Deputy C of S. In any event the appointment which RONCO held was that of acting C of S, on account of his rank. I pointed out to the Minister - in passing - that this had not been made clear to GOC at the time. The personal impression on the writer is that this is something the Minister has had in mind for some time, but has not wished to disclose for reasons best known to himself.

Casati continued to say that things would remain unchanged for the moment, and Ronco would continue to direct things from here and Cadorna would remain in Milan until the transition and fusion periods are completed.

The Minister concluded that he was most anxious to have GOC's personal opinion on this proposal before the cabinet meeting later that morning, and he only regretted that this could have been somewhat delayed.

Spoke GOC and subsequently notified Lombardi of GOC unqualified personal approval, which had already been passed to Chief Commissioner the previous day.

2.

'V. Day. handed to the Minister letter from GOC in connection with invitation to senior War Ministry official for 'V. Day. Casati very pleased with the suggestion, discussed also in very general terms SAC's intention as to the sort of way the day should be spent by Allied units.

3.

Visit to NORTH Italy: Casati was just back from a visit to newly liberated territory, in company with the Prince and Gasparatto the Air Minister. During the journey they visited MODENA, REGGIO, PARMA, BERGAMO, BRESCIA, and everywhere they were enthusiastically welcomed. Some time was spent with Gen UTILLI, and one day with Gen BRITTON-BERGER, CO IV US Corps. The latter had expressed great satisfaction.

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4. COL LOMBARDI

2 1/c BOLOGNA HQ: In view of the fact the Gen. CARICA had NOT been able to find a suitable 2 1/c locally, inid Lombardi of GOC's approval to send Brig. Gen PALMA Vittorio from Rome. Lombardi confirmed that PALMA had been cleared for his political and mil past.

5. Ranks for patriots: the regulations governing the granting of ranks to patriot officers and NCOs have been held up on the last day by the intervention of the Ministry for Occupied Territories. The whole project is on the rock, as the counterproposal of Scoccimarro that -

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- all offr ranks (incl gen offr) be open to patriots (as opposed to Lt Col as upper limit);

- jumps of two or more ranks be recognised for regular offr (as opposed to one such promotion in the fd).

are NOT acceptable to the War Ministry. Negotiations continue.

6. Offrs for SHARP : collected letter on pay authorised for Italian offr destined for SHARP.

7. Type 'B' screening dets: following receipt of sig from Gen CADORENA calling fwd urgently screening commission for MILAN, discussed with ASD and arranged.

- sig to be sent to 15 Army Gp requesting authority for move fwd of above, plus the other dets to their respective centres;

- the four dets (4, 5, 6 and 8) still SOUTH of Army Area be moved fwd by War Ministry as far as possible to be ready to join their respective Hqs as soon as authorised.

COLS PIACENTINI and CREMONESI

8. Replacement of attrition : Infd both above that new circumstances following cessation of hostilities in Italy required change of policy as regards rfts for the Army. No longer would it be possible to accept and train new recruits for a period of 6 weeks or more before assigning them to units. Rfts were needed immediately for posting to units to replace the large number of men who would shortly be going home. Accordingly there were three possibilities
- a) Enlisting young men of '24 - '25 classes and drafting them untrained direct to units,
 - b) Recalling to the colours men of older classes who had already done mil service,
 - c) Enlisting volunteers - particularly in the NORTH.

Both Piacentini and Cremonesi excluded the first possibility (a)

The call-up in CALABRIA of the '24 - '25 classes being definitely cancelled, it was necessary to plan recalls to the colours in May of a corresponding number of men in mil districts as yet untapped. Seven of these districts (in Marche and Umbria) were already at fourteen days notice and it would be necessary to

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Col's PIACENTINI and CREMONESI

8.

Replacement of attrition : Inrd both above that new circumstances following cessation of hostilities in Italy required change of policy as regards rfts for the Army. No longer would it be possible to accept and train new recruits for a period of 4 weeks or more before assigning them to units. Rfts were needed immediately for posting to units to replace the large number of men who would shortly be going home. Accordingly there were three possibilities

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Piacentini was NOT very optimistic about the volunteers, owing to the lack of inducement. Life in the army under present conditions was very much less attractive than life out of the army.

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Lt Col DI BITONIO

9. Personnel excluded from exemptions APULIA and CALABRIA : ref the gradual recall (commencing 6 May) of men of '14 - '24 classes no longer exempt, following the revision of the exemption regulations, SMPK request assurance that necessary instrs have been given to 803 and 804 EPDs to receive each personnel into the depots. About 1000 men involved all told.

10. Round up of '24 - '25 class men in APULIA :- infd him that in conformity with revised policy on rfts - see para 8 above - it would not be possible to authorize the recruitment of further young soldiers in APULIA, over and above the target figure, which had already been reached.

Gen. BRUNETTI & Col DELLA CHIESA (CORR CHQ

11. Carabinieri PMS : discussed with Brunetti the numbers of Carabinieri held as PWs by the Allies. Della Chiesa later phoned to say that

- a) all relevant documents relating to PWs were removed from Rome by the republican authorities. Therefore they have nothing to go on in determining the number of PWs ;
- b) they roughly estimate the total between 30 and 40 thousand ;
- c) They confirm that in this total are the best elements, officers and men, of the regular Carabinieri force.

Official Visits (6 May)

12. Gen TREZZANI called on GOC on taking up his post as Chief of the Italian General Staff. He was accompanied by Col. FALLACI.

Major Gen AMOROSO, Inspector General of Engr Services, called on GOC to pay his respects.

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Gen. BRUNETTI & Col DELLA CHIESA (CORR CHQ)

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b) they roughly estimate the total between 30 and 40 thousand ;

c) They confirm that in this total are the best elements, officers and men, of the regular Carabinieri force.

Official Visits (4 May)

12.

Gen TREZZANI called on GOC on taking up his post as Chief of the Italian General Staff. He was accompanied by Col. FALLACI.

Major Gen AMOROSO, Inspector General of Eng Services, called on GOC to pay his respects.

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6 May 45.

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29/30 Apr 45

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

Col PIACENTINI

1.

No 6 (BOLOGNA) Territorial HQ: Informed him that authority had now been received from CC 5 Army (via MIA LO 5 Army) for the complete staff and services of above HQ to move southeast to BOLOGNA. Piacentini later phoned through following details for move in three phases:

Phase I: 69 officers, 53 ORs, total 122 (mostly staff personnel) ready to move 1 May.
2. Load carriers already requested by SMC to SF incl space for baggage.

Phase II: 28 officers, 141 ORs, 169 total

Phase III: 28 officers, 141 ORs, 170 total

Phases II and III consist of services personnel. Yet requirements incl baggage in same proportions as for Phase I.

2.

FOGGIA round-up: Informed him that MAF had not yet sent in the names of personnel liable to call-up when they wished to have exempted; and that until these lists are to hand no start can be made in the round-up ops. SMC is suspending further action until notified to continue by MIA.

Lt Col DI BUNCATO

3.

Specialist volunteers for Italian Army: disowned contents of letter 4/110 of 30 Apr, with which no is in complete agreement.

In order to obtain worthwhile results. DI BUNCATO stressed need for increased pay for all types of specialists, and a sum to this effect is being sent by RUMCO to the Gabinetto. The writer promised to discuss with Col Lombardi. The supplementary pay for specialists is negligible at the moment and is no inducement to join the army.

4.

808 CS Bn: enquired about carabinieri gifts required by the Bonsignori Sec of IAI: 4 officers, 20 NCO's. The matter is being dealt with by the Gabinetto - will enquire as to reason as it is a straight matter for SD - also why no action yet.

Lt Col SANSONE

5.

Calabria call-up: collected SMC project of org for the call-up of 24 - 25 classes in CALABRIA between 17 May and

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Phase III: 20 offers, 141, 170 total

Phases II and III consist of service personnel. Sgt requirements incl beg- gage in same proportions as for Phase I.

2. POGGIA round-up: infd him that HALF had not yet sent in the names of personnel liable to call-up when they wished to have exempted; and that until these lists are to hand no start can be made in the round-up ops. SENE is sus- pending further action until notified to continue by MEIA.

Lt Col DI BINCATO

3. Specialist volunteers for Italian Army: discussed contents of letter A/110 of 30 Apr, with which he is in complete agreement.

In order to obtain worthwhile results. DI BINCATO stressed need for increased pay for all types of special- ists, and a sum to this effect is being sent by RUMCO to the Gabinetto. The writer promised to discuss with Col Lombardi. The supplementary pay for specialists is negligible at the moment and is no inducement to join the army.

4. 808 CE En: enquired about carabinieri rfts required by the Benignori Sec of IAI: 4 offers, 20 HOO's. The matter is being dealt with by the Gabinetto - will enquire as to reason as it is a straight matter for SD - also why no action yet.

Lt Col SANSONE

5. Calabria call-up: collected SENE project of org for the call-up of '24 - '25 classes in CALABRIA between 17 May and 14 Jun 45. Handed to GSD.

6. Offers and HOO's in NORTH ITALY: after consulting Legal S/C and CA infd SANSONE (for CHATRIAN) that there was no objection on the part of MEIA to the release of press and wireless statement affecting offers and HOO's in Territory just liberated.

7. Lt IE ROBERTS: requested him to ensure that the Italian Interpreter offer at 802 HED is NOT removed, in view of the departure of the British interpreter from the camp.

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8. 1st Colo SAMPSON and GUIN

Grenadier gd units in RHE: infd them that action on our 30/15/2 of 16 Apr is to be suspended, and that the two Grenadier cpts will remain at a strength of 5 officers 150 men each - and no more. 534, 535 and King's Cpts to conform to same strength. No bn HQ to be implemented. Confirmation of above will be forthcoming on receipt of definite instrs from AFHQ.

Col PIACENTINI

9. BOLOGNA HQ: confirmed to him that subject to details being worked out by respective service branches, phase I of the move from RHE to BLOONA would be effected 1 May, phase II would be effected with additional tpt 3-4 days later, and phase III on return of vehs from phase I lift.

10. Adv parties for THQs 1, 2, and 3: Piacentini confirmed that 25 all ranks are ready to leave at 48 hrs notice at following locations:

No. 1 (TURIN) LAD MERGLI
No. 2 (GENOA) SANTA SEVERA
No. 3 (MILAN) SALERNO

Spoke DADT about tpt.

Col LAMBRANDI

11. Following subjects discussed:

- New NE of SMO (effective 1 May);
- Letterheadings for SMO;
- Surplus MCO's;
- Pay for specialists;

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Later, and phase III on return of vehs from phase I lift.

10. Adv parties for THQs 1, 2, and 3. Pincantini confirmed that 25 all ranks are ready to leave at 48 hrs notice at following locations:

No. 1 (TURIN) LADISPOLI
No. 2 (GENOA) SANTA SEVERA
No. 3 (MILAN) SALERNO

Spoke DADT about tpt.

Col LOMBARDI

11. Following subjects discussed:

- New WE of SMG (effective 1 May);
- Letterheadings for SMER;
- Surplus MCO's;
- Pay for specialists;

cap 1 May 65

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23/05/45

Major BAIMANN's Liaison Log

Gen MANNERINI

Italian type in CRETE : In answer to MIA request for info on this subject, Mannerini has supplied the following details :

Already at TARANTO (Camp 'A') :

III^a (less 1 Coy) Legione Volontari
Italiani 3 ofrs 600 CHs

Still in CRETE :

1 Coy III Bn Legione Volontari (about 200 all ranks)	) operating
I and II Bn Legione Volontari (1400 all ranks)	) with the
141 Bn Guardia Repubblicana (700 all ranks)	) Germans

In concentration camps in German hands :

2000 all ranks belonging to various units.

Lt Col DI BIONTO

CARABINIERI rfts : discussed contents of MIA letter SD/47 of 12 Apr authorising rfts to be selected from BR-III and III-III BRD's. In pt of fact, with the ceiling limited at 55000, no rfts are required at this moment, since the few hundred they are now below authorised strength will serve as a margin for absorbing suitable personnel found in the NORTH. What the Carabinieri are interested in is to have the 4% of the call-ups, which is now approved once more, in order to replace wastage and secure suitable types of the right ages as regular rfts. SAME and Public Safety both agree with above.

Lt Col SANSONE

FOGGIA call-up : explained to Sansone that there was no question of a bn or part of a bn of Mobile CC BR being drafted into the FOGGIA to assist with the call-up, as all surplus personnel is being drafted for the NORTH. However, at MIA request, Public Safety Sub Commission has instructed Carabinieri GHI to send a rep to War Ministry to discuss ways and means of making available additional Carabinieri help by temporary

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I and II Bn Legione Volontari (1400 all ranks)) with the
141 Bn Guardia Repubblicana (700 all ranks)) Germans

In concentration camps in German hands :

2000 all ranks belonging to various units.

Lt Col DI BUCONTO

2.

CARABINIERI rifts : discussed contents of AMIA letter 30/47 of 18 Apr authorising rifts to be selected from 84-ITI and ITI-ITI RD's. In ft of fact, with the ceiling limited at 55000, no rifts are required at this moment, since the few hundred they are now below authorised strength will serve as a margin for absorbing suitable personnel found in the NORTH. What the Carabinieri are interested in is to have the 4% of the call-ups, which is now approved once more, in order to replace wastage and secure suitable types of the right ages as regular rifts. SSME and Public Safety both agree with above.

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Lt Col SANSONE

3.

FOGLIA call-up : explained to Sansone that there was no question of a bn or part of a bn of Mobile CC RR being drafted into the FOGLIAMO to assist with the call-up, as all surplus personnel is being drafted for the NORTH. However, at AMIA request, Public Safety Sub Commission has instructed Carabinieri UHQ to send a rep to War Ministry to discuss ways and means of making available additional Carabinieri help by temporary transfer of personnel from stas in other parts of AMULIA.

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Col LOMBARDI

4.

AMULIA in NORTH Italy : discussed draft of Ministers letter (ref other log 21 Apr) and suggested small amendment. Revised letter sent to comds of all fans 23 Apr. Copy shown to GKC.

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Gen LIUZZI

5.

C. Capt GAY : discussed contents of 8 Army letter 9 Apr M 9027 A. Both LIUZZI and ROMCO take a very practical view of the problem and are well disposed to acceding to 8 Army request. LIUZZI wants to read through GAY's papers first to inform himself fully of the posn. ROMCO started GAY off on his present enterprise at the time of the armistice.

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Gen. RONCO

6. Mil Academy LECHE: very short of clothing, particularly socks. While appreciating the difficulties of clothing situation for IRI-III categories, Ronco makes special plea to let the Academy have the things they need.

Official Visits

7. Following Gen ofrs called on GOC pm 24 Apr: Comd
- Maj Gen BERARDO di FANLORE, designated to comd T.H.A. NORTH;
 - Maj Gen FALCETTI, head of Personnel Ofrs Directorate, Ministry of War;
 - Brig Gen DEL PANTA, head of V & R Directorate, Ministry of War;

Del Panta made particular request for the handing back to Italian army of part of the TOR DI QUINIO Riding School (just outside Rome), now requisitioned by the Allies. GOC agreed to investigate the matter.

Lt Col DI BINOATO

8. Liberation of NORTH Italy: discussed the statistics worked out by SARE and War Ministry in respect of personnel with homes in NORTH Italy. Di Binoato considers these a fair and conservative appreciation of the situation.

SARE has already circulated all HQs some ten days ago requesting precise details from every unit of age gys and domicile by regions, info which should reach them by 1 May.

In the meantime, the figure of 65000 men of 1915-34 classes with homes in NORTHERN Italy seems a fair and reasonable proportion of the total of about 185000 men of these same age gys now in the Army.

Lt Col VALERIO CUPOLI

9. In the course of conversation, the following offr movements were mentioned:-

- (a) to F.O.S. MAREMBE: 3 capts and 1 Lt (Instructors)
No further instructors will be posted until specifically requested.
- (b) 6 fl ofrs, 15 capts and 40 subalterns have been requested for AC Truck units.

- Brig Gen DEL PANTA, head of V & R Directorate,
Ministry of War;

Del Panta made particular request for the handing
back to Italian Army of part of the TOR DI LINDO Hiding
School (just outside Rome), now requisitioned by the
Allies. GOC agreed to investigate the matter.

Lt Col DI BITONTO

8.

Liberation of NORTH Italy: discussed the statistics
worked out by SARE and War Ministry in respect of personnel
with homes in NORTH Italy. DI Bitonto considers these a
fair and conservative appreciation of the situation.

SARE has already circulated all HQs some ten days ago
requesting precise details from every unit of age SAs and
domicile by regions, info which should reach them by 1 May.

In the meantime, the figure of 65000 men of 1915-1918
classes with homes in NORTHERN Italy seems a fair and
reasonable proportion of the total of about 165000 men of
these same age SAs now in the Army.

Lt Col VALARI CURTI

9.

In the course of conversation, the following offer
movements were mentioned:

- (a) to FIESCHERNE: 3 capt's and 1 Lt (Instructors)
No further instructors will be posted until
specifically requested.
- (b) 3 f. offrs, 15 capt's and 40 subalterns have
been requested for AC Truck units.
- (c) 81 offrs have been requested as cadres for
org of FAs returning from GERMANY.

Col CORBASSI

10.

Italian Army medals:

- (a) Regulations covering the campaign medal (8 Sep
43 onwards) will be published in the official
gazette in about 10 days. The ribbon has been
approved, but difficulties are foreseen over
production. The design of the medal will be
left until after the war.
- (b) Liberation of ROME medal: design of ribbon
and medal already approved by War Ministry -
now awaiting assent of Air and Navy Ministries.
Planned for issue on 4 June, mostly for US
troops. Only 200 - 300 Italian troops are eligible
(one coy 67 Regt and few SA personnel).

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11. Major JEFFSON (GSDIC)
Caribaldi Div : discussed the recent re-
patrolation of this fm. Asked him for any in-
form in possession of his org, which he subse-
quently supplied. Passed to 'G'.

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27/28 APR 45

Major BARNETT's Liaison Log

Col PLACENTINI

1. FOGLIA round-up: I infd Placentini that it was now the intention of MELA that the round-up should take place 9 - 19 May, that additional Carabinieri would be drafted from APULIA and that MELA would assist with 10 lead carriers to convey Carabinieri to FOGLIA and for use locally during the period of the call-up.

The SMC pt of view is as follows:

- (a) they are anxious that the round-up shall take place, but only if success is assured. A failure, or partial failure, would have unfortunate political repercussions.
- (b) A senior offr of CC RR GHQ has called on the War Ministry and infd them that no carabinieri can be spared at this time.
- (c) the forthcoming harvest in the FOGLIA area is an additional factor operating against the success.

As regards the Carabinieri rifts:

- (d) Public Safety Sub Commission is NOT in the posn to order the CC RR GHQ to produce additional personnel for this operation. It can recommend that such rifts be supplied, but under the present circumstances (i.e. potential state of unrest) and withdrawal of 10000 men for the NORTH from the NAPLES div alone, it would NOT recommend more than 100 or so rifts for this round-up from the entire NAPLES div.
- (e) The net effect of drafting 100 or so extra carabinieri into the FOGLIA area is unlikely to do more than offset the withdrawal of men for the NORTH from this area. Therefore, no material improvement will be obtained in comparison with previous arrangements for round-ups in FOGLIA area, which, as is known, resulted in complete failure.

Conclusion

- (f) That as conditions essential for success are NOT assured, the call-up is postponed until such time as the War Ministry thinks fit. This is the SMC recommendation.

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- (b) a senior officer of CC RR GHQ has called on the War Ministry and informed them that no carabinieri can be spared at this time.
- (c) the forthcoming harvest in the FOGLIANO is an additional factor operating against the success.

As regards the Carabinieri rifts :

- (d) Public Safety Sub Commission is NOT in the position to order the CC RR GHQ to produce additional personnel for this operation. It can recommend that such rifts be supplied, but under the present circumstances (i.e. potential state of unrest) and withdrawal of 10000 men for the NORTH from the NAPLES div alone, it would NOT recommend more than 100 or so rifts for this round-up from the entire NAPLES div.

- (e) The net effect of drafting 100 or so extra carabinieri into the FOGLIANO area is unlikely to do more than offset the withdrawal of men for the NORTH from this area. Therefore, no material improvement will be obtained in comparison with previous arrangements for round-ups in FOGLIANO area, which, as is known, resulted in complete failure.

Conclusion

- (f) That as conditions essential for success are NOT assured, the call-up is postponed until such time as the War Ministry thinks fit. This is the SAME recommendation.

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Lt Col SANCHEZ

2.

ASTRONI camp : at the time the first US-ITI recruits of the '24 - '25 classes were drafted to ASTRONI camp, Col PEROTTI Angelo was assigned to 812 Div to take charge of their trg. This has now been completed and PEROTTI is available for posting elsewhere.

SANCHEZ request authority to transfer this offer to 45 Inf Regt Depot in Sardinia.

3. TOR DI QUINTO : requested Sansone to have copies made of previous correspondence on new application made for requisition of part of the riding school - ref log 23/25 Apr para 7

Col PIACENTINI

4. CALABRIA call-up : in response to his request that the length of the call-up be cut down to 15 days (15 - 31 May), it was explained to him that apart from the question of limited rail capacity, the problem of soon was the main obstacle to be faced. In fact, the US-IMI and VII-IMI categories require no further rifle, and all three BR-IMI units are full. Until it becomes known what the volume of rifle for the NORTH is likely to be no large commitments can be taken on. Accordingly, at the most only half of the Calabria call-up (7000) can be dealt with in May (15 - 31) and the other half (7000) during the first half of June. Piacentini accepted this as going a long way to meet their request.

Lt Col GUIDA

5. New gd bus : requested info on progress of 526/7 6d Bus in course of film at PROSINAC. One gathers that things proceed slowly, but he promises details for tomorrow. They are short of some officers and NCOs (+) and also part of the eqpt. Info him that one bn might be needed very soon and instructed him to proceed with the film of yet another gd bn (5309) (+) ("A" Branch producing 800's for one bn ex TRANS in week 30 Apr - 6 May).

Col QUERZIA

6. Steps on activities of 'Gruppi' arranged with Quercia for copies of 3000 daily bulletins to be sent to MIA by special messenger, commencing 28 Apr. First day will include all reports for April. Info is supplied by Col REGENTINI from 15 Army Gp.

Lt Col SANSONE

7. AC Service FL SARDINIA : info Sansone (for Guida and Maurerini) that with disbandment of above unit unallotted personnel for AC now numbered 77. This personnel to be attached to WND and 1st Sub Commission for the firm of Collection and Transit Centres for handling returned PWs. Will be published later. Meantime the following breakdown is agreed :

12 officers
15 NCOs

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with in May (15 - 31) and the other half (7000) during the first half of June. Piacentini accepted this as going a long way to meet their request.

Lt Col GUINIA

5.

Now gd bus : requested info on progress of 506/7 Gd Bus in course of fm at PROSLINER. One gathers that things proceed slowly, but he promises details for tomorrow. They are short of some officers and NCOs (+) and also part of the capt. Inf'd him that one bn might be needed very soon and instructed him to proceed with the fm of yet another gd bn (5307) (+) ("A" Branch producing 100's for one bn ex THANI in week 30 Apr - 6 May).

Col GUEROTIA

6.

Sitings on activities of 'Gruppi': arranged with Guerota for copies of SARR daily bulletins to be sent to MIA by special messenger, commencing 28 Apr. First day will include all reports for April. Info is supplied by Col NEGROVI from 15 Army Gp.

Lt Col SANSEVERE

7.

AC Service PL. SARDINIA : inf'd Sansone (for Guide and Kannerini) that with disbandment of above unit unallotted personnel for AC now numbered 77. This personnel to be attached to WPD and IAW Sub Commission for the fm of Collection and Transit Centres for handling returned PWs. WB to be published later. Meantime the following breakdown is agreed :

12 officers
15 NCOs
50 men

Col PIACENTINI

8.

FOGLIA round-up : further to para 1 above, and on proposal of C-1, consideration will be given to moving the following types to FOGLIA area for three-week period to assist with the round-up :-

- (a) 100 Carabinieri from A'ULIA - to be arranged between War Ministry and OC BR GRQ;
- (b) Gd P1 100 strong from 804 BRD;
- (c) Gd P1 100 strong from 803 BRD;

(b) and (c) to be arranged by MIA. Piacentini's first reactions were favourable, subject to WPD's being in a position to spare their gd pla. The 300 rfts will give them the minimum additional strength needed to carry out the round-up operations.

10.5 ARMY

9. No. 6 Territorial HQ: spoke VAN KIM, who confirmed that adv party from FLORENCE was already functioning in BOLOGNA, and that 5 Army authority did NOT yet ~~adv~~ to main party still in ROME. Requested VAN KIM to discuss with appropriate authorities the move fwd of adv parties of THs 1,2 and 3. Requested OSD to confirm request by Sig. Infd Col PLACENTINI of above.

Capt Gay

10. "P" Ronco San: met OC of this unit at SMR, just back from latest op at FERRARA, where 120 of his men were dropped by parachute. This was a very difficult task and 20 men were lost. Present situation is that
- (a) 6 Army has told Gay that his unit is to be reorg;
 - (b) present strength is about 180 - mostly parachutists;
 - (c) Gay had no idea where the rfts for the new est would come from - he said this would have to be governed by 6 Army intentions as to future emp for his unit.

Lt Col SANSONE

11. ITI CMP/TC Coys: ref log 15/17 Apr para 12, requested further action to hasten the posting of 6 offrs of Sardinian origin.

Gen RONCO

12. Arm'd vehs for Carabinieri: Ronco is putting fwd a written request for the transfer to the CC RR GRG ROME of 9 or 12 lt arm'd vehs type L3 now at NAPLES. They are NOT required for the Army and in the hands of the Carabinieri and manned by Carabinieri personnel he considers they would be of considerable value for maintaining law and order in the capital. Discussed with G-1.

CO were left. Present situation is that

- (a) 8 Army has told Gay that his unit is to be reorg;
- (b) present strength is about 180 - mostly parachutists;
- (c) Gay had no idea where the rifts for the new est would come from - he said this would have to be governed by 8 Army intentions as to future exp for his unit.

Lt Col SANSONE

11.

IVI CMR/IC Coys: ref log 15/17 Apr para 12, requested further action to hasten the posting of 3 ofrs of Sardinian origin.

Gen RONCO

12.

Arm'd vehs for Carabinieri: Ronco is putting fwd a written request for the transfer to the CC ER GRN ROME of 9 or 12 lt arm'd vehs type L3 now at NAHLES. They are NOT required for the Army and in the hands of the Carabinieri and manned by Carabinieri personnel he considers they would be of considerable value for maintaining law and order in the capital. Discussed with C-1.

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col. 29 Apr 45

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Major Bumann's Liaison Log

26 APR 45

Gen LIUZZI (ref log 23/25 Apr para 5)

1. Capt GAY : further talk with LIUZZI, who had now read through the relevant papers and found the situation more complicated than was at first thought. Gay has two charges outstanding:

(a) Criminal charge of desertion from his unit at the time of the armistice and attempt to join the enemy (Germans). This allegation is made by XXII (Italian) Corps and the case is already in the hands of the Mil Tribunal, though action is temporarily suspended until the end of hostilities. There is no question of this action being definitely suspended as the machinery of law has already been set in motion. To complicate things, Gay has recently demanded that the case be proceeded without further delay, though nothing appears to have been done to meet this wish.

(b) Disciplinary action for inciting men of the FOLGORE Div to desert during the recent re-org of the NEMBO, for the purpose of joining 'F' Recce Sqn. Charge made by MORIGI. Although this is serious enough, it could be disposed of by a nominal sentence, in view of the circumstances.

(c) Liuzzi considers that SMPE would have no objection to GAY continuing to command one of the new Recce Bns converted from 'F' Recce Sqn, but they can NOT drop above charges for good, nor pretend that they never existed.

Count CASATI

2. Accompanied GOC for discussion of following subjects:

- GARIBOLDI Regt reorg ;
- Activities of combat gps;
- AMOLs in liberated Italy

Casati said that for the moment the situation was well under control, largely due to comprehension shown by Allied army comds, who were allowing men to go home, even if only for a few hours, to see how their homes and families had fared. Also, the esprit-de-corps

Good

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

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(b) Disciplinary action for inciting men of the POLGONA Div to desert during the recent re-org of the NEMBO, for the purpose of joining 'F' Recce Sqn. Charge made by MORIGI. Although this is serious enough, it could be disposed of by a nominal sentence, in view of the circumstances.

(c) Luzzati considers that SARE would have no objection to GAY continuing to condone one of the new Recce Bns converted from 'F' Recce Sqn, but they can NOT drop above charges for good, nor pretend that they never existed.

Count CASATI

2. accompanied GOC for discussion of following subjects:

- G. RIBAUDI Regt reorg;
- Activities of combat gps;
- AMOLS in Liberated Italy

Casati said that for the moment the situation was well under control, largely due to comprehension shown by Allied Army comds, who were allowing men to go home, even if only for a few hours, to see how their homes and families had fared. Also, the esprit-de-corps of the combat tps was very high, thanks to recent successes and reception by the inhabitants of the liberated localities. Danger period would be in a month's time or so, and it was to be hoped that by then some scheme would be in operation which allowed for a measure of regulated demobilization and leave.

- SAC

Casati confirmed that THAMZANI will be taking over from ME. E. 1 May, and simultaneously the est reduced to 10 ofrs and proportionate OMs.

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2. (Cont'd)

111 Tribunals

A decree was approved by the Cabinet 25 Apr passing the Tribunals under the Jurisdiction of War Ministry ref 1 May. BORMIARI would continue to direct the tribunal, being the only available official qualified for the work. At GOC's request, the Minister promised to take the following action:

- (a) Investigate the numbers of officials on the strength of Divisional Tribunals, with a view to reducing them from seven to about three;
- (b) Write to Territorial Comd to stress that the mil tribunals are among their most important responsibilities, and must receive close and constant attention.
- (c) Give consideration to a general amnesty as soon as the whole of Italy is liberated. The Minister to give a considered opinion on this suggestion in about two weeks time.

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No change of staff planned in the immediate future.

Restriction on of PW offers;

1 R & R unit and PAROLI inefficient veh park. The Minister to conduct immediate investigation.

Staffs for Northern Regions.

Col Lombardi

3.

111 personnel at V/T sta SARDINIA: the new head of the broadcasting system in Sardinia (V/R RUSSELL, appointed two days ago) had infd Lombardi that the thirteen mil personnel could not be replaced by 27 Apr. Lombardi recommended a few days grace. Spoke G-1 and agreed postponement of departure until 1 May. GSD to inform RMIA LO SARDINIA.

14 Col GSDM

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- (b) Write to Territorial Coms to stress that the mil tribunals are among their most important responsibilities, and must receive close and constant attention.
- (c) Give consideration to a general amnesty as soon as the whole of Italy is liberated. The Minister to give a considered opinion on this suggestion in about two weeks time.

- SIM

No change of staff planned in the immediate future.

- Restriction of PW offers;

- Suspected illegal practices in connection with 1 R & R unit and MARITIME inefficient veh park. The Minister to conduct immediate investigation.

- Staffs for Northern Regions.

COL LONGARBI

3.

Mil personnel at 1/2 sta SARDINIA: the new head of the broadcasting system in Sardinia (vv ROSSINI), appointed two days ago) had infd Lombardi that the thirteen mil personnel could not be replaced by 27 Apr. Lombardi recommended a few days grace. Spoke 5-1 and agreed postponement of departure until 1 May. GSD to inform MILA LC SARDINIA.

Lt Col GUIDA

4.

Information Centres: with the reduction in personnel movements in the SOUTH and corresponding increase in CENTRAL ITALY, SIMM propose transferring the following info centres to fresh locations:-

Info centre BARIETTA	to	PERUGIA
Info centre FOGGIA	to	ANCONA
Info centre LECCE	to	HEBENT
Info centre POTENZA	to	LIVORNO
Info centre SALERNO	to	FLORENCE
Info centre CASERTA	to	ANCONA

Must omit MILA authority on individual moves as and when it can be given.

col 26 Apr 45

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21/22 Apr 45

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

Lt Col SANDERS

1. CALABRIA call-up: infd him that a call-up of the 24 - 25 classes in CALABRIA would probably be required to take place between 20 May - 30 Jun, to produce 14000 men as originally planned. Requested him to have ratio of call-up worked out. G A

2. 523/4 G4 Bm: infd him that 523 G4 Bm would be required to move on 23 Apr and 524 G4 Bm during period 23/29 Apr. G

Lt Col ROCHAMONT

3. ABRUZZI mil districts: further to log 18/20 Apr para 8, RUEE P.S.G. state that vols are being removed from the mil districts of ABRUZZI on direct orders of MIA. Discussed with Q2 and ST. Q

4. Patriots in FLORENCE: SENE is infd that two batches of patriots volunteers for the army have been accepted in FLORENCE and drafted direct to 213 Div (92 + 115), on orders given by MIA LO 5 Army. Rochamont requested confirmation. Discussed with "A". G A

Lt Col SANDERS

5. Special 1st Gp - A.C.: handed him copy of MIA Q5 of 15 Apr containing such info as is available on the proposed org of AG T & Gp - ref log 15/17 Apr para 7. G

6. spoke also about following items:

- Antonio SAVINI
- "Isidoro at ADORE PIERO
- checks for NAZI goods
- Regia call-up (Carabinieri)
- 1000 volunteers for CEMAD
- Spt of mil districts in ABRUZZI

Lt Col Q. DM

7. 27 Det for BARI: - infd him that pending definite instructions from AFHQ, the poem at the moment is as follows:

- 227 Div to provide from own est 3 extra (incl 2 1/0) and 10 G4s
- additional personnel: 2 Capt

1152

1. 227 Det for BARI : - infd him that pending definite instructions from AMH, the poem at the moment is as follows :

2. 227 Div to provide from own est 3 officers (incl 2 i/o) and 15 (Reg additional personnel: 2 Capts 3 S/sgts 9 Ptes the whole question being negotiated between 3 Dist and 227 Div, therefore a SMC must contact 227 Div to find out what action that has to be taken by them.

LET COL SAVIN

3. 227 Det for BARI : - infd him that pending definite instructions from AMH, the poem at the moment is as follows :

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10. 227 Div to provide from own est 3 officers (incl 2 i/o) and 15 (Reg additional personnel: 2 Capts 3 S/sgts 9 Ptes the whole question being negotiated between 3 Dist and 227 Div, therefore a SMC must contact 227 Div to find out what action that has to be taken by them.

1152

Col. LORPPI

9. Liberation of Northern Italy : put Lombardi into the
picture of talk with CAMATI - see other log 21 Apr. Cord
10. Rank, badges and decorations : asked him for a copy
of any charts they may have on this subject. Cord
11. Further long talk on offer of Italian Army : system of
promotions, reports, appointments etc. A

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

III

23 Apr

SECRET

Maj SAUBANN's Liaison Log

18/20 APR 45

Gen LIUZZI

1. 209 Adm Div Hq : spoke Liuzzi about this Hq's need for greater attention to correspondence, ref letter of MMIA LO 1 Dist 16 Apr ref CL4.

Col DODGEN (RAC)

2. Grenadier Cd Coys - HOME : Dodgen phoned in connection with infm just rec'd from senior coy comd regarding reorg of present two coys into bn Hq and one sqd coy. He wanted to know on whose authority this was being done as RAC had NOT been consulted. Quoted AFHQ letter on which he will be taking action.

Lt Col GALLO

3. Double tier bunkers for FROSINONE: Gallo enquired about possibility of hastening tpt of bunkers for 800 men from CASTROVILLARI to FROSINONE. Tpt already requested and turned down. Spoke Col "Q" and infd Gallo that a renewed bid for rail move would be put in as soon as possible. Agreed NOT practical to tpt by rail.

Gen LIUZZI

4. Territorial Hq No. 6 : Further to details in log 4/5 Apr para 13, it has now been decided that the entire staff authorized for GULONNA shall go to SIENA. MMIA LO 5 Army and Gen CERICA recessed suitable area for the 130 all ranks. Spoke Q2 about the necessary authority from 59 Area.

Gen CHATRIAN

5. CARABINIEMI : ref log 15/17 Apr para 11, infd Chatrian that the immediate passage of the decree law reorganizing the forces of the CC ER and anticipating an eventual increase in their strength to 65000 was NOT approved, and that no action could be taken while the increase in strength was under consideration by the highest Allied authorities. Endorsed AC file accordingly.

Gen FREMIERI (19 Apr)

6. Comd of CREMONA Gp paid courtesy visit to GOC. His fan is resting out of the line after successful participation in 8 Army attack, during which CREMONA suffered casualties 20 killed 150

Lt Col GALLO

3. Double tier bunks for FROSINONE: Gallo enquired about possibility of hastening tpt of bunks for 800 men from CASTROVILLARI to FROSINONE. Tpt already requested and turned down. Spoke Col "Q" and infd Gallo that a renewed bid for rail move would be put in as soon as possible. Agreed NOT practical to tpt by rd.

Gen LIUZZI

4. Territorial HQ No. 5: Further to details in log 4/5 Apr para 13, it has now been decided that the entire staff authorized for BOLCONA shall go to SIENA. MIA LO 5 Army and Gen CARICA received suitable men for the 130 all ranks. Spoke Q8 about the necessary authority from 59 Area.

Gen CHATRIAN

5. CARABINIERI: ref log 15/17 Apr para 11, infd Chatrian that the immediate passage of the decree law reorganizing the forces of the CC RR and anticipating an eventual increase in their strength to 65000 was NOT approved, and that no action could be taken while the increase in strength was under consideration by the highest Allied authorities. Endorsed AC file accordingly.

Gen PREMIERI (19 Apr)

6. Comd of CREMONA: p paid courtesy visit to GOC. His fan is resting out of the line after successful participation in 8 Army attack, during which CREMONA suffered casualties 20 killed 150 wounded (70% onlines) and took 500 PRs.

Lt Col SILLI (20 Apr)

7. Republican tps: ref log 11/13 Apr para 5, infd him that the eight men taken as wounded PRs at AMZIO are to be handed over to CSDFIC (ROME) for attention Capt SANDERS. He later phoned that this is being done to-day, under arrangements carabinieri.

Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI

8. AMBUZZI mil districts: if the rounding-up of recalcitrant conscripts is to continue, which it must do in all fairness to the men who answered the call of their own accord, a minimum of tpt is required to ferry the men from mil districts to CHIETI for rail move to TRANI. Rochowanski stated that the vhs allotted to the four districts were all being withdrawn. Discussed with Q2 and replied that this is a matter for decision of ROME T.H.Q., under whose control the vhs are placed.

1140

Col LOMBARDI

9. CAOLIARI Broadcasting Sta : on the eve of the departure for the mainland of the all personnel it transpired that without them the only broadcasting sta in SARDINIA will have to close down. CASATI's intervention has been sought because of the political implications of discontinuing broadcasting altogether in the island. Accordingly War Ministry had been compelled to request a postponement of the departure (until civilian replacements arrive) and to give orders locally to this effect. Phoned GI and secured agreement to delay departure by one week.

Gen MANNERINI

10. Repatriated PW offers from MZ : Mannerini phoned that the ship with the offers on board had arrived at TARANTO but that some hitch had arisen as 58 Area had NOT received instrs and had applied to AFHQ to send the party to AVERSA, instead of LECCE. Infd "A" for necessary action. Later learned from Mannerini that the matter had been righted and that everything now going according to plan.

11. Italian Army personnel in CRETE: requested all available info on composition of tps still in CRETE, roughly estimated at 10000. Infd him of possibility of repatriation in ear future.

Gen LIUZZI

12. Territorial Hq No. 6 : Further to para 4 above, ascertained from Q4 (who contacted 59 Area) and by personal talks with CERICA and MIA LO 5 Army that in fact nothing had been done to secure accn in SIENA area. CERICA and MIA LO 5 Army will now take appropriate action with 59 Area within next day or two.

Lt Col SANGONE

13. Call-up returns: requested that returns which are still coming in daily for LAZIO and CAMPANIA regions be limited to twice a week.

Col FAICENTINI

14. Combat sp designations : Faicentini confirmed that apart from the changes already notified for the LORIANO, no other alterations in regimental or unit titles are

10. Repatriated persons: that the ship with the offrs on board had arrived at TARANTO but that some hitch had arisen as 52 Area had NOT received instrs and had applied to AFHQ to send the party to AVERSA, instead of LEGGEE. Infd "A" for necesary action. Later learned from Mannerini that the matter had been righted and that everything now going according to plan.

11. Italian Army personnel in CRETE: requested all available infm on composition of tps still in CRETE, roughly estimated at 10000. Infd him of possibility of repatriation in ear future.

Gen LIUZZI

12. Territorial Hq No. 6: Further to para 4 above, ascertained from Q2 (who contacted 59 Area) and by personal talks with CERICA and MALA LO 5 Army that in fact nothing had been done to secure accn in SIGMA area. CERICA and MALA LO 5 Army will now take appropriate action with 59 Area within next day or two.

Lt Col SANSONE

13. Call-up returns: requested that returns which are still coming in daily for LAZIO and CAMPANIA regions be limited to twice a week.

Col PAICENTINI

14. Combat gp designations: Piscentini confirmed that apart from the changes already notified for the LIGURANO, no other alterations in regimental or unit titles are necessary for the other combat gys.

Gen LIUZZI

15. Recce bns: infm has reached SMRE from 15 Army Gp that the first two patriot bands nominated by 8 Army can NOT be screened at the moment as they are operationally employed. This with ref to 5 and 7 screening deta sent to FIDENCE for this purpose - see log 14 Apr para 3.

cgl 20 APR 45

1139

SECRET

Maj BAUMANN's Liaison Log

15/17 Apr 45

Lt Col SAMSONE

1. Two IS bns for 84 duties in SICILY: SAME have already
replied with their letter 2521 of 14 Apr. The two bns can
be made available in whatever party of the island they are
required by III Dist. and will be designated as soon as
this info is supplied to Territorial HQ Palermo. The latter
is in close touch with MMIA LO, but up to two days ago he
was NOT "au fait" with the matter. C

2. SARDINIA call-up: following request for info from Mil
HQ SARDINIA clarified the following pts (after consultation
with OSD): C A

(a) phase II is postponed until 24 - 26 Apr;

(b) numbers to be recalled of the 16 - 24 classes
are NOT limited to 16000 (as said to have been
laid down by local MMIA LO), but will be readily
accepted up to 18000, the final figure agreed for
this GP.

Col LOMBARDI

3. 87 Regt FRIULI Gp: conveyed approval of appointment
of Col CARIGNANI to CC 87 Regt vice SCARFANI (ref log 14
Apr para 12). Carignani is leaving ROME 17 Apr. A

4. Former Italian PW camps for British PWs: Discussed
Allied requests for info on comds and staffs of PW camps
in connection with atrocity charges. Referred to GIII (I) G

5. Discussed officer situation, particularly as regards
elimination of inefficient offrs and system to be followed
for improving the gen standard of Italian army cadres.
Referred to Col 'A'. Comd A

Lt Col GUIDA

6. Mine clearance coys for AC: SAME has rec'd a copy of
AC letter of 28 Mar ref 9/BA/CA, addressed to MMIA, in con-
nection with fam of bn HQ for twelve mine lifting coys. G SORE

HQ SARDINIA clarified the following pts (after consultation with GSD):

- (a) Phase II is postponed until 24 - 26 Apr;
- (b) numbers to be recalled of the 16 - 24 classes are NOT limited to 15000 (as said to have been laid down by local MILA LO), but will be readily accepted up to 18000, the final figure agreed for this gp.

Col Lombardi

3. 87 Regt FRULLI Gp : conveyed approval of appointment of Col CARIGNANI to CC 87 Regt vice SCARFANI (ref log 14 Apr para 12). Carignani is leaving Rome 17 Apr.

4. Former Italian PW camps for British PWs: Discussed Allied requests for info on comds and staffs of PW camps in connection with atrocity charges. Referred to GIII (I)

5. Discussed officer situation, particularly as regards elimination of inefficient offrs and system to be followed for improving the gen standard of Italian Army cadres. Referred to Col 'A'.

Lt Col GUIDA

6. Mine clearance coys for AC : SARE has rec'd a copy of AC letter of 23 Mar ref S/Ba/CA, addressed to MILA, in connection with fm of bn HQ for twelve mine lifting coys. Guida has asked for further details, as it will be difficult to find the necessary personnel.

7. AC Tpt Regt : SARE continue to press for info about the two new truck bns, which according to their info have already been formed. SARE is NOT in a posn to regularise these new units until fm orders are rec'd from MILA, and in the meantime no one gets any pay!

1138

At Col DI BLONTO

8.

Exemptions: the recent change in the law on exemptions from call-up was NOT applied to APUZIA and CALABRIA, where the recall to the colours of 1914 to 24 classes had long since been completed. To make the situation equitable they propose calling-up the men no longer exempted, who are estimated at 1000 - 1500 for both regions. The op would be a gradual one and no special org required. Discussed with and approved by "A" and "C". Personnel recalled on EAST coast will be sent to 804 and on WEST coast to 803 INF. To commence 5 May.

Gen ROMCO

9.

Repatriated PWs: infd ROMCO of arrival of party from ME due 19 Apr.

10.

PROSINONE Depot: the comd designated for the IPI-ITI depot (Col CAFFARO) had called on ROMCO to ask to be relieved of the new appointment, as he felt it was beyond his capabilities. ROMCO said that when he used to know CAFFARO two years ago in the Aegean he was an active and capable offr, and it was very shaking now to see how he had completely "gone to seed". Ronco considered that in the circumstances there was nothing to do but accept his request and discharge him from the army as soon as possible. Accompanied Ronco to LOMBARDI's office to discuss this case and generally how it comes that offrs of this type are appointed to responsible posns. Col DE SAKNO (head of Cole Branch) was brought into the discussion, and said that he could only go on the records held by his office. The trouble is that these records are often misleading, being based on standards of values that bear no relation to reality, or to the exigencies of the moment. Various other candidates for the post were considered, and it was later announced that Col LUCCHETTI Augusto had volunteered for the job and would take over in two days time.

Gen CHATRIAN

11.

Carabinieri: Chatrian has been working on a proposed decree of law for reorg the Carabinieri on a revised system of divs and mob units and based on an overall eventual ceiling of 55000, to be arrived at gradually. War Ministry highly interested in having the decree approved by the gov't because of the internal security aspect, but being unable to contact AC direct, request the good offices of MIA in hastening the procedure.

Contacted Public Safety (Lt Col WILSON) and ascertained that no notice had yet been taken by them. Wilson promised to submit

A
C

A

Comd.
A

10.

PROSINONE Depot: the cmd designated for the IRI-ITI depot (Col CAFFARO) had called on RONCO to ask to be relieved of the new appointment, as he felt it was beyond his capabilities. RONCO said that when he used to know CAFFARO two years ago in the Aegean he was an active and capable offr, and it was very shaking now to see how he had completely "gone to seed". Ronco considered that in the circumstances there was nothing to do but accept his request and discharge him from the army as soon as possible. Accompanied Ronco to LOMBARDI's office to discuss this case and generally how it comes that offrs of this type are appointed to responsible posts. Col DS SAENCO (head of Cola branch) was brought into the discussion, and said that he could only go on the records held by his office. The trouble is that these records are often misleading, being based on standards of values that bear no relation to reality, or to the exigencies of the moment. Various other candidates for the post were considered, and it was later announced that Col LUCCHETTI Augusto had volunteered for the job and would take over in two days time.

Gen CHATRIAN

11.

Carabinieri: Chatrian has been working on a proposed decree of law for reorg the Carabinieri on a revised system of divs and mob units and based on an overall eventual ceiling of 65000, to be arrived at gradually. War Ministry highly interested in having the decree approved by the gov't because of the internal security aspect, but being unable to contact AC direct, request the good offices of MIA in hastening the procedure.

Cmd.

Contacted Public Safety (Lt Col WILSON) and ascertained that no action had yet been taken by them. Wilson promised to submit the decree to Director CA Branch for the necessary decision.

Lt Col DI BIONDO

12.

CMP Coys: requested him to hasten the posting of the six Sardinian offrs ref log 4/5 Apr para 15, only one of whom had so far reported.

Col LOMBARDI

13.

Army Lists (Gens and Cols): collected copy No. 77 of Italian Army 'ROLANDO' of gen offrs and cols brought up-to-date. For "A" branch.

"A"

1137

SECRET

Maj. BAUMANN's Liaison Log

14 April 45

Lt Col SANSONE

1. 523/4 Cd Bns: enquiries made of the ROME Territorial HQ elicited the info that these two new 8d units are now ready at FROSINONE. C

2. SALERNO call-up: it was seemingly beyond the capacity of the SALERNO district to hold the 250 men who were waiting to move in the first week in Apr. By the time the AT arrived to tpt the men to FROSINONE only 112 were left; a further 31 reappeared later, but the remaining 117 are AWOL. SAME has given orders for the vehs to report back to their unit at once. C A ST

3. Class 2nd screening dets: 5, 7 and 8 dets departed ROME 13 Apr for FROSINONE where they will report to Territorial HQ pending instrs: C

- 5 and 7 for screening first two patriot bands designated for recee bns;
- 8 at temporary disposal Patriot Branch.

Gen LIUZZI

4. Liuzzi visited RTC ICF 13 Apr and found things progressing satisfactorily. He saw a few soldiers of the Garibaldi Bde starting AT trg and was particularly struck by their bearing and discipline. C A

5. FROSINONE depot: there is no confirmation yet that the new CO has reported there. Liuzzi gave instrs to Personnel Branch to have NAPLES Territorial HQ pick up Col COFFARO by car and deliver him to FROSINONE. A

Lt Col GUIDA

6. 227 Det for APULIA: requested him to hasten their proposed est for this det.

Gen RONCO

7. Comms from SAME: Ronco fully agrees that SAME and War Ministry must speak with one voice (i.e. the Minister's), but he considers it would be bad policy, as tending to lower the authority and prestige of the Gen Staff, if all comms were signed as coming from the Minister as a matter of routine. Comd C of S C A C

Accordingly he proposes that:

(a) comms in reply to let

1136

1987

Pezzing letters:

- 5 and 7 for screening first two patriot bands designated for recon bns;
- 8 at temporary disposal Patriot Branch.

Gen LIUZZI

4. Liuzzi visited RIC ICF 13 Apr and found things progressing satisfactorily. He saw a few soldiers of the Garibaldi Bde starting MT trng and was particularly struck by their bearing and discipline. G A

5. FROSINONE depot: there is no confirmation yet that the new CC has reported there. Liuzzi gave instrs to Personnel Branch to have EARLES Territorial Hq pick up Col COFFARO by car and deliver him to FROSINONE. A

Lt Col GUIDA

6. 227 Det for APOLO: requested him to hasten their proposed est for this det.

Gen RONCO

7. Comms from SMRE: Ronco fully agrees that SMRE and War Ministry must speak with one voice (i.e. the Minister's), but he considers it would be bad policy, as tending to lower the authority and prestige of the Gen Staff, if all comms were signed as coming from the Minister as a matter of routine. Ccmd C of S C A Q

Accordingly he proposes that:

1136

- (a) comms in reply to letters addressed personally to the Minister, even if they are matters that concern the Gen Staff, shall continue to be signed by the Minister personally;
- (b) other matters of importance or of a policy nature which concern the Gen Staff will be signed by Ronco, though he will have the Gen Staff letter heading altered to "SMRE Branch of the War Ministry".
- (c) matters of lesser importance can be signed by the "assistant gen to C of S" (LIUZZI) - who is the only official (other than RONCO) entitled to sign for SMRE.

Chief of Staff SMEL is empowered by law to sign in his own name. But apart from this, RONCO says that as technical adviser to the Minister, everything he signs is bound to represent the policy and views of the Minister.

8. Met Lt Col DEMARCO in Ronco's office. He is one of the IAI reps at 5 Army HQ, and has under him approx 50 Nucleo 'I' offrs with various 5 Army units.

9. Divisional tribunals: personnel for the first two courts is being organized on the basis of three or four all ranks per court and will be allocated to Friuli/Cremona and Folgore/Legnano respectively. Ronco is anxious that two further courts be constituted soonest and would like to see personnel of the SAS AKI and LECCE tribunals used for this purpose. He fears, however, that when an attempt is made to transfer the personnel the constituent offrs will fall out on some pretext or other because of local ties and desire not to be moved from where they now are. Spoko Lombardi about this.

Count CASATI

10. Regional comds for the NORTH: Infd the Minister that GOC had approved the list dated 7 Apr 45 of gen offrs designated for Territorial HQs for the NORTH.

11. Conveyed to CASATI message from GOC in connection with film show 11 Apr.

Col LOMBARDI

12. FRIULI Op: GOC FRIULI has requested the replacement on account of excessive fatigue of the comd 87 Regt, Col SCAPINI. War Ministry propose sending in his place Col CARIGNANI Ferdinando of the Grenadier Regt, and await MILA approval.

13. Infd him (in answer to previous enquiry) that RAAC were NOT in a posn at the moment to derequisition the apartment belonging to Gen BALOCCH. This was required in order to make another apartment free for BALOCCH.

14. Colonello JONES: this is not the first time a request has been made for an investigation on behalf of this offr, but nothing can be done by the War Ministry until a proper application is made by Col JONES direct to the War Ministry. "regolare domanda ai sensi delle disposizioni in vigore"

15. Following gen offrs available in ROME for calling on GOC: 1935

is made to transfer the personnel the constituent offers will fall out on some pretext or other because of local ties and desire not to be moved from where they now are. Spoke Lombardi about this.

Count CASATI

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Regional comds for the NORTH: Infd the Minister that GOC had approved the list dated 7 Apr 45 of gen ofrs designated for Territorial Hqs for the NORTH.

Comd
A

11.

Conveyed to CASATI message from GOC in connection with film show 11 Apr.

0064

Col LOMBARDI

12.

FRULLI Op: GOC FRULLI has requested the replacement on account of excessive fatigues of the comd 87 Regt, Col SCAPPINI. War Ministry propose sending in his place Col CARIGNANI Ferdinando of the Grenadier Regt, and await MIA approval.

A

13.

Infd him (in answer to previous enquiry) that RAC were not in a posn at the moment to derequisition the apartment belonging to Gen BALOGGIO. This was required in order to make another apartment free for BALOGGIO.

Q

14.

Colonello JONES: this is not the first time a request has been made for an investigation on behalf of this offr, but nothing can be done by the War Ministry until a proper application is made by Col JONES direct to the War Ministry. "regolare domanda ai sensi delle disposizioni in vigore"

A

15.

Following gen ofrs available in ROXE for calling on GOC:

1065
A

Brig Gen CASATI Inspector of Arty
Brig Gen ALONSO Inspector of Engrs
Maj Gen BERAUDO di PRELORNO Comd TURIN T.E.C.

SECRETMAJOR RAUBANN'S LIAISON LOG13/13 APR 45.Lt. Col. SANSONE

1.

230 ADM DIV: the outgoing C of S (Lt Col INSINNA) has submitted his proposals for overhauling the staff, which incl the removal of most of the key personnel! SURE consider it NOT practicable to do this and will use their judgement.

G.
Q.

Maj FIOCHIONI, Comandant Branch 228 Div will be transferred to 230. It is NOT proposed to transfer any further effrs from 228.

SURE will submit proposed est for the 227 Div det for APULIA.

2.

A.C. Truck Eder Col GELLI Rodolfo, regular arty effr, is being posted as OC of this unit - ref Log 10 Apr para 2. GELLI was recently OC 8 Centro Riparazioni e Ricupero

G.
A.

3.

PROSINONE ITI - ITI Depot: HOME Territorial HQ is very definite that there has been no influx at PROSINONE of "bad types" sent there direct from other units. NEJA current instrs are that men absent from units over 30 days because of sickness, leave, desertion, detention in prison etc will report back to their respective Base Depots. ITI-ITI personnel reporting to PROSINONE in this way are estimated at 100 - 200 per month. In addition, there are the shirkers from the call-ups, rounded up by the police and escorted from the mil districts. These also represent undesirable elements. HOME Territorial HQ is investigating the situation at PROSINONE, but it is unlikely that the posn can be changed unless existing regulations are altered.

C of S
G.
A.Lt. Col. SILLI

4.

Patriot bands: discussed contents of NEJA letter of 6 Apr. SD/26

G.

5.

Republican tps: the War Ministry is exercising its mind over the policy to be followed with regard to men who have served at some time or other in the army of the Italian Republican Govt - other than those taken as PW's by the Allies in action and treated accordingly. Obviously very large numbers of these men will quietly fade away and go home with the enemy collapse or withdrawal in the NORTH, and will have to be traced and apprehended at a later date. The question has been brought to a head by the problem of disposing of eight of these men who were wounded and taken prisoner at ANZIO and have been in Italian hosps ever since. War Ministry will be writing to...

Comd.
A.

is being posted as UC of this unit - ref Log 10 Apr para 2. CELLI was recently OC 8 Centro Riparazioni e Ricupero

A.
C of S
C.
A.

PROSINONE ITH - ITH Depot: HOME Territorial HQ is very definite that there has been no influx at PROSINONE of "bad types" sent there direct from other units. MILIA current instrs are that men absent from units over 30 days because of sickness, leave, desertion, detention in prison etc will report back to their respective Base Depot. ITH ITH personnel reporting to PROSINONE in this way are estimated at 100 - 200 per month. In addition, there are the shirkers from the call-ups, rounded up by the police and escorted from the mli districts. These also represent undesirable elements. HOME Territorial HQ is investigating the situation at PROSINONE, but it is unlikely that the poem can be changed unless existing regulations are altered.

MA. COL. SILLI

Patriot bands: discussed contents of MILIA letter of 6 Apr. SD/26

C.
Comd.
A.

Republican tps: the War Ministry is exercising its mind over the policy to be followed with regard to men who have served at some time or other in the army of the Italian Republican Govt - other than those taken as PW's by the Allies in action and treated accordingly. Obviously very large numbers of these men will quietly fade away and go home with the enemy collapse or withdrawal in the NORTH, and will have to be traced and apprehended at a later date. The question has been brought to a head by the problem of disposing of eight of these men who were wounded and taken prisoner at ANZIO and have been in Italian hospitals since. War Ministry will be writing to MILIA to enquire whether Allies have further interest in this specific case.

COL. LAFBARDI

Mil Hosp CATANZARO: the investigations carried out by Territorial HQ NAPLES have fully confirmed the allegations in the letter addressed to War Minister (ref Log 26 Mar para 6). All the officers on the staff are being suspended forthwith and will either be retired (as is proposed for the CO) or dealt with less severely according to the results of the detailed enquiries into the cases of the individual officers. Full particulars from the War Ministry to follow.

Comd.
A.
C III(I)

Visit to MAIELLA Bend: the official visit of the Prince, accompanied by CASATI, has been postponed - ref Log 6/7 Apr para 9

...../2/..

Sheet 2.

8. COC's visit to LECCE: LOMBARDI confirmed that all arrangements had been made for the visit to Mil Academy for Sat. 14 Apr. Comd.

Gen. MANNERINI

9. Repatriated PW's: MANNERINI called at MIA in connection with following queries:

- (a) he required authority to quote Adm Instruction No 18 (paras 6 a & b) to UNRRA, in connection with help he is trying to enlist for sick and naked personnel returning from GERMANY. The above is the relevant passage which lays down that such PW's are civilians. Consulted Col. 'A' and infd him no objection.
- (b) TARANTO Presidio: MANNERINI thought there was some misunderstanding over this Unit. He asserted that the personnel was specifically authorized as additional staff for ST. ABRAHAM's camp as far back as 6 Dec 44. I pointed out that if this was the case it should figure as part of the camp staff and NOT as an independent unit.
- (c) Lt Col CAMPBELL of WD & IP Branch has been discussing with the War Ministry the org which it is planned to set up in Northern ITALY to deal with repatriated PW's from GERMANY and overseas. This is being planned on a regional basis, each region to have so many camps and a central depot. War Ministry required to produce approx 400 all ranks as staff nucleus and MANNERINI had very naively passed on the request to SARE. Reminded him that without AFHQ authority no personnel can be made available for this scheme, and that WD & IP Branch is responsible for obtaining the approval. MANNERINI phoned CAMPBELL's office to remind them of this. He will keep MIA infd of developments.

OFFICIAL VISITS

10. Col MELONI called on taking up his appointment at head of "Q" branch SARE. Introduced to Col 'Q' - Q.2 - ST - DADOS

Lt Col CHECCHIA

11. Accn stores to be transferred from SARDINIA: CHECCHIA complained that he had rec'd no instrs on move of stores to Mainland since the figure of 12,000 was provisionally

Cond
C *A* *Q*

1132

(b) TARANTO President MANERINI thought there was some misunderstanding over this Unit. He asserted that the personnel was specifically authorized as additional staff for ST. ANDREAS camp as far back as 6 Dec 44. I pointed out that if this was the case it should figure as part of the camp staff and NOT as an independent unit.

(c) Lt Col CAMPBELL of WMD & IPW Branch has been discussing with the War Ministry the org which it is planned to set up in Northern ITALY to deal with repatriated PW's from GERMANY and overseas. This is being planned on a regional basis, each region to have so many camps and a central depot. War Ministry required to produce approx 400 all ranks as staff nucleus and MANERINI had very naively passed on the request to SERE. Reminded him that without AFHQ authority no personnel can be made available for this scheme, and that WMD & IPW Branch is responsible for obtaining the approval. MANERINI phoned CAMPBELL's office to remind them of this. He will keep MIA info of developments.

OFFICIAL VISITS

Col MILONI called on taking up his appointment at head of 2nd branch SERE. Introduced to Col 'Q' - Q.2 - SF - BARDOS

Lt Col CECCHIA

Accm stores to be transferred from SARDINIA; CECCHIA complained that he had rec'd no instrs on move of stores to Mainland since the figure of 12,000 was provisionally fixed as the number of tps to be maintained on the Island. Instead, instrs had been issued to MIA LC in SARDINIA who had given orders direct to the local HQ without SERE knowing about it.

1133

SECRET

Major BACKMAN's Liaison Log

8/9 Apr 45

Ca LIUZZI

1. Arty installations: collected revised table of info on amn dumps in ROME and to the SOUTH, for which sds are required. These consist of 29 dumps, depots or installations holding an estimated total of 20,000 tons of arty and mortar amn and amn charges of all kinds, hand grenades and S.A. amn. SICILY and SARDINIA are excluded from these figures, since the dumps on the islands are guarded by Internal Security tps. Comd
C
2. Cut in rations: Liuzzi had just rec'd a phone call from Negrozi (XI Army Gp) on the abolition of the supplementary ration. This was being made effective 8 Apr and it was feared would produce unfortunate reaction on the part of the combat gps. Comd
C
3. MANTOVA offers: the three subaltern offers posted to the AOSTA Div had just been commissioned from the ranks of the MANTOVA. It was to conform with normal practice that they were posted to another fm. The transfer has now been cancelled. A
DADT
4. Territorial HQ's for the NORTH: now that the org of all six Hqs is well under way, SURE is anxious that some proportion of MT be allocated to each Hq. Following is general poem:

(a) the est for FLORENCE region is being completed and the full allotment of MT is needed;
(b) substantial allotment for BOLGONA urgent priority;
(c) part allotment for TURIN, GENOA, MILAN, UDINE, BOLLANO.

A
DADT
6. He would like a reply soonest on the following pts:

- his visit to 5 and 8 Armies;
- shipping for repatriating Italian tps from ALBANIA.

Comd
A

Mario PALERMO

Gen RONCO

7. BOLGONA Gp: following receipt of strong recommendation from MORIOI, Ronco has decided to approve appointment of Lt Col SIMONETTI Carlo to 2 i/c 22222 Regt. Ronco will have a talk with SIMONETTI before he leaves with ref to the particular problems of discipline outstanding with the NEARCO. This appointment is recommended by 53 BLU. Comd
A

part of the combat gpe.

3.

MANTOVA offers : the three subaltern offrs posted to the ACOSTA Div had just been commissioned from the ranks of the MANTOVA. It was to conform with normal practice that they were posted to another fm. The transfer has now been cancelled.

Comd

A
4.

Territorial HQ's for the NORTH : now that the org of all six Hqs is well under way, SARE is anxious that some proportion of MT be allocated to each HQ. Following is general poem :

(a)

the est for FLORENCE region is being completed and the full allotment of MT is needed;

(b)

substantial allotment for BOLOGNA urgent priority;

(c)

part allotment for TURIN, GENOA, MILAN, UDINE, BOLZANO.

Comd

A
5.

He would like a reply soonest on the following pts:

-

his visit to 5 and 8 Armies;

-

shipping for repatriating Italian tps from ALBANIA.

Comd

A
6.

Gen RONCO

Comd

A
7.

FLORENCE G2: following receipt of strong recommendation from MORIOI, Ronco has decided to approve appointment of Lt Col SIMONETTI Carlo to 2 i/o MEMO Regt. Ronco will have a talk with SIMONETTI before he leaves with ref to the particular problems of discipline outstanding with the MEMO. This appointment is recommended by 53 Hq.

Comd

A
7.

KTC 107 : After giving Col FAMILIA another chance (ref log 17 MAY para 2) VECCHI and RONCO have both decided that he must be replaced. VECCHI will propose to OC Hq that Col TOSCHI be transferred from 4 Bn to take his place.

Comd

A
8.

Div tribunals: general discussion of this subject. RONCO considers it quite a nonsense that seven members of the J.A. branch are needed on each div tribunal: one, or at the most two, is all that is needed in his estimation. This would enable a larger number of courts to be set up, thus speeding up procedure considerably. He is writing a letter to this effect to the 111 Tribunal Branch of SAC, with copy to MILIA.

Comd

A

9. ~~FRUILLI Op: Ronco was very satisfied with the visit just made to the FRUILLI and with the situation there. Although the divisional comd appeared a trifle run down, Ronco thought him absolutely on top of the job, and quite fit mentally and physically. The 21st and C of S are both working well with SCATTINI, and there is also an excellent understanding between the latter and his regimental comds. Ronco thanked CC BERN for his very frank report on the op.~~

Comd
A

Official visits:

10. The following called on GOC 9 Apr:

- Brig Gen MOROSINI, designated to comd Arty Branch at TURIN Territorial HQ;
- Brig Gen ROSSI, to be comd Arty Branch GENOVA Territorial HQ, or Mil Attache BERN.

Comd
A

Col LOMBARDI

11. Collected the following cns:

- List of ladies for Welfare Service (8 Apr)
- List of Territorial HQs for the NORTH (9 Apr)

A
ADAMS

12. Mil attaches: the Italian Foreign office has decided that it can no longer afford to maintain separate reps of the three services at foreign capitals. Accordingly the Navy will provide the attache for ANKARA and MADRID, leaving STOCKHOLM, SOFIA and BERN for the Army. This leaves the Army designates for ANKARA and MADRID surplus, and may result in ECDA NOT going to BERN after all (see para 11 above).

Comd
A

Col Lombardi

11. Collected the following items :

- List of ladies for Welfare Service (8 Apr)
- List of Territorial HQs for the NORTH (9 Apr)

A
ADAMS

12.

All attaches : the Italian Foreign office has decided that it can no longer afford to maintain separate reps of the three services at foreign capitals. Accordingly the Navy will provide the attache for ANKARA and MADRID, leaving STOCKHOLM, SOFIA and ROME for the Army. This leaves the Army designates for ANKARA and MADRID surplus, and may result in ECDA NOT going to BERN after all (see para 11 above).

Comd
A

1131

SECRET

MAJOR RAIMAN'S LIAISON LOG

10 Apr 45.

Lt Col SANSONE

1. 68 Regt LEGNANO: requested info concerning Lt MINICOMI and 2/Lt AVANCO - whether posted or att'd as IOs to 68 Regt. Info required for XV Army Gp. It was later stated that both offrs belong to NUCLEO 'I' and were only temporarily att'd 68 Regt. A.

2. US-ITI Truck Units: requested full Col be posted to AC for US-ITI truck coys. Required as CO for comd and discipline and NOT as technical offr. SANSONE will notify as soon as they have found suitable offr - possibly within 48 hrs. G.

3. Flashes for service units: to avoid confusion with existing regimental flashes of the same colours it is agreed that the new flashes recently approved for gds, bus, par and miscellaneous units be about half the length of the usual flashes. Sketch submitted and approved by 'A'. G.
A.
Q.

Col. LOWBARDI

4. Prince Rassicane CARTANI (ref Log 1/3 Apr para 3). The property nr LITTORIA was requisitioned by the War Ministry NOT as an emergency SL site but as a SL Trg Est. It is stated that a number of permanent buildings have already been erected on the property, and it has now to be decided as to their disposal. Comd.

Gen. LIUZZI

5. Res of offrs for the NORTH: ref Log of 30/31 Mar para 1, inf'd LIUZZI that the central pool of 70 offrs in res for the NORTH must be held at FROSINONE and nowhere else. G.
A.

Lt Col DI RUTONE

6. Low red category personnel: long discussion on various aspects of this question. Comd.
C of S.
G.
A.
Q.
- (a) SURE is awaiting NMLA approval to discharge the low red category personnel of 1921 - 24 classes (their letter of 2 Apr ref 14871 refers), estimated to number about 2200 with horses in library.

G.
A.
Q.

Cond.

G.
A.

Cond.
C of S.
G.
A.
Q.

1130

...2/..

3.

Flashes for service units to avoid confusion with existing regimental flashes of the same colours it is agreed that the new flashes recently approved for gds, bns, par and miscellaneous units be about half the length of the usual flashes. Sketch submitted and approved by 'A'.

Col. LOWBARDY

4.

Prince Bassiano CAETANI (ref Log 1/3 Apr para 3). The property nr LITTORIA was requisitioned by the War Ministry NOT as an emergency SL site but as a SL Trg Est. It is stated that a number of permanent buildings have already been erected on the property, and it has now to be decided as to their disposal

Gen. LIUZZI

5.

Res of offers for the NORTH: ref Log of 30/31 Mar para 1, infd LIUZZI that the central pool of 70 offers in res for the NORTH must be held at FRASINONE and nowhere else.

Lt Col DI BITONTO

6.

Low med category personnel: long discussion on various aspects of this question.

(a)

SMRE is awaiting MHA approval to discharge the low med category personnel of 1921 - 24, classes (their letter of 2 Apr ref 14871 refers), estimated to number about 2200 with homes in liberated ITALY. In removing these men from the rolls of the Army they propose to continue their obligations of compulsory service by transferring them to Italian Red Cross, for exp in "over-60 day hops" and the org for receiving tips and PW's repatriated from overseas. IRC has been endeavouring unsuccessfully for many months to recruit volunteers for this work and has come to the conclusion that the men must be conscripted. This is a normal procedure for certain categories of IRC employees.

(b)

The low med category personnel liable to demobilisation but with homes in NOT presents a serious headache for the Italian Govt. Their disposal is NOT the responsibility of Ministry of War, and a letter has accordingly been sent to ROMANI to inform him of the orders rec'd from MHA and representing the urgent need to find accom and work for these men.

Sheet 2

6. (Contd.)

(b)

It is said that ROMONT will write to AC to request that the demobilisation be deferred to give them time to find a solution.

Gen LIUZZI

7.

PULCORE Gp: At the last moment the posting of Lt Col SIMONETTI was cancelled by RMCO, following the discovery of a parachutist officer suitable to be 2 i/c NEMBO Regt. Lt Col LUSENA. Further info to hand indicates that Lt Col YZZO (formerly 2 i/c) has been assigned to command a bn of the SAN MARCO Regt vice ? GALLO.

A.

OFFICIAL VISITS

8.

The following called on GOC 10 Apr:

Maj Gen PRATTINI, designated as command GENOVA Territorial HQ.

Command.
A.

Maj Gen SOLDARELLI, on taking up command of ROME Territorial HQ

9.

Lt Col D'ACATA

MAIELLA Band and 171 Recce Sqn. After consultation with 'A' Branch, info above offer NOT to take action ref Log A/5 Apr para 12, pending further instrs from MIA. D'ACATA was about to visit both Units to obtain info in connection with their incorporation in the Army.

G.
A.

two.

Major
MIA

1129

OFFICIAL VISITS

8.

The following called on GOC 10 April
Maj Gen PRATTINI, designated as comd GENOA
Territorial HQ.

Comd.
A.

Maj Gen SOLDANELLI, on taking up comd of
ROME Territorial HQ

Lt Col DIAGATA

9.

MAIELLA Band and 7th Recce Sqdn: After consultation with 'A' Branch, infd above offr NOT to take action ref Log 4/5 Apr para 12, pending further instrs from HQ. DIAGATA was about to visit both Units to obtain info in connection with their incorporation in the Army.

C.
A.

trv.

Major
HWA

1129

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

SECRET

6/7 Apr

Maj BAUMAN's Liaison LogChief Commissioner, A.C.

1. Submitted translation of new decree law on functions of SMO and discussed various aspects of the case. Comd

Following subjects also mentioned :

- GARIBOLDI Bde.
- Commissions for patriot leaders

Details referred to GCG.

Count CASATI

(6 Apr)

Comd

2. SMO : Infd the Minister that no developments likely for 48 hrs.

Col LOMBARDIComd
'A'
ADAMS

3. Chased him for following info which had been promised for today (6 Apr), and which will now be available 7 Apr :

- list of 30 names for Women's Welfare Service;
- list of gen ofrs for Territorial Hqs in the NORTH.

4. Appointments : conveyed approval of following postings after consultation with 'A' Branch :

- Brig Gen FAVA to 2 1/c 209 Div;
- Col CAFFARO Ettore to CC PROSINONE Depot (Vice CROSA);
- Col GATTO to CC 802 HEC ORVETO vice Lt Col PAPADIA;

Comd
C of S
'A'

5. Lt Col BARTONE : after discussion with Maj COLLINS and consultation with G1, it was decided that above ofr should be posted to Nucleo 'I'. Lombardi and 'A' Branch info accordingly. This suits British 'I' org since they particularly request that he is NOT carried on 'LAI & GP' strength.

Comd
'A'

6. Cooperators : Infd Lombardi that the question of the conversion of PW's on parole in ITALY into Italian Army personnel was in the hands of AFHQ and that there were no further developments to report.

Comd
'A'
'C'

7. Mil Academy LECCE : Infd Lombardi that GCG will be visiting the Academy Sat 14 Apr at 1130 hrs. Lombardi will make the necessary arrangements.

Comd

Count CASATI

8.

Infd the Minister (8 Apr)

1128

for 48 hrs.

Col Lombardi

Comd
'A'
ADAMS

3. Chased him for following info which had been promised for today (6 Apr), and which will now be available 7 Apr:

- list of 30 names for Women's Welfare Service;
- list of gen offrs for Territorial HQs in the NORTH.

4. Appointments: conveyed approval of following postings after consultation with 'A' Branch:

Comd
C of S
'A'

- Brig Gen FAVA to 21/c 802 Div;
- Col CAFFARO Ettore to CC FROSINONE Depot (vice CHOSA);
- Col GATTO to CC 802 HEC ORVETO vice Lt Col PAPADIA;

5. Lt Col BERTONE: after discussion with Maj COLLINS and consultation with CI, it was decided that above offer should be posted to Nucleo 'I'. Lombardi and 'A' Branch info accordingly. This suite British 'I' org since they particularly request that he is NOF carried on 'LAI & BP' strength.

Comd
'A'

6. Cooperators: info Lombardi that the question of the conversion of PW's on parole in ITALY into Italian Army personnel was in the hands of AFHQ and that there were no further developments to report.

Comd
'A'
'C'

7. Mil Academy LECOE: info Lombardi that GOC will be visiting the Academy Sat 14 Apr at 1130 hrs. Lombardi will make the necessary arrangements.

Comd

Count Casati

1128

8. Info the Minister (7 Apr) that Chief Commissioner AG had notified GOC that the SAG decree was approved, and that THOMAS's name had been recommended for AFHQ approval as the new head of SAG. Casati was very pleased to hear that the negotiations were proceeding smoothly and grateful to GOC for his guidance and help in the matter. The Minister added that he had heard that Stone had called on DE CURTIS and consulted him on the question, and that DE CURTIS had expressed himself fully in accord with CASATI's proposals. The Air Minister had been similarly consulted.

Comd

9. Banda MARELLA: At the Prince's request, the War Minister will accompany him on Monday 9 Apr on a visit to Banda MARELLA for the presentation of decorations. The trip is being organized by INFANTE; and CASATI taking no action as regards passes.

Comd
'A'
GIII(I)

Gen LIUZZI

10.

Arm dumps : assisted at meeting with Ol to discuss the guarding of arm dumps and powder stocks. LIUZZI produced figures in sp of his request for a minimum of 200 mil personnel required to safeguard these installations. MILA to obtain ruling and issue directive on disposal of Italian arm and explosives so as to eliminate need for these dumps and their Gds. Meantime the 200 mil gds are to be carried against vacancies in category 1 (b). Liuzzi's request to be allowed additional personnel to clear unexploded shells and bombs was NOT granted. He was told to get this organized with demobilized Army personnel with the necessary qualifications.

Comd
C of S
C
Q

Gen MORO

11.

MORC called on GOC on taking up his appointment as Inspector of Auxiliary Tps vice MATTEOLI. DADL present.

Comd

Lt Col ROCHOMANSKI

12.

Ascertained that the surplus 100 sussistenza (sup) personnel required to be moved to NAPLES are to be assigned to Territorial Hqs in the NORTH.

CLIED

13.

Inf'd him that 260 call-up personnel at SALERNO will be moved to FROSINONE 8 Apr.

CLIT SD

Gen LIUZZI

14.

FULGORE : Liuzzi will make enquiries about the request for the assignment of Lt Col SIMONETTI Carlo as 2 i/o NEMEO Regt. He had heard nothing about it.

'A'

Col LOMBARDI

15.

Provisional arrangements for the following gen ofrs to call on GOC Monday and Tuesday: MORGINI - ROMA - PERLORO.

Comd

1127

2004

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

Inspector of Auxiliary Tps vice MATIOLI. DADL present.

Lt Col ROCHOWANSKI

CHIED

12.

Ascertained that the surplus 100 sussistenza (sup) personnel required to be moved to NAPLES are to be assigned to Territorial Hqs in the NORTH.

13.

Inf'd him that 280 call-up personnel at SALERNO will be moved to FROSINONE 8 Apr.

CHIED SD

Gen LIUZZI

14.

FOLGORE : Liuzzi will make enquiries about the request for the assignment of Lt Col SIMONETTI Carlo as 2 i/o NEMBO Regt. He had heard nothing about it.

'A'

Col LOMBARDI

15.

Provisional arrangements for the following gen offr to call on GOC Monday and Tuesday: MOROSINI - ROMA - FIRENZE.

Comd

1127

SECRET

4/5 APR 45.

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG

1. Col. LOEBARDI

Mail hosp, CATANZARO: ref log 25/26 Mar para 6, investigations are being carried out by Territorial HQ NAPLES and Medical Directorate, 2 of W. Results will be notified 10 Apr.

"A"

2.

Gen ofrs to call on G.O.C.: LOEBARDI is getting this organized. Within a day or two the revised list of Gens designated for HQs in the North will be ready; a number of these Gens are in ROME and appointments will be fixed.

Comd.

3.

Lt Col HERTONE: This offr was carried on the strength of the Italian Army as M.A. to Marshal BASTICO. With the abolition of the latter's office, War Ministry made several unsuccessful attempts to post HERTONE. They had no knowledge of the fact that he was working for I.A.I. His transfer has now been stopped, but it remains to be settled on whose strength he is to be carried. Will discuss with PAGE.

Comd.

4.

Cooperator Units: LOEBARDI envisaged about progress of negotiations for transformation of cooperators with Italian Army personnel. War Ministry is now continually under pressure on this subject.

Comd.
"A"

5.

Gen. ROMCO

Rfts for CHERONA. Infed ROMCO that his special request for permission to send 300 patriots of one patriot band from HQ ICF to CHERONA Gp would be authorized, but there was to be no departure from est'd policy and on arrival these rfts would be distributed in penny numbers throughout the fan. ROMCO fully agreed and was appreciative of the concession. He called in PIACENTINI and gave orders for a letter to be sent to PREMIERI to this effect.

Comd.
"A"

6.

230 nd Div: Put ROMCO and PIACENTINI into the picture regarding ~~other~~ plans for 230 Div, subject approval A.F.E.G. ROMCO gave orders that:

Comd.
"A"

- a) Staff list of 230 Div be carefully scrutinized and and doubtful elements weeded out;
- b) Deputy C of S BARI

"C" 1126

3. Lt Col BERTONE: This offer was carried on the strength of the Italian Army as M.A. to Marshal BASTICO. With the abolition of the latter's office, War Ministry made several unsuccessful attempts to post BERTONE. They had no knowledge of the fact that he was working for I.A.I. His transfer has now been stopped, but it remains to be settled on whose strength he is to be carried. Will discuss with PAGE.

4. Cooperator Units: LOEBARDI envisaged about progress of negotiations for transformation of cooperators with Italian Army personnel. War Ministry is now continually under pressure on this subject.

5. Gen. ROMCO
Rfts for CREMONA. Infmd ROMCO that his special request for permission to send 300 patriots of one patriot band from RMC IOP to CREMONA Gp would be authorized, but there was to be no departure from est'd policy and on arrival these rfts would be distributed in penny numbers throughout the fan. ROMCO fully agreed and was appreciative of the concession. He called in PIACENTINI and gave orders for a letter to be sent to PREMIERI to this effect.

6. 230 Adm Div: Put ROMCO and PIACENTINI into the picture regarding ~~plans~~ plans for 230 Div, subject approval A.F.E.G. ROMCO gave orders that:

- a) Staff list of 230 Div be carefully scrutinized and and doubtful elements weeded out;
- b) Deputy C of S BARI Territorial HQ (Lt Col BIANCHI) be transferred to 230 Div as C of S;
- c) A small number of key personnel of 228 Div familiar with adm and org of sups and stores in fwd areas be transferred to 230 Div;

They are going into the whole question and will submit proposals in 2/3 days.

7. BARI Territorial HQ has already given up its C of S (PIAZZO) to CESANO, and now the Deputy C of S is to go (see 6 b above). THERILLERI was to be posted from CESANO to take BIANCHI's place, but BARI does NOT want him.

8. Territorial Hqs for the NORTH will have to deal with Adm Div org. Neither the former CAGLIARI and CATALZANO Hqs going to TURINO and GENOA respectively, nor the other Hqs being formed from scratch have experience of Adm Divs, and it has been accordingly proposed that the C of S of each HQ or some senior official be attached to one of the fwd Adm Divs for instr for a short time.

1126

-2-

8. (Contd). LIUZZI will discuss this with the three Cs of S (TURIN, GENOVA and MILAN) when they report to him for a conference 6 Apr.

9. Gen. GALATEMI

Commissions for Patriot Offrs:

Contd.
"A"

- a) The decision to grant commissioned and non-commissioned ranks to patriot leaders was taken by the Council of Ministers as far back as 18 Jan and widely publicized in the Press etc.
- b) The decree law confirming this decision was passed by the Council of Ministers 16 Mar.
- c) The regulations for implementing this law will be published by decree of the Lt Gen of the Realm. They are at present being drawn up by the War Ministry in consultation with the other Ministries concerned.
- d) The org for implementing the regulations is being worked out by SARE - see log 30/31 Mar para 8.
- e) SARE and War Ministry take a most conservative view of the application of this policy, and there is no intention of throwing the door wide open for this type of commission.

10. Col. LOEBARDI.

Colonello JONES: handed to his comn ref investigat- "A"
-ion with this of fra posn.

11. Lt Col. KUCHOWANSKI

SALERNO Depot: NAPLES Territorial HQ confirms the desirability of moving as soon as possible the 260 call up rfts waiting at 15 Inf Regt Depot. They are men who have already been rounded up with some difficulty and liable to get away again at the first opportunity. G(SD)

12. Gen. LIUZZI

BANDA MAIELLA and 'F' ESCOE Sqn: Enquired what proportion of these two Units can be considered suitable for incorporation in Italian Army. LIUZZI will have enquiries made. NO difficulty anticipated over 'F' Sqn, but MAIELLA Band likely to be a problem. LIUZZI knows them fairly well as he was himself in them.

A1125

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41125
C

3/...

c) The regulations for implementing this law will be published by decree of the Lt Gen of the Realm. They are at present being drawn up by the War Ministry in consultation with the other Ministries concerned.

d) The org for implementing the regulations is being worked out by SARE - see log 30/31 Mar para 8.

e) SARE and War Ministry take a most conservative view of the application of this policy, and there is no intention of throwing the door wide open for this type of commission.

10. Col LOMBARDI.

Colonello JONES: handed to him com ref investigat- "A" -ion with this of firs posn.

11. Lt Col KOCHOWANSKI

SALERNO Depot: NAPLES Territorial HQ confirms the desirability of moving as soon as possible the 260 call up rfts waiting at 15 Inf Regt Depot. They are men who have already been rounded up with some difficulty and liable to get away again at the first opportunity. G(SD)

12. Gen. LIUZZI

BANDA MAIELLA and 'F' BECKE Sqn: Enquired what proportion of these two Units can be considered suitable for incorporation in Italian Army. LIUZZI will have enquiries made. NO difficulty anticipated over 'F' Sqn, but MAIELLA Band likely to be a problem. LIUZZI knows them fairly well as he was himself in their section. Previous attempts to regularise their posn have failed, as the men presumably prefer to continue with existing conditions of pay, clothing and discipline which they enjoy under POLCHERS.

13. Gen. CERICA

Cond. G(SD)
BOLOGNA Territorial HQ: Had first-hand from CERICA details of plans for the HQ which he is organising for BOLOGNA. This is a good example of the correct application of the directives on this subject laid down by M.M.I.A. CERICA is in close touch with Allied authorities destined for BOLOGNA and has readily obtained approval to concentrate his adv party (18 strong) at SAN CASCIANO, where the A.M.C. party for BOLOGNA is also located. The adv party at PESARO is accordingly moving to S. CASCIANO, and will go on to BOLOGNA early on with A.M.C. officials. In the meantime the members of the adv party will be getting to know the senior A.M.C. officials. The remainder of the H.Q. is being set up in ROME.

14. Gen. ROMCO

FRUULI Cpt. ROMCO has received from SCATTINI the negative result of the enquiry into the alleged alteration of a patrol report by a capt of this firm. Each regimental Comd has stated that he is unable to trace the incident complained of. ROMCO wants to know if he is to let the matter drop or whether MMIA can supply further details.

15. Lt Col GRACIEFA

5 & 6 T.C. Coys : Requested him to have posted to each of these units at OTTAVIANO (Mr MAPLES) the following offrs of SARDINIAN origin - since the O.Rs of the units are from the same region:

- 1 Capt.
- 2 Subalterns.

tva.

G(SD)

1127

SECRET

Major BARN'S Liaison Log

1/23 April 45

Gen RONCO

1. Visit to FRIMLI Gp : ETA 1600 hrs 5 Apr - remaining with the gp 2 - 3 days. CIII (I)

2. Discipline: Casati had passed GOC's letter A/6 of 26 Mar to RONCO for action. Ronco was debating in his mind how to set about it. He subsequently decided to send a confidential com to such fm comd, with a separate note to MORIGI whose tps are the most seriously implicated. Comd "A"

Col LOMBARDI

3. 2 i/c Mantova : consigned to him for the Minister GOC's letter of 31 Mar on the subject of Gen BOGLIONE. Lombardi went into further details of this offr's case. BOGLIONE was duly discriminated by the War Ministry commission as regards his mil conduct, and subsequently examined and cleared by the High Commissioner for Espionage for the political side. Later however, additional information was laid before the Espionage authorities, of a very serious nature, which caused his case to be reopened. Lombardi said that this was quite normal procedure - in fact every Italian is living under the shadow of being denounced any day for something in his past. All decisions of the Espionage Commission are given subject to review in the event of further developments. Lombardi had annotated the latest com from the espionage authorities about BOGLIONE to the effect that it would make them cut a nice figure vis-a-vis MALA. Comd C of S "A"

1129

4. Prince BASTIANO : spoke LOMBARDI about property near LITFORIA requisitioned by War Ministry for SL site. Now required for cultivation.

5. Lt Col BERTONE : War Ministry had posted this offr from SIM to PICENO Div. Inf'd Lombardi that Allied authorities will continue to require his services, with SIM and that the posting order must be cancelled. Lombardi said he would look into the matter. There was some particular aspect to this posting of which he will tell me tomorrow. Comd "A"

Lt Col ROCHERANSSI

6. IAI Industrial party: inf'd him that this is now a proved and that it is in order to supply the 21 GRS.

Lt Col GRACCHIA

7. 583/4 Cd Bns : ROME Territorial HQ had notified him that

BOGLIONE was duly discriminated by the War Ministry commission as regards his ill conduct, and subsequently examined and cleared by the High Commissioner for Epuration for the political side. Later however, additional information was laid before the Epuration authorities, of a very serious nature, which caused his case to be reopened. Lombardi said that this was quite normal procedure - in fact every Italian is living under the shadow of being denounced any day for something in his past. All decisions of the Epuration Commission are given subject to review in the event of further developments. Lombardi had annotated the latest comm from the Epuration authorities about BOGLIONE to the effect that it would make them cut a nice figure vis-a-vis MALIA.

1123

4. Prince BASTIANO : spoke LOMBARDI about property near LITIGRIA requisitioned by War Ministry for EL site. Now required for cultivation.

5. Lt Col BERTONE : War Ministry had posted this officer from SIM to PICHENO Div. Inf'd Lombardi that Allied authorities will continue to require his services, with SIM and that the posting order must be cancelled. Lombardi said he would look into the matter. There was some particular aspect to this posting of which he will tell me tomorrow.

Lt Col ROCCHONENSI

6. LAI Industrial party: inf'd him that this is now a proved and that it is in order to supply the EL CRs.

Lt Col CRACEFFA

7. 523/4 Cd Ens : ROME Territorial HQ had notified him this morning (3 Apr) that the MCC's for the cadres of these units had NOT yet arrived at FROSINONE. Inf'd GSD.

Col FIACENTINI

8. Called at MALIA to make contacts with heads of branches on taking up appointment as head of SD (inc rfts) Branch at SERRA, vice CHIARAVINO. The latter is awaiting a new posting.

Col LOMBARDI

9. Mobile canteens : requested inf'm as to when list of 30 names would be available. About middle of week, he thought. He will arrange for list to be delivered to me personally to save time.