

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

785020

ACC

100006 / 120 / 948

EME / 180

Opened J

Jan. NOV.

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

785020

10000 | 120 | 948

EME/1803 EQUIPMENT

Opened Jan 4, 1945 - Closed Nov 21, 1945

Jan - Nov 1945

1853

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

LC 11/15/45
1031

P/A

(22)

MESSAGE FORM

FROM : ROMA

DATE TIME
26 800 A

TO : DEFEVO

UNCLASSIFIED

INFO : 1 HQ TURIN
2 HQ GENOA
3 HQ MILAN
4 HQ BOLOGNA
5 HQ UDINE
6 HQ BOLOGNA

REF NO 1698

THIS PLANE NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM ROMA CONCERNING PRESENT OR PROPOSED
MODIFICATIONS EQUIPMENT USED BY ITALIAN DIVISIONS (.) AND
CANCELLATION INSTRUCTIONS NOT ATTACHABLE TO THIS AS AT PRESENT CONSTITUTED (.)
REQUEST CANCELLATION ANY ORDERS GIVEN THIS SUBJECT AND
CLASSIFICATION WITH ASSISTANCE REQUIRED FROM ROMA

PREFERENCE

INTERNAL
OR
FILE

AUTHENTICATION

Alc...

224

R 27/1/45

1854

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

785020

Subject:- Special Equipment Lists.

Land Forces Sub Comm;
A.C.(MMIA),
ROME.
EME/1803
27 Nov.45.

To:- Q(AE),
G.H.Q. C.M.F.

1. Reference your letter reference 6508/9/Q(AE)
Number 721 dated 19 Nov.45.

2. According to our records this unit was disbanded
w.e.f. 31 May 45 on authority of AFHQ letter G1(Br) 1066/A.1.
(Ser.2204) date 11 May 45.

John Taylor Major
A.D.M.E.
Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.(MMIA).

FGWT/agn

293

R 29/1/45

1855

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

G-1 → REME

Do you agree
that this unit is
now disbanded?

Wpt Taylor

Major

REME Branch

Q 23/11

yes! AFHQ letter

G-1 (BR) 1066/A.1 (Ser 2204)

dated 11 May 45.

disb'd w.e.f 31 May 45

CP 23/11

1856

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

785020

RONAUTICA

EA TERRITORIALE

ito l'attività minima di volo -

CATA ESECUZIONE

Parere motivato
dal comando di Z. A. T.

1857

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

2ND HASTENED
19/11/45

8/05

Ref: 6501/9/4(AE)
Number... 724...

Subject :- Application for Special Equipment
Part I - CM AT G1096.

Sponsor ... HQ. M.M.I.A.
..... C.M.F.

1. No trace can be found in this Division of a reply to our letter of even
number dated 15/9/45.... in which it was requested that a proposed
list of Special Equipment for Part I of CM AT G1096, be submitted in
request of the Units enumerated below.
2. As it is desired to publish CM AT G1096s for these/this Units you are
requested to expedite return of preference for approval.
3. Duplicate copies of the original letter and preference are attached.

UNIT
Navies Training School Allied Forces... CM/949/1.

1858

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

2. As it is desired to publish on the 17 pages for these/these Units you are requested to submit return of preference for approval.
3. Duplicate copies of the original letter and preference are attached.

UNIT
Naiver Training School Allied Comm. *W.E.* *04/06/51*

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

292

Thompson
D. F. LONCHMAN Major
for Briardier (AI).

SF

1859

Subject: - Application for Special Equipment
Part 1 - CA AF G1098.

Ref: 6508/9/Q(AE)

Number 721

19/11/45.

Sponsor HQ
M.M.IA.

1. The following Central Mediterranean Establishment CA 1949/1.
has been approved for a Power Training School Allied Comm.
vide War Establishment Committee Meeting No 180/45. held on 19/11/45.
Serial number

2. It is intended to publish a CA AF G1098 for this type of Unit in
accordance with GRO 180/45.

3. Parts 11 and 111 of this CA AF G1098 will be compiled by this HQ
and will cover the items of domestic equipment to which the Unit is entitled.
The Headquarters supervising the formation of the Unit indicated on the
G.I.(Brit) AME formation letter, can supply detail of such items covered
by these two parts.

4.(a) Two copies of the attached proforma 'Proposed Special Equipment
entitlement Part 1 CA AF G1098' are forwarded for rendition to this
Headquarters, on which you are requested to insert items considered necessary
for the Unit to perform its' designed technical role.

(b) It is requested that the proforma be rendered in two parts. 291

Part (1) Items of a Technical nature, e.g. Tradesmen's kits,
plants, compressors, binoculars etc.

Part (11) Items of a domestic nature deemed to be required in
excess of Parts 11 and/or 111 scaling, e.g. extra cooking
equipment etc.

Parts 11 and 111 of this CM AF G1098 will be compiled by this HQ and will cover the items of domestic equipment to which the Unit is entitled. The Headquarters supervising the formation of the Unit indicated on the G.1.(Brit) AFHQ formation letter, can supply detail of such items covered by these two parts.

4.(a) Two copies of the attached proforma 'Proposed Special Equipment entitlement Part 1 CM AF G1098' are forwarded for rendition to this Headquarters, on which you are requested to insert items considered necessary for the Unit to perform its' designed technical role.

(b) It is requested that the proforma be rendered in two parts. 291

Part (1) Items of a Technical nature, e.g. Tradesmen's kits, plants, compressors, binoculars etc.

Part (11) Items of a domestic nature deemed to be required in excess of parts 11 and/or 111 sealins, e.g. extra cooking equipment etc.

(c) Reasons for the stores requested will be stated briefly in the remarks column, and the correct nomenclature, catalogue number and vocabulary section used.

5. Subject to approval, the list of stores rendered in accordance with para 4 will appear as Unit's entitlement in Part 1 'Technical Equipment' of the relevant CM AF G1098 when published. This will constitute an authority for demand.

6. A NIL return is required in the event of a Unit not requiring Special stores (see para 4).

HW

D.F. Longman
D.F. LONGMAN, Major,
for Brigadier, G(AE).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850120

PROPOSED SPECIAL EQUIPMENT EMPLOYMENT PART 1 ON AF 64093.

for *General Training.. R.R. Pool. Allied..* .. 94911.

Catalogue Number	Description	Qty	Remarks
			082

062

1862

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

EME/1803
Subject:- EQUIPMENT - ITALIAN
COMBAT GROUPS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Land Forces Sub Coma. i.C.
(M.F.I.C.)
ROME
O/CS/11/1

MINISTRY OF WAR.

5 July 45.

1. The present policy regarding equipment of Italian Combat Groups is that all equipment held including major equipment and vehicles - is to be retained.
2. It is of paramount importance that equipment and vehicles should be maintained in the best possible condition. Information received shows that vehicles in particular are being allowed to deteriorate through lack of regular maintenance.
3. You are requested to issue instructions accordingly to Commanders of Italian Combat Groups.

J. J. Newell
P.J. NOAKES, Colonel
for Major General,
M.F.I.C.

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Copies to: A.E.H.Q. for SAC ref. 30430/005 GCT-0 dated 1 Jul/45
" " OAE ref. 4942/Q(2) dated 2 Jul/45.

All HCU's

Internal Distribution:-

G
Q
ST
REME

P/A

/-b

6/7/45

1863

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

C O P Y

REMI *

EME / 1803

IMPORTANT
FROM 804 IBRD 12
TO HQ MMIA ROME
INFO HQ 54 AREA HQ 3 DISTRICT
LAD/316/45 PLEASE EXPEDITE AUTHORIZATION OF TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT
FOR L A D S 463 AND 464

PLA

Q/OS distribn.
Float
Q/OS/29
Q/OS/18
Q/OS/9
REME
M/F

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*Signal Q/OS/245 of 20 JUN (copy to you) refers.

1865

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

785020

Subject:- Vets Recovered or
Captured from the Enemy.

DEER British Inc HQ 5 Army
DAMES HQ L.F. Sub-Com (MIA) ✓
DAA & QMG 52 RLH
L.C. MIA 52 RLH

SC REME
52 British Liaison Unit
OMT
Ref No:- BEE/4/65.

Date:- 16 June 45

Ref our letter BEE/4/65 dated 15 June 45.

1. Please cancel paras 2 & 3 of above letter.
2. As this is a 'Q' matter, disposal instructions will be arranged by 286
DAA & QMG 52 RLH.

PHINDON

SC REME

P/A 1803
19/6/45

1866

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

Subject:- Vehs Recovered or Captured
from the Enemy.

SC RUM
52 British Liaison Unit
CMF
Ref No.- BMF/4/54.

Date:- 15 June 45.

DONE
British Increment
HQ 5 Army
DADES HQ L.F. Sub-Com (MIA) ✓
L.O. MIA 52 BLU

Remue
19/6

P/A 1803
285

1. Attached copy of instructions in connection with repairs to above vehicles issued by Chief of Staff "Legnano" is forwarded for your information.

IP
19/1/05

PH. McOTT

SC RUM

1867
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

C O P Y

Subject:- Vehs Recovered or Captured from the Enemy

31 May 45.

Ref:- 07/2152.

To:- SG RMD 52 HLU

Ref my letter 07/2145 of yesterday's date.

Further to para 2 of that letter I enclose a copy of the directive issued regarding the repair of vehs recovered or captured from the enemy.

284

(Sgt) Major Catalana.

1868

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

C O P Y

Subj: - Repair of Vehicles Recovered
or Captured from the Enemy.

Ref No: 07/2152

Date: 31 May 45

Further to circular letter number 07/2127 dated 29 May 45 issued by this HQ (not directed to Wksp Platoons or LADs), it is ordered that:-

1. No veh recovered or captured from the enemy can be accepted for repair at the Wksp, Wksp Platoon and LADs without the previous and explicit authorisation from this HQ - Ufficio Auto.
2. In order to clear up all doubt it is definitely stated that the Wksps (LADs included) will consider as recovered or captured from the enemy all vehs whose manufacture is Italian, German, French etc. and moreover those different from the normal and well known types in distribution to the Gruppo.
3. If the vehs under discussion come for repair without the authorisation of this HQ they must be held back and this HQ informed. No repairs of any kind will be carried out until this HQ gives instructions regarding them.
4. For any breach of the present order the Director of the Wksps, the Commander of the Wkspe Platoon and the non-commissioned officers in charge of the LADs will be held responsible.

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By Order.
Major Scapati
For Chief of Staff.

1869

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

Subject:- Vehs Recovered or
Captured from the Enemy.

DEME British Incr HQ 5 Army
DAIME HQ L.F. Sub-Com (MIA) ✓
DAA & OMC 52 PLU
L.O. MIA 52 PLU

SC REME
52 British Liaison Unit
OMC
Ref No:- ECR/4/63.

Date:- 15 June 45.

Rem
19/6

P/A 1803

Further to our letter ECR/4/54 dated 4 June 45.

1. The final date for the impounding of the above vehs has been fixed at 15 June 45 and it has been arranged that they should be temporarily stored under guard in the CAMPO DI MARTE, BERGAMO.
2. These vehs are now arriving and it is anticipated that they will amount to approx 100. On arrival at the above Park each veh is being checked and recorded and on completion these records will be forwarded to DIME 5 Army and DAIME MIA.
3. DIME Disposal Instructions in regard to the above would be appreciated.

P.H. Nelson

SC REME

19/6/45

785020

Rene
12/4

Army Form 63
 (in back of 10)

Fee Office Stamp. *

To be completed
by Contractor

No. of sheets in voucher _____ Sheet No. _____

Receipt voucher No. _____

Account _____

Date account commences _____

At CMF
At ROME CMF

Date and mode of conveyance 17.3-45 Collected Carrier's or Convey Note No. and Date

CEMR No. 1344 10/10/1981
(Signature of consignor or consignee)

IF USED BY ORDNANCE OFFICERS AS AN ISSUE VOUCHER, TONNAGE TO BE ENTERED ON REVERSE

1872

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

FOLD HERE	
<u>ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE</u>	AFFIX STAMP
<u>IMMEDIATE</u>	
FOLD HERE	

1873
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject: I.V. Hasteners.

Pro-forma WEB/403.

Remy
To: MILITARY MISSION, ITALIAN ARMY.
(RE ME attached)

The receipted copy of my I.V. (A.F.G.1033) No. WEB/IV/187.....
dated. 17.3.45... has not been received in this office.

"Would you kindly hasten return. Certified True Copy of this
voucher is attached in the event of the original having gone astray.

Date. 27.4.45

Dyson
Major.
W.E.O.
for Colonel.
CEME., 16 Base Workshops REME.
(P. Dyson)

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

NOTE.—Whenever practicable this voucher must accompany the stores.

Certified True copy.
ISSUE AND RECEIVE

ISSUE AND RECEIPT VOUCHER

Lease } WEB/14/187
 voucher No. }
 Account Workshop Equipment
 Date account } 1-5-44.
 commences }

*To be completed
by Contributor*

For Office Stamp: *

Army

To be completed
by Contingent

No. of sheets in voucher _____ Sheet No. _____

Receipt voucher No. _____

Account _____

Date account commences _____

Issued by: CEME 16 Base W/Shops REME
To: M.M.I.A. (REME attol)

At CMF
At ROME CMF

Authority _____
Date and mode of conveyance 17-3-45. Collected

Carrier's or Convey Note No. and Date _____

[illegible]

* On completion on ethical and triage, each of responses on duplicate.

* (Signature of consignor or consignee)

IF USED BY ORDNANCE OFFICERS AS AN ISSUE VOUCHER, TONNAGE TO BE ENTERED ON REVERSE.

1875

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

785020

FOLD HERE

IN HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE

MEDIATE

APPEX
STAMP

FOLD HERE

FOLD HERE

1878

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

Subject: Armourers.

To: ✓ RMC Branch, Land Forces
Sub-Commission, A.C. (191A),
RMC.

Headquarters,
No. 1. District,
C.M.F.
Tel. No: 5100
11/12/13/1
24 Apr, 45.

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of your

RMC/6 of 23 Apr, 45.

Handwritten signature

K.A. McK. RYDLES, Lt. Col.
ADMS.

For Brigadier.

Deputy Director of Mech Engineering.

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23/4/45

1877
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject: Armourers.

(10)
Land Forces Sub Comm.
A.C.(M.M.I.A.)
ROME
REME/6
23 April 45

Lt. Col. K.A. McK Randles,
R.E.M.E.
HQ N°1 District,
C.M.F.

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter to Major Edwards dated 18 April 45, and this will be passed to him on his return from a duty journey on Thursday next.

In the meantime, he has been dealing with this matter and we attach a copy of our letter to each B.L.U.

We informed 52 B.L.U. that their suggestions had been received through you.

R
22/4/45
J. H. Bayle 277
Major R.A.O.C.
for R.E.M.E. Branch,
Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.(MMIA)

/ERC

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

From: - Lt. Col. R.A. McK. RADFORD, REES.
M. No. 1. District,
C.M.F.

18th April, 1945.

Dear Edwards,

I enclose a copy of what I consider to be an excellent report by our AIA, who has recently been attached to 52 BLU.

It is self-explanatory, and I consider that you cannot do better than set about getting Ws amended in line with this. After all, small arms are the basis of the battle in a show like this, and a good deal of trouble to get the set-up right is more than worth while.

Incidentally, apropos of para. 4. of the attached, you will note that sub.-para. (a) is only ^{applicable} ~~applicable~~ if the Ws are amended as suggested, and has no application to the situation existing on the present W.

I think you are the best chap to set about putting this right, so I am passing this report direct to you. So that AFHQ can be in the picture, I will also send a copy of this letter, with enclosure, to the AIA, Lt. COLBING.

We are just waiting to pounce on the Mantova.

Best wishes,

Yours, sincerely,

Ken Radford

Enclos:

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To: Major R.F.M. EDWARDS,
DASH Land Forces Sub-Commission, A.C.,
M.M.I.A., REES.

1879

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

Subject:- War Establishment of Armourers
and 1098 of Epts for Armourers.

SC REME 52 BLU

Ref No:- EME/10.

Date:- 10 Apr '45.

1. The following list shows the comparison between the WE of Armourers in a British Inf formation compared with that of an Ital. Combat Group.

British Formation.	W.E. No.	Armrs att/ by ranks.	Ital. Gruppo Formation.	WE	Armourers by Ranks.
Field Regt RA	11/190B/1	1 x Sjt	Fd Regt (4 Gps)	NK	NIL
RHQ A/T Regt	11/181/2	1 x S/Sjt	A/T Group	"	NIL
Inf Battn	11/233/2	1 x Sjt	Inf Bn	"	1 Sjt 7 Armr Mechs.
Brigade Support Group.	11/236/2	2 (incl 1 Sjt)	Equivalent to Inf Support Coys etc. catered for under Regt HQs.		
Inf Bde HQ.	11/141/2	3 (incl 1 WO II 1 Sjt 1 Cfn)	Inf Regt HQ	NK	NIL + 10 Armr Mechs.
Field Pk Coy or Squadron	RE 111/15X/2	1 x Sjt.	2 Groups of Engineers	NK	NIL + NIL.

WE OF ARMOURERS WITH WKSPS.

REME Unit	WE NO.	Armrs by Ranks.	Ital. Wkspa Unit	WE	Armrs by Ranks.
Inf Bde Wkspa	NA/321/1	4 (Incl 1 S/Sjt and 3 Cfn)	ME Wkspa.	X1/611W/1	NK

2. This proves that the British equivalent of an Ital Combat Group would have the following fully trained and qualified Armourers:-

Armourer WO II	2	at Bde HQs
Armourer S/Sjts	2	1 at Bde Wkspa and 1 at RHQ A/T Regt
" Sjts	5	as listed above.
" Cfn	5	as listed above.

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making a total of 14 fully qualified Armourers whereas the Ital. Gruppo has the following:-

WOs not known but may be 1 on ME Wkspa WE
Sjts:- 6 with Inf Bn and perhaps 1 in ME Wkspa.

Giving a maximum total of 8 Armourers and 62 Armr Mechs. who are equivalent to technical storemen in the British Army and who are not capable or even authorised to carry out anything but very minor repairs to Small Arms etc.

1880

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

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3. The following is suggested WE of Armourers within an Ital. Combat Group.

Formation	Qualified Armrs by Ranks	Armr Mechs.
Arty Regts (6 grps)	1 S/Sjt: 1 Cpl: 1 Cfn.	6 (one to each Group)
Infantry Bn.	1 Sjt (as at present,	7 (as at present)
Inf Regt HQ	1 WO: 1 Sjt: 1 Cfn:	1
Field Coy Engineers	1 Sjt and 1 Cfn.	NIL
(The Armr Sjt of the Engineer Coy to be responsible for Signals, Provost, Postal, Medical, Hygiene Units etc. also)		
ME Wkps	1 WO: 1 Sjt: 3 Cfn:	NIL

An officer to be on WE (as Small Arms Inspector (AIA) of Servitai (i.e. Rear Gruppo HQ) or ME Wkps to assist CME by being directly responsible for maintenance of Small Arms etc. within the GRUPPO.

4. GRUPPO 1098 (Affecting Armourers).

The present 1098 is far from satisfactory for an Ital. Combat Group and in the event of the suggested WE of Armourers above being adopted, will need even further revision.

The reasons for this being:-

- Boxes tools Armrs and contents complete (Sect B1 Cat. No. BC3046) should be issued on a basis of one per Unit with Armourers (qualified) on the WE, plus 1 complete Kit of Hand Tools for Armrs. as laid down in Scales of War Eqpt. for all Units and Formations (Field Force Type) in AFG. 1098-1000 of May 42, for each additional Armr and Armr Mech.
- Present 1098 appears to be a copy of Table 36 of AFG 1098 - 1000 of May 42 and scales of components and tools for Rifles Boys Anti-Tank (which have been obsolete for approx 14 months, are laid down and are now held by OFP and Units within the GRUPPO.
- Scales of Spares for Rifles No 1 Mk III with Bayonets and Scabbards No 1, none of which are held within the GRUPPO are also held. The No 4 Mk I and Mk 1 (T) being the only rifle in the GRUPPO.
- Gauges which are useless to the GRUPPO have also been issued such as Gauges Armrs.4-in and .41-in (BC 6830 and BC6831 respectively, etc for Rifles Boys A/T.

(sgd) R.W. DAVIES Lieut AIA.
ATT. 52 D.L.U.

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

Subject: Armourers Tools.

- 50 B.L.U.)
- 51 B.L.U.)
- 52 B.L.U.)
- 53 B.L.U.)
- 54 B.L.U.)

For the attention of G/Capt H.H.

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

NOVA
TACIS / 6

22 April 45

The question of the inadequate scale of Armourers Tools for Italian Combat Groups has been referred to AFM.

They draw attention to AFM letter DCS/4130/10 (Orac) dated 20 Jan 45, a copy of which was sent to DADOs of each HBU and outlined the correct demanding and distribution of these tools.

It is found that on full implementation of this instruction in conjunction with DADOs, that your needs are still not satisfied, a detailed application for amendment to the HBU will have to be made through staff channels.

1882

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The question of the immediate recall of armaments
tools for Italian Combat Groups has been referred to them.

They draw attention to AMR letter 009/1020/10 (order)
dated 20 Jan 45, a copy of which was sent to BACOL of each DIS
and outlined the correct demand and distribution of these
tools.

It is found that the full implementation of this
instruction in conjunction with DADOC, that your needs are still
not satisfied, a detailed application for amendment to the AMR
will have to be made through staff channels.

Please have your proposals ready, if considered
necessary, for discussion with DADOC this 14 on his next visit.

273

11 2/4/45

J. J. Macfarlane

Major A.M.O.C.
For the... Branch,
Land Forces and Comm. A.O. (M.I.).

/ABO

1 8 8 3

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850120

APR 18/45
S. BLU'S

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
REME

FREEDOM 386

Subject:- Italian Combat Groups
(Armourers Tools)

ME/1B/2081

To:- DADME Land Forces Sub
Commission AC (MMIA)

14 Apr 45

Reference your REME/6 dated 10 Apr 45.

1. An instruction on the correct demanding and distribution of these tools is enclosed, for your information.
2. If it is found that the needs of these Italian Combat Groups are still not satisfied on the full implementation of this Instruction, a detailed application for an amendment to their SEL should be forwarded through Staff Channels for possible rectification to the SEL as soon as possible.

E.R. Pomeroy Capt.

E.R. POMEROY, Capt,
for Major-General,
Director of Mechanical Engineering.

1884

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

SECRET

ALL D FORCE HEADQUARTERS
ORDNANCE (ENGLISH)

Ref: D05/2130/10(Ord.2)
Tel: Freedomx815
Date: 20th Jan. 45.

Subject: Armourers' Tools.

D.D.O.S.,
E.Q.,
No. 3 District.

Ref. your O/106/5 of 25 Dec., 44 and in relation to D05/2130/10(Ord.2) of 5 Jan., 45, the position regarding requirements of Armourers' Tools for an "Allier (Mortar) Corp. as stated in D005, 53 LHM letter ORD/8 of 22 Dec., 44, has now been examined in detail, and the following comments are made:-

1. It is thought that the position can be made clearer by referring in the first place to the organisation and entitlement of a British Infantry Battalion (Regular Establishment, A.P. 1098 - 708):-

A. Organisation.

- 1 Headquarters Company.
- 1 Support Company - comprising:-
 - 1 in. Mortar Platoon.
 - 1 4.2 in. Platoon.
 - 1 Carrier Platoon.
 - 1 Pioneer Platoon.
- 4 Rifle Companies.

B. Establishment.

- 1 R.E.M.E. Armourer/Sergeant.

This is the only armourer allowed. (Note 2 to the Establishment states that stores in rifle companies and in the carrier platoon will be trained in armourers' duties by the R.E.M.E. Armourer).

C. Entitlement.

A. Organization.

1 Headquarters Company.
1 Support Company - comprising:- 1 in. Mortar Platoon.
1 L/Tk Platoon.
1 Carrier Platoon.
1 Pioneer Platoon.

4 Rifle Companies.

B. Establishment.

1 R.E.M.E. Armourer/Sergeant.

This is the only armourer allowed. (Note 2 to the Establishment states that storemen in rifle companies and in the carrier platoon will be trained in armourers' duties by the R.E.M.E. Armourer).

C. Entitlement.

(i) The entitlement to Armourers' Tools is shown at Part 5 of A.F. G. 1098 - 708. The entitlement per battalion is as follows: 5

Empty Boxes, Tools, etc. (A.F. G. 1098) - 1
Empty Bags, Armourers, etc. (A.F. G. 1098) - 6

together with certain tools (V.A.O.S. Sections 32, 01, 02 and 03) specified in detail and ranging in quantity from one of an item to six of an item.

(ii) This total entitlement is distributed within the battalion as follows:-

One empty Box, together with one empty Bag and tools as detailed for the Headquarters Coy., is held in the Headquarters Company. The tools in question are a full range, with a minimum of one of every item.

One empty Bag is held in each of the four Rifle Companies and in the Carrier Platoon, together with tools as specified in detail. The tools in question are a very limited range of items, and restricted to one of each for each sub-unit.

...../ (iii) It

DOS/2430/40(Gr4.2)
20 Jan 65 Sheet 2

(iii)

It is clear that the only Armourers Det held in the Battalion is intended for the use of the HME Armourer/Serjeant, and contains his Armourers Bag and full range of Tools.

The empty Bag allotted to the Rifle Companies and Carrier Platoon is intended to carry the small number of tools required by the restricted range of tasks which semi-skilled personnel (i.e., storemen trained in armourers' duties) are able to undertake.

2. Infantry Battalion of an Italian Combat Group.

A. Organisation.

- 1 Headquarters Company.
- 1 Support Company - comprising:-
 - 1 3-in. Mortar Platoon.
 - 1 A/Tk. Platoon.
 - 1 Carrier Platoon.
 - 1 Pioneer Platoon.
- 3 Rifle Companies.

B. Establishment. (NA 527/1).

- 1 Armourer serjeant.
- 7 Armourer's mechanics.

The Armourer serjeant is in the Headquarters Company.

Of the seven Armourer's mechanics, there are 3 one in each of the three Rifle Companies.

The remaining four are in the Support company.

C. Entitlement.

(i)

The entitlement of Armourers Tools for an Infantry Battalion of an Italian Combat Group is indicated in Table 26 of "Normal Equipment List for an Italian Combat Group." This Table, however, does not indicate entitlement by a given quantity of tools, but by a scale based on the number of Armourers with a unit.

(ii)

It is clear that Armourers Tools are intended for Armourers in the proper sense of the term, i.e., personnel whose main duty is that of servicing small arms and machine guns. Consequently, to determine the entitlement of tools, it becomes necessary to examine the functions of the personnel referred to at 2B. above.

The Armourer-serjeant is in the Headquarters Company.

Of the seven Armourer's Mechanics, there is one in each of the three Rifle Companies.

The remaining four are in the Support Company.

C. Entitlement.

(i) The entitlement of Armourers' Tools for an Infantry Battalion of an Italian Combat Group is indicated in Table 26 of "Normal Equipment List for an Italian Combat Group." This Table, however, does not indicate entitlement by a given quantity of tools, but by a scale based on the number of Armourers with a unit.

(ii) It is clear that Armourers' Tools are intended for Armourers in the proper sense of the term, i.e., personnel whose main duty is that of servicing small arms and machine guns. Consequently, to determine the entitlement of tools, it becomes necessary to examine the descriptions of the personnel referred to at 23. above.

(iii) The Armourer-serjeant is comparable to the RSM Armourer-serjeant in a British Infantry Battalion, and has a similar need for tools.

The three Armourer's Mechanics with the Rifle Companies are considered to have duties corresponding to the storemen trained in Armourers' duties in British units.

The four Armourer's Mechanics with the Support Company are the only "Armourer's Mechanics" in that company. It is thus clear that their principal function is the servicing of the 5-in. Mortars, 6-pr. A/T. Guns and the Carriers. Armourers' Tools, of course, are not required for these purposes. It is considered that the four "Armourer's Mechanics" in the Support Company should, more correctly, be termed "Artificers". The counterparts in the Support Company of a British Infantry Battalion are termed "fitters" and "fitters, E.V." of which there is a total of four in the British Support Company.

(iv) Thus interpreted, the entitlement of Armourers' Tools for an Italian Infantry Battalion is as follows:-

...../ Table

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20 Jan. 45. Sheet 3

Table 26 of NEL for Italian Combat Group	Scale "A" for 1 Armourer-Sergeant. Scale "B" for each of three additional armourers.
---	--

Since there are battalions in an Italian Combat Group, the total entitlement for Infantry Battalions is:-

Table 26 of NEL for Italian Combat Group.	Scale "A" x 6. Scale "B" x 18.
--	-----------------------------------

3. Infantry Regiment of an Italian Combat Group.

A. Organisation.

- 1 Headquarters Company.
- 1 Mortar Company.
- 1 6-pr. gun Company.

B. Establishment.

- 4 Armourer Mechanics - Mortar Coy.
- 6 Armourer Mechanics - 6-pr. gun Coy.

C. Entitlement.

The remarks in the third sub-para. of 2C(iii) above regarding the need of "armourer mechanics" are considered to be equally applicable in this case.

4. Mechanical Engineers Workshop, Italian Combat Group.

The entitlement to Armourers Tools is given in Special Equipment List No. 129/1, as follows:-

1889

B. Establishment.

- 4 Armourer Mechanics - Mortar Coy.
- 6 Armourer Mechanics - 6-pr. Gun Coy.

C. Entitlement.

The remarks in the third sub-para. of 2C(iii) above regarding the need of "Armourer Mechanics" are considered to be equally applicable in this case.

4. Mechanical Engineers Workshop, Italian Combat Group.

The entitlement to Armourers Tools is given in Special Equipment List No. 129/1, as follows:-

- Part II. 11. 270
- Page 3 of 74 Kits of Hand Tools for Armourers -
(A.C., RC6101, Bags, Armourers, S.A.
Filled).

Part VII.

Page 56 at seq. of 74

- 3. Empty Boxes, Tools, Armourers -
(Together with certain tools as
specified in detail (include
Section "P" tools which are
shown at Part II, page 3 et seq.)).

- 5. (a) It will be observed that nowhere is the entitlement to Armourers Tools stated in terms of Filled Boxes and Bags Armourers (apart from the 11 Kits of Hand Tools for the Mechanical Engineers Workshop).
- (b) Scale "A" of Table 26 of the Normal Equipment List is, however, roughly equivalent to one Filled Box (which includes two empty Bags). It would therefore be agreeable to this Directorate to direct the issue of Filled Boxes in respect of the Scale "A" Entitlement at 2C(iv) above, provided that detailed demands had not already been met.
- (c) It would still be necessary for the additional items as per Scale "B" of Table 26 to be demanded in detail (also the

.....N.A.O.S.

DOS/24/10/1942
20 Jan. 45. Sheet 4

V.A.C. Section E1 items of Scale "A", these not being included in Filled Boxes).

(d) In the case of the Mechanical Engineers Workshop, the detail of tools at Part VII of SML No 129/4 bears no close correspondence to the contents of the Filled Box. Here again, therefore, it is necessary for the entitlement against Part VII of the SML to be demanded in detail.

6. General.

(a) Armourers Tools are in general short supply, and there are heavy deficiencies in this theatre against C. 1093 entitlement.

(b) The requirements of an Italian Combat Group, as indicated in the foregoing paragraphs, have been examined by D.M.E., A.F.H.Q. who agrees that entitlement on this basis shown is reasonable and sufficient.

(J.C. D.M., Major, D.A.D.O.S., Ord. 2)
for Major General,
Director of Ordnance Services.

Copy to: D.A.D.O.S., 53 B.L.U.
D.A.D.O.S., 52 B.L.U.
D.A.D.O.S., 51 B.L.U.
D.A.D.O.S., 50 B.L.U.
D.A.D.O.S., 56 B.L.U.
D.D.O.S., H.Q., 1 District. - Your 03/151 of 4 Jan. 45 and Freedom
EX794/A of 5 Jan., 45 after.

D.D.O.S., C.O.E.O. (M.E.), H.E.E.
A.D.O.S. (P.), O.M.F.
S.R.O., H.Q., 557 B.O.D.
O.C. 3 Sub Depot, 557 B.O.D.
O. i/c. P. & C., 3 Sub Depot, 557 B.O.D. - together with copies of the following tables, in order that detailed demands may be checked:-

(J. C. DICK, Major, D. A. D. O. S., Ord. 2)
for Major General,
Director of Ordnance Services.

Copy to: D. A. D. O. S., 53 B. L. U.
D. A. D. O. S., 52 B. L. U.
D. A. D. O. S., 51 B. L. U.
D. A. D. O. S., 50 B. L. U.
D. A. D. O. S., 56 B. L. U.
D. D. O. S., H. Q., 1 District.

- Your OS/154 of 4 Jan. 45 and Freedom
EX79484 of 5 Jan., 45 after.

D. D. O. S., C. O. P. O. (M. E.), H. E. F.

A. D. O. S. (P.), C. M. F.

S. F. O., H. Q., 557 B. O. D.

O. C., 3 Sub Depot, 557 B. O. D.

O. i/c. P. & C., 3 Sub Depot, 557 B. O. D. - together with copies of the
following tables, in order that
detailed demands may be checked:-

Table 26, Normal Equipment List,
Italian Combat Group,
Special Equipment List,
129/1, Mechanical
Engineers Wasp, Italian
Combat Group.

O. O., Group V, 3 Sub Depot, 557 B. O. D.

D. D. O. S., H. Q., Rear Eighth Army.

A. D. O. S., Dr. Increment, Fifth Army

D. M. E., A. F. H. Q.

Q(AE), A. F. H. Q.

For general information.

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

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

SECRET

Subject: Italian Combat Groups, (Armourers Tools).

Land Forces Sub Comm.
A.C.(M.M.I.A.)
ROME.
REMB/6
10 April 45

D.M.E.,
A.F.H.Q.

This continues to be a vexed question, and the present scale of Boxes Tools Armourers - 3 and Bags Tools Armourers - 11 is totally inadequate for the efficient servicing of Small Arms in the Divisions. I append details of Group Small Arms holdings:-

Guns Machine Bren	500
T.S.M.G.	2600
P.I.A.Ts.	200
Rifles	5500
Pistols Revolver	440
Mortars 2"	140

A Division has 14 Armourers as well as 62 Armourer Mechanics; the latter are useless without tools and it is considered that the minimum holdings should be increased with the least possible delay to:-

Bags Tools Armourers	24
Boxes Tools Armourers	12

Will you please give this matter your immediate attention.

H. E. Edwards 269
Major
D.A.D.M.E.
Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.(MMIA)

Copy to:
Q.M.G.

1893

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

785020

Page 6

SECRET.

Subject:- 19 Port Workshop R.E.M.E.

Headquarters,
L.E.M.E. Branch,
Tel : 66513
& 66514
DDE/68
15 Mar '45.

To:- R.E.M.E.
Headquarters,
Land Forces Sub-Commission. A.C.

Reference conversation Major EDWARDS - D.A.D.M.E.,
Rome Area Allied Command.

1. Unit under reference is liable to be called forward at 24 hrs. notice as from April 1st.
2. It is understood that this warning order allows you sufficient time to complete the formation of an Italian Workshop to take over the commitments of 19 Port Workshop R.E.M.E.

John Young

Major,
D.A.D.M.E.
Rome Area Allied Command.
(F.R.P. YOUNG)

Copy to:- D.M.E., A.P.H.C.
D.D.M.E. 2 District.
C-3 (British), R.A.A.C.

h. b. Sen

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

SIGNAL *///*

FROM DADME HQ MIA

07 A

TO EME 56 BLU

S/5

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

FURTHER TO OUR CONVERSATION 5 MARCH RE HAND TOOLS (.) THESE ARE NOW
AVAILABLE (.) PLEASE CONTACT CAPTAIN POMEROY AFBQ
FOR RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

AUTHENTICATED *to be released to Major*

WME 6 ✓
ok

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
REME

Tel: FREEDOM 503

Subject:- Recovery Equipment

ME 1B/2060

To:- DADME MIA

8 Jan 45

Reference conversation EDWARDS - WILLEARD.

EC 1557 Winches Portable (Trowhella) qty 5 have
been earmarked for Friuli Combat Group, 50 BLU in 557 BOD.

Please arrange for indents to be submitted.

P.A. Willard

P.A. WILLEARD, Capt.
for Major-General,
Director of Mechanical Engineering.

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
REME

Tel: FREEDOM 503

Subject: Directives - ITALIAN Army Repair and
Recovery Org

ME A1/1605/1

4 Jan 45

To: DADME Land Forces Sub Commission AC (MMIA)

Reference your DADME/11 undated.

1. Herewith two copies of first re-draft of the Directives submitted by you. You will note that they have been agreed with minor amendments. The "Duties of CME" can be regarded as firm, and translation should be put in hand forthwith. As regards the others it is considered that further improvements are possible, and it is proposed to forward second re-drafts after co-ordination with DDsME of Armies. The first re-drafts may, however, be considered satisfactory and should be translated and published as "Provisional".
2. With reference to the second Directive "Wksp Office", para 6, it is not thought possible that you can include in the wksp journal the proposed column 6, i.e., "Present position", as this would vary from day to day.
3. With regard to your third Directive "Wksp Repair Organisation for Combat Groups", it is considered that a fourth sub-para should be added at para 1 giving simple but complete instructions for AB.406 inspection procedure. The Directive should be accompanied by specimen AB.406 sheets. Third sub-para should be re-worded to provide for controlled use of unit tradesmen.
4. With regard to last para of your third Directive, you will note that we have enclosed a specimen of a more comprehensive return, which we consider necessary (Appx "A"). It is also considered that you should arrange for a weekly return from IADs.
5. At Appendix "B" we enclose a specimen layout for a Wksp Progress Board which should be kept by CME. This can be kept conveniently on a board covered with talc, or alternatively, on a blackboard.

(Sgd)

K.A. McK. HANDLES, Lt-Col., ADME,
for Major-General
Director of Mechanical Engineering.

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7850120

Capt Edwards

DAIME MMIA

13 163 A

MR 50 BLU

SC 545

RESTRICTED

AFHQ AMENDED PROCEDURE AND VEHICLE CASUALTY CODE RETURN DESPATCHED (.)
INSTRUCTIONS RE 45 LAA PROXIMAL BEING SENT BY AFHQ DIRECT (.) E.O. 1957
WINCHES PORTABLE TOWHILL A CTY 5 HAVE BEEN SANMARKED IN 557 BOL PLEASE
ARRANGE TO SUBMIT INQUIRY IMMEDIATELY (.) SUGGEST YOU ARRANGE TO COLLECT
PERSONALLY TO AVOID DELAY

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IMMEDIATE

Capt Edwards. RMR.

1898