

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

ACC

10000/120/335



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

10000/120/335

Q/153/2 Liaison Log (Capt. Brown)

Opened Mar 21, 1945 - Closed July 19, 1945

Mar. - July 1945



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INTERIM LIAISON LOG

Liaison Officer,  
Land Forces Sub Comm.  
A.O. (MMIA)  
o/o HQ., I District  
Tel : 22602  
Ref LO/G6  
19 July 45.

To:- Land Forces Sub Comm. AC.  
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E. (2 Copies)  
MMIA LO., 230 Div (1)

9 & A POINTS.

1. Rfts. Conference with Major VAN KIRK for taking over US-ITI rfts. A considerable number of these units were not ready on 1 July. About a half have arrived. Further ETAs not yet to hand.
2. I District Labour is considering abolishing 20 Pioneer Coys by 1 Aug 45 and another 10 by 15 Aug 45. German PWs to be used if necessary but work requirements are greatly diminishing. With this factor in mind, the weekly bid for rfts becomes impossible to ascertain with accuracy. Sigs propose to abolish one or more of their Line Sections. The DPM wants to disband a Road Maintenance Coy.
3. Engr units are often inefficient and ineffectively officered. The C.E. has spoken in strong terms. He regards authorisation of 28 and 502 Bn HQs as essential and urgent to ensure efficiency. The units invariably need a British Cadre to get results. Few can work on their own. It is hoped that specialists from US-ITIs will help but they will probably get disgruntled at lack of specialised work.
4. Sigs and Provost units are good. Pioneer morale satisfactory. Guards not too good. For example, more material is being lost.



C & A POINTS.

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4. Sigs and Provost units are good. Pioneer morale satisfactory. Guards not too good. For example, more material is being lost from a dump at MESTRE now that it is guarded than when without a guard. The widespread scattering of Dets and inadequacy of tpt militates against efficiency.
5. 801 Transit Camp moved from AREZ20 to FORLI as former is dying. DDL says that one or two Labour Coys could handle all labour commitments.
6. Need for specialised data to destroy small amounts of amm as laid down in directive. At present none exist.

2771

9/23/14  
of 24 July



7. MAIELLA.

After the rejection of their request to be disbanded at ROME, they refused to be disbanded at FORLI. Since then the disbandment has taken place near FAENZA. They have an exaggerated idea of their importance. It is thought that the C.O. AVV. TROILLO is out to make political capital. I saw no reason to satisfy their indent for a new clothing outfit just for the parade. Their application for 'ufficio stralele' which has been turned down, included a job for each of the officers - TROILLO to be at ROME to contact the Govt, another TROILLO in CHIETI to keep in touch with the TROILLO in ROME and the others keeping in general mutual contact. They want to present decorations to 3 British officers.

8. At request of GOC, I District, the question is being gone into of the move of HQ 228 Div out of I District at PADOVA into the Army Area under whose command it is. The 200 would then like HQ 209 Div in PADOVA.

9. Enquiries re Co-operators diminishing. 209 Div seem to have the matter in hand.

Q. SAT POINTS.

I. Clothing

Substantial clothing consignments have eased matters. It is hoped they will continue as it is a matter of highest importance here. Anticipated discontent among US-ITIs in cases where a small number are drafted as rfts to a unit which is in KD and they cannot have any.

District asked for 3,000 sets of grindery to keep boot repair shops going. MAIA asked for Gubbin to help with issue of new boots.

Early disbandment of 252 & 253 Tpt Groups rumoured. This will remove a distinct clothing menace.

Following withdrawal by 209 Div from VIGHERA :-  
16,375 Twill jackets, 363 KD shorts, 3,244 caps. Samples will be sent to you when received.



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Following withdrawn by 209 Div from VISERBA :-  
16,375 Twill jackets, 363 KD shorts, 3,244 caps. Samples will be sent to you when received.

Can 209 Div use 'fuel' use' depots at ANCONA and BOLOGNA. instead of sending all to BARI.

General decision awaited as availability from Italian sources of standard G 1098 equipment items. My LO/Q4 of 3 July 45 refers. This is a perpetually arising problem. My LO/Q3 of 21 June also asked for this information.

Clothing position of CC.RR in this area is bad. I am often asked if I can help. Their own channels seem to be blocked up. They need rifles; gun and instructors, and seem to get nothing. Am I to interest myself in them?

2720

W. J. H. H. H.



SUPPLIES

I. Shortages in 210 Sub Area of cigarettes, soap and wine. ST state that 8 Army - the supplying base for this area is very short and not able to fill all demands. It is proposed to improve matters by basing on ANCONA, where it will all be a District commitment. For the present, continual Italian unit complaints.

Request for substitution of margarine for olive oil for welfare items not acceptable.

Investigation of units suspected illegally drawing from VERONA and RIMINI.

Conferences with ADST and Q re feeding strengths and sites for DIDs at FORLI and ANCONA. Location of BSD still undecided. Sig to NW Italy re units of US-ITIs to be fed by I District. FLORENCE DID functions well and feeds about 8,000.

Great delay and work is caused in allocation of welfare and hospital diet items. A bulk allotment for units in I District is insufficient material for me or 209 Div to work out the sub allotments unless MMIA give details as to what units or strengths they use to arrive at their bulk allotment. I often cannot tell what Combat Groups are included in the allotment particularly as FRIULI and FOLGORE are not territorially in I District but are maintained by I District. Also some hospitals are included in the allotment which are not in I District. The result is that the final release by District is obtained when the month is half through. District insist on details to ensure there is no overdraw. It has to be split up among various DIDs to facilitate distribution to units.

BOLAGNA and UDINE seen about POL allotments from CIP. In case of UDINE; they have had to get temporary help from WD sources as CIP hasn't received order to release the POL although it has abundant stocks. This used to happen at ANCONA. Can the AFHQ Pet Sec channel with CIP be cleared.



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*the new  
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BOLOGNA and UDINE seen about POL allotments from CIP. In case of UDINE; they have had to get temporary help from WD sources as CIP hasn't received order to release the POL although it has abundant stocks. This used to happen at ANCONA. Can the AFHQ Pet Sec channel with CIP be cleared. UDINE has been told to arrange its own sub allotments from various CIPs in other towns. BOLOGNA ran out of POL halfway through the month as allotment insufficient. I have asked for list of units they supply and their distribution.

TRANSPORT.

Collection of Italian Army material. 5 Territorial Command want to publish a 'bando' in District Territory warning civilians to denounce material under penalty of fine. Conference with AMG and GEN DAQMG. Matter referred to AFHQ as Italian Recovery Commissions do not fit in with AFHQ directive.

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TRANSPORT (cond't)

Repeated visits to District Q(AB) and AQMG to accelerate return of Italian Military vehicles from German VRD at BELLARIA. For cars not too much optimism as large number needed to replace withdrawn Jeeps. Assistance to Recovery Commission to get vehs from units and Salvage. Request for 209 Div to have a dozen returned Italian Military vehs. 50% of their tpt is off the road. The same applies to 230 Div. The theory of exchanging inefficient for efficient vehs does not work out. There aren't the efficient vehs. Administration of IRI-ITI units depends a lot on an efficient RR-ITI Adm Div, and the latter has a job to keep going. Releases to Guard Bns in this area are being made from NAPLES. It is virtually impossible for them to send all that way for 6 bicycles, for example. Vehicles break down en route. Arrangements in hand for withdrawing 296 vehs from the German Park.

ST  
of  
ADG

MEDICAL

Field have been disbanded 247 Pd Hospital was ordered by me on instructions from BELIA to pack up and be prepared to move. It has been standing since 22 April.

Approx 19,000 mosquito nets have been obtained and distributed, including release by District of 5,000 for IRI-ITIs.

Anti-malaria propaganda is being pushed. ADH has got out pictorial posters in Italian but not very apposite as they advocate extensive use of soap, polishing of kitchen utensils, wearing of overalls and use of gauze netting on cookhouses - all of which are invariably beyond the Italian resources.

*ADH*  
Capt.  
District



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## MEDICAL

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Anti-malaria propaganda is being pushed. ADU has got out pictorial posters in Italian but not very apposite as they advocate extensive use of soap, polishing of kitchen utensils, wearing of overalls and use of gauze netting on cockhouses - all of which are invariably beyond the Italian resources.

*J. H. B. [Signature]*  
MMIA Co., I District.  
Capt.

2768



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

Subject: Interim Report No. 2.

Liaison Officer,  
 Land Forces Sub-Comm.  
 A.C. (M.M.I.A.)  
 w/o 1 District.  
 Tel. 22602.  
 Ref. 10/66.

To: Land Forces Sub-Comm. A.C.  
 H.Q. M.M.I.A. ROME (2 copies)

27 June 45.

Reference your G/31 of 4 June 45.

**SECRET**"G" Points.

8. Arrangements are being made to take over 2500 ex-US-ITI's from 5 Army. Capt. Bourne is contacting Major Van Kirk on 28 June to discuss details.

It is proposed by DDL 1 District to disband three Pioneer Bns and absorb the personnel into other Pioneer Bns. The reasons for this are (a) present Bns are much understrength and (b) there is not enough work for the existing number of Bns.

By disbanding these three Bns and also allotting 3000 of the US-ITI's referred to above, the remaining Pioneer Bns will be brought up to strength.

If sufficient specialists are forthcoming, the balance of 500 men will be sent to Engineer Bns.

10. Territorial HQ Bologna (Gen. CERICA) will be visited by Major Egerton shortly, and the question of Guard Coys settled.

12 and 13. There do not appear to be any active Partisan bands in the Padova area, though there are many "Police extras" who picket the streets leading to the Courts of Justice on occasions when Fascist trials are held (about once a week).

Their object is to prevent a recurrence of the scene referred to in Para 13 of my Interim Report No. 1 of 18 June.

General.

District have been approached regarding the provision of "I" information, and it may be possible to forward their reports to HQ MMIA regularly.



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28 June to discuss details.

It is proposed by DDL 1 District to disband three Pioneer Bns and absorb the personnel into other Pioneer Bns. The reasons for this are (a) present Bns are much understrength and (b) there is not enough work for the existing number of Bns.

By disbanding these three Bns and also allotting 2000 of the US-III's referred to above, the remaining Pioneer Bns will be brought up to strength.

If sufficient specialists are forthcoming, the balance of 500 men will be sent to Engineer Bns.

10. Territorial HQ Bologna (Gen. CERICA) will be visited by Major Egerton shortly, and the question of Guard Coys settled.

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Their object is to prevent a recurrence of the scene referred to in Para 13 of my Interim Report No. 1 of 18 June.

#### General.

District have been approached regarding the provision of "I" information, and it may be possible to forward their reports to HQ MMLA regularly.

The Commanding Officer of the Banda Maiella, on being told that his unit could not be disbanded in ROME, informed 217 Area that he was not prepared to accept the arrangements made for the disbandment parade at FORLI on 28 June.

These arrangements had been carefully organised; a senior Officer of 8 Army was to take the salute, and a German Honour was being found from a British Guards unit.

The "Maiella" appears to have a vivid sense of its own importance.



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(2)

[SECRET]

"A" Points.Co-operators.

It is anticipated that there will be general dissatisfaction at the change of status.

Small detachments will prove a difficulty as some key men may be lost by units who really need them and sent to reinforcement centres.

If however AFHQ authority as outlined in Para 2(b) of AFHQ AG 387.4/079 GCF-O of 15 June 45 is given freely in reasonable cases, this difficulty will be largely minimised.

Screening Dets.

More of these are required in order to ensure that there is sufficient time to obtain attendance when a unit is being disbanded.

"Q" Points.Transport.

It is hoped soon to obtain some captured ex-Army vehicles, but it is evident that the instructions contained in AFHQ Circular No. 5 of 11 Apr 45 are not being adhered to, i.e. that any vehicles coming into possession of Allied authorities will be reported to the appropriate Sub-Commission.

11 Rly wagons containing large SPA engines have been reported from MBSTRE. It is not known in what condition they are as they are partially covered with debris, having been in a siding when the Rly station was bombed.

Welfare.

The addition of a Mobile Canteen for 209 Mv (your A245 of 20 June refers) will greatly assist those units who have not the opportunity of visiting a station.



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#### Screening Data.

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#### "Q" Points.

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reported from MESTRE. It is not known in what condition  
they are as they are partially covered with debris,  
having been in a siding when the Rly station was bombed.

#### Welfare.

The addition of a Mobile Canteen for 209 Div (your  
A245 of 20 June refers) will greatly assist those units  
who have not the opportunity of visiting a static  
canteen. At present 209 Div maintain four canteens, at  
FORLI, RIMINI, ANCONA and ISSI; next month an extra  
one will be established at CERVIA for the benefit of  
the MANTOVA Gruppo.

*W. J. J. J.* 2768  
Major,  
MMIA IO 1 District.

Copy to : MMIA IO Rear 8 Army.  
MMIA IO Florence Comd (for Capt. THURPP)



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Subject :- Liaison Log.

Liaison Officer,  
Land Forces Sub Comm.  
A.C. (MMA)  
c/o HQ., I District  
Ref 10/66

Q/53/2

29 April 45.

To :- Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.  
(M.M.I.A.) R O M B.

Herewith my Liaison Log up to 28 April.

1. MOVES.

I Coy 521 Gd Bn Perugia to Rimini  
515 Line Section to VALCONARA  
I Bn 406 Regt to AREZZO  
II Bn 406 Regt to ANCONA  
1000 G.T. Coy to 8 Army Area  
49 Engr Inar now located in IESI  
4 Traffic Control Coy to PESARO  
HQ., I Rly Group to CIVITANOVA  
HQ., I Rly Engr Group to ANCONA  
253 Pack Group to PATRIGNONE  
Mantova Group to RADDA.

2. CLOTHING.

1. 5 tons u/s tent material obtained suitable for making baillasses also a few ground sheets.
2. Release, collection and distribution of 4,000 sets of grindery to repair centres.
3. Special releases of equipment for 3 and 4 Traffic Control Coys and for disciplinary police sections organised by 209 Div.
4. Depot established in ANCONA for return of winter clothing.

2 500 tons of material available by District



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850201. MOVES.

I Coy 521 Gd Bn Perugia to Rimini  
 515 Line Section to MALCONARA  
 I Bn 406 Regt to ARSEZZO  
 II Bn 406 Regt to ANCONA  
 1000 G.T. Coy to 8 Army Area  
 49 Engr Inor now located in IESI  
 4 Traffic Control Coy to PESARO  
 HQ., I Bn Rly Group to CIVITANOVA  
 HQ., I Rly Engr Group to ANCONA  
 253 Pack Group to PATRIGNONE  
 Mantova Group to RADEA.

2. CLOTHING.

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2. Releases, collection and distribution of 4,000 sets of grindery to repair centres.
3. Special releases of equipment for 3 and 4 Traffic Control Coys and for disciplinary police sections organised by 209 Div.
4. Depot established in ANCONA for return of winter clothing.
5. 2,500 mosquito nets made available by District. 21,500 indented for on 557 R.O.D.
6. RE clothing satisfactory apart from some 700 sets now being repaired. Further 5,000 sets asked for in additional 14,000.
7. 209 Div prodded to produce caps locally.
8. 2,350 small shirts, 300 vests wool, 1,400 drawers wool long, 1,332 boots, all grade III released to 209 Div by 35 A.O.D. under District arrangements.
9. Clippers and hurricane lamps indented for after correction of 209 Div requests.

2765

...../3 Sups.



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850203. SUPPLIES.

1. District inquiring into non issues of matches.

2. Campo Bost<sup>Reena</sup> had been told they were not yet authorized unit and not to sign ST 8a. District asked to submit their inclusion in BR-ITI units as authorized unit.3. Milit cigarettes are poorly packed. Great confusion caused by M of War sending conflicting correspondence on the forwarding of these cigarettes. Details given to MMIA. Position here is not clear. *then it will stop*

4. Authority for canteen rations received and items being drawn.

5. Wine depot at ANCOXA now functioning satisfactorily for distribution of ration wine.

6. A section ready to take over same task at rail-head ANEXZO when DID moves.

7. Strong warnings against units buying rationed goods on open market.

8. Hospital diet items allotted for Mar. Problem of the four hospitals which 228 Div plan to leave behind in District when Army goes forward. Correspondence on this with L.O. Rear 8 Army. *ADM's to me*  
*Answered by 10/15/54*

9. Sundry inquiries on DIDs not issuing correct scale of salt, rotten fruit, bad rice etc., etc. 10. 100 quintals of welfare wine arrived from SQUINZANO. Now that application for transport goes through M of War, little optimism is held for any future arrivals.

4. TRANSPORT.

1. Enquiry into the past history of M vehicles held by 209 Div. Report submitted as requested.

2. Letter written for allotment to 209 Div from ex 38 Officiars Mobile Resante of vehicles retained by them in last half of March. *10/15*

3. Speedy return requested of the 209 Div vehicles

*A per view  
South Africa and  
General Kears*



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items being drawn.

5. Wine depot at ANCONA now functioning satisfactorily for distribution of ration wine.
6. A section ready to take over same task at rail-head AREZZO when DID moves.
7. Strong warnings against units buying rationed goods on open market.
8. Hospital diet items allotted for May. Problem of the four hospitals which 228 Div plan to leave behind in District when Army goes forward. Correspondence on this with L.O. Rear 8 Army.
9. Sundry inquiries on DIDs not issuing correct scale of salt, rotten fruit, bad rice etc., etc.
10. 100 quintals of welfare wine arrived from SQUINZANO. New that application for transport goes through M of War, little optimism is held for any future arrivals.

#### 4. TRANSPORT.

1. Enquiry into the past history of WD vehicles held by 209 Div. Report submitted as requested.
2. Letter written for allotment to 209 Div from ex 38 Officina Mobile Pesante of vehicles repaired by them in last half of March.
3. Speedy return requested of the 209 Div vehicles which the wkms used for its move to FLORENCE.
4. Vehicle situation again getting chronic, especially Gd Bns.
5. Oddments eg tyre gages obtained from District. Various returns on vehicle situations.

#### 5. MEDICAL.

1. Little or no progress is being made with expansion of 91 Field Hospital at ORTETO.
2. Convalescent depot now open at OSIMO for 60 patients. Equipment awaited for further expansion. 247 Field Hospital ready to move.

...../5 FOSSEBRONE.



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850206. POSSOMPHONA.

1. Continued trouble with inefficient subalterns. Ten have been sent away from 253 Pack Gp. Replacements are slow in coming.
2. Poor material sent in men to be trained as muleteers. Out of 500 rfts 100 had to be rejected as medically unfit. As Pioneer units here are already 100% over strength, their disposal is difficult. State of clothing of men from AFHAGOLA is bad. One party had largely civilian unserviceable boots.
3. Mullen socks and boots have been a serious problem. Good supplies of boots are now in depot.
4. The ex ps from Middle East claimed to be Co-operators. Have been pronounced as HK-ITL.
5. Lt. Col. POSSOMPHONA now installed as supervisor of training. He also takes an interest in the discipline.
6. 253 Group is at PATUNGONE (5 km N ARKAZO), awaiting further destination. I have supplied KD.

7. ORVILTO.

1. Discussions with District re H.E. The appointment of a Colonel will solve problem of previous O.O. Lt Col PARADIA with whom 209 Div were dissatisfied because of lack of command experience.
2. O.O.O. District found that certain medical stores there were lacking. This was quickly put right from PANGOLA Hospital.
3. Correct procedure laid down, namely that apart from rifle questions, the depot deals through VI Sub Area and not direct to District.

8. GERARAN.

1. Serious problem of soldiers waiting to see their homes in now liberated territory but still Army area. Permission asked from ARKAZO for me to send an officer and two or three men.



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5. Lt. Col. RODOLAZZO now installed as supervisor of training. He also takes an interest in the discipline.

6. 253 Group is at PATRIGNONE (5 km N ARRUZO), awaiting further destination. I have supplied RD.

#### 7. ORVIERO.

1. Discussions with District re M.B. The appointment of a Colonel will solve problem of previous O.C. Lt Col PAPADIA with whom 209 Div were dissatisfied because of lack of command experience.

2. O.C.O. 1 District found that certain medical stores there were lacking. This was quickly put right from PERUGIA Hospital.

3. Correct procedure laid down, namely that apart from rifts questions, the depot deals through 71 Sub Area and not direct to District.

#### 8. GENERAL.

1. Serious problem of soldiers wanting to see their homes in now liberated territory but still Army area. Permission asked from Armies for me to send an officer and two or three men on a welfare mission to collect information on behalf of others. Otherwise, men will inevitably go absent.

2. Question being treated of Italian O.C. 1005 A.T. Coy when 209 Div tried to post away but O.C. British Cadre and Sub Area wish to retain.

3. Cross posting arranged of about 200 skilled, 2763 from Pioneer Coys to Agr units.

...../ 8 OCM Cent'd



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## 8. GENERAL (Cont'd)

4. Enquiry into difficulties of adm through dispersal of Pioneer Coys. Scatterling is inevitable but is reduced to the minimum.
5. Lack of W.Es is continually holding up formation of new units and conversions.
6. L.O. Rear 8 Army contacted reference future changes in locations.
7. Prison accommodation obtained for about 60 men each in ANCONA, IESI, PERUGIA and FOLIGNO. Civil prisons mainly cleared and position much easier.
8. Assorted CMP reports on deserters, traffic incidents and offences, discipline etc.
9. A 'discipline' Italian Military Police section operating satisfactorily and smartly in ANCONA. Two similar sections now being trained by arrangements with DPM for AREZZO and SIENA to cope with Mantova visitors.
10. The military newspapers are still sent in bulk to PERUGIA and not to AREZZO, PERUGIA and ANCONA areas separately as requested. Result is many units get their copies a day or more late.
11. A very strong Divisional representative football team is helping morale.
12. A mobile canteen is operating but lacks supplies. Fixed canteens in most towns where Italian units are and are functioning well.
13. Considerable confusion about move back of Italian from IESI. M of War arranges the wagons but District will not allow move until a British rep has certified the men safe. An officer is being called from NAPLES to do this. Italian hand grenades are not considered safe for U.D. transport.
14. Local section asked for on information from Censor Officer re absences.

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14. Local action asked for on information from Censor Officer re absentees.
15. Some units still drawing Combat Pay allowance although Army areas had moved on. A source of dis- **2762** content with the other Coys. Extra allowance has now been withdrawn.
16. General information bureau to Services and Areas.

*[Signature]*  
 Capt.  
 WMA 10, I District.



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020Subject:- LIAISON LOG.

Q/33/2  
G A Q ← AAA J  
Liaison Officer,  
Land Forces Sub Comm.  
A.C. (MMIA)  
c/o HQ., I District  
Ref LO/G6

21 March 45.

To:- Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.  
(M. M. I. A.) R O M E.

Herewith my Liaison Log for period 18 Feb to 19 Mar.

1. Arrivals / Departures of Italian Units.Departed.

501 Smoke Coy to L'NORNO  
505 Smoke Coy to L'NORNO  
507 Smoke Coy to TRANI  
133 I.P.L. Coy to EIGHTH Army  
134 I.P.L. Coy to EIGHTH Army

Arrived.

10000 T. Coy to POLLENZA (Moderate) 10 Offrs - 335 O.Hs.  
1 Coy FERROVIERI to OFFAGNA 4 Offrs - 180 O.Hs.  
182 Tech Maint Sec. ARREDO u/o 209 Division  
C/d Gruppo FERROVIERI Perotti to OFFAGNA  
611 & 618 A.P.C. u/o 209 Division.

2. Clothing.

31, I District, allotting 12 three tonners in returning  
convey to lift clothing consignment from PRATIMAGGIORE.

Release of 2,000 u/s Japes A.C. for ORVIETO Camp.

Two lots each of 4,000 blankets returned by L'NORNO  
consigned to Rfts Depot, ORVIETO after disinfecting.

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10009.7. Coy to POLLENZA (Macerata) 10 Offrs - 335 O.Rs.  
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Release of 2,000 u/s Capes A.C. for ORVIEJO Camp.

Two lots each of 4,000 blankets returned by LEGHANO consigned to Rfta Depot, ORVIEJO after disinfecting.

Ord, issued to 252 & 253 pack Tpt Groups each 2,300 boots, 2,000 pairs socks, 500 shirts, 1,000 vests woollen, 1,000 drawers woollen, 1,000 towels.

Clothing moved to new location in PERUGIA. Extension of premises obtained.

209 Division instructed to make local contracts for caps from u/s returned clothing.

1,600 sets of grindery obtained for Italian boot repairing centres in I District.

Request submitted for authority for release of 4,000 sets to be spread over a period of time.

Usual checking of indents and release of clothing and submission of returns.

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3. Supplies.

Conference at AREZZO with reps of ST Services and CRASO reference Italians taking over responsibility for wine at railhead. Decided that as 209 Division troops in the District are only a tenth of the commitments in the Army Area, the present system of British responsibility should continue. 209 Division reps have studied the present system with a view to taking over eventually for District units.

209 Division will soon be ready to take over wine responsibilities at ANCONA. A wine factory has been requisitioned with storage capacity of 150,000 litres. No previous system existed as owing to usual non availability. Italian units had been buying on the open market. Will MANTOVA units have their own barrels? .. so that the system can be established of exchanging empty one for full one.

Arrangements for 100 tons of wine per month from SQUINZANO for welfare purposes. R.C.W.'s promised.

Milit cigarettes arrived and 209 Division collecting and distributing.

Increase from 5 to 20 lire for 209 Division stopped. District has written suggesting a very moderate compromise.

General complaint that sole increases are notified to Italians before ensuring that commodities are available.

Hospital comforts satisfactorily issued. Several thousand candles, captured enemy property, released to Italian hospitals.

4. Transport.

Submission that 38 Officing Mobile Pesante remain at MACERATA for work in I District and not be transferred to FLORENCE. Support of "Q" I District as its presence is essential.

Ref of War has not yet sent through its own channels the POL assignment for March. 209 Division

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M of War has not yet sent through its own channels the POL assignment for March. 209 Division had asked for its distribution through several OIPs instead of only at ANCONA. Can this delay please be taken up as it has caused serious inconvenience.

Scale of vehicles suggested by HQ 209 Division.

Request for 412's in Italian.

General poor maintenance by Italian units eg. I.M.T. 2760 inspection of 1005 G.T. Coy. Weakness of NOO's who do not get sufficiently better pay or treatment for them to want to assume extra responsibilities. Junior officers generally poor.

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5. Medical.

DNMS, District greatly preoccupied concerning anti malarial measures, particularly provision of anti mosquito nets. Also preoccupied with inoculations and vaccinations. Returns obtained from ORVIETO for him.

Suggestion that Convalescent Depot be increased to 200 capacity by use of 247 Hospital site and ex 209 Div accommodation at OSIMO.

X-Ray apparatus at ANCONA hospital needs repairs.

Leak of co-operation by 91 Field Hospital at ORVIETO. Indents forwarded for expansion of 91 Field Hospital, not the space at ORVIETO for it to reach 200 beds.

Rfts from TRANI arrive in a particularly lousy condition.

Arrangements for aluminium sulphate for water purification at ORVIETO.

6. Rfts.

Trouble over hygiene and efficiency of transit camp at AREZZO. 55 Ares obliged to intervene as 231 Division's organization was inefficient. 5 Army at first antagonistic at interference later grateful.

A transit camp now established by 209 Division at TORETTI (Ancona) for reception of rfts. The small organization at IESI closed down.

Most units now slightly over strength.

7. Fosseobrane.

Trouble with Alpini of 7 Mountain Regt., semi-mutinous over alleged unfulfilled promises. Report submitted to EMIA. Pay and leave problems settled and matter closed.

Further disturbance caused by a POLCORE rep canvassing for recruits and O.O. British Cadre sending away 45 volunteers for Combat Groups to PERUGIA without knowledge of 209 Div. ST or myself. I sent them back. Any transfers through



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No rejects or unsuitables can be unloaded on to I.F.L. Units in ANCONA area as they are already over strength.

Their clothing difficulties solved by issue from ADOS, I District. GOC, I District authorised issue of boots and socks as 252 Gp was leaving on march up to 8 Army location.

Maggiore FIORA posted from ORVETO as O.O. of 253 Gp after much discussion.

Urgent request for specialists. Hoped these will be included in bid for 200 rfts from ex Ps W from Middle East.

General observation that Brit Cadres are loath to allow Italians to do their own administration, thus frequently causing extra work needlessly.

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## 8. General.

Problem of absentees filling the civil prisons. Reports submitted to MMIA and request to MMIA IO., 8 Army to accelerate collection by Gruppi. AMG ignoring terms of Instruction 18.

CE did not wish to retain Adm H.Qs. 28 Btg and 502 Btg. MMIA has instructed Min of War to dissolve them. Now there is a proposal to form 5 new Engr Coys in I District. CE will therefore need these two small H.Qs as adm and training staff. Conference with CE and 20 G.R.B. on general policy of Engr Coys. Promise to give them clothing priority.

Ufficio trasporti 617 established in PERUGIA. Their work appears to be solely duplication of existing WD procedure.

Liaison with local Censor Officer for morale and deserter information.

Capt VITALE, IO with 71 Sub Area, despatched to MANTOVA. Min of War letter asked their Interpreter Section to supply a substitute. This is not needed. FOSCOMERONE, for example, has a far greater need.

Italian Welfare Director arrived too late to see anyone at HQ., I District. Welfare fairly satisfactory. Have obtained football gear for the Divisional side shortly to go on tour.

Indents for arms for Italian units.

Unhygienic eating habits by Italians, taken up with 209 Division.

Various problems with rfts. ORVITO sent 400 to ANCONA wrongly labelled as engr rfts. This caused considerable confusion.

Report on inadequacy of one J.A.G. report on Italian Military Tribunal which covers District and 8 Army on Adriatic side.

Minor reports miscellaneous subjects.

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*W. J. S.*  
Asst. Lt., I District.



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