

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

785020

ACC

10000 / 120 / 674

SD / 144 Months
Mar. - Nov. 1945

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

785020

10000/120/674

SD/144 Monthly Reports (Br. Cadres - B.R.D.s) 1st Cover
Mar. - Nov. 1945

Subject:- MONTHLY REPORT

To:- H.Q. No. 3 District.

SD. 802 Italian Re-organisation
Centre, C.M.F.

Ref. BI/2/895
1st. Nov. 45

Herewith Monthly Report in accordance with M.M.I.A. SD/42, dated
1st. March 45.

1. LIANISON. Good. With reference to movements of troops, this is now done through all Italian channels.
2. SUPERVISION. In November the Camp handled relatively few personnel, for the greater part, those in transit. A good standard of discipline and general cleanliness has been maintained. Training in Foot and Arms drill, route marches, sport, etc. continues, but sport activities are limited due to shortage of kit of all kinds.
3. CONTROL. (a) Movements of troops satisfactory.
(b) Supplies of Clothing were short in the early part of the month, but sufficient has been made available through M.M.I.A. to satisfy immediate requirements.
(c) Bulk rations ex-Naples showed deficiencies once more, especially in Sugar, Corned Beef and Maccaroni.
(d) The M.T. of the Camp is now Italian and is working well. Orders are awaited from Florence Command for disposal of British Transport.
4. BRITISH CADRE PERSONNEL. Awaiting disbandment instructions.
Major Fowles R.A.C. proceeded on L.I.A.P. 33.

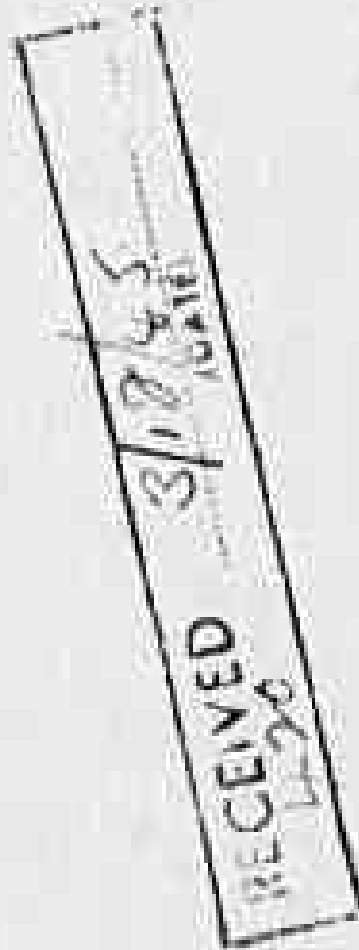
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- (c) Bulk rations ex-Naples showed deficiencies once more, especially in Sugar, Corned Beef and Maccaroni.
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Major Fowles R.A.C. proceeded on L.I.A.P. 33.

Copy to:- M.M.I.A.
211 Sub Area

DK/rd



4892

Maccaroni (Sgt.) Major
Comm. British Cadre,
802 It. Re-org. Centre.

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FILE: <i>Sgt. Maccaroni</i>
DATE: <i>2/3/45</i>

here

Subject: MONTHLY REPORT.

To: H.Q., 3 District.

SD/44 15
 British Cadre,
 802 Italian Reorg. Centre,
 C.M.F.
 Ref. B1/2/81
 31 Oct 45.

Herewith monthly report in accordance with M.M.I.A. SD/42, dated 1 Mar 45.

1. LIAISON. Satisfactory. Direct communication has now been established with R.T.O. Movements, Rome.
2. SUPERVISION. During the month the Centre has handled numbers far in excess of Barrack Space available and extra accommodation has been temporarily requisitioned. The organisation has proved equal to the task and a reasonable standard of discipline has been maintained.
 Training now includes Foot Drill, Arms Drill, Route Marching, P.T., and Recreation; sports equipment of all kinds is still urgently required.
3. CONTROL.
 - (a). Movement of personnel has continued satisfactorily.
 - (b). No difficulties in supervision have been encountered in the decentralisation of stores to Companies.
 It is felt that the proposed Forward Dump would greatly facilitate the clothing situation especially as it is not always possible to uplift additional urgent bids ex Naples by road.
 - (c). Vehicle maintenance is satisfactory. Tools and spares are still in short supply.
 With the advent of the inclement weather, the exposed position of Orvieto, the length of vital communications and the condition of the roads locally, it is considered necessary to implement the number of 4x4 vehicles at present held on the W.E. of the Centre. Only 3 trucks of the above type are available. Application is being made to 211 Sub Area to implement this number by exchange.
 - (d). Bulk rations ex Naples continue to show deficiencies.

urgently required.

3. CONTROL. (a). Movement of personnel has continued satisfactorily.
(b). No difficulties in supervision have been encountered in the decentralisation of stores to Companies. It is felt that the proposed Forward Dump would greatly facilitate the clothing situation especially as it is not always possible to uplift additional urgent bids ex Naples by road.
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- (d). Bulk rations ex Naples continue to show deficiencies. These have been reported to M.M.I.A. 4803

4. BRITISH CADRE PERSONNEL. Our letter ref. B1/7/848, dated 26 Oct 45 refers. It is again emphasised that an Officer to fill existing vacancy on W.E. is urgently required.

TNF/rd.

Copy to: M.M.I.A.
211 Sub Area.

Forley Major,
Comd. British Cadre,
802 It. Reorg. Centre.

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M.M.I.A. 'C'
4803/144
D. 2/2/11

Subject :- Base Reim cement Depot, ORVIETO.
Monthly Report.

From :- 802 Italian Base Rft. Depot,
ORVIETO.

Ref: BI/4/800
1st October 45.

To :- H.Q., No.3 District,
C. M. F.

SD.

Herewith monthly report as required by M.M.I.A. SD/42 of
1st March 45.

1. LIAISON Satisfactory. With regard to Movement of Personnel, direct liaison with M.M.I.A. has proved invaluable since communication with L.O. FLORENCE is virtually impossible.
2. SUPERVISION The Camp organisation generally is satisfactory. Discipline is improving, and there have been no incidents during the past month. Training is confined to P.T. and Recreation. Supplies of Sports Equipment of all kinds are still urgently required.

3. CONTROL

- (a) Movement of personnel has continued satisfactorily.
- (b) The decentralisation of stores to Companies has proved successful, and no difficulties in supervision have been encountered.
- (c) Vehicle maintenance has improved considerably, but spares and tools are still too difficult to obtain.
- (d) The bulk rations from NAPLES are being tampered with en-route. Details of deficiencies have been notified to M.M.I.A. and Ministry of War.

4. BRITISH CADRE PERSONNEL. In the near future, 2979672 C.S. 4888 Mulholland A.P.T.C., will be called forward on release, and 7941465 Cpl. G. Harris on PYTHON. I do not consider the former will necessarily require replacing as the Depot now has a trained and competent staff of instructors. A N.C.O. i/c Transport will be required to replace the latter and I suggest he is posted here as soon as possible. It is essential that the replacement N.C.O. has a comprehensive knowledge of vehicle maintenance and is a capable driver.

- CONTROL
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 - (b) The decentralisation of stores to Companies has proved successful, and no difficulties in supervision have been encountered.
 - (c) Vehicle maintenance has improved considerably, but spares and tools are still too difficult to obtain.
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TNE/hb.

Copy to :- M.M.I.A.

H.Q., 211 Sub Area.

Rowles Major,
Comd. British Cadre,
802 Italian Base Rft. Depot.

G/T

DATE	1/2/10
TIME	144

0282

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

785020

13

SUBJECT : Sports Equipment.

Land Forces Sub Comd. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E.
WEL/M.
11 Sep '45.

To : Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

It has been reported from 802 B R D, Orvieto, that there is an urgent need of all types of sports equipment, particularly footballs, football boots, and boxing gloves. Will you please take whatever action is possible ?

An issue was recently made to Rome Terr. Hq. for distribution to units including 802 B.R.D., but it appears that nothing has actually reached the camp. You will appreciate that the necessity for such items is considerably greater in large camps than in deployed units, and it is therefore suggested that future allocations might be made direct.

SD/144. Roma 2 F. 12
S/Opt., Welfare, M.M.I.A. Refer.

4887

RVC/ajr.

Internal: "A".
"C" (BI/4/744 on file 3D/144 refers)

12

Strictly 802 BRD being
BR-ITI is under
230 Admin Div
Florence 12/9

M.M.I.A. - 'G'
FILE: SD/144
DATE: R.11.9.

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Subject :- Base Reforcement Depot, ORVIETO.
Monthly Report.

From :- 802 Italian Base Rft. Depot,
ORVIETO.

Ref: BI/4/744
31st August 45.

To :- H.Q., No.3 District,
C. M. F.

Herewith monthly report as required by M.M.I.A. SD/42 of
1st March 45.

1. LIAISON is satisfactory. Requested that direct liaison may still be maintained with M.M.I.A. as regards movement of personnel. This is simpler than liaison with L.O. at FLORENCE even though we are now under 211 Sub Area.

2. SUPERVISION

The Camp organisation generally is satisfactory.

There have been fewer co-operators this month and no trouble with them, although, their discipline is generally poor.

Training is still confined to P.T. Recreational training on a larger scale could be indulged in, and would be of great advantage if a certain amount of Sports equipment in the shape of footballs, football boots, boxing gloves, etc. could be made available. Repeated attempts to get these items have failed.

3. CONTROL

a) The movement organisation is satisfactory.

b) The "Q" Stores are working satisfactorily under Italian administration with British supervision. As from 1st Sept. the system is being changed in accordance with a request from a Ministry of War representative to involve decentralization of Stores to Companys. The central Stores will still be maintained. Any difficulties in working this will be reported.

The Camp organisation generally is satisfactory. There have been fewer co-operators this month and no trouble with them, although, their discipline is generally poor.

Training is still confined to P.T. Recreational training on a larger scale could be indulged in, and would be of great advantage if a certain amount of Sports equipment in the shape of footballs, football boots, boxing gloves, etc. could be made available. Repeated attempts to get these items have failed.

3. CONTROL

- a) The movement organisation is satisfactory.
- b) The "Q" Stores are working satisfactorily under Italian administration with British supervision. As from 1st Sept. the system is being changed in accordance with a request from a Ministry of War representative to involve decentralization of Stores to Companies. The central Stores will still be maintained. Any difficulties in working this will be reported.
- c) Transport is up to W.E. but maintenance is far from satisfactory, and strong steps are being taken to alter this. It is partly due to difficulty in obtaining essential tools and spares for maintenance.
- d) A new system of obtaining rations is now on operation but it has only been going for a week, and is difficult to comment upon. Rations now come in bulk from NAPLES and the first consignment had a number of deficiencies, details of which have been notified to M.M.I.A. and Ministry of War.

W. H. Holland CSM.

for. Major,
Comd. British Cadre,
802 Italian Base Rft. Depot.

Copy to :- M.M.I.A.

H.Q., 211 Sub Area.

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

785020

Subject:- BASE REINFORCEMENT DEPOT

SD/29/2

11

To:- H.Q. No. 1 District

802 Italian Base Reinforcement
Depot, ORVIETO
Ref. BI/4/644
1st. Aug. 45

SD.

1. Herewith progress report for month ending 31st. July 45 in accordance with MMIA SD/42 of 2nd. Mar 45.

2. LIASION Satisfactory

SD/42

3. SUPERVISION

Low staff could be done

This is a matter for administration. I have been informed by this report.

- (a) Camp organisation and selection of personnel satisfactory
- (b) Documentation satisfactory.
- (c) Training is confined to P.T. and marching as the Depot is now handling trained soldiers.
- (d) Allocation of reinforcements satisfactory.
- (e) Personnel for an ELS Coy for Ministry of War are being screened at the present moment.
- (f) Discipline of ex co-operators is very poor owing to mistaken ideas about leave - the situation is quiet at the moment.
- (g) Hygiene satisfactory.
- (h) Welfare: Wireless set for British O.Rs still awaited.
- (i) Standing Orders satisfactory.
- (j) Weekly strength return is now discontinued and a signal of unallotted personnel is sent to MMIA each Monday.
- (k) Strength demands now come direct from MMIA.

See
A
WP

4. CONTROL

- (a) Organisation satisfactory.
- (b) "Q" Stores are now under Italian administration supervised by British Cadre.
- (c) Rations are good.
- (d) Transport is up to W.E.
- (e) An indent is being submitted to complete Special Equipment list on CM/730/1.
- (f) Medical stores satisfactory.

See
Sigs
488

TIC/rd

Copy to:- MMIA

H.Q. 61 Sub Area

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Craig

Capt.

Comm. British Cadre

802 Iti. Base Rein. Depot

MMIA
SD/29/2
P/28

SUBJECT:- MONTHLY REPORT ON 803 ITALIAN
BASE RFT. DEPOT.

Ref:- 2/46/HJ.

To:- HQ 3 District.
Copy to:-
MMA Rome.

2 Aug 1945.

TRAINING. Owing to the fact that during the past month the camp has been nearly emptied to fulfill urgent local demands for reinforcements and to the fact that the local call up has ceased, progressive training, other than normal routine drill and P.T. parades (which are carried out well), has become impracticable.

DISCIPLINE. Again owing to the small number of transit personnel, discipline has ceased to become a problem.

TRANSPORT. Maintenance difficulties (wagon lines at Raviscanina, FEME 724 1 of C Workshops other side of Naples) have been immensely decreased by the release to us of a Fitter's Tool Kit (which has just arrived). This will enable us to carry out all the minor repairs which hitherto have kept vehicles off the road and in Workshops.

ORGANISATION. The permanent staff has been reduced to less than three hundred. These have been sorted out and listed into:-

- (a) Prospective Staff for 807 Transit Camp.
- (b) Remains.

This means that operating as 803 Italian Base Rft. Depot we can still deal with any large influx of reinforcements which might be thrust upon us or at very short notice change over to 807 Transit Camp Organisation in which case the remainder of the permanent staff could immediately become available for posting.

WELFARE. Cinema Projector (which left us this morning) has been here most of the month, showing films nearly every night, and has been a very great boon.

CANTEEN. Supplies of Flour, Sugar, Coffee etc., have started to arrive from the Ministry of War - no Tobacco etc., has yet materialized - we still hold out hopes. Meanwhile the Staff continue to buy canteen goods through civilian sources fairly successfully though at fantastic prices.

37

Q

Maintenance difficulties (wagon lines at Raviscanina, REG 724 E of O Workshops other side of Naples) have been immensely decreased by the release to us of a Fitter's Tool Kit (which has just arrived). This will enable us to carry out all the minor repairs which hitherto have kept vehicles off the road and in Workshops.

ORGANISATION. The permanent staff has been reduced to less than three hundred. These have been sorted out and listed into:-
(a) Prospective Staff for 807 Transit Camp.
(b) Remainder.

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CANTEEN. Supplies of Flour, Sugar, Coffee etc., have started to arrive from the Ministry of War - no Tobacco etc., has yet materialized - we still hold out hopes. Meanwhile the Staff continue to buy canteen goods through civilian sources fairly successfully though at fantastic prices.

CLOTHING. Is now issued from a central store in the camp, this has created an improvement in distribution, and facilitated checking both to us and the Italians.

RATIONS. No complaints. Hard reserve at last down to reasonable proportions. At present one days rations for 550 men.

Field.

(J.H. Theophilus)
Major R.A.

O.C. Br. Cadre, 803 Italian Base Rft. Depot.

Q

FILED	80 44
DATE	2/3/48

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

Subject:- MONTHLY REPORT ON 803 ITALIAN
BASE HQT. DETON.

Ref:- 1/67/MJ.

To:- HQ 3 District
Copy to:-
MIA Rome.

30th. June 1945.

GENERAL. Training has improved considerably. Morale & discipline a little.
Administration a very little.

ORGANISATION. Reduction to two Battalions, each of four Companies is just beginning. Segregation of specialists is not really possible under present conditions but we have been able to improve one department, the drivers, by running a very useful course and test. Results have been printed inside the cover of Pamphlet "Inspection, Maintenance & Care of Army Vehicles (Wheeled, 1941)" issued to each Student on completion.

DOCUMENTATION. A sad weakness, we continue our efforts.

TRAINING. The provision of a rifle range, the exemplary work of attached British personnel and the advent of a slightly better type of soldier have all contributed to make the improvement in this respect the brightest feature of this report. The new Battalion Commander of No. 2 Battalion is good.

DISCIPLINE. Better. The Italians have reacted very well to the gentleness of hints that a non-Italian guard might be considered for the prison compound. Improvement in training and feeding have also helped though much remains to be done.

HYGIENE. Continuous supervision keeps the standard reasonable.

MESSAGE. Radio is available, the Projector will shortly be so (MIA LO has intervened opportunely) and the electrical Generator has just arrived and should be working in three days. Italian "ENSA" shows are always "just around the corner" but do not materialize. I am going into this now.

CLOTHING. We are just beginning to get this on a satisfactory basis but, though now using one of the Training HQ's on this problem permanently and we shall see improvement during the next period. I gather that stads for boots are practically unobtainable but MIA LO is doing his best. They are essential of course.

RATIONS. Slight improvement in storage. I have told the Commander here to keep a maximum of a thousand rations for six days in reserve. ~~Pasta~~ stocks were fantastic - eg. pastasciutta 55,000 rations. I anticipate a return to reason in about a fortnight. AGC advice from a recent visit is being implemented. Complaints are few and mainly trivial.

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DOCUMENTATION. A and weakness, we continue our efforts.

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HYGIENE. Continuous supervision keeps the standard reasonable.

WEAPONS. Radio is available, the Projector will shortly be so (MIA LO has intervened opportunely) and the electrical Generator has just arrived and should be working in three days. Italian "ESEA" shows are always "just around the corner" but do not materialize. I am going into this now.

CLOTHING. We are just beginning to get this on a satisfactory basis but ^{it is now} using one of the Training HQ's on this problem permanently and we shall see improvement during the next period. I gather that studs for boots are practically unobtainable but MIA LO is doing his best. They are essential of course.

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TRANSPORT. This is better. The two three tonners added to our establishment have enabled us to begin a decent system of maintenance. Also a course has been run for transit personnel from which permanent drivers have also benefitted. By the next report transport discipline should be secure. The dignity of the British Major ^{Ray} however, even on state visits, is dependant on a 15 cwt.

(T.G.C. Ward)
Major, Recce Corps,
O.C. (Br. Cadre) 803 Italian Base Rft. Depot.

Field.

11/1/44
FILED SD/144
3/7

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GES 2 10/17

Subject :- Base K Enforcement Depots - BR-II.

From :- 802 Italian Base Rft. Depot,
ORVIEITO.

Ref. BI/4/004
30th June 45.

To :- H.Q. No.1 District,
C. M. F.

1. Herewith progress report for month ending 30th June 45 in accordance with MMIA SD/42 of 2nd March 45.

2. LIASON Satisfactory.

3. SUPERVISION

- (a) Camp organisation and selection of personnel satisfactory
- (b) Documentation satisfactory.
- (c) Training satisfactory.
- (d) Allocation of reinforcements satisfactory.
- (e) 91 Field Hospital is now working on a 160 bedded basis 526 and 527 Gd. Bns. have been despatched to their respective destinations.
- (f) Discipline satisfactory.
- (g) Hygiene satisfactory.
- (h) Welfare; Wireless set for British O.Rs. still required.
- (i) Standing Orders satisfactory.
- (j) Weekly strength return is being prepared by Italian Personnel Officer.
- (k) Strength demands are being dealt with satisfactory.

4. CONTROL

- (a) Organisation is satisfactory.
- (b) "Q" Stores are under Italian Administration, supervised by British C.Q.M.S.
- (c) Rations are good.
- (d) Transport for 91 Field Hospital has been received to the extent of one 15 cwt. One 3 ton truck is being collected this week.
- (e) Two 3 ton trucks have been received for the depot. Indents have been submitted to complete to scale as per 'Basic Equipment List' ref. AFHQ/6508/7/Q/AE.
- (f) Medical stores are satisfactory.

8

SD/144

SD 30/6

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wellfare
by British C.Q.M.S.
and under MMIA
for welfare

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- Welfare*
Be checked and
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for welfare
- (g) Hygiene satisfactory.
(h) Welfare; Wireless set for British O.Rs. still required.
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(f) Medical stores are satisfactory.

Long

Capt.,

Commnd. British Cadre,
802 Italian Base Rft. Dpt.

TIC/HB.

Copy to :- MMIA

H.Q. 71 Sub Area.

MMIA - 'G'
FILE: 52/146
DATE: 2/7

GSO 1

GSO 2 (Ops)

GSO 2 (ED) *X*

GSO 2 (W-)

GSO 2 (L)

GSO 3 (SD)

GSO 3 (Orbit)

GSO 3 (I)

0292

6

Subject: - GENERAL REPORT.

REF/22/1/45.

To: H.Q., 3 District, C.O., F.

Copies to: H.Q., 54 Area.

H.Q., I.A., Rome.

H.Q., I.A., I.O., 54 Area.

GSO 1

GSO 2 (G.S.)

GSO 3 (G.S.)

GSO 4 (G.S.)

GSO 5 (G.S.)

GSO 6 (G.S.)

GSO 7 (G.S.)

GSO 8 (G.S.)

MMIA-C
FILE: RLS
DATE: RLS

804 Italian Base Reinforcements Depot, T R A H I.

1. MAISON.

Close liaison is constantly maintained with H.Q., 54 Area, H.Q., I.A., 230 Division, and movements.

2. SUPERVISION and ADVICE.

- (a) The Depot is organised on H.Q. 04/100/1.
- (b) Documentation of all intakes is carried out as they enter the Reception Centre on arrival at the Depot.
- (c) 1. Training is regularly carried out according to Training programmes as laid down by this H.Q..

- ii. Lt. STREWART of this Cadre is constantly supervising 2887 advising on training and good results are being achieved.
- iii. All recruits are put through a four weeks basic training course which includes lectures on military discipline and moral etc. Each morning is taken up with squad drill and marching. P.F. is carried out in the afternoon.
- iv. The results of the above training shows a very marked improvement in general bearing, discipline and moral

624

A

0293

785020

1. LIAISON.

Close liaison is constantly maintained with H.Q., 54 Area, S.A.I., 290 Division, and movements.

2. SUPERVISION AND ADVISE.

- (a) The Depot is organized on S.S. Cn/730/1.
- (b) Documentation of all intakes is carried out as they enter the Reception Centre on arrival at the Depot.
- (c) i. Training is regularly carried out according to Training

Programmes as laid down by this H.Q..

ii. Lt. STEWART of this Cadre is constantly supervising ⁴⁰⁸⁷ advising on training and good results are being achieved.

iii. All recruits are put through a four weeks basic training course which includes lectures on Military Discipline and Moral etc. Each morning is taken up with Squad Drill and marching. P.T. is carried out in the afternoon.

iv. The results of the above training shows a very marked improvement in general bearing, discipline and moral throughout the Depot.

(d) Allocation of reinforcements is generally supervised by this H.Q., and is satisfactory.

(e) Formation of Units-vigi Italian Transport Coys. (A.O.) has been carried out to the best of the ability of this Cadre but it is most urgently pointed out that together with the work involved in liaison, supervising, advising and control-line 7000 Italians it is far too big a job to be carried out with the maximum of efficiency by such a small Cadre. If however the British Cadres of these Coys. could be formed and sent to TRANI before their vehicles are collected it would ease the position enormously.

6424

A.

~~SECRET~~

GTISD
Plant
3210182

para. 2. contd.

(c) Discipline has greatly improved during the past four weeks and very few cases of serious breaches of discipline are now reported. A prison stockade to hold 20 necessary up to 200 men has now been erected in the camp and two pickets have now been doubled.

(d) Hygiene in the barracks and toilet camps is improving but this work has been greatly hampered by the recall to his Unit of the S.A.S.C. (Non Medical) officer who was attached to the Cadre. A separate application has been made to your H.Q. for a replacement. The reason for this is that it is most difficult to make the Italians work to any hygiene system and therefore daily supervision is absolutely essential.

(h) Selfcare is being continually improved and facilities now available are as follows:-

- (1.) The sports ground under construction is nearing completion and when ready will comprise of 2 football pitches, 2 basketball pitches, bowls green and it is also hoped to construct a 440 yds. track.
- (2.) Arrangements made with the local cinema still stand and cinema shows free to the troops of this Depot are given weekly.
- (3.) A bathing beach, solely for the use of the Depot, has been requisitioned and diving boards and rafts are under construction.
- (4.) The concert party continue to give excellent performances and the local cinema is periodically used for this

488

Met.
6th. 45.
Specimen
4 to 30 Ind
2. 1/2 mile N.O.

Welfare
By N.O.

the Italians work to any hygiene system and therefore daily supervision is absolutely essential.

(h) Welfare is being continually improved and facilities now available are as follows:-

- By N/A*
- (1.) The sports ground under construction is nearing completion and when ready will comprise of 2 football pitches, 2 basket-ball pitches, bowls green and it is also hoped to construct a 440 yds. track.
 - (2.) Arrangements made with the local cinema still stand and cinema shows free to the troops of this Depot are given weekly. 480.
 - (3.) A bathing beach, solely for the use of the Depot, has been requisitioned and diving boards and rafts are under construction.
 - (4) The concert party continue to give excellent performances and the local cinema is periodically used for this purpose.
 - (5) A cineastograph for this Depot would be of immense benefit and attempts are being made to obtain one through C.I.A. and local channels.
 - (1) Standing Orders are supervised.
 - (1 & 2) Weekly strength returns and strength demands are constantly supervised.

A.

1. GENERAL3. GENERAL

- (a) General of drifts is now under control.
- (b) General equipment and clothing is constantly improved and general improvement is noted.

- (c) Equipment. Satisfactory but indents need very close supervision.

- (d) Transport. The test is now up to scale in transport but a further 500 tons is urgently required.

- (e) Food. Satisfactory.

- (f) Medical stores. Weekly written reports submitted to this

... from the senior M.O. of the Depot show some improvement.

4. General is accordance with instructions are carried out.

5. GENERAL

- (a) The present Reception Centre is too small to handle for a new Reception Centre has been requisitioned and the work is now under construction by civilian labour. When completed it will be capable of dealing with 1000 men per day and will include:-

- (i) Reception offices.

- (ii) Shower baths

- (iii) Identification centre

- (iv) ...

- (v) Clothing stores etc.

- (vi) Tented camp for 1000 men including cookhouses, latrines and ablutions.

4879

0297

Med. 14-15

(a) 100m. satisfactory.

(f) Medical stores. Weekly written reports submitted to this

3. from the senior S.O. of the Depot show some improvement.

4. Summary in accordance with instructions are carried out.

5. Summary

(a) The present Reception Centre is too small as ground for a new Reception Centre has been requisitioned and the work is now under construction by civilian labour. When completed it will be capable of dealing with 1000 men per day and will include:-

- (i) Documentation offices.
- (ii) Shower baths
- (iii) Identification centres
- (iv) S.I. Room
- (v) Clothing stores etc.
- (vi) Sanitary areas for 1000 men including Cookhouses, latrines and ablutions.

4879

(b) The British cadre of this Depot is still not up to strength. A Captain posted to this unit on the 11th April namely 14000 S/Capt. H. WHITTINGTON has not yet reported for duty. ^{Press Corp.} Could this matter please be expedited.

Field, 200.

804 Italian Base Reinforcement Depot, FUSBI.

Major, 1.4.45

Commanding British Cadre,

[Signature]

Subject - MONTHLY REPORT ON 105 ITALIAN BATTALION

Ref. 789/JP

To: HQ 3 District
 COM to:-
 MIA Home

1 May 45

SD
 SD/144
 3/5

GENERAL. During the month the Depot was transferred from [illegible] to [illegible] and [illegible] to [illegible]. The 1st Bn moved on the 11/12 April, followed by the 2nd Bn on 17/18 April. Depot HQ was then transferred and the 2nd Bn moving on the 23/24 completed the move.

In order to assist in organising the new camp and in commencing training of the reinforcements a number of additional British personnel were attached to the Br Cadre. One party organised the carrying out of necessary engineering work, rendered necessary through the damage caused by pilfering etc during the period in which the camp had been unoccupied and of new work such as the provision of a wired in prison compound etc.

CAMP ORGANISATION. The lack of a full system of documentation has made segregation of all the specialists in the camp extremely difficult. At present all the known tradesmen are held in No. 1 and 2 Coys of the 1st Bn.

TRAINING. Preliminary training has been started since the move to Kavisanina. Parades, marching drill, P.T. etc. have been carried out under the supervision of the Br Sgt with each Coy. Generally the attendance at these parades has been less than it should have been.

One thousand rifles have recently been made available and drawn for training purposes. These have been allocated on a basis of 55 per Coy.

A S/Sgt Instructor AFRC has been attached to the camp by DAF and is conducting a course to provide a Sgt P.T. leader for each Coy.

FORMATION OF UNITS. The only unit under formation at the moment is 2nd Field Hospital. A considerable quantity of stores has been drawn and handed to this unit but the completion of the formation is held up by the lack of NOs required for the hospital up to its W/E.

DISCIPLINE. There has been an improvement in discipline during the month chiefly due to the move of the camp. It is unfortunately true however that a large number of the officers and an even higher percentage of the NOs are not carrying out their duties in a satisfactory manner. The Italian CO, Col. Musso, has reported on a number of the officers, including 2 Bn Comdres, and has asked for them to be replaced by more suitable officers.

[illegible] attached to the Br Cadre

through the damage caused by pilfering etc during the period in which the camp had been unoccupied and of new work such as the provision of a wired in prison compound etc.

CAMP ORGANISATION. The lack of a full system of documentation has made segregation of all the specialists in the camp extremely difficult. At present all the known tradesmen are held in No. 1 and 2 Coys of the 1st Batta.

TRAINING. Preliminary training has been started since the move to Iaviscarina. Parades, marching drill, P.T. etc. have been carried out under the supervision of the Br Sgt with each Coy. Generally the attendance at these parades has been less than it should have been.

One thousand rifles have recently been made available and drawn for training purposes. These have been allocated on a basis of 55 per Coy.

A S/Sgt Instructor AFRO has been attached to the camp by IET and is conducting a course to provide a Sgt P.T. leader for each Coy.

FORMATION OF UNITS. The only unit under formation at the moment is 251 Field Hospital. A considerable quantity of stores has been drawn and handed to this unit but the completion of the formation is held up by the lack of MOs required for the unit hospital up to its 1/2.

DISCIPLINE. There has been an improvement in discipline during the month chiefly due to the move of the camp. It is unfortunately true however that a large number of the officers and an even higher percentage of the NCOs are not carrying out their duties in a satisfactory manner. The Italian CO, Col. Musso, has reported on a number of the officers, including 2 Batta Commanders, and has asked for them to be replaced by more suitable officers.

HYGIENE. The RMC (RM) Officer who was attached to the Br Cadre commenced to organise the hygiene and sanitation of the camp but unfortunately had to be posted elsewhere. An MO from 15 San Section was attached in his place and with the assistance of Br personnel has ensured that the Camp is kept in an hygienic condition.

WELFARE. There is a canteen operating in the camp and a building fitted for use as a cinema or concert hall. Attempts are being made to secure a projector for the cinema and also to obtain instruments so that live entertainment can be organised with local talent. The Welfare Officer of 227 Div is also attempting to purchase a radio for the canteen. It is understood that 227 Div are willing to allocate 25,000 lire monthly to provide welfare at this camp and have also applied for an initial grant of 50,000 lire.

CLOTHING. Issues were restricted at Afragola but the first supplies of K.D. have been drawn and issued. As the men have no waterproof clothing of any description they undoubtedly suffer a measure of hardship and discomfort if the weather is bad and any training is then impossible.

Sheet 1.

CLOTHING (Cont) Some difficulty has been experienced in the case of men who either through neglect or through leaving sold or exchanged good boots have no replaceable footwear. These men can only be issued with new boots after having signed a repayment form. Some have refused to sign this form and while it is realized that this makes the matter one of discipline the fact that boots are priced at 5,300 lire and the men are only in receipt of a very small daily rate of pay, in some cases 9 lire, makes the matter rather different from the normal case of this type.

RATIONS. A few complaints about rations have been received but have been due to the bread not having been properly baked rather than to lack of quantity. Steps have been taken to see that the bakery in future will not make a similar mistake.

TRANSPORT. The present scale of transport is not adequate to maintain the camp but it is understood that representations have been made to increase the W/E to a suitable figure.

Field

M. B. GARNETT

Major, RA

C.O. (B. Cadre) 803 Italian Base Fft Derot

I have the honor to
be replying to your
letter of the 10th inst.
concerning the
improvement of the
camp.

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

785020

Circulate

G.S.O.1.

G.S.O.1. (2nd)

A. Col Pender WP

Q. Col Noakes ✓

Q.2. Lt Col Burke RAC

Maj Dobbs.

S.T. (T). - KV DR DR

Med. War 20/4 → Welfare.

Welfare. For Mr Rt.

This file
Booked out to 'A' 1100B on 17/4
by Cpl. Beckett. 4877
Returned to 'G' 20/4 at 1130B
guard.
20/4

R- 17/4

0302

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020Subject - AFRAGOLA Camp. Report for MARCH

14 APR 1945

3

Ref. 1/32/JF.

12 Apr 45

To,
HQ 3 District
Copy to:-
MIA Rome

SD

14/4

During the past month it was found that no discipline existed in the Camp.

For this reason it was found impossible to introduce any proper training programme. The only training that was in fact carried out was the training of a P.T. instructor for each Coy by a C.M.S.I. loaned by DMT who also supervise the commencement of organised P.T. by the Coys.

Proper Camp organisation was rendered impossible because the Neapolitan section of the Re-inforcements had been living out of Camp in the earlier stages of the formation of the Depot and staged demonstrations when any attempt was made to force them to stay in the Camp. The Neapolitans also deserted in large numbers when they were included in drafts moving out.

A comprehensive survey of the Camp hygiene was carried out by the Hygiene Officer attached to the British Cadre. A programme of necessary work was made out and commenced to be carried out under the supervision of the GE.

Small drafts moving out were despatched up to strength but it was found impossible to control large drafts owing to the complete lack of discipline.

There are at the moment 6 x 3 ton, 3 x 15cwt, 1 x 5cwt and 4 M/Cs which are under British control. The drivers are Italian and inexperienced and it is considered essential that a British tradesman preferably a Sgt Vehicle Mech be added to the British Cadre establishment to supervise the maintenance and control of the vehicles.

Field.

MMI
FILE: SD/144
DATE: R 14/4

(R.S. GARRETT)

Major, RA

O.C. (Br Cadre) 803 Italian Base Reft Depot

4875

RAE

Subject :- Base Reinforcement Depots. BR-ITI.

From :- 802 Italian Base Rft. Depot,

ORVIETO.

Ref. BI/4/

31 March 45.

To :- H.Q. No.1 District.

ACTION.

TO SEE 1.

Herewith report in accordance with MMIA SD/42 dated 2 March 45.

2.

LAISON

Liaison with B.R.D. Italian Commander, and compliance with orders is satisfactory.

3.

SUPERVISION

(a) Camp organisation, and selection of personnel is satisfactory

(b) Training is satisfactory.

(c) Formation of 91 Field Hospital is proceeding, and is expected to increase shortly to firstly 100 beds, and then to 200 beds.

(d) Discipline satisfactory.

(e) Hygiene satisfactory.

(f) Welfare would be greatly improved if sports gear such as football equipment, games etc could be obtained.

(g) Standing Orders issued by B.R.D. Italian Commander are very good.

(h) Weekly Strength Returns are, at the moment, being completed by British Cadre but this will be handed over to the Italians in the near future.

A.

WELFARE.

3. SUPERVISION

- (a) Camp organisation, and selection of personnel is satisfactory
- (b) Training is satisfactory.
- (c) Formation of 91 Field Hospital is proceeding, and is expected to increase shortly to firstly 100 beds, and then to 200 beds.
- (d) Discipline satisfactory.
- (e) Hygiene satisfactory.
- (f) Welfare would be greatly improved if sports gear such as football equipment, games etc could be obtained.
- (g) Standing Orders issued by B.R.D. Italian Command ^{are} 187

A.
MED.

A.

WELFARE. *By*

- (h) Weekly Strength Returns are, at the moment, being completed by British Cadre but this will be handed over to the Italians in the near future.

4.

CONTROL

- (a) Drafts moving out are satisfactory.
- (b) Personal equipment and clothing is satisfactory.
- (c) Rations are excellent.

(d) Transport is insufficient as St. Augustine Barracks, the School, and the New Camp all have to be serviced and the distance involved is quite considerable. This is in addition to the normal daily requirements of rations, wood, and wine.

Q.2.

S.T.(T).

Since Tpl. for B.R.D. has been ruled to be WD Tpl. this situation will require more adjustment by an officer. for work in WE (Camp) District. 26/4

MMIA - 'G'	
FILE:	SD/31
DATE:	2/4

2:.....

1 + 2 Drafts have been asked to forward requirements so that we can find a proposal. The WE is subject to certain conditions.

0305

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

2.

CONTROL Cont.

Q(EE)
Q(OS)

- (g) Indents have been submitted to complete to scale as per Basic Equipment List, ref. AFHQ/6508/7/Q(AE).
- (h) Medical Stores are satisfactory.

W. T. W. G. K.

Major,
Comm. British Cadre,
802 Lt. Base Rft. Depot.

Copt to :- Land Forces Sub-Comm. A.C. (MMLA)
H.Q. No. 71 Sub Area.

4873

SECRET

Subject: - GENERAL REPORT.

H.Q. 3 District.

Copies to:-

H.Q. 54 Area.

M.M.I.A. ROME.

M.M.I.A..L.O. 54 Area

EST/132/45

M.M.I.A..L.O.

FILE: 52/143

DATE: 6/4

804 Italian Base Reinforcement Depot, TRANI.1. LIAISON.

Close liaison is maintained with H.Q. 54 Area, and M.M.I.A.,

L.O.

2. SUPERVISION and ADVICE.

The camp is organised on M.S.C. 7730/1. All reinforcements coming to the Depot report to a Reception Centre where they are bathed, clothed, medically inspected for P.F.I., and inoculations, documented and posted to a Battalion. 4871

3. TRAINING.

Basic training is carried out and has resulted in a marked improvement in discipline. The Depot strength does not show the true state of reinforcements available, category men are held here and men drift in from units other than those directed by A.F.H.Q.,

I. LIAISON.

Close liaison is maintained with H.Q. 54 Area, and M.M.I.A.,

L.O.

2. SUPERVISION AND ADVICE.

The camp is organized on W.S. 33/730/1. All reinforcements coming to the Depot report to a Reception Centre where they are bathed, clothed, medically inspected for P.F.I., and inoculations, documented and posted to a Battalion.

4871

3. TRAINING.

Basic training is carried out and has resulted in a marked improvement in discipline. The Depot strength does not show the true state of reinforcements available, category men are held here and men drift in from units other than those directed by A.P.H.Q., M.M.I.A., H.Q. 3 District. This is being remedied.

4. A.C. TRANSPORT.

221 Italian Transport Company is being formed at present.

5. DISCIPLINE.

Discipline is improving but occasional demonstrations are staged with a political foundation. Known leaders have been posted away from the Depot by the Italian C.O.

6. WELFARE AND RECREATION.

(a) Welfare and recreational facilities are improving. A canteen has been erected but supplies are difficult to obtain, local produce is sold;

General Report.

S H E E T . I I .

WELFARE AND RECREATION.

- (b) A small concert party has been formed in the Depot, who give concerts in the canteen two afternoons a week.
- (c) Arrangements have been made with the local Chinese proprietor to give one show a week, free to men of this Depot, 1000 men attend.
- (d) A bathing beach has been reserved for this Depot where organised bathing will be carried out.
- (e) Ground has been requisitioned for a Campo Sportivo, and this should be completed in the near future, in the meantime football is played daily on a local units ground.

7. CONTROL.

Moving of drafts is not yet completely tied up to guarantee full number of men will leave - the main difficulty has been due to the lack of supervision by Italian officers who do not have complete control of their men. This is improving.

8. "MEN"

- (a) Personal equipment and clothing is now available more readily and all men are clothed to a minimum scale. This is ^{not} ~~at~~ ^{per} scale in MIA letter 3D/42 and obviates drafts selling clothing en route. The quality of Battle-dress issued while being reasonable is not yet good and cannot be expected to last long.
- (b) Rations are good and no complaints have yet been received.
- (c) Transport in this Depot has been a great problem due to W.E. Transport not yet been issued. The Depot has 3 very old lorries, 2, 1912 class which are invariably off the road. Uag has been made of vehicles belonging to

Moving of drafts is not yet completely tied up to guarantee full number of men will leave - the main difficulty has been due to the lack of supervision by Italian officers who do not have complete control of their men. This is improving.

8. "HOW"

(a) Personnel equipment and clothing is now available more readily and all men are clothed to a minimum scale. This is 4400 per scale in MIA letter SD/42 and obviates drafts selling clothing en route. The quality of Battle-dress issued while being reasonable is not yet good and cannot be expected to last long.

(b) Rations are good and no complaints have yet been received.

(c) Transport in this Depot has been a great problem due to W.A. Transport not yet been issued. The Depot has 3 very old lorries, 2, 1912 class which are invariably off the road. Use has been made of vehicles belonging to the Driving School in TRANI. Release has been applied for AD03., and on receipt no further difficulties should be experienced.

9. MEDICAL STORES AND HYGIENE.

The general standard of Hygiene is improving. The Reception Centre at present in use is too small for dealing with intakes of over 500 men daily. Suitable land has been requisitioned for making a new centre. The tented camp is nearing completion, 2 camp sites are now completed except for shower baths which nearing completion.

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

General Report.

S H E E T III.

9. MEDICAL STORES and HYGIENE. cont.

The third camp was started this week. All outgoing drafts are now medically inspected. Medical stores indented for on a monthly basis and are satisfactory.

Field, GSE.

30/3/45.

Alibey, Capt

Major, R.A.,

Commanding British Cadre,

804 Italian Base Reinforcements Depot, TRANI.

4869

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

General Report.

S H E E T III.

2. MEDICAL STORES and HYGIENE. cont.

The third camp was started this week. All outgoing drafts are now medically inspected. Medical stores indented for on a monthly basis and are satisfactory.

Field, CWP.

30/3/45.

Atkinson, Capt

Major, R.A.,

Commanding British Cadre,

804 Italian Base Reinforcements Depot, TRANI.

4869

0 3 1 2