

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

ACC

10000 | 120 | 9

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

785020

10000 | 120 | 970

G116/PA Daily Liaison Log PA
Opened Dec. 1, 1943 - Closed Apr 30, 1944
Dec 1943. Apr 1944

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Maj Brumman.

So, will it be in order
to dispose of this file pl?

ABC 13/6

No please keep a
bit longer. 3824

JCB 13/6

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785020

ARMY FORM 02101 (Rev. 12-44)			MESSAGE FORM		Register No.		
Call	Sgt. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions				
ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY							OFFICE DATE STAMP. Message Instructions GB
FROM (A)		Originator		Date-Time of Origin			
For Action							
TO		(AV) For Information (INFO)					
Originator's No.							

SECRET

LIAISON WITH S M R E

30 Apr 44

Lt Col SAMPÒ

1. Handed him sig and confirmed arrangements for evacuation of building in S PIETRO IN LAMA occupied by local HQ of MANTOVA Div by 2 May. 2 i/c Gi

2. NEMBO Div is reported due to arrive between 1 and 7 May and to be concentrating in area S. AGATA DEI GOTI. comd 2 i/c Gi

3. Lt Col GIACCONE, OC 184 Arty Regt, was in SAMPÒ's office in connection with move of NEMBO arty regt to conc area of NEMBO Div. Authority is requested for the following moves by rd on own vehicles: 184 Arty Regt

- (a) adv party, 3 offrs, 3 mcs, 9 mcs in 1 lorry, immediately;
 - (b) main party, 57 offrs, 888 mcs, 24 tractors and 10 guns, 35 lt lorries, 12 hv, 7 MCA, 1 car as soon as possible
- both parties from SQUINZANO to S. AGATA DEI GOTI. No arty arm is being taken with the unit.

4. II Bn II9 Inf Regt OTRANTO to CASTELLAMARE:- Adv party departed 28 Apr 0540 hrs to report to 3 Dist. Gi

5. Gen OXILIA (and Gen BRUNETTI) comd 2 i/c Gi
Infd him of latest developments in mule situation; visit of comd to AAI and ACC; poor view taken of continued insistence of War Ministry on finding accn on WEST side;

6. Order for move of Mte GRANERO Alpini Bn from SARDINIA:- Very pleased to hear this bit of news. Out of this arose friendly discussion on fate of combat units when reorg is undertaken. Present situation is as follows:
-CIL less BAFILÉ Pn 18.400
-BAFILE and GRALO Marine Bns 2.000
-Battaglione AZZURRO (Air Force) 1.000
-MONTEGRANERO Alpini Bn 1.000

Rft unit
22.400
1.400
23.800

3823

785020

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departed 28 Apr 0540 hrs to report to 3 Dist.

G i

Gen OLLIA (and Gen BRUNETTI)

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G i

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comd
2 i/c
G i

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-Battaglione AZZURRO (Air Force) 1.000
-MORTEGRANERO Alpini Bn 1.000

3823

22.400
1.400

Rft unit

Reorg on present basis will involve the elimination of
one entire internal security div.

Maj D'ANTONA

7. 8 Pack Tpt Coy (formerly 8 & 9):- ready to leave 5 May:-

G i

From COSENZA: 6 oftrs, 262 ors, 186 mules, 10 tons stores;
From CROTONE: 4 oftrs, 223 ors, 156 mules, 5 tons stores.

8. 166 Arty Bty, S PIETRO VERNOTICO: earmarked for an internal
security div;

G i

217 Arty Bty, MANDUJIA: disbanded and pieces stored.

Lt Col GUIDA

9. Comando Supremo has signalled SMRE requesting details
of breaches of discipline committed by 800 mil detainees
offered to 8 Army. GUIDA thinks they may be able to
employ them in port lab.

G i

Col CHIARINO

10. Requested him to prepare details of composition of
rft unit approx 1400 strong for CIL, MANTOVA & PICENO Divs.

G i

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

28/29 Apr 44

Lt Col RICHOWANSKI

1. Camouflage unit (Reparto mascheratori):- they have ascertained that suitable personnel is available at IX Engr Depot, and have asked for usual clothing incident so as to be ready to move when we give the word 'go'. See log 24 Apr para 4 *Nothing at distribution* *R*

G i

SCORE

Maj D'ANTONA

2. Italian TC increments:- see log 27 Apr para 10; These will be taken from remaining TC bn in CALABRIA, first two secs to be ready 10 May, and remaining four secs 31 May. They would prefer, if possible, to have the last four secs away together.

G i

3. Collected revised mob order for 16 bns ex SARDINIA, now to be: four gd bns

G i

~~Gi(L)~~
EADL

fortyeight IPL coys, org in bns and regts.
Date of readiness unchanged: 15 May

Lt Col GUIDA

4. 120 Inf Regt:- personnel will be found partly in CALABRIA and partly in APULIA. Tpt request for the former to be made immediately to enable regt to form up in Apulia; Calabria contingent ready to move 5 May and complete regt 5 days from arrival of Calabria contingent in Apulia.

2 i/c

G i

Mov

Capt DELLA CORNA

5. 1200 men detained in prison (see log 16 Apr para 4):- This matter is being handled by War Ministry. Gen Staff suggested suitable ests at Ministry's request but are no longer interested in what happens to the formed units.

2 i/c

G i

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

6. 300 rfts for pack tpt coys:- these are being found from arty personnel of 211 Div and will be ready to move 10 May.

3822

G i

7. Personnel due for demob in SARDINIA:- (log 21 Apr para 9) Requested chaser ~~is~~ be sent as data urgently needed

comd

2 i/c

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G i

3822

7. Personnel due for demob in SARDINIA:- (log 21 Apr para 3) Requested chaser ~~xx~~ be sent as data urgently needed

comd
2 i/c
G i

Gen OXILIA

8. GARIBALDI Div:- infd him of comd's talk with Brig MILES and ABr Commodore BOWEN BOSCARTEN and stressed need for requests of the div being made through Maj HUNTER. Their wireless link is through Italian Navy; OXILIA is very confident of the effectiveness of their code.

comd

9. Reports of inspecting offrs visiting Italian units:- Explained procedure and told him we were thinking of sending copies to him; he approved of the idea. Told him copies would be sent to him personally.

2 i/c
G i

10. Designation and approx locations of Corps HQ: Reminded him that we were awaiting this infm - he will give it in writing in a day or so.

comd

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

11. 81mm mortar ann; following are the facts:- 42,000 bombs less charges etc supplied from CALABRIA to save tpt from SARDINIA. Charges and fuzes for same subject of SMRE sig 4/1231 of 5 Apr.

A/Q
2 i/c

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

27 Apr 44

Gen OALLIA

comd

1. Wanted to know whether there was any possibility of the comd calling on MESSE together with BERARDI. Infd him that comd's programme was fully booked for next ten days, that in any event the present was NOT a suitable moment for discussion of programme, which was most likely subject, and that in ten days time the comd would be better infd of the problems of Italian Army. He ~~xxxxxx~~ later phoned that we should forget about it.

comd

2. Projected move to West side:- infd him privately that this project must be abandoned on present form - he stated that nothing was being done about it as far as the Gen Staff was concerned.

2. Maj PASCHETTI

Gi

Requested him to obtain for us from SIM latest infm on strength and locations of Italian Republican Army, under two headings:
 a) strength represented by classes recalled to the colours, plus volunteers for various special units;
 b) Locations of units and fms by regions.

Lt Col CHIPPARELLI

Staff CaptQ

4. a) collected answers to various queries on arm;
 b) passed to him request for 25,000 rounds 8mm rimless arm for MG required by 5 Corps. This is being made available immediately at LECCE.

Cap FORENZA

3824

5. Requested additional infm concerning move of MANTOVA Div - he promised to ring LI Corps and advise us later.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

Gi

6. 100 dvrs for POLIGNANO:- after some trouble it is agreed that the balance of the 100 will report at POLIGNANO by 29 Apr.

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G I

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3824

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

- 6. 100 dvts for POLIGNANO:- after some trouble it is agreed that the balance of the 100 will report at POLIGNANO by 29 Apr.

G I

- 7. Italian Cadre of instructors and staff at POLIGNANO:- They will obtain exact details of personnel and will then give the cadre a number. Query: suggestions on our part for designation?

G I

- 8. Six smoke coys forming in CALABRIA:- SMRE are in touch with XXXI Corps about their mob order - ref sig from 10 XXXI Corps.

G I

- 9. Personnel for balloon units:- these are now required all non-specialists and will be made available by 7 May.

G I

- 10. Six increments for British TC Coys:- passed him details of est required - possibly the men can come out of the second TC ~~may~~ bn in CALABRIA.

G I

Lt Col CHECCHIA

- 11. Eqpt needed at POLIGNANO:- he is looking into the question of the typewriter, tables and forms. There should be no difficulty.

ST

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

26 Apr 44

Gen OXILIA and Gen BRUNETTI

1. Handed to Oxilia our letter with ref to minutes of meeting of 23rd. No comment. Took the opportunity of stressing need for more infm from SMRE about their policy and aspirations, and also need for keeping the Chief of Staff more fully in the picture. He promised to keep B under control in future. A very friendly and useful talk.

 comd
2 i/c
G i

2. 501 Smoke Coy:- infd him that infm in our possession indicated that this unit had moved 60 men light on an est of 280. It seems that he has already put up a suggestion to the Chief of Staff that an example be made and one or more men shot in order to put a stop to this sort of thing. It is a matter for discussion in the Govt. We agreed that this would be a suitable headache for the new Under-Secretary to start on.

 G i
comd
2 i/c

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

3. Personnel for pack tpt coys:-

- a) 300 rfts for 5 and 8 Armies: these will be found out of the Arty personnel of 2II Div;
- b) 500 rfts for May and June: this a big headache for them, as the men have to be of good physique and should know something about mules. Suggested men could be picked from the 1923 class in Campania, but he says that after 1600 have been picked for 5 Army he doubts if there will be anything left worth having. They have signalled for infm on call-up.
- c) infd him that rfts for 7 Mtn Regt would come out of the pool for pack tpt coys.
- d) Most of the men returned by 7 Mtn Regt are malaria cases. 24 are being selected to assist trg of 65/17 pack tp for Bafile Bn - see log 15 Apr para 11.

3820

4. Rfts for Balloon units:- gave him translation of the sig calling for approx 200 men for RAF. Does NOT foresee any major difficulty.

 G i
G ii(AA/CD)

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3820

4. Rfts for Balloon units:- gave him translation of the sig calling for approx 200 men for RAF. Does NOT foresee any major difficulty.

G 1

G 11(AA/CD)

5. Twelve bns from SARDINIA:- infd him that the 9600 men involved have now to be org on est of IPL coys. They are issuing instrs immediately for inn of 48 coys & corresponding bn and regt HQs, coys to be numbered 225 onwards. Date of readiness unchanged: 15 May.

2 i/o

G 1

DADL

Gi(L)

Lt Col GUIDA

6. 1051 Garristig Bn:- He is visiting the unit to-day to make arrangements for their move ⁱⁿ accordance instrs just to hand. Later infd me that four secs will be ready to move 5 May and the fifth sec and HQs 10 May. Should they move by rd, three trucks are estimated as sufficient to carry each sec, personnel and baggage.

G 1

SECRET

24 Apr 44

LIAISON WITH SMRE

Lt Col GUIDA

1. Delivered our sig ordering 200 all ranks approx to be made available from NEMBO on arrival in Italy for duplicate of 'P' Reece Sqn for 5 Corps. Requested that particular attention be paid to selection of men to avoid all undesirables of the div being drafted for this purpose. GUIDA suggests that new unit be named 'N' Reece Sqn to maintain identity with parent div. Gi

2. Est of 'P' Reece Sqn:-

HQ Pl	Pl	Pl	Pl	Pl	Hy Pl (%)
5/3/53	1/2/19	1/2/19	1/2/19	1/2/19	1/4/48

(figures are offrs/men) Over 11 total: 11/15/177 = 203 Continuous lines represent approved est; dotted lines additional est proposed but NOT agreed by MMIA. It is NOT known, however, if in actual fact the additional two pls have been formed. (°) Hy Pl arms: 2 Breda MGs and 3 81mm mortars.

Capt DELLA CORRA

3. Sig just to hand from BASSO advising that he had incorporated in 10 Pack Tpt Coy the six rif secs recently arrived from SARDINIA, plus additional volunteers recruited in CAMPANIA. This at the direct request of 5 Army. Gi

Lt Col MILLETTORINI

4. Camouflage Unit (Raparto Mascheratori):- There should be no difficulty in finding the personnel listed in AAI letter of 20 Apr, nor in having the unit ready to move in three weeks from when the order is given. Gi

5. Plan comms in SARDINIA:-

- GRANATIERI 9p Gen TICCHIONI
- 226 Div Gen LAZZARINI (at present in CORSICA)
Gen GUIDOTTI (acting comd)

3819 ^{Gi} (L)

6. 5th Comp Sordicatori Portuali:- ref our letter SD/3 of 6 Apr, he wants to know if we are really interested in this unit, in SORE

Continuous lines represent approved est; dotted lines additional
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in 10 Pack Tpt Coy the six rif secs recently arrived from
SARDINIA, plus additional volunteers recruited in CAMPANIA.
This at the direct request of 5 Army.

Lt Col MILLEFIONINI
4. Camouflage Unit (Reperto Mascheratori):- There should be no G i
difficulty in finding the personnel listed in AMI letter of SORE
20 Apr, nor in having the unit ready to move in three weeks
from when the order is given.

5. Fm comes in SARDINIA:-
- GRANATIERI Sp Gen TICCHIONI
- 226 Div Gen LAZZARINI (at present in COSSICA)
Gen GUIDOTTI (acting comd)

38193 i(L)

6. 5th Comp Scuricatori Portuali:- ref our letter SD/3 of 6 Apr, SORE
he wants to know if we are really interested in this unit, in
view of the fact that the four docks operating coys have
already been completed with suitable personnel. Further,
he believes that the personnel of the above coy is NOT
specialized to any extent, as far as handling mechanical
dock eqpt is concerned, and there would be little advantage
in bringing them over here. He awaits our further confirmation.

7. 324 Telegrafisti Coy departed CATANZARO by rail 21 Apr for G i i i
CASTELLAMARE, with est complete 4/119. SO Sigs

8. Maj PASCHETTI
Handed in Italian version of sig concerning move of NEMEO Div. G i
Also to-days letter on move of MANTOVA Div.

9. Col PALLAVICINO
Brief chat in the corridor on yesterday's meeting. Seemed quite comd
happy about things, but took the view that the general situation
is by no means definite, particularly in view of an article in
the "Civiltà Proletaria" of 16 Apr, which suggests that the new
Govt will put pressure on the Allies for a larger and more
active Italian share in the prosecution of the war. Failing this
it will threaten to resign. Article attached.

SECRET

LIAISON WITH COMBAT

24 Apr 44 (contd)

Gen CILLIA

1. Called on him to clarify poem of 120 Regt, arising out of which the matters dealt with at the meeting of 23 Apr came up for discussion. As we disagreed over some pts, arranged to call later in the day to see a copy of their minutes of the meeting.

comd
2 i/c
C i

2. Went over minutes together in detail and pointed out to him two pts where BERARDI's ideas were rather wide of the mark. Collected copy for infm MILIA and warned him that rejoinder would probably be forthcoming from the Mission to clarify things.

comd
2 i/c
C i

3. On the subject of 120 Regt, it appears that they consider that as a result of the meeting of the 23rd and the situation described in the minutes, no further action is required of the Gen Staff until the comd gives his decision (see last para of the minutes). He would NOT agree that they should proceed along the lines of their counter-proposal without first receiving our comd.

comd
2 i/c
C i

See my
(K)

4. For infm only:- CILLIA was highly worked up over the question of the GARIBOLDI Div and threatening a demonstration in protest over no action being taken to alleviate the plight of his former div. Signs continue to come in from Gen VIVALDA. Explained to him once again the situation and the action taken by the comd well beyond his terms of ref, which would undoubtedly produce results. Fortunately a message came through before I left to the effect that Air Force Sub Commission were interesting themselves in the matter, and later learned that same will be dropped for the Italians during the night 25/26 Apr. CILLIA expressed his thanks for what the comd had done.

comd

3818

25 Apr 44

Gen MATTEOLI

5. He is already info about 200 men to move from TARANTO

C i (L)

DADL

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comd

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3818

25 Apr 44

Gen MATTEOLI

G1 (L)
DADL

5. a) He is already info about 200 men to move from TORINNO to BARLETTA.

b) Definite denial that any men have been taken from BARI for 203 or 210 Divs. Shortage of 600 men is due to men wastage for normal reasons, and slight deficiency in replacement of 541 Regt. Gen Staff are reluctant to produce the rifts as long as there is no place for them in the programme. MOCCIA's estimate of rifts needed is 100 per regt per month, i.e. 325 per month. Policy decision required here.

G1
comd

- c) He will contact 'Q' branch regarding boots for II Bn. This unit also needs socks, knives, spoons and forks, and mess tins. He states that demands have already been sent in.

DADL

a) Ref reorg programme in 5 Corps, he awaits a sign from us before moving. Suggestion is that he awaits the in for 5 Corps from Sardinia and uses this as a stop-gap while the other units are being re-organised. He asks what about the units of 203 Div under comd 2 Dist?

Capt DELIA CORNA

6. 800 POSACAVI Coy:- Released by 435 Sig Construction Bn. SO SIGS
Bn (US Aviation) as being no longer needed, and now at Enar depot TRAIN.

Col MICALETTI

7. Cinema unit in SARDINIA:- they want to bring this unit to the mainland (their sig 1051/T/M 10 Apr) to enable shows to be organised for isolated units who never have a chance of seeing a film. It is NOT proposed to use it for units in combat areas.

Maj PASCHETTI

8. He confirmed quite definitely that the siding at PULFIORE has been made available by Italian Navy without any trouble at all.

Lt Col WILKINSON

9. Reorg of Fack cpt coys:-

- a) ref serial 1061A, he points out that personnel of this serial is being brought over from SARDINIA for the Remount sta at PULFIORE - see SURE letter 15 Mar 1984/Mob
- b) Serial 10882: personnel of this serial ~~was~~ originally intended for 7 Mtn Regt. He wants to know
 - i) could 50 of these men be earmarked as rfts for 7 Mtn Regt?
 - ii) what are our intentions for employing these men?

287100

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

23 Apr 44

Capt ROMENSA

Staff
Capt Q

Nov LO

1. Handed in authority for rail tpt 1 - 7 May and collected details of amn to be moved.

2. Arranged by phone with Nov LO that Gen Staff put in supplementary request for tpt of wine, involving 133 wagons, to be completed by first week in May.

Gen MATIOLI

COMD
DADL

3. Told him that comd would be going to BARI 28 Apr.

Lt Col GIGLIO

G II(US)

4. Interpreter offer to replace Lt GRINCO:- it appears that our originally nominated (Lt PETRUZZELLA) was himself NOT confident of being able to do the job, because of the limitations of his English. In his place they have selected 2nd Lt DI SALVO Giuseppe, who has a much better knowledge of the language, and will be at BRINDISI before the end of the month.

Maj PASCHETTI

G II

5. 255th Bty mounted on rly wagons:- after further enquiries, it transpired that there is no need for Allied authority for use of the siding at BULFIORE, as this is controlled by the Italian Navy; Gen Staff do however want authority to withdraw wagons from siding in NAPLES and tpt them to TARANTO.

Lt Col SAMPÒ

G I

6. Maps for combat div and other combat units:- there would appear to be some difficulty over issue by British ins to dependent Italian, possibly because Italians are NOT making request through proper channels. Present situation is that map dept of Gen Staff is struggling with very limited means at its disposal to produce maps for Italian combat div and units. Info SAMPÒ that higher British fm would undoubtedly sup maps on the spot and Italian comds to be

3817

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MAJ PASCHETTI

255th Ety mounted on rly wagons:- after further enquiries, it transpired that there is no need for Allied authority for use of the siding at BIFFONE, as this is controlled by the Italian Navy; Gen Staff do however want authority to withdraw wagons from siding in NAPLES and tpt them to TARANTO.

G 11

Mov

11/11/44

Lt Col SAMPÒ

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3817

Gen BERARDI (and Gen OXILIA, Col CHIAVARINO)

With Comd, for discussion of following subjects at BERARDI's request:-

comd
2 i/c

- a - Rits for combat fms
- b - Strength of combat fms, in relation to strengths of MATTEVA and PIGNO Dive and ceiling of 34.100
- c - Our request for release of 120 Regt for Allied programme. In the course of a somewhat heated discussion (which during which Berardi showed on several pts a poor appreciation of the situation), the comd est the following pts:-
- a - All requests for rits for Italian combat fms and units must flow through recognised channels of comd, i.e. Corps, Army AAI, MAFIA and so to Gen Staff.
- b - Programme of 6 apr represented AAI proposal for org of Italian Army sent to Combined Chiefs of Staff. If and when approved by Washington, it would then be up to Gen Alexander to determine what should be done about the surplus strength of the combat fms. Italians would have opportunity to express their views on this and other aspects of programme at that time.

G 1

H/Q

cont overleaf

c - The question of emp of 120 Regt was being considered by
by the Mission Staff Office, but the comm would give
sympathetic consideration to the representations made
by the Gen Staff.

7183
3219

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

22 Apr 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Discussed contents of our SD/19 of 20th and SD/21/2 of 21st, neither of which had reached him up to that moment. He requested time for consideration, and I arranged to call later in the day.

2 i/c
G 1

Gen MATTIOLI

2. Lab units with 5 corps to be reorg:- Infa him that 28 Art Bn should be crossed off the list. It has NOT been decided yet at the Gen Staff what part Mattioli is to play in this. Discussed the practical side of the reorg, as it affects units actually engaged on important work. He wishes to be info of date of visit of comd to Bari in connection with 2 Lab Bn.

DADL

Lt Col GALLO

3. Expt for docks operating coys:-NOT many items likely to be available. Some are NOT easily identifiable from the English text; they suggest an eng offr should visit one of their stores to settle this difficulty.

SOHE

Col CHIAVARINO

4. Four ad bns from Sardinia:- explained that four of the sixteen bns alerted are to replace the four on loan from Mantova and Piceno. They will stay Sardinia and have four suitable bns designated for this purpose.

G 1

Lt Col CRECCHIA

5. 200 water containers for Mot Bde:- arrangements already made for supplying these 20 Apr.

DAAQ

Gen OXILIA

6. Frank discussion about CIL and 120 Regt. As things stand at present they are compelled to reply to our two letters (see para 1), but in view of the very definite situation explained by me, OXILIA felt that a letter from the Mission was required along the following lines:-

3816

1. Units of combat div to be reduced in strength and definitely brought into line with agreed est.

comd
Z/C
G 1

Lt Col GALLO

3. Bupt for docks operating coys:-NOT many items likely to be available. Some are NOT easily identifiable from the English text; they suggest an error of our should visit one of their stores to settle this difficulty.

SCORE

Col CHIABINO

4. Four ed bns from Sardinia:- explained that four of the sixteen bns alerted are to replace the four on loan from Mantova and Piceno. They will sit Sardinia and have four suitable bns designated for this purpose.

C i

Lt Col CHECCHIA

5. 200 water containers for Mot Bde:- arrangements already made for supplying these 20 Apr.

DAAQ

Gen OXILIA

3816

6. Frank discussion about CIL and 120 Regt. As things stand at present they are compelled to reply to our two letters (see para 1), but in view of the very definite situation explained by me, OXILIA felt that a letter from the Mission was required along the following lines:-

cond
2.1
C 1

1. Units of combat div to be reduced in strength and definitely brought into line with agreed est.

2. Excess personnel, if the General Staff so decide, to be transferred to Mantova and Piceno Divs. Otherwise to be made available for the Allied programme.

3. Overall strengths of Mantova and Piceno divs, after incl excess personnel of CIL referred to above, not to exceed agreed ests. All personnel in excess to be made available for Allied programme forthwith and allotted to serials in programme.

4. If and when rifts are needed for CIL, these to be provided in the shape of complete bns (OXILIA would like complete rats) from MANTOVA and PICENO Divs, in such a way, however, that est of CIL is never exceeded.

Such a letter, if definitely worded, would, OXILIA considers, clear the air once and for all, and give them something definite to work on.

SECRET

20/21 Apr 44

LIAISON WITH SMAS

Gen OXILLA (20 Apr)

1. Handed him com's letter of 20 Apr in connection with the four 26 bns, and other outstanding matters. He at once phoned come LI Corps and ordered two bns to be readied at once from each div (Mantova and Piacenza). They can find the clothing but may have difficulty over the boots. Arranged that 2 i/c of the Mission will call pm 21 Apr for general discussion on contents of letter.

comd
2 i/c

2. GARIBOLDI Div:- OXILLA very concerned over situation which has arisen during past few days, and wanted Mission to authorize Air Force Sub Commission to employ a number of planes for the purpose of dropping food etc to isolated Italian set. Reminded him of recent talk with Brig Dachesne when situation was fully explained. Collected letter from Chief of Staff requesting Mission's assistance.

comd
2 i/c

3. 21 Apr:- info OXILLA of action taken by comd to help the Gariboldi Div. He was just going into a meeting which was attended by the following:-
Gen LESICI (IX Corps)
" PROPERZI (203 Div)
" BOLOGNA (Mantova Div) and Gen De Lorenzis (2 i/c)
" DE MARTINI (Area comd LECCE)
and several others whom I did not know.

comd

Maj D'ANTONA

4. Twentyfour bns from SARDINIA:- collected copy of their mob order 2990 of 21 Apr alerting ten bns of inf and six btys of artymen to be ready to move 15 May. They anticipate being able to form the remaining eight bns in the island when they see what the situation is after these sixteen have been formed up.

2 i/c
G i

Lt Col MILLERONINI

5. 8 Army enquiry for Alpini bns:- collected situation which reveals that following are available in SARDINIA:-

3815

2 i/c
C i

Maj Gen CRIVELLO De immediately

3. 21 Apr:- info OXILLA of action taken by comd to help the Garibaldi Div. He was just going into a meeting which was attended by the following:-
Gen LERICI (IX Corps)
" PROPERZI (209 Div) Gen GUCCIONE (PICOMO Div)
" BOLOGNA (Montova Div) and Gen De Lorenzis (2 i/c)
" DE MARTINI (Area comd LEGGE)
and several others whom I did not know.
comd
4. Twentyfour bns from SARDINIA:- collected copy of their mob order 2390 of 21 Apr alerting ten bns of inf and six btys of artymen to be ready to move 15 May. They anticipate being able to form the remaining eight bns in the island when they see what the situation is after these sixteen have been formed up.
2 i/c
G i
5. Lt Col MILLERIONINI
3815
8 Army enquiry for Alpini bns:- collected situation which reveals that following are available in SARDINIA:-
- Monte GRANERO Bn, immediately ready 32 ofirs 1011 men
- Monte MERCANTUR Bn preparation well advanced, good material 25 ofirs 700 men
- Monte ALBERGIAN Bn } older and less suitable men
- Monte BICOCCA Bn }
50 ofirs 1039 men
On the mainland there is only the PIERMONT Bn already in the line.
G i
6. Inid him of 2 ofirs and 50 or's arriving LEGGE 23 Apr from 7 Mtn Regt. They are looking into the possibility of finding 50 pack arty rfts which could be kept available for this unit.
G i
7. 1001 ST Coy:- Remaining personnel may have already been sent, but they have promised to follow the matter up, particularly as regards ofirs and agts. 100 men for driving school at POLIGNANO have been promised during the coming week.
G i
8. Capt DELLA CORNA
6/O Nucleo Guastatori:- this unit was placed under "3" force by Comando Supremo. Requested them to apply to Comando Supremo for loan of unit to 5 Army.
SOREA
PNS

SECRET

contd.... 21 Apr 44

9. Col CHIARAVINO - Lt Col MILLERONINI - Lt Col GUIDA
Discussion of situation in SARDINIA as regards demob of
personnel in the various fms on the island. 2 i/c
Present policy is to incl in units moving to mainland only G i
those men with a right to be demobilised whose homes are in
German-occupied Italy. Present practice on mainland is that
these men have to remain under arms ~~until~~ unless they can
produce written evidence of having secured employment in
civilian capacity.

Approx figures of men legally liable to demob in xrm SARDINIA
at 29 Feb were as follows:

- 1912 class 11,000
- 1911 " 6,000
- 1910 and earlier 33,000

It is NOT known what proportion have their homes in German-
occupied Italy. Have requested them to sig for this info.
Men with homes in SARDINIA have already been demob'd, as
have also a proportion of those with homes in SICILY.
It appears probable, therefore, that about 10,000 men with
homes in Liberated Italy and a legal right to be demob
will have to be taken into account in calculating available
manpower for Allied programme.

10. Acm HQs for Italian units working with Allies (SMRE letter 2 i/c
2880/Cmd of 16 Apr):- infd them that the matter is under G i
consideration and that a decision will be given as soon
as possible. Their fms have been considerably disorg and
disrupted following recent moves of Allies high fms, and
the question arises again with the forthcoming move of
twentyfour bns from SARDINIA.

11. Capt DELLA CORRA
82nd Telegraphisti Coy:- collected nominal roll and list of 3814
eqpt. 3814

12 Lt Col CHECONIA
AAI request for pigeons:- contacted through him Col Iannarino SO Sig
and arranged that Capt DICKSON will meet

It is NOT known what proportion have their homes in German-occupied Italy. Have requested them to sig for this info. Men with homes in SARDINIA have already been demob'd, as have also a proportion of those with homes in SICILY. It appears probable, therefore, that about 10,000 men with homes in Liberated Italy and a legal right to be demob will have to be taken into account in calculating available manpower for Allied programme.

10. Acm HQs for Italian units working with Allies (SMRE letter 2680/Ovd of 16 Apr):- info that the matter is under consideration and that a decision will be given as soon as possible. Their firms have been considerably disorganised following recent moves of Allied high firms, and the question arises again with the forthcoming move of twenty-four bns from SARDINIA.

2 i/c
G 1

Capt DELLA CORNA

11. 824 Telegrafisti Coy:- collected nominal roll and list of eqpt.

3814
Sig

Lt Col CHECCHIA

12. AAI request for pigeons:- contacted through him Col Iammarino of the Ministry and arranged that Capt DICKSON will meet Iammarino at BARI 22 Apr to see what birds are available at the lofts there, which are the only ones still functioning.

SO Sig

13. 824 Telegrafisti Coy fully clothed and equipped, except for items to come from Allied sources already notified.

SO Sig

14. 501 and 502 Smoke Coys:- their requests for clothing to hand. Requested him to have everything ready at NAPLES for 501 and at BARI for 502, so that the two coys can collect on a rival at destination.

G 1
A/C

15. Docks operating coys and port lab:- our letter Lab/L/65 of 16 Apr requests 800 rfts for port lab. This has caused confusion at the General Staff as it is an item NOT in the programme, and some consternation in view of the fact that replacements for the docks operating coys were to be provided by naval personnel. It is many weeks that these sailors have been talked about, and the impression is gaining abroad that Italian Navy has no intention of meeting its obligations. If it is intended that these 800 rfts be found from army personnel, can they be allotted a serial?

2 i/c

G 1
A/C

785020

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

19 Apr 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Asked him for infm about frontier posts on FIUME - ZAGREB rly. Passed to G li, together with infm given by 2nd Lt PILOSCIA.

2. General moan about

- a) our basis of calculation of the amn situation;
b) urgent need of transferring part of SMRE to WEST side.

comd

2-1/c

Lt Col CHECCHIA

3. Boots and clothing for four gd bns on loan:- passed to him verbal authority for release of what they require.

A/Q

4. Collected two sigs that we are to send to CALABRIA for them:

SO Sigs

- a) ref clothing and boots for smoke coys

G

- b) ref clothing and eqpt of 823 Telegrafisti Coy

5. Col CHIARINO

SD Branch busy "stock-taking", so left note on following:

- a) 503 Smoke Coy, to be ready to move at once;
b) AA and CD units in SICILY and SARDINIA to be incl in 180,000 working for Allies; no decision as to Italian tps in CORSIKA. This infm in answer to their request.
c) Requested him to obtain designation of Corps HQs as required by Policy letter and proposed locations, also if they had decided on final locations of internal security aivs.

G

2-1/c

comd

Gen OXILIA

6. He will call on the comd 1030 hrs 20 Apr and will make arrangements for return visit to BERARDI during the afternoon of the 20th.

comd

Capt VINCI

7. Left at their liaison office copy of the new est for pack tpt coys to be translated and returned to us.

3813

Capt DE GIORGI

DADMS

5. Col CHIARINO
SD Branch busy "stock-taking", so left note on following:
a) 503 Smoke Coy, to be ready to move at once;
b) AA and CD units in SICILY and SARDINIA to be incl in 150,000 working for allies; no decision as to Italian tps in CORSIKA. This inim in answer to their request.
c) Requested him to obtain designation of Corps HQs as required by Policy letter and proposed locations, also if they had decided on final locations of internal security civs.

G
17-2-1/c

comd

6. Gen OXILIA
He will call on the comd 1030 hrs 20 Apr and will make arrangements for return visit to BERARDI during the afternoon of the 20th.

comd

3813

7. Capt VINCI
Left at their Liaison office copy of the new est for pack tpt coys to be translated and returned to us.

DADMS

8. Capt DE GIORGI
Left message from DADMS in connection with 93 Med Sec.

9. Lt Col TAZZARI
Had letter in his possession advising that Mot Bae front had been extended to the EAST, and requesting additional maps. He would like to have copies of our 25,000 sheets to cover additional territory:

17-2-1/c
G

WSP 4

G II

- sheet 153 III SE
- " 161 IV NE

785020

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRF

13 Apr 44

Lt Col SAMPÒ (and Capt CIVUNI, staff officer II Corps)

Discussion of details of four bns on loan for gc duties, with following conclusions:-

I Bn 93 Regt PICENO Div - CRISPIANO to BARI 24 Apr

II Bn 93 Regt PICENO Div - MASSAFRA to BRINDISI (A) 24 Apr
BARIETTA (A)

II Bn 119 Regt MANTOVA Div - OTRANTO to CAMPANIA 24 Apr

I Bn 120 Regt - already at TARANTO 25 Apr
50 men additional to above for VASTO 24 Apr

Strengths: all bns

- 30 officers, 40 nco's, 700 or's, 9 carts, 9 mules, 2 box vans stores.

This strength represents approved est less personnel with surplus mules NOT required for gc duties.

Dates of readiness depend on prompt authority for issue of boots and clothing and immediate collection and distribution. A/Q

B Bn already at TARANTO does NOT belong to any div and is engaged on maintaining public order, in which duties it will have to be relieved before it can be available for gc duties.

2. Second bn of San Marco Regt (Marines):- Known as GRADO Bn, after a small town near VENICE, this unit has similar est to PAFILS Bn and is located at PARABITA Q 5269. Its tra will be completed in about ten days. The 2 i/c of the Regt is visiting the BAFILS Bn, to find out if the tra of the second bn can be improved in the light of the experience of the first. Requested them to notify the Naval authorities that we should be visiting the GRADO Bn in the near future.

Col CHIAPARINO

3. Info him of situation regarding their request to bring over 400 men of LXII Bersaglieri Bn: present strength with Mot Bde 600/700 in excess of est, therefore plenty of margin for releasing officer cadets. The question of the officer cadets is an important issue with them, so he would like a reply in writing.

4. Designation of internal security divs:- additional info

- SICILY (should read) SABAUDA, 226, BARI

- SARDINIA CALABRIA and 204

- Mainland SOUTH MANTOVA and PICENO

Mainland NORTH CREMONA, PRIULI and GRANATIERI

3812

COMG

2 i/c

G

engaged on maintaining public order, in which duties it will have to be relieved before it can be available for g'd duties.

2. Second bn of San Marco Regt (Marines):- Known as GRADO Bn, after a small town near VENEZIA, this unit has similar est to BAFILE Bn and is located at PARAPINA Q 5259. Its trg will be completed in about ten days. The 2 i/c of the Regt is visiting the BAFILE Bn, to find out if the trg of the second bn can be improved in the light of the experience of the first. Requested them to notify the Naval authorities that we should be visiting the GRADO Bn in the near future.

Col CHIARAVINO

3. Info him of situation regarding their request to bring over 400 men of LXII Bersaglieri Bn: present strength with Mot Dae 600/700 in excess of est, therefore plenty of margin for releasing offr cadets. The question of the offr cadets is an important issue with them, so he would like a reply in writing.

3812

comd
2 i/c
G

4. Designation of internal security divs:- additional info

- SICILY (should read) SABAUDA, 226, BARI
- SARDINIA CALABRIA and 204
- Mainland SOUTH MANIOVA and PICENO
- Mainland NORTH CREMONA, FRIULI and GRANATIERI

Capt DELLA CORNA

5. Pack tpt coy being formed by BASSO for 5 Army, (~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~) while MILLEFIORENI was over in CAMPANIA recently he was told that this unit was being formed mainly out of the rif secs from SARDINIA. He has signalled to have confirmation. Basso's unit has been given the number 'IO', and they would like to have our insters ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~.

6. Trained divs in SARDINIA:- Allied authorities in the island have taken part of the output of the first drivers course to form two CT Coye to remain on the island. SMRE letter 11 Apr ref 2707 refers. Is this authorised?

6. Lt Col MILLEFIORENI (and Capt DE GIORGI)

93 Sezione Sanità:- this unit has been split into two and is being used for anti-material work. The unit consists of stretcher-bearers, medical orderlies etc. They query whether this is best use that can be made of this personnel. They suggest ordinary unskilled men would be more suitable.

Encl

SECRET

contd 12 Apr 44

Lt Col SAMPÒ

Ref para I. - Following our objection to nomination of bn from 120 Regt, following are revised nominations:

-I Bn 93 Regt PICENO Div - CRISPIANO to TARANTO by rd

-II Bn 336 Regt PICENO Div - FASANO to BARI

-I Bn 336 Regt PICENO Div - CISTERMINO to BARIETTA (A)

to BRINDISI (A)

- II Bn 119 Regt MANIOVA Div - OTRANTO to CAMPANIA

- 50 men TORCHIAROLO to VASTO

Stren, the unchanged; date of readiness for all units 24 Apr, subject authority for clothing and boots - see para 9.

Lt Col CHECCHIA

Collected SMRE request for clothing and boots for above bns.

Clothing and boots for 823 and 824 Telegrafisti Coys:-

Examined their files in connection delay in refitting personnel of these units. SD Branch of SMKE has been very slack and has failed to follow the matter up.

MOB order was issued 15 Mar allowing ample time before date for move fixed originally for 15 Apr. Took the matter up strongly with CHECCHIA, but suggest a firm letter is required drawing attention to the way this has been handled.

Clothing ex SARDINIA:- they realise that the situation is now very different to what it was six months ago, and that there is little possibility of getting any clothing at all out of the island, but rather that the need will be for clothing to be shipped there to enable units forming there for the Allied programme to be refitted before they sail for the mainland or Sicily. Staff offer from SMKE could still usefully accompany AAQMG, they consider, to settle the clothing requirements on the spot.

Maj D'ANTONA

Smoke coys:-

- 503 Coy location LATIANO for MANFREDONIA

- 502 Coy location CROTONE

- 501 Coy location CATANZARO MARINA

3811

2 i/c
A/Q
G

Have info on AAI
18/4/44

10. Clothing and boots for 823 and 824 Telegrafisti Coys:- SO Sig
Examined their files in connection delay in refitting personnel of these units. SD Branch of SMRE has been very slack and has failed to follow the matter up. No order was issued 15 Mar allowing ample time before date for move fixed originally for 15 Apr. Took the matter up strongly with CHC HIA, but suggest a firm letter is required drawing attention to the way this has been handled.
11. Clothing ex SARDINIA:- they realise that the situation is now very different to what it was six months ago, and that there is little possibility of getting any clothing at all out of the island, but rather that the need will be for clothing to be shipped there to enable units forming there for the Allied programme to be refitted before they sail for the mainland or Sicily. Staff offr from SMRE could still usefully accompany AQMG, they consider, to settle the clothing requirements on the spot.

3811

12. Maj D'ANTONA 2 i/c
Smoke coys:- A/Q G
- 503 Coy location LATIANO for MANTREDONIA
- 502 Coy location CROTONE
- 501 Coy location CATANZARO MARINA
503 Coy to be clothed LATIANO and request for items required to be notified 19 Apr. Other two coys to be clothed at destination. Mob order for remaining six coys will be issued 19 Apr. all to be drawn from 211 Div. It is proposed to proceed forthwith with refitting personnel in CALABRIA.

13. Lt Col DI BITONTO G
He attended meeting at the Ministry to-day at which DADME and Gen ALIBERTI were present with the object of finding personnel for MT wkps. Decisions reached involved combing SARDINIA of all specialists except for 100 to be left in the island. BITONTO XXXX asks if it is realised that this involves the removal of all wksp personnel from fans who will require them replaced in their est when they are moved to the mainland or Sicily for the allied programme. A/Q DADME

14. Col FIORE-VERNAZZA comd
Called on BERARDI 18 Apr in connection with move to WEST side. ACC has requested examination of possibility of erecting move on limited basis, with only part of present personnel, both MINISTAY and SMRE. 2 i/c
no more

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMR 2

17 Apr 44

Gen BERARDI - Gen OLLIVA, Col CHIavarino, Lt Col MILLERFIORENTI
With Brig Duchesne; 2 i/c; MMIA LO SARDINIA:- Gen discussion
on following subjects:

comd
2 i/c

- a) SARDINIA - tpt of MM20 Div; move of LXVI Bersaglieri Bn to replace ofir cadets with Mot Bde; boots and clothing.
 - b) Size of combat div compared with WE and method to be used to bring it into line;
 - c) Policy letter: explanations of various pts and discussion of numbers allotted to static lines and services for Italian Army.
 - d) Long term policy on boots and clothing; also tyres and spares.
 - e) Designation of internal security divs:
 - SICILY EARL, 226 and one other coastal div,
 - Mainland, north of Naples Foggia line: CRAMONA, TRIOLI, GRANATIERI
 - SARDINIA: CALABRIA and one other coastal div.
 SMRE reserve the right to review size and proposed locations of the internal security divs, within the ceiling laid down by regions in the policy letter.
- No decision reached on items b) and c), which BERARDI proposes referring to MESSE for decision on higher level. BERARDI will also put into writing his ideas on item d).

Lt Col MIL EPICORINI

C
(AA/C

2. 242 Gp RAF have requested via Italian Naval authorities Taranto further 200 Italian Army personnel for balloon barrage. They are needed to replace British personnel shortly to be removed. There are already 500 Army personnel on this work in APULIA; additional personnel required for NAPLES. Ind rep that they could only be obtained through AA1 and Allied programme.

3. 500 Poscavi Coy:- Report to hand from IX Corps that this unit no longer needed by the Allies. They require confirmation. If correct proposing to send the men to IX Eng Regt.

Lt Col SANP2

3810₁/c

4. Coy on loan for ad duties at CAMPOBASSO:- a coy of II Bn I20 Regt Piceno Div has been alerted at TORCHIAROLI and will be ready to move pm 18 Apr. SMRE suggest the coy be moved by rd, for which they estimate 12 vehs will be needed. However, distance is considerable for move by rd.

SMRE reserve the right to review size and proposed locations of the internal security divs, within the ceiling laid down by regions in the policy letter.

No decision reached on items b) and c), which BERARDI proposes referring to MESSE for decision on higher level. BERARDI will also put into writing his ideas on item d).

Lt Col MIL EFICORINI

2. 242 Up RAF have requested via Italian Naval authorities Taranto further 200 Italian Army personnel for balloon barrage. They are needed to replace British personnel shortly to be removed.

There are already 500 Army personnel on this work in APULIA; additional personnel required for NAPLES. Inid rep that they could only be obtained through AAI and Allied programme.

3. 300 Poscevi Coy:- Report to hand from IX Corps that this unit no longer needed by the Allies. They require confirmation. If correct proposing to send the men to IX Engr Regt.

Lt Col SANPD

4. Coy on loan for go outies at CAMPOBUSSO:- a coy of II En I20 Regt Piceno Div has been alerted at TORCHIAROLO and will be ready to move pm 18 Apr. SMRE suggest the coy be moved by rd, for which they estimate 12 vehs will be needed. However, distance is considerable for move by rd.

5. Collected order to II Corps alerting four bns for temporary ad duties. They have selected three from PICENO - so as to utilise one completa regt - and one from MANTOVA. Bns to be ready to move 21 Apr. (Subsequently cancelled).

6. Air Force Bn "Duca D'Aosta": location COZZE K 6476, on coast just SOUTH of MOLA DI BARI. Requested SMRE to notify Air Force that the unit will be visited by oftrs of the mission in the near future. Details of strength etc to follow.

Gen ORILIA

7. With Maj LOMIES, LO 5 Corps, about personnel for recon unit for 5 Corps. The order transferring the 40 men from VIBO VALENTIA was issued from SALERNO, the men being destined to BOSCHETTI assault bn of Mot Bde. For interest, MESSE commanded a unit of this type in the last war, and retds the BOSCHETTI unit with particular interest. For 5 Corps requirements there are two possibilities: Sardinia (Nembo) or Mot Bde (Boschetti or Nembo Bn). LOMIES to discuss with AAI.

SECRET

LIAISON WITH SMRE

16 Apr 44

Gen OXILIA

1. Discussion of agenda for this evening's meeting. Infd him that 24 bns subject of our letter 15 Apr are additional to the ten bns already alerted in Sardinia. Infd him that we are awaiting definite instrs for four bns to be loaned from M and P divs, and that these should be nominated forthwith. Requested further coy on loan for guard duties at CAMPOBASCO, required immediately. *Piceno*

comd
2 i/c

2. Additional engr coy for CIL:- Gen Uille has requested that an additional sapper coy be sent immediately to combat div for special work on Monte MARONE. Request received through MESSE. They have in mind to employ 25 Arleri coy on loan to 3 Dist, which if necessary would be replaced by sapper coy from Piceno Div. *No - request for 8th Div*

2 i/c
GSCRE
4/2

3. Gen B UNETHY

Took up with him strongly the question of the arrest of one GRICOLELLO, requested by us 18 Mar. This matter has been handled in a most unsatisfactory way. He promised to look into it at once. See sig to-day's date to RFMA Campania.

G 11

Capt DELLA CORNA

4. 1200 men detained in prison:- War Ministry have requested SMRE to form these into units, excl those considered potentially dangerous. Probably 800 are considered as likely to be suitable. They propose forming them into coys 100 strong with suitable ofrs and nco's. Suggested they should be emp as isolated units, away from other tps. They would like our suggestion for utilising them in the programme.

2 i/c
G

Maj D'ANTONA

5. 51 Carrieti Bn:- Infd him that this was required immediately with strength of 8 ofrs and 255 or's, and rep to proceed immediately to report to Capt MONICO. 140 rfts no longer require. for this unit.

G 11
3809

6. Collected nominal roll of 824 Telegrafisti Coy; details for 824 being followed up

SO Sigs

3. Gen BUNETTI
Took up with him strongly the question of the arrest of one GRIGOLINIO, requested by us 18 Mar. This matter has been handled in a most unsatisfactory way. He promised to look into it at once. See sig to-day's date to 73AA Campania. *no - report for Sig. G ii*
4. Capt DELLA CORNA
1200 men detained in prison:- War Ministry have requested SMRE to form these into units, excl those considered potentially dangerous. Probably 800 are considered as likely to be suitable. They propose forming them into coys 100 strong with suitable officers and NCO's. Suggested they should be kept as isolated units, away from other tps. They would like our suggestion for utilising them in the programme. *2 i/c G*
5. Maj D'ANTONI
51 Carriati Bn:- Infd him that this was required immediately with strength of 8 officers and 255 privs, and rep to proceed immediately to report to Dept MONICO. 140 privs no longer require for this unit. *3809 G ii*
6. Collected nominal roll of 824 Telegrafisti Coy; details for 823 being followed up. *8. SO Sig*
7. 9 Pack Tpt Coy will be ready to move at month end. *April 10 and 20 May G*
8. Lt Col PANERAI
Allocation of cells:- infd him of additional quantity authorised. He would like to know if this applies to month of MAY, and if he will have an authority for drawing the 2000. Also does he now have to apply each month. *SO Sig applied for 2.5*
9. Maj MALOCCHI
Strength state in new form ready 15 Apr. He would like our comments and suggestions soonest, to enable him to get on with the next one. *G*
10. AQ/2 letter of 12 Apr:
101 men at MANTEREDONIA - probably AA def IX Corps with 20 mm pieces. *G*
179 men at VOGGIA - no info off-hand. He will find out.

Chav. - see. C. H.

SECRET

LIAISON WITH 3 M E

15 Apr 44

Col QUERZIA

1. With AACMG for gen discussion on boots and clothing. Following decisions were reached: SMRE staff officer will accompany AACMG on visit to SARDIMIA with powers to decide on the spot in concert with AACMG on shipment of clothing to the mainland; QUERZIA to prepare an estimate of boot and clothing requirements of Italian Army based on classifications and numbers of Policy letter of 6 Apr; SMRE to continue applications for boots and clothing for units under Italian command; MMIA to consider possibility of ~~examining~~ clothing men at depots instead of at destination - see 6 below.

comd
2 1/c
A/C

Gen BRUNETTI and Lt Col MILLEPIONINI

2. Just back from rather a rough time with MESSE. Following were main subjects raised by MESSE.

comd

3. Rifle for pack bpt coys with 6 Army:- 1000 men require before the end of Apr. As in other recent cases, it appears that discussions have been going on between Allied comds and CO's of Italian units, resulting in negotiations outside normal channels, and culminating in this instance in MESSE's intervention. Explained the situation and that no action to be taken until authority recd from proper quarter. Sig sent to MESSE with similar explanation.

G

4. Replacement of officer cadets with Mot Pde:- discussed our letter with him, to which he will reply in writing. Somewhat incensed at the suggestion that rifle nominations by SMRE should require to be vetted by UTILA. They had already suggested the transfer of a Bersaglieri Bn in their letter of 27 Feb ref 2221 ops.

G

5. The 1600 men of the 1923 class going to 210 Div as rifle, are to be allocated: 600 to pack bpt coys, 1000 to other units.

G

6. Men from depots and districts: MESSE very angry at the reports of groups of rifle proceedings from place to place in very rain. conditions, and in fact BRUNETTI that it is NOT to happen again. It is a reflection on the Italian administration and bad propaganda for the army. See para 1 above.

comd
3808 2 1/c
A/C

7. Handed to BRUNETTI our letter of to-day ~~XXXXX~~ requesting

G

3. Rife for pack tot coys with 8 Army:- 1000 men require before the end of Apr. As in other recent cases, it appears that discussions have been going on between Allied comds and GO's of Italian zone, resulting in negotiations outside normal channels, and culminating in this instance in MESSI's intervention. Explained the situation and that no action to be taken until authority recd from proper quarter. Sig sent to MESSI with similar explanation. G
4. Replacement of offr cadets with Mot Bde:- discussed our letter with him, to which he will reply in writing. Somewhat incensed at the suggestion that rife nominated by SMRE should require to be vetted by JILM. They had already suggested the transfer of a Bersaglieri Bn in their letter of 27 Feb ref 2221 ops. G
5. The 1600 men of the 1923 class going to 210 Div as rife, are to be allocated: 600 to pack tot/ coys, 1000 to other units. G
6. Men from depots and districts: MESSI very angry at the reports of groups of rife proceeding from place to place in very bad conditions, and info BRUNETTI that it is NOT to happen again. A/c It is a reflection on the Italian administration and bad propaganda for the Army. See para 1 above. could 3808 2 1/0
7. Handed to BRUNETTI our letter of to-day asking requesting nomination of 24 bns subject of serial 1092 added to programme. Details will be supplied when BERARDI returns this evening or to-morrow. G
8. Capt DELA CC-NA
Collected copy of their mob order for GI Coys in SARDINIA. G
9. Maj D'ANTONA
Rife requiring boots etc at 47 Inf Depot LECCE:- these men are destined for CIL and consist of 74 Bersaglieri and 84 men of different inf units who have volunteered to fight. G ill
10. Maj PASCHETTI
Had just heard from an offr back from Mot Bde that PIMONTE Alpini Bn had been placed under comd XVII Corps. G
11. Arty for Basile Bn: It would appear that there is in existence a tp of four 65/17 guns for this unit, and that the arm is already with the Mot Bde. They are getting full details prior to submitting a request to fwd the tp to the bn. 2 1/0 G

Secret
14 Apr 44

LIASON WITH SIRE

1. Maj D'ANTONA. Informed him that:

- (a) their request for five officers on V.E. of Smoke Coy had been approved.
- (b) 100 Spec Lav Coy had arrived from SARDINIA instead of 163 Coy - strength 6 officers 137 ORs arrived NILES 6 Apr has since moved to TERNOLI.

2. Was informed by Maj D'ANTONA that 301 and 302 Gps of 21 AA Regt would be ready, one on 30 Apr and other on 3 May. Reasons are that rfts difficult to find and collect and personnel being used for dismantling of AA guns which are to be sent to BARI.

3. Col MINIFORNI. His visit to Armed Forces CAMPANIA ref Pack Tpt Coys in combat zone there brought out the following: EIGHTH Army need 1000 rfts for Pack Tpt Coys under command in order to meet increased NE for Coys and at least 400 immediately. EIGHTH Army is OK since 1925 recruits have been used to bring units up to strength.

He suggests that serial 1033 be used as 800 of the rfts required for EIGHTH Army - difficulty is where to find these men, and particularly men with some knowledge of animals. For remaining 200 rfts brains will have to be raised still further.

According to the Col MIA LG CAMPANIA has sent a letter to us on the subject.

4. Col ALOLA (Services)

- (a) Informed him that following inspection of Driving School at POLIGNANO MIA office had suggested the supply to the school of cement for building up and improving kitchen, the formation of a refectory for 200 men and the necessary tables and chairs to be provided. The supply of 50 more white overalls. Old clothes which were there and seemed to be unwearable to be used for cleaning rags for vehs of which there exists a shortage at the school. Steps are being taken to supply the necessary deficiencies.
- (b) That the Mobile Bath unit should visit 1001 G.E. Coy.

5. Gen MATTIOLI

Informed him that two coys of 409 Labour Regt were to be formed at once at BRINDISI and a third at TARANTO for transmission when completed to BARI. Warned him that tpt had been ordered for after 17 Apr.

3807

Ca 1 (L)
SADL

AL
ST

2 1/2
C

He suggests that Geial 1083 be used as 800 or the rfts required for Miami may - difficulty is where to find these men, and particularly men with some knowledge of animals.

For remaining 200 rfts brains will have to be racked still further.

4. Col. AIOLA (Services)

(b) That the Mobile Bath unit should visit 1001 G.T. Coy.

Informed him that two coys of 409 Labour Regt were to be formed at once at BRINDISI and a third at TARANTO for translocation when completed to BARI. Warned him that tot had been ordered for after 17 Apr.

7. Col ALILA Ref 170 mules from BAKI for AFRICANA only 120 are fit for work - remaining 50 are unfit on account of lack of food. Vet services wanted to know if all 170 had to be sent. Answer given was that all 170 are to go.

A Q
 S
 3807
 C-1 (L)
 A444



SECRET

LIASON WITH SMRE

13 Apr 44

Gen MATTEOLI

1. Conveyed message from DADL about visit to T-RANTO to make arrangements for first coy of 2 LabDN, and to meet Lt Col REED, pnr ep come T-RANTO. Any day will suit him. DADL Gi (L)

2. SMRE letter of 10 Apr ref 1502:- pointed out to him that this matter had already been fully discussed and that in the initial stages of the reorg programme his new lab coys were bound to be scattered and perhaps even separated from bn HQs. As however more coys are formed the situation will adjust itself. No reply is needed to this letter. Gi (L) DADL

3. Reorg of Italian units in army area following move of 8 Army:- Radical reorg of Italian units with 8 Army, 5 Corps and 3 Dist (i.e. those engaged on lab) was forehadowed in FLINPO letter 23 Mar (DDL) as part of a programme to form 10,000 men into lab coys based on British Par Coys org. Following move of 8 Army, Italian units are thoroughly absorbed and SMRE most anxious to have details of units involved in reorg programme. (See log 5 Apr para 2, and 30 Mar para 6) SMRE letter above also refers. comd Gi (L) DADL

4. Italian lab units, both in ports and with army, incl proportion of men of 1912 and earlier classes whose homes are beyond the line. MATTEOLI is arranging that these older men are NOT incl in the new coys being recruited from port lab, and is equally anxious that they be removed from units in army area when the reorg referred to above is carried out. They would be substituted with younger men from port lab and other units outside army area. Object is to have younger men only in combat areas, for practical reasons and because older men have right to discharge. Can proper arrangements be made to put this into effect, and to extend to 5 army units also? comd Gi (L)

5. Lt Col LOIA 3806
Handed him list of spares required urgently for MT of Mot Bde, and requested him to inform us earliest what they can supply. A/Q

Maj D'ANTON.

Italian Gt Cover:- They are about to issue new cate based on G 14

FLAMEO letter 23 Mar (DDJ) as part of a programme to form

10,000 men into 1-b coys based on British Par Coys org.

Following move of 8 Army, Italian firms are thoroughly aware and SMRE most anxious to have details of units involved in recon programme. (See loc 5 Apr para 2, and 30 Mar para 6) SMRE letter above also refers.

4. Italian 1-b units, both in ports and with army, incl proportion of men of 1912 and earlier classes whose homes are beyond the line. MATTEOLI is arranging that these older men are NOT incl in the new coys being recruited from port 1-b, and is especially anxious that they be removed from units in army area when the recon referred to above is carried out. They would be substituted with younger men from port 1-b and other units outside army area. Object is to have younger men only in combat areas, for practical reasons and because older men have right to discharge. Can proper arrangements be made to put this into effect, and to extend to 5 Army units also?

5. Lt Col 'LDCIA' 3806
Handed him list of spares required urgently for MT of Mot Bde, and requested him to inform us earliest what they can supply.

6. Maj D'ANTONIA G II
Italian GT Coys:- They are about to issue new ests based on MM TO supplied by us, and will incl a maj as OC and instruct Ministry to make necessary appointments.

7. Serial 10624:- collected copy of their order for forming these two units in BRINDISI ex 551 as Bty, to be ready 30 Apr. G II

8. 8 Pack Tpt Coy:- collected entraining strength. G II

9. Maj VERONI SORT
He is enquiring into location and emp of mine-lifting squad destined for HOME and will advise. Also about similar unit referred to by ops branch in their letter. Ord knew nothing about this.

10. Lt BELLEGGIO G II
Subject to confirmation to-morrow, he reckons there are still in SARDINIA 2 and C'GLIARI Bakery Secs, both with 10 ovens. Ref our SD/22/4 of 7 Apr, SASSARI Sec arrived without ovens.

LIAISON WITH SMRE

SECRET

12 apr 44

Capt FO ENZA

1. Gave him info he required on tpt of 212 Vet Hosp, 823/24 Tele-
grafisti Coys, 301/2 Btys.

G II

2. Est that departure of 541 Arty Regt was postponed at request
IX Corps, via Delegazione Trupparti S. RI.

G II

Maj MUCCHINI

3. Further discussion on new layout of strength return - settled
a few minor points which were worrying him. In the new form
it promises to be much more useful than in the past and easier
to follow. Next return to be ready some time on 15th.

G III

4. Collected TO of PIGINO and MONTEVA divs.

2 i/c

Maj LUNARDONI

5. 20 Pack Gp HQ duly left NOVOLI 11 Apr as arranged, but only ONE
of the light barriers joined the party in time. Usual explanation
of the Easter holidays. Told him to get them off as quickly as
possible, to report direct to 4 Pack Gp HQ CASTEL VERMARE.

G II

Gen CAIDIA

6. He is sick and away from the office for the second day running.
Expected back to-morrow.

comd

Col CHI'VARENO

7. Italian CC's of CT Coys:- explained the situation and background
to him and asked for his views on the desirability of a major
in comd of these units, on account of numerical size of the
units and number of vehicles involved. It may mean a change
in the Italian designation (as in the case of Reggari Portuali)
but there should be no major difficulty. He will advise later.

comd

G

ST

8. Three divs for SICILY:- Coastal divs are almost fully self-
contained, but in any case they will see to it that the two
divs to come from SARDINIA will have complete SOS units within
the ceiling laid down in the programme for internal security.
They are anticipating that units of these divs will be scattered,
by reason of the size of the island, and would in any event
require an adjustment to the div est to make them self-supporting.

G II

9. BATTLE Plan- Requested him to take immediate action to ensure that

3805

of the eight farmers joined the party in time. Usual explanation of the Easter holidays. Told him to get them off as quickly as possible, to report direct to 4 Pack Gp HQ C/STEL VANDERHO.

Gen OLLIVA
6. He is sick and away from the office for the second day running. comd
Expected bac tomorrow.

7. Col CHI-VARINO
Italian OC's of ST Coys:- explained the situation and background comd
to him and asked for his views on the desirability of a major G
in come of these units, on account of numerical size of the ST
units and number of vehicles involved. It may mean a change
in the Italian designation (as in the case of Reggiment Portuelli)
but there should be no major difficulty. He will advise later.

8. Three divs for SICILY:- Coastal divs are almost fully self- G id
contained, but in any case they will see to it that the two
divs to come from SARDINIA will have complete SOS units within
the ceiling laid down in the programme for internal security. 3805
They are anticipating that units of these arms will be scattered,
by reason of the size of the island, and would in any event
require an adjustment to the div est to make them self-supporting.

9. B'FIELD Bn:- Requested him to take immediate action to ensure that comd
this unit comes under proper control of the Italian Army. At A/Q
present the situation is still rather vague. He promised to
phone the Comando Supremo and get the matter settled.

10. Lt Bn CARISTO:- infd him that this unit is NOT to have its specialists G id
removed.

11. Col QUEROI
Clothing and boots:- advised him that LAQMC would call on him A/Q
in the next day or so for gen discussion, incl clothing from
SARDINIA and items requested for COER. Infld him that there
were 10,000 shirts of theirs in CAMPANIA, which he didn't
appear to know about. He would like full infm of other items
available there

12. Gen MATTEOLI
Very enthusiastic about first 1st bn; second two days due away G
to-day or rd. All personnel fully clothed and armed, and he was
very appreciative of our assistance. Still waiting details for
second bn - see loc 28/29 Mar and 1 Apr.

SECRET

11 Apr 44

LIAISON WITH SMRE

Maj D'ANTONA

1. Smoke coys:- infd him of increased est to 2 offrs and 281
or's. Date of readiness of first three coys suggested to
Mina responsible 18 Apr; necessary clothing, boots etc to be
supplied at destination, unless departure is retarded to allow
for clothing to be transported from BARI.

ii

2. Serial 1064:- 541 Arty Re-t has been ordered to move 14 Apr,
but IX Corps has been raising difficulties, and it is requested
that MIA LO 2 Dist follows up with Corps HQ. Little demand
on Bari lab at the moment, so there should be no difficulty
over releasing the men in the lab pool. These are in the
process of replacement from the reorg camps.

G ii

D:DL

3. Maj VANDONI is being taken on the strength of Ord and Mob (SD)
branch of SMRE.

SMRE

Lt LOPEZ

4. B:FILE En:- Commissario branch want to know whether they are
supposed to be seeing to requirements of boots blankets and
kitchen eqpt of this unit - see log 10 Apr para 6. This would
appear to be still the responsibility of Italian Navy. *Should you ask. 6/1*
5. Boots and clothing for CCR:- would like answer to their request
for 15,000 sets of each.

comd

G

Lt Col SAMPED

6. General discussion on the figures he is taking to BEN RDI, who
is stopping for a talk with MESSE on the way back. It is NOT
likely now that he will be back before Sat or Sun. Requested
him to be prepared to designate four bns from Mantova and Piacenza
Dive on loan, for ad duties with 2 and 3 Divs. On account of
commitments of Mantova in Calabria, they may prefer to nominate
three or four bns of the Piacenza. Very nervous that they will
never see the bns back again.

comd

Lt Col ROCHONANSKI

7. 47 avrs ex Calabria left BARI for IOOI CT Coy 10 Apr. He is

G ii

3804

Lt LOPEZ

4. RAFILE BN:- Commissario branch went to know whether they are supposed to be seeing to requirements of boots blankets and kitchen eqpt of this unit - see log 10 Apr para 6. This would appear to be still the responsibility of Italian Navy. *Should have been sent to Italian Navy.*
5. Boots and clothing for CCHH:- would like answer to their request for 15,000 sets of each. *1/2*

Lt Col SANTO

6. General discussion on the figures he is taking to BERARDI, who is stopping for a talk with MESSE on the way back. It is NOT likely now that he will be back before Sat or Sun. Requested him to be prepared to designate four bns from Mantova and Piacenza on loan, for ad duties with 2 and 3 Divs. On account of commitments of Mantova in Calabria, they may prefer to nominate three or four bns of the Piacenza. Very nervous that they will never see the bns back again.

Lt Col ROCHON: NSKI

7. 47 avrs ex CALABRIA left BARI for TOOT CT Coy 10 Apr. He is queying himself with the remaining personnel for PILO DEL COLOSSE and POLIGNANO. *28 GS. 13 Apr. 17 Apr. G 11*

Capt DELL: CO MA

8. 212 Vet Hosp:- ready to move from NOIA 15 Apr. *G 11*
9. 824 Telegaristi Coy:- ready to leave C-TANZANO 15 inst. *G 11, SO Sig*

10. Serial 10513:- departed NICASTRO 8 Apr

11. Serial 10571:- should have left SPERZANO 7 Apr, but the cpt did NOT turn up. *21 Apr*

SECRET

LISSON WITH SMRE

10 Apr 44

Lt Col PIZZONIA

1. Left word with him that the four remaining coys of 1 Lcb DADL
Bn may NOT be leaving until 22 Apr.

Gen GALLIA

2. 516 Bn for PALERMO:- info him in course of conversation comd
that 308 men had presented themselves without leave at the
time of departure. He was very annoyed, but puts it down
to the Easter holiday. He thinks they will have to make
an example sooner or later and shoot some of these people.

3. 211 Div:- He has no objection to employing the div forthwith comd
for the programme, but as he has NOT taken part in previous 2 i/c
negotiations he would prefer to await BERNARDI's return before G
committing the div. Orders are being given immediately for the
first three smoke coys, see log 5/9 Apr para 6.

4. BERNARDI is due back Thursday 13 Apr. comd

5. Lt Carristi Bn:- suggestion has been made by War Ministry G il
that this unit be co-ordinated of its specialists - mechanics etc.
Does this cut across eventual emp as RAC unit? DADME is
familiar. *Bernardi ordered 308 men*

Lt Col CHECCHIA

6. RAFFLE Bn:- SMRE had duly authorised all items requested by comd
Navy General Staff, incl grenades, smoke signs, mess tins, 2 i/c
waterbottles etc, but no request was made for boots, blankets G
or kitchen eqpt and SMRE were under impression that eqpt for
this unit had been completed.

7. Italian clothing and arms for GSI Main HQ 8 Army:- Direzione G
Artilleria TIRANTO had been authorised to release arms and
can detailed in original request, which was very different 3803
to what contained in ours of 8 Apr. Clothing available only
in 15.05 and boots in BARI. In view of inability of SMRE
communication, by phone with TIRANTO, message for their Army
Depot sent via 52 Area. Later arranged for clothing and boots
to be delivered to Toronto by Thursday 13th.

4. BERNARDI is due back Thursday 13 Apr. comd
5. Lt Carriati Bn:- suggestion has been made by War Ministry G II
that this unit be composed of its specialists - mechanics etc.
Does this cut across eventual emp of RIC unit? DAME is *Barbano, ind. G.I. 1/10*
familiar.
6. Lt Col CHECCHI comd
Batt Bn:- SMRE had early authorised all items requested by 2 i/c
Navy General Staff, incl grenades, smoke sigs, mess tins, G
waterboottles etc, but no request was made for boots, blankets
or kitchen eqpt and SMRE were under impression that eqpt for
this unit had been completed.
7. Italian clothing and arms for GSI Main HQ 8 Army:- Direzione G
Artilleria TARANTO had been authorised to release arms and
can detailed in original request, which was very different **3803**
to that contained in ours of 8 Apr. Clothing available only
in LESCE and boots in BARI. In view of inability of SMRE
communication, by phone with TARANTO, message for their Arty
Depot sent via 52 Area. Later arranged for clothing and boots
to be delivered to Taranto by Thursday 13th.
8. COL CHIVARINO G II (US)
The internal org of the SMRE is being reviewed at the moment,
and Gen BRUNETTI appears to be concerned in this. It is NOT
therefore an opportune moment to ask for a TO.
9. Lt Col MILLERFORDE G II
He has been ordered over to Campania in connection with
Reorg and den ests of pack tpt coys. He leaves to-morrow.
Gave him what info we had on the subject and requested him
to get into touch with LO MAI, PLAMPO and obtain through him
copy of the new est.
10. Lt Col SANPO comd
Flying to SARDINIA 12 Apr to take some papers to BERNARDI.
Will be returning with him the next day. Mentioned to him
possibility of emp some hrs temporarily of the E and P dive
for guard duties. We are to discuss this at greater length
and other questions to-morrow.

SECRET
8/9 Mar 44

LIAISON WITH SMRE

Lt Col MILLEPIONINI

1. Drvg School in Sicily (see log 7 Apr):- Sig to hand from comd
comd S'BAUDA Div informing that course which commenced G
20 Mar is at standstill owing to 1 Dist refusing to allow A/Q
petrol for this purpose.

2. Nine smoke coys required by AFHQ:- gave them translation G
of relevant part of our sig and suggestion that these units
be formed out of 211 Div. Requested that first three coys
be made ready to leave 15 Apr. Discussed question of clothing
with SD "Q" Branch - their suggestion is that these coys
be fitted out at BARI or NAPLES, to avoid long delay in trans-
porting clothing down to CALABRIA. (See Gen OXILIA below)

3. 135 Compagnia Mazonisti Speciale:- this unit is under comd A/Q
Comando Supremo and located LECCE.

Lt Col PANTERAI

4. Insulating Tape :- their monthly allocation is NOT available SO Sigs
at 84 CRE BARLETTA, nor is it known there when it will be
available. Can they be given an alternative source?

Ufficio Segreteria del Sotto capo

5. To assist them in speeding up distribution of MMH: letters general
to the various branches it is requested that an indication
be given where possible of the branch of SMRE concerned.
At the present time we are quoting our refs and much time
is lost in tracing which office is dealing with the matter.

Gen GILLI

6. Smoke coys:- (with MILLEPIONINI) no objection to their being comd
produced from 211 Div, but they propose utilising first the 2 i/c
two CW coys of XXXI and LI Corps, which are immediately avail- G
able. The third coy of the first gp will come from 211 Div.

However, as in other similar cases of late, they are very keen
to have an Italian HQ to look after their units att Allied
units. They will order the smoke coys as self-contained units,
but would like approval to have an HQ to each three or four
coys, mainly for disciplinary and gen welfare reasons.

7. C. I. L. handed him copy of the TO for the combat div, which comd 2 i/c

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785020

4. Lt Col PANERAI SO Sig
Insulating Type :- their monthly allocation is NOT available at 84 CRE BARIETTA, nor is it known there when it will be available. Can they be given an alternative source?

5. Ufficio Segreteria del Sotto capo General
To assist them in speeding up distribution of MMIA letters to the various branches it is requested that an indication be given where possible of the branch of SMRE concerned. At the present time we are quoting our refs and much time is lost in tracing which office is dealing with the matter.

6. Gen OLLI comd
Smoke coys:- (with MILLEFIORINI) no objection to their being produced from 211 Div, but they propose utilising first the two CW coys of XXXI and LI Corps, which are immediately available. The third coy of the first gp will come from 211 Div. However, as in other similar cases of late, they are very keen to have an Italian HQ to look after their units of allied units. They will order the smoke coys as self-contained units, but would like approval to have an HQ to each three or four coys, mainly for disciplinary and general welfare reasons.

7. C. I. L. :- handed him copy of the TO for the combat div, which he was very pleased to have. Brief discussion on numbers permitted on WE in relation to the figure in the policy letter and the actual numbers by the time the MEMO has arrived. If the div is to be maintained at the figure shown in the TO, the strength of the rit unit will be limited to 400 approx. comd 2 i/c

8. In connection with above, he has had a letter written to Comando Supremo requesting that they negotiate for incl of Air Force Bn among combat tys over and above the ceiling of 14100%. After examining the TO he asked Millefiorini to draft another letter on same lines for the Bnfile Bn, also on account of the fact that this unit is NOT at present with the 1st combat div. comd 2 i/c

9. Maj D'AMFONA G II (AA)
Ref our letter SD/I/2/13 of 7 Jan 44:- they propose transferring 11 75/46 AA guns from CALABRIA to BARI, to replace older pieces at present in use at the latter place.

This depends on the inspection of the 2

SECRET

8 Apr 44

LIAISON WITH SMRE

Maj MATOCCHI

1. He proposes issuing the next strength state on 15 Apr, and will be able in this way to incorporate the changes necessitated by our Policy letter of yesterday's date.

G

Lt Col SANPO

2. Confirmed our phone conversation of last evening that we had no objection to the substitution of 226 IOR 205 Div for SICILY ex SARDINIA. Inid him that the new policy required two aivs to be transferred between the islands and he will incorporate this infm in his reply to BERARDI. This after reference to BRUNETTI.

comd
2 i/c
G

3. He is infd (from BERARDI) that the NEMBO Div will move to the mainland very shortly. The adv party is already preparing to leave.

comd
2 i/c
G

4. Change of personnel in ops branch SMRE:-

Maj PINA to be replaced by Maj PASCHETTI, an arty offr from the staff of XXXI Corps. PINA has gone on leave to SARDINIA and will be posted on his return.

G ill(I)

Lt MARGIOTTI, inf offr from the Stato Maggiore at TIVOLI has also joined the ops branch. He crossed the lines recently.

Gen BRUNETTI

5. 515 Regt of 209 Div (see log 5 Apr para 2):- explained that reorg of adm arrangements of those units that had gone over with 8 Army and now under Gen TOMASELLI was being taken care of by BASSO's Chief of Staff. Suggested that SMRE should take steps to find out what is happening and make arrangements to be kept infd of developments. Apart from these considerations, explained that it would be impracticable to transfer the units still with 5 Corps.

G i
Gi(L)

6. Handed to him BERARDI's copy of Policy letter of 6 Apr, also Messe's copy for onward transmission. Latter should arrive at Salerno by courier 9 Apr. Arranged to call later in the day to discuss contents.

388
comd
i/c

Maj LIERO

7. Italian Maj Don Don. Santos. Don...

4. Change of personnel in ops branch SMRE:-
Maj PINNA to be replaced by Maj PISCHETTI, an arty offr from the staff of IXAL Corps. PINNA has gone on leave to SARDINIA and will be posted on his return.
Lt MARCIOTTI, inf offr from the Stato Maggiore at TIVOLI has also joined the ops branch. He crossed the lines recently.
5. Gen BRUNETTI
515 Regt of 209 Div (see log 5 Apr part 2):- explained that reorg of arm arrangements of those units that had gone over with 8 Army and now under Gen TOMASELLI was being taken care of by PISSE's Chief of Staff. Suggested that SMRE should take steps to find out what is happening and make arrangements to be kept infd of developments. Apart from these considerations, explained that it would be impracticable to transfer the units still with 5 Corps.
6. Handed to him BRUNETTI's copy of Policy letter of 6 Apr, also Messe's copy for onward transmission. Letter should arrive at Salerno by courier 9 Apr. Arranged to call later in the day to discuss contents.
7. Maj LIERO
Italian Mil Dvr Tng Centre POLIGNANO:- collected copy of letter 6 Apr from Italian CC explaining fully situation of personnel at this centre, and reasons for non-acceptance of Italian instructors - see log 6 Apr part 3. It appears also from this letter that there are already 128 men on the course out of the total of 160 required.
8. 1002 GT Coy:- The new Italian CC took up his duties 5 Apr.
9. Lt Col MILLESTON
Dvr Tng Centres under Italian auspices -see log 10 Feb:-
Italian HQ Sardinia signalled 2 Apr that 612 cvrs had passed out of the first course. SMRE require instrs as to disposal. Situation of 2nd courses is as follows:
- 2nd course Sardinia commenced 28 Mar 700
- 2nd " C. LARRIA " 1 Apr 100
- 2nd " BARI " 1 Apr 100
- 1st " SICILY " 20 Mar 100
10. 551 IA Bty(Marine) BRAINDISI -see log 26 Mar:- this unit is now available and is about to be used for the programme?

Completed

SECRET

contd 7 Apr 44

Lt Col MILLER, ORNI

G 1

11. Proposed Ga Coys for rlys:- collected their suggestions for est which are quite tentative and as basis for discussion. Their idea is that each coy shall consist of 30 secs of 8 men, each sec to be emp as a complete unit to ensure a train. Each coy would thus produce 400 for 30 trains per day.

G

12. Rfts for PBS and 1923 class in Campania:- collected copy of their sig to B1880 which puts the matter under control under both headings. They are provisionally organising 1923 class for serials 1055A and 1058A, subject to injecting 1082 with earlier priority if it should be so decided.

G

13. Serial 1052A: this has already been ordered out of the AA Regt in Calabria, and copy of their order will be available later to-day.

G

14. Rfts for 1001 GT Coy and IMDTG POLIGNANO:- Orders for additional Italian personnel having already been issued, as per copies to reach us later to-day, it was decided to let matters stand as they are. A sig is being sent to XXII Corps to find out exactly when the 60 trained divs are leaving, or have left, and when the reply is recd a decision can be made as to their emp in relation to progress made as the result of the above two orders.

G

15. Serials 1012A and 1065:- due to leave 4 Apr. They will find out the poem as they are still without news.

3800

SECRET

6 Apr 44

LIAISON WITH SMRE

Gen MATTIOLI

1. First two 1st bns coys of newly-formed bn will be leaving MOLINETTA by rd 8 Mar. Infm received from DADL and passed on to MATTIOLI.

DADL
G

2. Infm MATTIOLI also of arrangements for removal of Avieri from BARI pool and confirmed that they will not be replaced. He will be writing about this, from the point of view that the Comando Supremo wanted representatives of all three services to take part in port l-b. Avieri in SARDINIA have been mentioned in this connection.

2 i/c
DADL
G

3. Infm MATTIOLI of the veto on issue of further foot squares body belts and pullovers needed for the new bn. He got into touch immediately with the Q Branch SMRE to have the matter righted.

DADL
Q

4. MATTIOLI is going over to NAPLES in two days time and wants to call on DDL FLABRO for general talk on latest developments. Infm him later that we had no objection. He is still worried about the size of the new bns and continues to insist on the desirability of making them *four* *hundred* *units*.

G
DADL

Gen BRUNETTI

5. OLLIA was out, so left messages about visit to 266. We also discussed emp. of 211 Div; their reply to directive about C'LABRIA (which will be delivered to us to-morrow) and warned him that our reply to BRAPDI's counterproposals for emp of Italian Army would in all probability be delivered to-day, so that necessary arrangements could be made for translation.

comd
2 i/c
G 1

6. It is est that Gen INFANTE has been appointed Deputy Chief of Staff at Comando Supremo, i.e. Sotto Capo di Stato Maggiore Generale. This compares with OLLIA's Sotto Capo di Stato Maggiore R.E.

comd
2 i/c
3649
G 111(2)

Lt Col MILLETTOINI

6. Dvrs for 223 Teleggrafisti Coy forming at TRAMI:- infm them that ten of the dvrs from C'LABRIA could be utilised for this unit.

G 11

7. Rfts for PBS and 1013 class in C'LABRIA:- clarified the situation and helped draft a sign to BASSO, of which we

G 11

4. MATTEOLI is going over to NAPLES in two days time and will be to call on DDL PLAMBO for general talk on latest developments. I told him later that we had no objection. He is still worried about the size of the new bns and continues to insist on the desirability of making them four-coy units. *Archdale*
hurry the
with him

Gen BRUNETTI

5. CILLIA was out, so left messages about visit to 266. We also discussed emp. of 211 Div; their reply to directive about C'LABRIA (which will be delivered to us to-morrow); and warned him that our reply to BERARDI's counterproposals for emp of Italian Army would in all probability be delivered to-day, so that necessary arrangements could be made for translation. *comd*
2 i/c
G 1

6. It is esp. that Gen INFANTE has been appointed Deputy Chief of Staff at Comando Supremo, i.e. Sotto Capo di Stato Maggiore Generale. This compares with CILLIA's Sotto Capo di Stato Maggiore R.E. *comd*
2 i/c
3549
311(3)

Lt Col MILLERPOINI

6. Dvrs for 223 Telegrofiati Coy forming at TRANI:- info them that ten of the dvrs from C'LABRIA could be utilised for this unit. *G 11*

7. Rfte for PBS and 1923 class in C'EPANIA:- clarified the situation and helped draft a sig to P'SSO, of which we shall be getting a copy. The situation is now under control for the moment, and they will be awaiting our decision as to the allotment to be made. *G 11*

Maj LITRO

8. Italian instructors etc for ELIONAHO (2 Dist minutes 13 Mar) see log 19 and 28/29 Mar - it is stated that the personnel called for duly reported at POLIGNANO, only to be told that they were NOT wanted and sent away. *They sent them away. Archdale*
Know I want to speak to ST. HENRI. E *G*

Maj LUNARDONI

9. 8 and 9 Pack Tpt Coy:- Contrary to what was anticipated they are unable to complete the animals in C'LABRIA. They have to produce from BARI Remount Sta 14 riding horses, 16 draft horses and 31 mules. In view of dates and the fact that half the horses are needed for the 8 Coy, can these animals be sent direct to ultimate destination of the two units? *Archdale*
No they
the animals must come
from C'LABRIA. *G 11*

Maj D'ANTONA

10. Info of units just arrived from SARDINIA *G 11*

LIAISON WITH S M R E

5 Apr 44

COL CHIAVARINO, Lt Col MILLERIORINI, Maj D'ANTONA
General discussion on future org of units for Allied
programme, as follows:-

2 i/c
C

- a) Serial 1052A to be formed with personnel of AA Bty in CALABRIA
- b) Men recalled to the colours in COMPANIA with the '23 class to be emp basically for serials 1055A and 1058A. BASSO to be given the broad ests, and allowed a free hand for org the units at depots in COMPANIA. BASSO to contact PMS for guidance in forming units and any help required over clothing. SMRE point out that the men to be dealt with will be quite out-of-hand and they estimate that one month at the depot will be required to enable their oils to get a proper grip of the units. They anticipate no difficulty over oils or neo's for these units, nor over the domestic unit eqpt.
- c) After the above, the following serials to have precedence: -1062A, 1063A, 1065E, 1067, 1068.
- d) Inid them that men from depots and districts had been assigned to following serials: 1051, 1063, 1065B, 1076 and 696 men towards 1077.
- e) Serial 1065D:- they will give us further copy of their of their order.
- f) Lt Carnisti En:- requested them to hurry forward the 140 reserves from IX Dvr Regt. The coy in LEO E is being retained for special internal security measures, and they are most anxious NOT to let it go. Suggestion that the men and vehs are to be passed to the CCRB.
- g) Enquiring into the present occupation of 166 Bty at S Pietro, as also the situation of the 217 Bty at Menduria. CHIAVARINO was formerly comd of 58 Arty Regt, and states that only handful of low category men are left at Menduria to look after the guns.

3798

Gen OXILIA

515 Regt of 209 Div is at present attached as follows:

8 Army

5 Corps

Regt HQ

8/37

HQ and two coys 556 En

Two coys 556 En 8/220

2/2

785020

- c) After the above, the following serials to have precedences:
-1062A, 1063A, 1065E, 1067, 1068.
- d) Info them that men from depots and districts had been assigned to following serials: 1051, 1063, 1065B, 1076 and 896 men towards 1077.
- e) Serial 1065D:- they will give us further copy of their of their order.
- f) Lt Cornetti Bn:- requested them to hurry forward the 140 reserves from IX Dvr Regt. The coy in LEO E is being retained for special internal security measures, and they are most anxious NOT to let it go. Suggestion that the men and vehs are to be passed to the CCRB.
- g) Enquiring into the present occupation of 166 Bty at S Pietro, as also the situation of the 217 Bty at Monduria. CHIAPARINO was formerly comd of 58 Arty Regt, and states that only handful of low category men are left at Monduria to look after the guns.

3798

Gen OXILIA

2. 515 Regt of 209 Div is at present attached as follows:

8 Army

5 Corps

HQ and two coys 556 Bn
Two coys 546 Bn

Regt HQ 8/37
Two coys 556 Bn 8/220
HQ & two coys 546 Bn 13/212
353 Bn 16/330
Total with 5 Corps 45 oftrs
799 or's

OXILIA is keen that the two halves of the regt be reunited, and suggests for consideration that the part with 5 Corps be transferred to 8 Army, and that it be replaced by serial 10/4 of the programme (ad bn for 8 Army 200 strong) which is due to move 10 Apr.

3.

17. Recce Sqn:- XIII Corps has taken this unit with them, and 5 Corps requested MAI to have it replaced. This has been agreed in principle and 5 Corps has requested them to provide an Italian offer to go to SARDINIA to select suitable personnel from NEMBO div. OXILIA is opposed to taking any men from the Nembo, but suggests the men of the volunteer camp at VIBO VALENTIA, who are about the right strength and trg at the moment.

4.

OXILIA is going to Bari Friday 7th. MMIA LO 2 Dist to be infd with a view to arranging meeting with 266 to co-ordinate SMRE activities.

LIAISON WITH S M R E

4 Apr 44

Lt Col CANNONE

1. Two wksp coys, SARDINIA:- the matter is being their attention, though they anticipate it will take some time to obtain the required details from Sardinia. G i

Lt Col MILLEFICIONI

2. Clothing and boots for 1923 class to be recalled to the colours in Campania. The matter arose through a letter from BASSO to the effect that as there was no clothing for the 3000 men they hope to obtain, he proposed deferring the operation. This letter was addressed to M or W with copy to SMW. A further phone call to the Ministry to-day elicited the fact that they had signalled Basso to get on with the recall and to get it finished by 15 Apr. comd 2 i/c

Maj D'ANTONA

3. Dvr unit at MONOPOLI with 32 Veh Coy:- this is in the process of being organised into a unit - we should have details to-morrow. G i

4. Discussions of personnel and units for Allied programme:- They now give assurances that further personnel will be forthcoming and that in some way or the other they will find the full 21,000 agreed by the Chief of Staff. However, they are still under the impression that 211 Div will NOT be utilised unless they fall down on their contract. 2 i/c G i

Lt Col MILLEFICIONI

5. 1923 class in Campania:- they wish to receive instrs as to exp of the 4000 men who should be reporting in the next week or two. As they will be in civilian clothes they want to get rid of them as quickly as possible. 2 i/c

3787

LIAISON WITH SMRE

2 APR 44

Lt Col CHECCHIA

Dra of adm control of subs for Italian Army:-

SOME are in agreement with the details submitted to them.

A/Q

2.

Boots and clothing for rfts for 210/212/227 Divs:-

Discussed our sig with him and made sure he understood the situation. Their sig 3/3339/ Serv confirms the arrangement to BASSO.

A/Q

Col GUERCI

Enlira sig 2722: he cannot recall specifically what was discussed Capt VELLA of 7 Mtn Regt. Situation is that the unit is still located at PRAANO according to their infm, and as long as it remains outside the combat area it will NOT qualify for additional pay hitherto awarded to personnel of Mot Bce. Pt of interest is that the Ministry has NOT yet legalised payment of this bonus, so that technically it will be difficult to make the award to additional units in the combat area until the Ministry regularise the posn.

A/Q

Lt Col S. NPO

BATTLE Bn: he was NOT able to get through to T. RANTO

G 1

yesterday evening by phone and sent a sig insted. Requested him to obtain ack. Infd him that the bn will be moving 4 Apr in two special trains from T. RANTO - query why not CHIATONA sta? — *Speller to Hellman who will try arrange*

5.

PICENO Div:- for the benefit of staff offrs visiting this mtn, following are usual hrs of trg: 0630 - 1100, 1330 hrs onwards.

G

Capt FORENZA

840 OR's due to leave LECCE for NAPLES 3 Apr:- he has already signalled Ministry with full details (copy to G iii)

3786

7.

Warned him of date of departure of E-file Bn

G

to personnel of Mot Bde. Pt of interest is that the Ministry has NOT yet legalised payment of this bonus, so that technically it will be difficult to make the award to additional units in the combat area until the Ministry regularise the post.

4. Lt Col S. VPO
Bari Bn: he was NOT able to get through to TARANTO yesterday evening by phone and sent a sig insted. Requested him to obtain ack. Infd him that the bn will be moving 4 Apr in two special trains from TARANTO - query why not CHIATONA sta? — *Spoken to Station who take by carriage* G i
5. PICERNO Div:— For the benefit of staff offrs visiting this fan, following are usual hrs of trg: 0630 - 1100, 1330 hrs onwards. G
6. Cpt FORENZ
840 OR's due to leave LECCE for NAPLES 3 Apr:— he had already signalled Ministry with full details (copy to G iii) 3798 G iii
7. Warned him of date of departure of B-file Bn G
8. Lt Col ALOIA
1 ofir and 50 avrs for NAPLES to collect 44 vehs for BARI. They will lay this on, but would like to be assured of having the avrs back. An ofir will call at the Mission 3 Apr to arrange details with SO Sigs. G i

9. Gen MATTIOLI
Infd him that DADL was on his way to NAPLES and would obtain answers to outstanding queries while there. Infd him also of anticipated additional availability of naval personnel from TARANTO, BRINDISI and BARIETTA. He is writing a letter to Comando Supremo making it clear that it is our wish that naval personnel shall be under comd local Italian lab ofir (Army) as far as the org of the work is concerned. G i

1 CHI'VARINO
enced his duties to-day as new head of the Ordinamento obblizione Branch (SD) co 2

1 BRIONTO
for authority for release of 4000 sets of clothing or personnel of 1923 class in CAMPANIA. Operation held up pending this authority.

LIAISON WITH S M R E

1 Apr 45

Gen OLLIVA and Gen MATTEOLI

G 1
DADL

1. Reorg of Italian mil lab - letter from DUL Flammoo 23 Mar: they would like further details of the radical reorg envisaged in para 20 annex (iii) to (v), i.e. what units will be involved, particularly in the case of 3 Dist. Para 20 mentions "red duties" - does this involve some of 3 Dist units? This part of the programme means a radical change in the Italian adm set-up.

2. Second bn to be formed in Apulia: can MATTEOLI be infd soonest of the proportions of the personnel to be raised in TARANTO and BRINDISI?

G 1
DADL

3. MATTEOLI is rather concerned about tying up the emp of naval personnel due to arrive shortly at TARANTO. He points out that the Stato Maggiore can NOT give orders to the navy, & that the matter is liable to drag on indefinitely unless firm orders are given by somebody. He would like close touch maintained through SMR/Navy Sub-commission and Italian Ministry of Marine.

Comd
G 1(L)
DADL

Maj MALOCCHI

4. "Specchio" one day late this time, due to several errors discovered when the work was completed on account of the new system. One drawback of the two parts is that where part of a unit is working unofficially for the Allies, the strength of the unit appears in both parts.

G

Lt Col MILLERORINI

2 i/c

5. 96 Inf Bn:- analysis of 230 men delivered short (see log 31 Mar)

-in hosp	49
-on leave	17
-absent w/1	145
-rear party	36
-on duty	<u>31</u> (with other units)
	275

3795

-actually
delivered 570

6. 212 Vet Hosp:- Location: Depot of 12 Arty Regt NOLA
Was signalled as to be ready 25 Mar.

G 11

4. that the matter is liable to drag on indefinitely unless firm orders are given by somebody. He would like close touch maintained through MAI/ Navy Sub-commission and Italian Ministry of Marine.
- Maj MALOCCHI
- "Specchio" one day late this time, due to several errors discovered when the work was completed on account of the new system. One drawback of the two parts is that where part of a unit is working unaidedly for the Allies, the strength of the unit appears in both parts.
5. Lt Col MILLERINI ^{2 i/c}
36 Inf Bn:- analysis of 230 men delivered short (see log 31 Mar)
- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|--------------------|
| -in hosp | 49 | |
| -on leave | 17 | |
| -absent w/l | 145 | |
| -rear party | 36 | |
| -on duty | <u>31</u> | (with other units) |
| | 278 | |
- 3795
- actually delivered 570
6. 212 Vet Hosp:- Location: Depot of 12 Arty Regt NOLE
was signalled as to be ready 25 Mar.
- G ii
7. Maj D'ANTONA
Serial 1053 Peak Tpt Coys:- It is agreed that they will be numbered 8 and 9
- G ii
8. Gen BERARDI
With comd about SERBIA and programme for exp Italian Army

LIAISON WITH S M R E

31 Mar 44

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

1. With SORE to discuss tra and eqpt of engr units of MANTOVA, PIGNO and CIL

2. 36 Inf Bn:- 230 men delivered short to 8 Army for usual variety of reasons, absent without leave, in hospital, on leave, short-delivery from depots etc. Impressed on him the need to complete the est earliest. G ii

3. Serial 1064 (ex 1083):- to be ready to leave 10 Apr. G ii

Maj D'ANTONA

4. Serial 1054:- he will signal XXI Corps requesting that one pack tpt coy be made available if possible by 10 Apr. G ii

Maj LUNARONI

5. Serial 1054:- no harness available for 117 mules. G ii

Maj ROSSI

6. BOOTS:- ref logs 28/29/30 Mar, he has now signalled TFAA Company passing to them authority to issue boots to 212 Div previously given to RARI in error. A/Q

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

7. First course for dvrs in CALABRIA:- 30 dvrs were passed out of the first course. Of these, 30 were used to meet the est of XXIII Artieri Bn, being the only dvrs available for this purpose. The remaining 60 have been ordered by sig to report to IX Dvr Regt BARI, whence they will be diverted to POLIGNANO. G ii

Col RALLAVICINO

8. BERARDI is planning to leave for SARDINIA on 2 Apr, flying 379th from LECCE 0930 hrs. He is most anxious to meet the comd ~~XXXX~~ i/c before he goes. He asks that a meeting be arranged if possible for evening 1 Apr.

Gen OLLIV

5. Maj LUNARDONI
Serial 1054:- no harness available for 117 males. G ii
6. Maj ROSSI
BOOTS:- ref logs 28/29/30 Mar, he has now signalled
FFAA Campagna pressing to them authority to issue boots
to 212 Liv previously given to BARI in error. A/Q
7. Lt Col MILLESDINI
First course for dvr in CALABRIA:- 90 dvr were passed G ii
out of the first course. Of these, 30 were used to
meet the est of XXIII Artillery Bn, being the only dvr
available for this purpose. The remaining 60 have
been ordered by sig to report to IX Dvr Regt BARI,
whence they will be diverted to POLIGNANO.
8. Col PALLAVICINO
BERARII is planning to leave for SARDINIA on 2 Apr, flying 379^{gond}
from LECCE 0930 hrs. He is most anxious to meet the comd ~~XXXX~~ i/c
before he goes. He asks that a meeting be arranged if
possible for evening 1 Apr.
9. Gen ORLUA
Investigation of why no action had been taken by SMRE G i
to authorise Gen BASSO to move Gen ROMANELLI and staff
to 8 Army area to administer Italian units moved to the
WEST with Army. Misunderstanding caused by the wording
of BASSO's letter and "bureaucratic procrastination" on
the part of SMRE ops branch were both responsible for
the muddle. A signal is being sent to BASSO forthwith
to put matters right.

Sanmarino
Cult.
1 Apr

LIVISON WITH S M R E

30 Mar 44

Gens OLLIVA & BRUNETTI

2 i/c
Gi

1. Confirmed my message of yesterday in connection with non-availability of buildings at POCANI. Their reaction was that they must now start afresh in their quest for action, but they agreed that it would be as well to hear what BRR's DI had to say on his return from SALERNO.

2. Twenty English/Serbo-Croat/ interpreters: they will set about immediately finding the 20 MCCO's and have them concentrated at LECCE. It is specified that they must NOT be hostile to the partisans. G ii(US)

Maj ROSSI

3. BOOTS:- someone appears to have slipped up in the case of 212 Div, as the MOW issued instrs 13 Mar to the DIET depot(4153/V) without taking into account that the div just at that moment was being transferred into Campania. He is finding out the posn regarding this particular release. Boots for 227 Div were authorised by SMRE sig 27 Feb (3/1327/Serv) to MOW with copy to FFIA Campania and to 227 Div. A/C

Maj D'ANTONA

4. Serial 1065D:- collected copy of their instrs for him of the two units for this serial. Gi

5. 122 rits for 7 Mtn Regt:- they are anxious to have these men on the move as soon as possible. *Problems attached to Regt's move by MOW BRR to 227 Div* G ii

Gen MATTEOLI

6. With DADD for long discussion of Flauto directive for reorg of 1st units. This is a comprehensive programme which involves 10,000 men, incl the reorg of all lab units with 8 Army, 5 Corps and 3 Dist. Matteoli wants us to send in an official letter with our proposals as regards the latter part of the scheme. Gi DADD

Maj ROSSI

7. Their letter of 27 Mar 3/2616/ Serv:- assured him that our

3793

212 Div, as the HQ issued instrs 13 Mar to the div depot(4153/V) without taking into account that the div just at that moment was being transferred into Campania. He is finding out the posn regarding this particular release. Boots for 227 Div were authorised by SMRE sig 27 Feb (3/1927/Serv) to HQW with copy to FFA Campania and to 227 Div.

Maj D'ANTONA

4. Serial 1065B:- collected copy of their instrs for Iam of the two units for this serial. G 1

5. 122 rits for 7 Mtn Regt:- they are anxious to have these men on the move as soon as possible. *Prove it attached to Regt. Comd by 1st Div 24 Mar* G 11

6. Gen MATIOLI for long discussion of Flambo directive for move with FALL for comprehensive programme which involves 10,000 men, incl the reorg of all lab units with 8 Army, 5 Corps and 3 Dist. Mattioli wants us to send in an official letter with our proposals as regards the latter part of the scheme. G 1
BDEL

3793

Maj ROSSETI

7. Their letter of 27 Mar 3/2876/ Serv:- Assured him that our IO's had no authority to draw clothing from Italian stores for Italian units without the sanction of the Mission, which would in any event only be given through SMRE. Explained to him that copies of our sigs were sent automatically to IO's, and it was probably a case of our copy having got there before the SMRE release note. He is going to get fuller particulars. A/Q

30 Mar

LIAISON WITH SMRE

28/29 Mar 44

Lt Col GALLO

1. DICAT wireless sets at TARANTO and BRINDISI:- these are controlled by the navy and SMRE have no record of them.

SO Sigs

2. Sigs eqpt and park for Mot Bde:- left letter with them for translation - inim will be supplied within few days.

SO Sigs

3. WT sets for PICENO and MANTOVA Divs and NEMRO Arty Regt:- they would like to have a decision in reply to their sigs.

2 i/c

4. WT sets ex 20th AA Raggruppamento EMT:- they are still awaiting confirmation of the types and quantities of sets to be handed in.

SO Sigs

Col QUERCIA

5. Bonus for NCO's on port lab etc.:- he is infd by Col BALZANI of the Ministry that it has been agreed in principle that the 20 lire bonus is to be extended to those NCO's who actually participate in the work. The necessary decree is being prepared. It is NOT feasible to make this concession to those in attendance at the work, as by implication all WO's and even the others would then qualify.

A/Q

DADL
SORE

6. Spares required by WT Pl of SMRE (see log of 27th):- it is clarified that this refers to ref 6388 of 27 Mar. Ministry has set on the request for ten days - can authority be given without further delay please?

DADOS

7. Boots for CAMPANIA:- for the moment it is est that signal 3478 of 4 Mar (Ministry to PFAA Campania) authorised the collection of 6386 pre boots for 210 div; details for 227 and 212 divs are awaited.

A/Q

8. Italian instructors for POLIGNANO:- personnel called for in 2 dist minutes of 13 Mar has all been found with exception of two mechanics, and will be reporting to POLIGNANO before 31st. Additional 30 driving instructors will be available shortly, but have told them NOT to send further personnel until complete supplementary list is forthcoming.

G 11

3792

Maj LUNARDONI

9. Our letter requesting infm about horses and mules:- he has

G 11

- the 20 lire bonus is to be extended to those NCO's who actually participate in the work. The necessary decree is being prepared. It is NOT feasible to make this concession to those in attendance at the work, as by implication all WO's and even the OF's would then qualify.
6. Spares required by MT PI of SHRE (see log of 27th):- it is clarified that this refers to ref 6388 of 27 Mar. Ministry has set on the request for ten coys - can authority be given without further delay please? D.DOS
7. Boots for CAMPANIA:- for the moment it is est that signal 3478 of 4 Mar (Ministry to FFAA Campania) authorised the collection of 6386 pra boots for 210 div; details for 227 and 212 divs are awaited. 1/2
8. Italian instructors for POLIGNANO:- personnel called for in 2 dist minutes of 13 Mar had all been found with exception of two mechanics, and will be reporting to POLIGNANO before 31st. Additional 30 driving instructors will be available shortly, but have told them NOT to send further personnel until complete supplementary list is forthcoming. 3792 G 11
9. Maj LUNARDONI
Our letter requesting info about horses and mules:- he has sent an answer, of which the following is a breakdown:

	horses	mules
SARDINIA	3095	1725
IX Corps	690	447(^)
XAXI "	788	1154(o)
IL "	1578	1891
FFAA Campania	321	185

(o) incl 400 to be made available for two pack coys
(^) incl 100 emancipated already reported.

In addition, there are large numbers of fine mules in SICILY, legally and/or illegally in the hands of civilians.

10. Maj D'ANTONA
Dvrs unofficially emp at MONOPOLI:- still no reply. Unable to get through by phone, he is now awaiting clarification from IX Corps. G 11

11. Pack bty at MANDURIA:- revised strength of OR's is 520, of firs and NCO's and stores etc remain unchanged. 2 1/c

28/29 Mar 44 contd

Maj D'ANTONA

12. Serial 1065D:- instructions in course of preparation-
copy will be available for us to-morrow. Date of readiness probably 15 Apr. G11

13. 106 and 107 GRUPPO ARTY, BARI (Percy's sig PL38 28th) and these are required for serial 1064 (formerly 1083), and are being replaced by 72 Inf Bn ex Brindisi plus 306 men from reorg camp. See log 26 Mar para 4. G11

Lt Col SANPO

14. Back from WEST side, where he visited Brig Gen HUME, COMAO 5 Army in connection with their scheme for collecting disembanded tps coming through the lines. It was mutually agreed that the fwd posts just behind the lines were NOT desirable, but that posts behind ~~xxxx~~ the rear areas, one on each side of the peninsula, would be advantageous. SANPO has returned to discuss the matter with the Stato Maggiore and it is agreed that he will return to finalize matters with Brig HUME in a few days. G11

15. SANPO also visited the Mot Bae, which is now under command Polish Corps. He found things under control. Their HQ is at SCAPOLI. The Piemonte Bn is awaited for the task of occupying Mt MORRONE, which at the moment seems to be in no-man's land. The Mot Bae will be inspected shortly by a Polish General. Activities for the moment are limited to patrols. comd 2 i/c G

16. Proposed move of Stato Maggiore:- left message for Gen OVILLI, who was out, to the effect that the school buildings at FAGANI would NOT be available for the SMRE, being already earmarked for other purposes. G11

Maj D'ANTONA

17. Serial 1054:- collected copy of their order to XIX Corps for the fm of two pack tpt coys incl mules. To be ready 20 Apr. 3791

15. SAMPOL also visited the Mot Bae, which is now under command of Polish Corps. He found things under control. Their HQ is at SCAPOLI. The Piemonte Bn is waited for the task of occupying Mt MORRONE, which at the moment seems to be in no-man's land. The Mot Bae will be inspected shortly by a Polish General. Activities for the moment are limited to patrols. command
2 i/c
G
16. Proposed move of Stato Maggiore:- left message for Gen OVILLI, who was out, to the effect that the school buildings at PAGANI would NOT be available for the SMRE, being already earmarked for other purposes. G i
17. Maj D'ANTONA
Serial 1054:- collected copy of their order to XXII Corps for the firm of two pack tpt carts incl mules. To be ready 20 Apr. 3791
18. Lt Col CHECCHIA
Info him of the situation in SICILY regarding handing over of Italian mil stores. The depot at GALTANISETTA is in the process of being handed over, and a staff officer of the Ministry is there at the moment making an inventory. He has already signalled that there are no tyres there. A/C
19. Gen MATIOLI
Gen LOMBARDI, group command TARANTO, has written that he is info from Allied sources that 200 Avieri will arrive there shortly for port lab. MATIOLI is NOT inid of this, and would like to know when they can be expected. 2 i/c
D:DL
20. Second bn for Brig HILARY:- It has been agreed between MATIOLI and 2 Dist that the second bn of 1200 men will be taken from TARANTO and BRINDISI. MATIOLI now wants to know what proportion of this strength he is to take from each port. D:DL
21. Removal of Avieri from port lab:- Col SL'DR has info MATIOLI, command having had it from Col GORDON SMITH, who heard it by phone from Col PERMAN, that Brig HILARY and DUCHESNE have agreed that all 1600 Avieri in BRINDISI are to leave shortly for unknown destination;

LIAISON WITH G M R E

27 Mar 44

Gen SOLDARELLI

1. Collected details for booking seat in plane and warned him to be ready to move at short notice. Mov

Gen BRUNETTI

2. Personnel of 212 Div NOT accounted for:- reminded him that we are still awaiting an explanation; XXXI Corps to be chased for reply to SMRS signal. G

3. Est of pack bty for combat div:- they are unable to account for the numbers in the HQ tp, and are fetching in the adjt of the bty this afternoon to supply the infm. 2 i/c
G ii

Maj D'ANTONA

4. Pack Gp HQ, serial 1053:- infd him no objection to the inclusion of two additional officers and one NCO. Location of unit: NOVOLI; query - arrangements for tpt to SESSA as travel by civilian trains is NOT practicable. G ii

Lt Col GUIDA

5. Collected breakdown of ests of inf units for PICENO and MINIOVA divs; similar infm for other arms and services to be available to-morrow. G i (L) Cal.

Lt Col CHECCHIA

6. Request for toilet items for tps working for Allies:- Investigated their request and basis of calculation. A/Q

Lt Col QUERCIA

7. Boots for PICENO Div:- as far as they are aware all boots authorised have been issued, and there are ample stocks left to provide the 7000 pairs for above fmn. Although this fmn is NOT working for the Allies, it is replacing allied tps on internal security and has the task of tps for eventual combat, and on this basis should qualify for boots. 2 i/c
A/Q

3790

4. Back up HQ, serial 1053:- inid has no objection to the inclusion of two additional ofirs and one NCO. Location of unit: NOVOLI; query - arrange ments for tpt to SESSA as travel by civilian trains is NOT practicable.

Lt Col GUIDA

5. Collected breakdown of eets of inf units for PICENO and MANTOVA aivs; similar info for other arms and services to be available to-morrow.

Gi(L) Col.

Lt Col CHICCHIA

6. Request for toilet items for tps working for Allies:- Investigated their request and basis of calculation.

A/Q

Lt Col QUERCIA

7. Boots for PICENO Div:- as far as they are aware all boots authorised have been issued, and there are ample stocks left to provide the 7000 pairs for above fun. Although this fun is NOT working for the Allies, it is replacing allied tps on internal security and has the task of tpe for eventual combat, and on this basis should qualify for boots.

2 i/c
A/Q

8.

8. A request for authority to release spares for the MT Pl of the SMRE has been sent in by the Ministry. Can our approval be given as/ soonas possible please.

A/Q

3790

LIAISON WITH SMRE

26 Mar 44

Capt DELLA CORNA

1. 211 Vet Hosp: departed 24 Mar

G ii

Lt Col GUIN

2. Dry/iving School, POLIGNANO:- warned him that number of Italian instructors had been increased to 50. He is doubtful whether this number of capable instructors can be found. Maj LITRO of the SMRE MT branch is visiting the IX Dvr Regt Depot to-morrow and will find as many as he can.

G ii

3. Guard coys for sup trains:- gave him a rough idea of our requirements to enable him to work out an est for discussion. He will try and work in at least a proportion of GCRH. They will need further info about the volume of traffic in different areas before they can decide on how the unit is to work.

G i

Lt Col VILBERTINI

4. 372 BN BARLETTA:- Info him that this unit was to remain where it was; consequently units alerted for serial 1083 will now serve for 1064. 72 Bn at BUNDISI, which was going to complete 372, will now be diverted to port lab, thus releasing 541 Arty Regt for serial 1064. 541 appears to be engaged on port lab at the moment, and without its substitution by 72 Bn, the lab people refuse to let it go.

G ii

5. 551 AA Bty(Marine) BUNDISI:- they are waiting to hear from Comando Supremo about the release of this unit, which is at present under comd Italian Navy. Reputed to be no longer serving useful purpose.

2 i/c
G

Lt Col CHECCHIA

6. Boots for PICENO Div:- there may be a misunderstanding about issue of boots, as he says they have issued all the boots that have been authorised. Have promised to go into the matter again with him.

comd
A/Q

7. Italian Mil stores in SARDINIA:- info him we are looking into the matter and will advise soon later. Regarding SICILY, he is info from Italian sources that Col. VILBERTINI is

378
i/c
A/Q

on how the unit is to work.

4. Lt Col WILLIAMINI G ii
372 BN BARLETTA:- Infd him that this unit was to remain where it was; consequently units alerted for serial 1063 will now serve for 1064. 72 Bn at BIANCHI, which was going to complete 372, will now be diverted to port lab, thus releasing 541 Arty Bn for serial 1064. 541 appears to be engaged on port lab at the moment, and without its substitution by 72 Bn, the lab people refuse to let it go.
5. 551 Lt Bty (Marine) BIANCHI:- they are waiting to hear from Comando Supremo about the release of this unit, which is at present under comd Italian Navy. Reputed to be no longer serving useful purpose. 2 i/c
G
6. Lt Col CHIOCCI comd
A/Q
Boots for PICENO Div:- there may be a misunderstanding about issue of boots, as he says they have issued all the boots that have been authorised. Have promised to go into the matter again with him.
7. Italian Mil stores in SARDINIA:- infd him we are looking into the matter and will advise soon later. Regarding SICILY, he is infd from Italian sources that Col ZELLORS has commenced to reissue stores to the Italian authorities in the island, and to place mil installations, depots etc at their disposal. 37 i/c
A/Q
8. Lt Col WILLIAMINI comd
2 i/c
Statement on Italian Army for Washington:- examination of our figures with him and Maj MAIOCCI. Cleared up certain queries resulting from units being incl under two headings in our state. Their counter-proposals should be ready by this evening. BERARDI planning to go to SALERNO to-morrow.
9. Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI G ii
Ann required from SARDINIA for Mot Bae(ref letter XX 7 Mar from Comando Supremo):- he will have the figures relating to present availability by this afternoon, and will bring them round himself.
10. Gen BRUNETTI and Gen OLLI 2 i/c
First contact with the latter, who is definitely taking over as Deputy Chief of Staff. BRUNETTI will remain at BERARDI's disposal for duties unspecified.

LIAISON WITH SARE

25 Mar 44

Gen MATTEOLI

1. With DADL in connection with fun of lab bns for army areas. Matteoli will write in about proposed designations and suggesting modified est of four coys per bn in place of the six coys at present envisaged.

2 i/c
DADL

2. Boots and clothing for naval personnel on port lab:- Admiral DAKETTI had called on Matteoli the day before requesting his help in obtaining boots for 300 sailors on port lab, also clothing (uniforms of any kind) for same purpose. Comd NUCCI, Navy LO with SMRE, was called in and it was explained to him that this was a matter for Navy Sub-commission. Nevertheless, action on our part is desirable to hasten release of boots etc, in the interests of port lab situation.

comd
2 i/c
DADL
A/Q

3. Naval war personnel from NILES for port lab:- approx 350 sailors have arrived at TARANTO and are located at MARUGGIO (Q0327). These are part of the 1500 to relieve four docks operating coys. As DADL requires personnel at BRINDISI immediately, comd NUCCI was asked to see that this contingent was directed there forthwith. He said the men were being fitted out and that a weeding-out process was in progress to eliminate "unsuitable elements". Query: do we want this done?

2 i/c
DADL
G i(L)

Gen BRUNETTI

4. 800 other cadets with Mot Bae due for promotion: Requested him to put us into the picture before any action was taken. Explained that 8 Army would have to be infd, and we should also have to consider the implications of removing 800 replacements from the available man-power for Allied programme. He will write.

2 i/c
G

5. Bn for PALERMO:- Told him we must have the required details forthwith. These were communicated to us by phone in the afternoon: 1 Bn 518 Regt ready to leave REGGIO 31 Mar.

3788

2 i/c

6. Strength of Mot Bae:- they appreciate the difficulty of the situation. The only way out they can see is to

2 i/c

the interests of port lab situation.

2 i/c
DALL
G 1(L)

3. Naval ~~xxx~~ personnel from NAPLES for port lab:- approx 350 sailors have arrived at TARANTO and are located at MARUGGIO (Q0397). These are part of the 1500 to relieve four docks operating coys. As DALL requires personnel at BRINDISI immediately, comd NUCCI was asked to see that this contingent was directed there forthwith. He said the men were being fitted out and that a sequencing -out process was in progress to eliminate "unsuitable elements". Query: do we want this done?

No. 4

Gen BRUNETTI:

2 i/c
G

4. 800 air cadets with Mot Bde due for promotion: Requested him to put us into the picture before any action was taken. Explained that 8 Army would have to be infd, and we should also have to consider the implications of removing 800 replacements from the available man-power for Allied programme. He will write.

3788

2 i/c

5. Bn for PALERMO:- Told him we must have the required details forthwith. These were communicated to us by phone in the afternoon: I Bn 518 Regt ready to leave REGGIO 31 Mar.

2 i/c

6. Strength of Mot Bde:- they appreciate the difficulty of the situation. The only way out they can see is to allow units to retain present strengths until arrival of N/AMBO and conc of complete div, when they would reduce units to est on TO, utilizing remainder to form rft camp. Long discussion with BRUNETTI, incl arty situation. Told him 2 i/c would be calling to discuss probably 26 Mar.

clawman

[Signature]

LIAISON WITH SMRE

24 Mar 44

Lt Col GUIDA

1. Italian personnel for POLIGNANO:- he estimates that all instructors will be found by month-end. They are to proceed to POLIGNANO as they are found, and NOT wait until the est is complete.

G 11

2. The 200 avrs borrowed from Mot Bae by 5 Army have NOT been returned. They want to know whether they can really expect them back in due course, or whether they will count as a div unit against the programme.

G

Lt Col ALCIA

3. Italian Mil stores in SARDINIA:- these are being drawn on by local Allied authorities. Is it intended that this should be done without any ref to SMRE or the Mission? What is the position in Sicily in this connection, now that a Corps HQ has been set up there?

2 i/c
A/Q

4. 60 vehs for Italian units:- they had selected two divs in Campania this time, so are having another shot.

G i

Maj D'ANTONA

5. Serial 1054:- The two coys will be formed at SPEZZANO ALBANESE to be ready about 15 Apr. Mules to be made available in CALABRIA now total 339 - this figure to be made up to 400 so that both coys will be complete with animals.

2 i/c
G
DADL

6. Serial 1053:- personnel selected for the Pack Tpt Gp HQ included a Lt Col and Capt Adj; they will now try and line up the or's. with the est we have now produced. Tpt required on the est will NOT be available. *Call inform Plumbo*

G

7. Mot Bae:- long discussion on the strength of the arty, which brought up the whole question of strength of all units in the combat div. This is being reported verbally.

3787/c

Gen BRUNETTI

8. Air Force Bn for combat div:- this originated with the Comando Supremo, whom they are contacting to ascertain

2 i/c

4. 60 vehs for Italian units:- they had selected two divs in Campania this time, so are having another shot. G i
5. Maj D'ANTONA
Serial 1054:- The two coys will be formed at SEZZANO ALBAESE to be ready about 15 Apr. Mules to be made available in CALABRIA now total 332 - this figure to be made up to 400 so that both coys will be complete with animals. 2 i/c
G
DADL
6. Serial 1053:- personnel selected for the Pack Tpt Cp HQ included a Lt Col and Capt Adjut; they will now try and line up the or's, with the est we have now produced. Tpt required on the est will NOT be available. *cy. inform* G
3784/c
7. Mot Bde:- long discussion on the strength of the arty, which brought up the whole question of strength of all units in the combat div. This is being reported verbally.
8. Gen BRUNETTI
Air Force Bn for combat div:- this originated with the Comando Supremo, whom they are contacting to ascertain whether Air Force Sub-commission is in the know. Present posn is that est of the bn is being approved and expt provided, partly from Army sources. They will be sending official notification shortly. Strength about 1000 2 i/c
9. Bn of All Div for PALLINO:- personnel is ready but NOT fully clothed. They had to send by road to BARI and LECCE to collect the stores they needed. Location REGGIO. They are getting strength figures for us. 2 i/c
10. Comb-out of depots:- in the process the Ministry have discovered personnel working unofficially for the Allies in several depots. They will be submitting a list. comd
2 i/c
G
11. Col PALLAVICINO
Arranged that Maj HALL would call on BERNARDI on his return to Lequile.
12. Maj D'ANTONA
Officer cadets with Mot Bde:- About 800 cadets have been serving with the combat unit awaiting their commission. It has now been decided that they are to be commissioned in the near future. 2 i/c

LIAISON WITH SMRE

21 Mar 44

Lt Col PIZZONATI

1. Communicated contents of Distwo sig SDL/229 and requested him to arrange for move of 12 ofirs and 425 ors of 408 Inf Regt from BARLETTA to BARI

G

DADL

Lt Col DI BIONTO

2. Serial 1025:- SMRE info by Sardinia that 1/2 of the eight id hosps awaiting shipment, two are required to be detained there for meeting local needs and are actually functioning at the moment.

G ii

Lt Col ALOTA

3. Requested him to nominate 60 vehs exactly as indicated in our letter, i.e. from units with allied fms.

G i

Cap BRUNI

4. Pay of Line Tele Coys:- he is awaiting instrs from Ministry awarding additional pay - he has been told they will be forthcoming shortly.

SO Sig

Capt RAIMONDI

5. Courier service CROTONE - TARANTO:- left message for Capt VINCI that couriers are to call at Crotone RTO irrespective of the time of night.

SO Sig

Maj LUNARDONI

6. Told him we would be seeing about the mules at BARI. He will ~~will~~ let us have as soon as possible exact figures of mules available in each of the corps.

G ii

DADL

7. Parriers:- he will let me have locations of the available parriers to-morrow.

Maj PINNA

8. Bn of 211 Div for PALERMO:- COMONATI has signalled that he has the matter in hand. Requested PINNA to signal immediately for details for tpt, which he did while I was there.

3786

2 i/c

Gen BUNNETT

Cap BRUNI

4. Pay of Line Tele Coys:- he is awaiting instrs from Ministry SO Sigs
awarding additional pay - he has been told they will be
forthcoming shortly.

Capt RAIMONDI

5. Courier service CROTONE - TARANTO:- left message for Capt SO Sigs
VINCI that couriers are to call at Crotone RTO irrespective
of the time of night.

Maj LUNARDONI

6. Told him we would be seeing about the mules at BARI. He will G 11
~~will~~ let us have as soon as possible exact figures of mules DADL
available in each of the corps.

7. Carriers:- he will let me have locations of the available
carriers to-morrow.

8. Maj PINNA

- Bn of 211 Div for PALERMO:- CO COMATI has signalled that he 3786
has the matter in hand. Requested PINNA to signal immediately 2 1/c
for details for tpt, which he did while I was there.

Gen BUNETTI

9. Distribution of eqpt and clothing to new units:- Discussed 2 1/c
at some length the present procedure; he fully agrees with
the picture as we see it and appreciates our pt. The main
difficulty is the need for conserving their remaining
stocks and watching distribution closely. He will investigate
the matter thoroughly and see if our suggestion can be put
into operation.

10. Allied arty and WT sets for PICENO and MANTOVA divs:- touched comd
on this and infd him that ~~xxx~~ it was premature to raise these 2 1/c
matters just yet.

Gen MATTEOLI

11. Lab bns ordered by Brig HILARY:- he is anxious to have our firm comd
order, as he has been infd by Col MOCCIA that Col SLADE has
stated that the men are NOT to come from the BARI pool. This
is in direct contrast with Brig HILARY's intentions. DADL

12. Two coys loaned to 809 Engr Aviation Bn:- following the move G 11
of 408 Inf Regt from BARLETTA to BARI (see above) it becomes
necessary to recall the two coys to the BARLETTA lab pool.
He anticipates difficulties on the part of the Aviation Bn. DADL

LIAISON WITH SMRE

20 Mar 44

Gen MATIOLI

1. With DADL to discuss infm of lab bns out of 2 Dist lab pool. G

Maj MAIOCCHI

2. In connection with revised strength returns required by G office. Investigated differences in figures on ration state of War Ministry and corresponding figures on SMRE returns. In particular 212 Div. Ministry had included some corps tps under cmd. He will let us have complete reconciliation for this unit later in the day. 2 i/c G

3. For general infm, sources of SMRE and War Ministry figures are the same, i.e. returns sent in by the corps every ten days, copy to Stato Maggiore and copy to Ministry. The Ministry has to collate the figures and get them to the Mission within four days. This means that details for XXXI Corps, and the islands may refer to the previous ten-day period. On the other hand, SMRE tables are sent in after 10 days, and previous 10-day figures from all sources are included, plus any additional late infm which may have come to hand independently of ten-day returns. Such differences are noted in the margin. G A/A
- The new arrangement we have requested from MAIOCCHI will give us end-of-the-month figures for the 15th, and 20th of-the-month for the 30th.

Lt Col MILLEPPIORINI

4. Specialist units in SARDINIA:- have asked him to confirm officially the units nominated from Sardinia, ref ppx A. Ref their letter 17 inst, 13th Cp Artieri d'arresto is NOT the same as 13 Artieri Coy. Units offered in the above letter are over and above needs of the island. Infd him that these units need NOT be kept hanging about waiting to be shipped, but placed at disposal of Sardinian cmd temporarily, at short notice to move. G 11

Lt Col GUIDA

3785

days, copy to Stato Maggiore and copy to Ministry. The Ministry has to collate the figures and get them to the Mission within four days. This means that details for XXXI Corps, and the islands may refer to the previous ten-day period. On the other hand, SMRE tables are sent in after 10 days, and previous 10-day figures from all sources are included, plus any additional late info which may have come to hand independently of ten-day returns. Such differences are noted in the margin. The new arrangement we have requested from MAIOCCI will give us end-of-the-month figures for the 15th, and 20th of-the-month for the 30th.

Lt Col MILLERFORINI

Specialist units in SARDINIA:- have asked him to confirm officially the units nominated from Sardinia, ref ppx A. Ref their letter 17 inst, 13th Cp Artieri d'arresto is NOT the same as 13 Artieri Coy. Units offered in the above letter are over and above needs of the island. Info him that these units need NOT be kept hanging about waiting to be shipped, but placed at disposal of Sardinian command temporarily, at short notice to move.

G 11

3785

Lt Col GUIDA

212 Vet Hosp:- will be formed 25 Mar.

G 11

Maj LUNARDINI

Barriers:- NOT more than four will be required for units in the programme, and he is anxious to have the others employed, now that they have been alerted. He asks that we arrange to have the balance sent to X Corps, or otherwise employed. *yes, sending as they please.*

G 11

7.

Mules for Pack Units:- about 100 emaciated mules are available at the Centro Raccolta Quacrupedi BARI. With the proper feeding for 4/5 weeks they will be suitable for emp with pack units. It is suggested someone views them with a view to allowing extra forage.

G 11
DADL

Lt Col MILLERFORINI

As far as he knows, Maj VERONI will only be going to NAPLES at the end of the month.

SORE

*Tell Capt Thompson
inspect and report on*

Y. L. J. J. J.

785020

21 Mar 44 ... contd

13. Maj MATIOCCHI and Lt Col LANDOLFI (Ministry)
General discussion on strength returns, with the object
of obtaining uniformity. A plan was considered for
discussion with the Mission. The following key facts
emerged:-
Time lag for the returns to reach LECCE from the corps:
- IX Corps three days (with reserve for 209 div)
- LI " three days
- XXXI " seven/ eight days or longer
- CAMPANIA six/seven days (these incl 210 div, various
pack units and Mot Bde)
- XII Corps (Sicily) 10 days
- Sardinia ten days or more.
Above are on present form, but it would appear doubtful
whether the first two can be accelerated to any appreciable
extent.
14. Firing range nr LECCE:- the Lecce range itself is NOT
suited for IMCs. The nearest suitable range is at
TORRE VENERI (on coast just NORTH of S. CATALDO). It
is suggested that the unit concerned should approach
Presidio Militare, Caserma ORONZO MASSA (nr market) LECCE,
and arrange details for when required.
15. Maj D'ANTONA
Serial 1053:- 2 offrs and 6 men have been alerted for
22 Mar c/o LI Corps. Designation: 20° ~~XXXXXX~~ Comando
Gruppo Salmerie.
16. Units for the programme:- collected table giving total
of 154 offrs and 4081 men. Serial 1054 has been
omitted, as they are reckoning on producing the mules
for at least one pack coy and perhaps two. They are
awaiting the mule figures - personnel is already
examined.

comd
2 i/c
A/Q
G

G ii

G ii

G

3784

14. G 11

Firing range nr LECCE:- the Lecce range itself is NOT suited for IMCs. The nearest suitable range is at TORRE VENERI (on coast just NORTH of S. CATALDO). It is suggested that the unit concerned should approach Presidio Militare, Caserma ORONZO MASSA (nr market) LECCE, and arrange details for when required.

15. G 11

Maj D'ANTONA
Serial 1053:- 2 officers and 6 men have been alerted for 22 Mar c/o LI Corps. Designation: 20° XXXXX Comando Gruppo Salmerie.

16. G

Units for the programme:- collected table giving total of 154 officers and 4081 men. Serial 1054 has been omitted, as they are reckoning on producing the mules for at least one pack coy and perhaps two. They are awaiting the mule figures - personnel is already earmarked.

3784

*Chamman
capt*

Above are on present form, but it would appear doubtful whether the first two can be accelerated to any appreciable extent.

LIAISON WITH SMRE

19 Mar 44

Col PALLAVICINO

1. Handed him first three numbers of "Il Mese" for which he was duly grateful. He proposes circulating them in the Stato Maggiore. Can he have this paper regularly in future?

Giii(I)

2. He wanted to know whether the comd had gone to Sardinia. Told him the comd would be coming to see BERARDI in the next day or two.

Gen MATTIOLI

3. As the result of the Naples conference, he has been asked by Brig HILARY to prepare twelve bns, each 200 strong, total 2400 men from lab pool in APULIA (Taranto 200 ~~XXXXXX~~ Bari 2200), for transfer to WEST side for lab in zone of ops. Understood move to take place about 5 Apr. Would like our confirmation earliest, as units to go have to be made up from picked personnel.

comd
2 i/c
G

Lt Col ALCIA (SD Servizi)

4. This ofir joined SMRE last week and has been placed under Lt Col CHECCIA. He crossed the lines near CASSINO on XX 11 Feb, on his third attempt, having previously been in hiding in Rome. Was formerly on the General Staff in Rome in same posn he now occupies.

General

5. 60 Italian ^{vehs} it is hoped to replace with British vehs:- To simplify matters they would prefer making the exchange en bloc with vehs of the Motor Bde.

G i

6. 921 and 923 Reparti Portuali:- positively no vehs available, so they will issue mule and cart to each unit.

G ii
SORE

Lt Col GALLO

7. WT sets for Mantova and Piceno divs:- would like to know whether we shall be sanctioning issue of sets to these two divs.

3783
2 i/c

SO Sig

Life went on

4. Lt Col ALDIA (SD Servizi)
This unit joined SMRE last week and has been placed under Lt Col CHECCHIA. He crossed the lines near CASSINO on XX 11 Feb, on his third attempt, having previously been in hiding in Rome. Was formerly on the General Staff in Rome in same post he now occupies.
General
5. 60 Italian it is hoped to replace with British vehs:-
To simplify matters they would prefer making the exchange en bloc with vehs of the Motor Bde.
G 1
SO RE
6. 921 and 923 Reparti Portuali:- positively no vehs available, so they will issue mule and cart to each unit.
G 1
SO RE
7. Lt Col GALLO
WT set for Mantova and Piceno divs:- would like to know whether we shall be sanctioning issue of sets to these two units.
3783
2 i/c
SO SIGS
File under way
8. Gen BERARDI
Ran into him outside his office. Asked about visit to SARDINIA and said he would like to accompany the comd. Told him the comd would be along to see him in the next day or two. He asked how was the comb-out of personnel for the programme going - he understood the War Ministry was making good progress.
comd
9. Lt Col GUIDA
Driving instructors for POLIGNANO:- in accordance with minutes of meeting at ST offices 2 Dist 13 Mar, SMRE have requested War Ministry to produce Italian personnel for the driving school, as detailed in para 10 of the minutes. Ministry IO to follow please.
G 1

LIAISON WITH SMRE

18 Mar 44

Maj PINNA

1. Arty from allied sources:- one gathers that they are firmly of the opinion at the Stato Maggiore that arty from Allied sources is just round the corner, and the communication of any infm to the contrary will have to be carefully handled.

comd
2 i/c

Lt Col CHECCHIA

2. 60 Italian Vehs to be replaced by British vehs:- handed him our request of to-day's date. He will try and let me have to-morrow the details requested in para 1.

Gi

Maj D'ANTONA

3. He is dealing in detail with men and units for the allied programme. Inf'd him that next serial that required his attention was 1055 - the dvrs will be obtained from the 100 men exchanged from port lab pool and possibly 60 partially trained at the BARI driving centre.

G

4. Serial 1053:- they propose sending rather more than the two ofrs specified, in order to have a self-contained adm centre. The matter is having immediate attention.

Gi

Lt Col CHECCHIA

5. Still awaiting our authority for issue of WT sets for Pack Bty destined for Mot Bde. This unit has been readied for 20 inst, so can we please give required authority.

SO Sigs

UFFICIO OPERAZIONI - Segreteria

6. Courier service TARANTO - CROTONE:- Requested them to arrange this forthwith, written confirmation to follow.

SO Sigs

Lt Col MILLEFIONINI

7. FRIAGLIA MARIO ex Italian Radio-interceptec:- he will write to the hospital at BISCEGLIE and find out if this man is officially considered in a fit state to resume duties, in which case there should be no difficulty in

SO Sigs

3782

C ti

SO Sigs

4. Serial 1053:- they propose sending rather more than the two ofirs specified, in order to have a self-contained adm centre. The matter is having immediate attention.

Lt Col CHECCHIA

5. Still awaiting our authority for issue of WT sets for Pack Bty destined for Mot Bde. This unit has been readied for 20 inst, so can we please give required authority.

UFFICIO OPERAZIONI - Segreteria

SO Sigs

6. Courier service TARANTO - CROTONE:- Requested them to arrange this forthwith, written confirmation to follow.

Lt Col MILLEPICHINI

SO Sigs

7. FRINGLIA MARIO ex Italian Radio-interceptsec:- he will write to the hospital at BISCONE and find out if this man is officially considered in a fit state to resume duties, in which case there should be no difficulty in posting him to the 810 Radiocentrolo Pl.

3782

4/4

LIAISON WITH SMRE

17 Mar 44

Lt Col SANPO

1. BAFILEBn:- requested details for rail move in respect of 32 ofirs and 811 men. Warned him NOT to take this as definite decision that the bn will move. G

2. 300 rfts ex SICILY for NAPLES:- nothing is known of these men at the SMRE. G

3. Collecting posts for Italian tps in army areas:- SANPO is going to CAMPANIA to-morrow and will call on Bri Gen HUMS. G

Gen BRUNETTI

4. Allied arty for Mantova and Piceno divs:- Anticipating that at some future date allied guns may be supplied to these two divs, BRUNETTI wants to save time by producing now some abbreviated instrs in Italian on the working of the guns and other relevant data. He asked me to put it up and let him know what the answer is likely to be, as if it is negative it will save him writing in about it. comd 2 i/c Ord.

Lt Col PIZZONIA

5. Fall in strength of port lab at TARANTO between 8 and 15 Mar:- according to their daily returns there has been no reduction either in the "forza presente" or "forza disponibile" Gi(I)

Lt Col CHECCHIA

6. Mules for serial 1054:- a comb-out of depots in CALABRIA will produce 130-150 mules, and a similar effort in APULIA should bring the numbers up to the strength for one pack coy. For the other they could only suggest SICILY, where it is reputed that there are large numbers of fine mules, some of which illegally held by farmers. His infm is that there are no surplus mules in MANTOVA and PICENO divs; 212 div took all theirs with them to CAMPANIA G

7. Sups and amm for Italian tps in MONTENEGRO:- SMRE have current and future programmes which depend on air tpt provided by ALBES1 sources. These programmes are based on requests received from Italian HQ in Montenegro by radio, and are worked out indepen-

comd 2 i/c Ord.

abbreviated initials in Italian on the working of the guns and other relevant data. He asked me to put it up and let him know what the answer is likely to be, as if it is negative it will save him writing in about it.

5. Lt Col PIZZONIA
Fall in strength of port lab at TARANTO between 8 and 15 Mar:- Gi(L)
according to their daily returns there has been no reduction either in the "forza presente" or "forza disponibile"

6. Lt Col CHECCHIA
Mules for serial 1054:- a comb-out of depots in CALABRIA will produce 130-150 mules, and a similar effort in APULIA should bring the numbers up to the strength for one pack coy. For the other they could only suggest SIMEY, where it is reputed that there are large numbers of fine mules, some of which illegally held by farmers. His info is that there are no surplus mules in MANTOVA and PIERVO gives; 212 div took all theirs with them to CAMPANIA

7. Sups and amm for Italian tps in MONTENEGRO:- SMRE have current and future programmes which depend on air rpt provided by AL361 sources. These programmes are based on requests received from Italian HQ in Montenegro by radio, and are worked out independently of Force 133. There would appear to be no liaison between the latter and Stato Maggiore. SMRE know that sups dropped are collected by partisans and shared with Italian forces. Their problem is that future programme entails employment of more planes and they query through whom it should be arranged. Future programme is said to be based on Italian arms and amm, and food which they hope to obtain from Allied sources.

8. Lt Col CANNONE
921 & 923 Comp Portuali:- these two coys were ready to move 15 Mar, but are still short of the truck each which are to be supplied from Allied sources. *No Gt. but have money to give yet and will help SMRE to provide* SORE

9. Capt DELLA CORNA
Rfts for 7 Mountain Regt:- 122 men will be ready to move 22 inst. G ii

10. Lt Col GUIDA
Rfts for 1001 CT Coy:- 1 Lt, 4 NCO's, 46 otrs moved POLIGNANO to PALO DEL COLLE 16 Mar. G ii

785020

LIAISON WITH SMRE

16 Mar 44

Gen BERARDI

With 2 i/c in connection with MANTOVA Div and its emp in CALABRIA on L of C duties. Clarified previous days discussion.

2 i/c

Gen BRUNETTI

Acen in BARI for 2 Region:- inid him of signal on its way to BERARDI proposing exchange of acen of 2 Region and IX Corps. Queried possibility of utilizing building presently occupied in BARI by GCR. He passed info on to BERARDI straight away. See below.

comd

Lt Col SANPO

He inid me by phone in the afternoon that acen for 2 Region would be dealt with by War Ministry, and that our sig had been passed on to the Ministry forthwith. LO with Ministry to please follow. *(spelt signature)!!*

comd
A/Q

Lt Col CHECCHIA

Tpt for 905 Lav Art Coy:- requested him to try and lay on one truck for this unit. He phoned War Ministry and later advised that there were none available. Instead, he will arrange for one animal and cart to be supplied.

SORE

5. Lt Col CHECCHIA and Maj LUNERDONI:-

Mules for two pack tpt coys, serial 1054:- they are to reexamine the whole question from three angles,

2 i/c
G

- animals loaned to farmers (incl FOGGIA area), though they think these are horses only,
- animals dying from hunger in CALABRIA, incl animals surplus to present needs of 212 Div,
- animals surplus to proposed ests of MANTOVA and PICENO divs; present strength is about 1000 animals more than they should need.

Lt Col MILLERIORINI

6. Handed back their rough draft of proposed units for the programme with our approval. Requested them to furnish

3780
2 i/c

A/Q
SORE

4. Lt Col CHECCHIA
Tpt for 905 Lav Art Coy:- requested him to try and lay on one truck for this unit. He phoned War Ministry and later advised that there were none available. Instead, he will arrange for one animal and cart to be supplied.

5. Lt Col CHECCHIA and Maj LUNARDONI:-
Mules for two pack tpt coys, serial 1054:- they are to reexamine the whole question from three angles,
- animals loaned to farmers (incl FOGGIA area), though they think these are horses only,
- animals dying from hunger in CALABRIA, incl animals surplus to present needs of 212 Div,
- animals surplus to proposed ests of NANTOVA and PICENO divs; present strength is about 1000 animals more than they should need.

2 i/c
G

Lt Col MILLEFIONINI

6. Handed back their rough draft of proposed units for the programme with our approval. Requested them to furnish us with copy of their figures.

3780
2 i/c
G

7. BRINDISI Gren:- the break-down of 1000 men approx who have appeared on recent returns is as follows:-
551 AA Antybtly (marine arty) 3 ofrs 370 men, present emp NOT certain - they will inform us later to-day
185 Arty Bty, 27 ofrs 369 men, the majority have gone to LI Corps to supplement PICENO arty, leaving only a few men to guard the pieces at BRINDISI
72 bn, 22 ofrs, 224 men to BARLETTA to complete 372 Bn for serial 1064

2 i/c
G

8. 212 div:- they have signalled to BASSO and CALABRIA to ascertain just how many men moved to CAMPANIA. Asked them to find out how many men of the div actually remained in CALABRIA. Told them that COCONATI had made the div up to strength by taking 500 men from the depots - this inform per Ministry LO

G

clean main
ent

LIAISON WITH SMRE

14 Mar 44

LT COL MILLETTICINI

1. PoBakery for Mt Ede:- their request is held up for the moment pending further enquiries. They have written to the one explaining that all such requests must be made through FF AA Campania and 5 Army. G ii

2. Personnel from depots and districts for the programme:- A letter was sent this morning to the Ministry giving details of how men are to be provided from these two sources, exactly as required by us. BERARDI supported this request with a personal request over the phone to the Minister. It is suggested that our LO with the Ministry follow it up. 2 i/c

3. Serial 1075:- info him that this item can be delayed from the programme. G ii

4. Dvrs from driving schools in CALABRIA and APULIA:- Requested him to find out the up-to-date posn, as the first course should be finishing in a week or two. G ii

5. Trained dvrs to be made available from Autieri Ref:- Ref their decision to make available for the programme 600 men from the Autieri regts, requested him to inform us how many of these would be trained. He thought very few, but would find out. This with particular ref to serial 1012A. G ii

6. 212 Vet Hosp:- BASSO has replied that he cannot have the 89 men ready by the 15th - SMRE will have them ready as soon as possible after this date. G ii

7. XIII Artieri Bn:- SMRE recd confirmation to-day that this unit moves II inst. G ii
SCORE

8. Serial 1025:- they want to know who alerted the eight id hosps, also
Serial 1012:- what is No13 - ex SARDINIA. 3779 G

9. 50 dvrs requested for AOC through War Ministry:- can they have a reply to their 2549/Mob of 5 Mar. G

3. Serial 1015:- This unit that this item can be moved from the programme. G 11
4. Dvrs from driving schools in CALABRIA and APULIA:- Requested him to find out the up-to-date posn, as the first course should be finishing in a week or two. G 11
5. Trained dvrs to be made available from Autieri Regt:- Ref their decision to make available for the programme 600 men from the Autieri regts, requested him to inform us how many of these would be trained. He thought very few, but would find out. This with particular ref to serial 1012A. G 11
6. 212 Vet Hosp:- BASSO has replied that he cannot have the 89 men ready on the 15th - SMRE will have them readied as soon as possible after this date. G 11
7. XXIII Artieri In:- SMRE recd confirmation to-day that this unit moved II inst. *QNR* G 11
SCORE
8. Serial 1025:- they want to know who alerted the eight id hosps, also G 11
9. Serial 1012:- what is No13 - ex SARDINIA. 3779 G
10. 50 dvrs requested for ACC through War Ministry:- can they have a reply to their 2543/Mob of 5 Mar. *sent* G 11
11. Rits for 1001 GT Coy:- Our S/6/12 of 11 Mar recd by SMRE 13 inst, translated version reached their SD branch this morning. They will see to the matter at once. G 11
12. Serial 1053:- they want to know exactly what is required here. *asked Fletcher* G 11
13. Gen BRUNETTI
Projected move to SALERNO:- A senior offr has gone to Salerno to recce accn for Stato Maggiore, and similarly an offr from War Ministry with same object. Their intention is to put the matter up to the Mission in the event of the project proving feasible. Would like the matter treated as confidential, as they do NOT want the rest of therstaff to know about it. G 11
14. Personnel for programme:- Requested him to let us have to-day or latest tomorrow details of complete units they are making available, also numbers coming out of transit camps, setting opposite in their letter the serials on the programme they propose filling with each unit. 2 1/2

clear copy

785020

LIAISON WITH G M R E

10 Mar 44

1. With G 11 to visit Alpini "Fiamante" Bn at CISTERNINO.

11 Mar 44

2. Gen BERARDI

With Comd and 2 1/c with ref to emp of 211 Div for allied programme.

3. With 21/c and G 11(tr) to discuss weapons and am for the three divs, est of rif unit for combatant div, incl its location and composition, and method of emp personnel made available on the mainland for the Allied programme, with particular ref to PRS.

12 Mar 44

Capt DELLA CORNA

4. 822 Telegraphisti Coy:- collected duplicate copy of nominal and emp rolls. SO SIGS

Capt FORNZA

5. 822 Telegraphisti Coy:- info him of change of plan for move of this unit, now to go by rail. Arrangements already in hands of Mov Flauto. SO SIGS

Lt Col MILITARELLI

6. Two additional Telegraphisti Coys:- requested him to org two further coys similar to the ones already supplied. He is to let me know to-morrow when we can expect to have them ready. G 11 SO SIGS

7. 96 Bn :- Ready to move 17 Mar; location POLLICIANO; strength: 24 officers, 800 orgs, 24 mules, 11 cars, 6 cycles, 10 tons stores. For serial 1004 G 11

8. Serials 1064 and 1083:- 372 Bn (BARIETTA) has been earmarked for the 1064 serial, and 541 Arty Regt for 1083. G 11

9. Serial 1051A:- in accordance with our insts 9 Mar, the two Vet Hqsps were ordered by sig 10 Mar, one from LI

3718

4. Capt DELLA CORNA
822 Telegraphisti Coy:- collected duplicate copy of nomi- SO Sigs
nal and capt rolls.
5. Capt FORNANZA
322 Telegraphisti Coy:- inid him of change of plan for SO Sigs
move of this unit, now to go by rail. Arrangements
already in hands of Mov Flanco.
6. Lt Col MILITARI CRINI G li
Two additional Telegraphisti Coys:- requested him to org
two further coys similar to the ones already supplied. SO Sigs
He is to let me know to-morrow when we can expect to
have them ready.
7. 96 Bn :- Ready to move 17 Mar; location POLIGNANO; G li
strength: 24 officers, 800 ORs, 24 mules, 11 carts, 6 cycles,
10 tons stores. For serial 1004
8. Serials 1064 and 1083:- 3/2 Bn (BARBETTA) has been ear- G li
marked for the 1004 serial, and 5th Arty Regt for 1083.
9. Serial 1051A:- in accordance with our inates 9 Mar, the
two Vet Hosps were ordered by sig 10 Mar, one from LI
Corps and one from CAMPANIA, both to be ready 15 Mar.
Former to consist of personnel drawn from 4 Vet Hosp
plus non-specialists, and the latter entirely of non-
specialists. They are getting through by phone to LI
Corps to ascertain when ready. 3478
10. Serial 1054: advised him that two coys still required G li
to be found on mainland. Main problem: they have no
mules. He will be writing to confirm.
11. Serial 1082: inid him that coys are required for Italian G li
arm services and are to be org on Italian etc. He asked
what about the embs.
12. AGMF programme:- inid him that immediate requirements were 2 i/c
for personnel from de ots, districts etc in vicinity of
CAMPANIA, and that we hoped to be advised immediately of
the first ops to be fetched. Difficulties arising at this
stage are that depots and districts are under control of
Ministry of War, therefore they were about to instruct the
Ministry to take action and indicating numbers of personnel

785020

12 Mar 44 - contd.

to be removed from each group, as agreed between SHRE and the Mission. The second point was that depots and districts near CAMPANIA are numerically small, and there appears to be little to be got from that area.

MILLER VERONI wants to know whether, to save time, Gen BASCO can ^{be} into touch direct with PBS when he has some men to be collected, in order to save ~~XXXX~~ signalling back and forth to the SHRE.

Lt Col CAMPANIA

13. Arm's Train:- he had just recd a report from the Italian military office at TARANTO which throws some light on the matter. Copy handed to G II

14. 1000 vehs for Italian army and civil authorities:- advised him that we thought there must be some mistake or misunderstanding. It might well be that the 200 vehs already handed over to IOCI and PBS of coys were the ones in question. He will refer the matter to War Ministry.

15. Maj VERONI: query raised by SORE:-

- 10 Coy Misto Ge 10 is in SICILY
- 35 Genio Coy (XXXX Corps) is a sig unit
- 110 Sapper Coy is already working for the Allies in CAMPANIA
- 311 Sapper Coy is still in abeyance - according to our latest advice.

Lt Col MILLER VERONI

16. Query:- are we going to let them have ests for the units required in the programme? Refers new types of units NOT previously issued.

17. Warriors for X Corps:- the only unit in the programme for which the 15 warriors provisionally earmarked

SORE

G II

G3477

Italian military office at PARMA which throws some light on the matter. Copy handed to G II

COMD

14. 1000 veks for Italian army and civil authorities:- advised him that we thought there must be some mistake or misunderstanding. It might well be that the 200 veks already handed over to IOOI and PRS of coys were the ones in question. He will review the matter to War Ministry.

SORE

15. Maj VERONI: query raised by SORE:-
- 10 Coy Misto G 10 is in SICILY
- 35 Genio Coy (XXVI Corps) is a sig unit
- 210 Sapper Coy is already working for the Allies in CAMPANIA
- 311 Sapper Coy is still in abeyance - according to our latest advice.

G II

16. Lt Col MILLEBRONINI
Query:- are we going to let them have ests for the units required in the programme? Refers new types of units NOT previously formed.

G3477

17. Barriers for X Corps:- the only unit in the programme for which the 15 barriers provisionally earmarked for X Corps could be used is serial 1051A - see above.

2.i/c

18. Gen BRUNETTI
Reported to him on discussion just had with MILLEBRONINI and he promised to give the matter his personal attention this afternoon. Raised the question of reinforcing the SD branch for dealing with the programme, since Millebroni appeared inundated with detail work and unable to give proper attention to main issues. Also suggested some kind of liaison with the corps, along the lines already arranged with Maj VERONI.

Jameson
capt

10 March 44

G.

- GIII (I)

$\frac{11}{3}$ ACP

G. 1

G 1
U. A. D. L.

50RE

A. H. Howard

Captain
G 3(I)

3776

LIAISON WITH 3 R R

3 Mar 44

Gen RAUCCI

1. Left message that RAUCCI could call any time today to say goodbye to the comd.

2. Inid RAUCCI of pro area visit to PIERVITA Alini Bn.

Gen MATTEOLI

3. Conveyed message from DADL Milan. Appointment in Naples for 1410 hrs 13 Mar. He will be leaving by rd 12 Mar. DADL

Lt Col SINGHETTI

4. Represented to him necessity of cutting out some of their urgent tot requests; brought about in most cases by lack of forest on the part of their planning staff. In this case some animals of the Piceno Div were to move to LEUCE and they discovered when the move was already on that there was no straw for them in the place. Hence frantic sige to the Mission to lay on up to the ~~XXXX~~ to prevent the animals starving. He fully agreed and will see these urgent requests are out soon in future. Staff Capt

Lt Col GUIDA

5. 637 Pwr Coy:- this unit appears in the latest strength return from the General Staff. As it could NOT be accounted for AQ during the analysis made the other way with MA IOTTI enquiries were made, and it now appears that it consists of specialized workshop personnel under British comd composed of Italian PWS. It has now left NAPLES "apparently" for 8 Army area. See log 8 Mar.

6. Is having a list prepared of all the units they have recuperated. Collected xxx reports have been given the series 500, and the relative bns N9 I. II, III.

Capt DELLA CO MA

350783

7. Nominal rolls of 822 Posacovi Coy:- he has a duplicate and is having a copy made, also of their 501.

of foresight on the part of their planning staff. In this case some animals of the Piceno Div were to move to LROCE and they discovered when the move was already on that there was no straw for them in the place. Hence frantic steps to the mission to lay on apt for the ~~XXXX~~ to prevent the animals starving. He fully agreed and will see these urgent requests are cut down in future.

Lt Col GUIDA

5. 537 Par Coy:- this unit appears in the latest strength return from the General Staff. As it could NOT be accounted for during the analysis made the other day with MARITIMI enquiries were made, and it now appears that it consists of specialised troop personnel under British command composed of Italian PMs. It has now left NAPLES "apparently" 10-8 Army area. See log 8 Mar.

6. Is having a list prepared of all the units they have renumbered. Coastal ~~xxx~~ units have been given the series 500, and the relative ones N9 I, II, III.

Capt DRILL CO NA

390733

7. Modified rolls of 822 Possevi Coy:- he has a duplicate and is having a copy made, also of their eqpt.

Lt Col MELLERIONI

8. Collected BARRACLOP's confirmation of the figures of personnel available on the mainland, as worked out with MARITIMI. MELLERIONI will be analysing these, and it is suggested that as soon as he has details showing when and where the personnel will be available we go over the programme together, to make sure that correct details have precedence.

Maj LIT O

9. CC 1001 ST Coy has already been replaced by Capt IOVINE Gius. CC 1002 ST Coy will be replaced to-morrow by Capt MARINI GIROLAMO ST Both are regular cifs.

Capt FORNZA

10. Can we hasten lot of forms authorised 19 Jan AQ/14/2 appx "C". They applied to FLAMCO the next day.

A/Q

comd
AQ

785020

LIAISON WITH SMRE

8 Mar 44

Lt Col SAMPO

1. Maps requested by SMRE for the purpose:- they would prefer to have maps of the CISTERNINO and MARURIA areas, where the Alpini are stationed.

G 111(I)

Gen MATIOLI

2. With DADL to discuss lab situation in CAMPANIA and MATIOLI's visit to NAPLES, which will be arranged to coincide with visit of Director of Lab. Meeting arranged for 13 Mar in NAPLES, at which DADL MATIA will also be present.

COMD

G 1(L)

DADL

Maj CARALDO NI

3. Handed him letter for translation, requesting removal of two NCOs from Radiocentro PL. This will be dealt with through Ordinamento.

SO Stas

4. Info him that there would be no objection to an offer being supplied as interpreter to assist CRO in interrogation of civilians. A good French speaker is being nominated.

G 11(Tra)

Name &

inform CRO.

Col PALMAVICINO

5. Berarducci arrived back the previous night, having seen MESSE yesterday and earlier visited the Mot Bos. 68 Regt and Arditi were inspected in the line and everything found under control. Relations with the French quite satisfactory. 67 Regt now out of the line with American corps. ~~Very~~ quite happy.

Gr. comd

3775

Lt Col GUIDA

6. ACC request for 50 dvrs:- this originated with Ministry of War 10 with ACC. Told them to hold fire for the moment.

G 11

7. "W" Pecece squadron:- letter coming in to the effect that this title now acceptable to SMRE. In addition to increase in est recently mooted, there is at least one other request going through for additional arms for this and/or allied

G

1/11/44

This request

manifest

through Ordinamento.

4. Info him that there would be no objection to an inf offer being supplied as interpreter to assist GHO in interrogation of civilians. A good French speaker is being nominated. *name & inform GHO.* *Gi (T-e)*

Col PALMAVINO

5. Berardi arrived back the previous night, having seen NESSE yesterday and earlier visited the 605 Regt and Argenti were inspected in the line and everything found under control. Relations with the French quite satisfactory. *67 Regt now out of the line with American corps. ~~67 Regt~~ come quite happy.* *3775*

Lt Col GUIDA

6. ACC request for 50 divs:- this ori. inited with Ministry of War LO with ACC. Told them to hold fire for the moment. *G ii*

7. "P" Recce squadron:- letter coming in to the effect that this little now acceptable to SMSE. In addition to increase in est recently noted, there is at least one other request for additional arms for this and/or allied units, bearing such names as "BANDA VOLONTARI TROILLO" and "BANDA DELIA MATELLA" Casualty list lost in from the latter incl about 30 between dead, missing and wounded. *G*
I think this request must come from 8 Army
Officially
Gr.
A/Q

Lt Col SIMONETTI

8. Nothing else known here about the draft of Italian PAs seen in transit in BAW. *ordered!*

785020

LIAISON WITH S M R E

7 Mar 44

Gen MARIOTTI

1. Handed him our letter in connection with personnel to be made available for programme. He is quite in agreement and will submit the scheme to BEARDI on his return this evening. He estimated that the production of the 20,000 should be completed within March. I got him to repeat this to BUNETTI.

comd
G 1

2. Corps HQ for SICILY:- MARIOTTI will send us a letter, probably to-morrow, giving the proposed date for his departure - about 14th inst. He will travel in his own car, accompanied by two or three others only. The rest of his staff will follow later. One Carabinieri officer has already gone ahead to see to accom.

comd

Gen BRUNETTI

3. Is already handling routine matters. Spent five minutes with him this morning to ensure we start off in step. He gave ample assurances of wholehearted co-operation. I particularly stressed need to keep the mission fully in the picture about their intentions, especially in the initial stages of any project.

comd

4. Staff office of the Mission visiting Italian units:- as a matter of form would prefer if the SMRE were warned of visits planned, even if only in very general terms. If visits made on the spur of the moment would like to be info just the same. Told him I thought there would be no difficulty over this, but would let him know definitely on return of 2 i/c.

2 i/c

Lt Col MILLETTORINI

5. Docks Operating Coys:- designation will be as follows:

- TARANTO	15 Mar	92I Reparto Portuale
	3I "	" "
- BRINDISI	15 "	" "
	3I "	" "

As they have a Major in comd they are unable to call them coys, so instead of ans it was suggested we compromise with "units"

SMRE

3772

3. Is already handling routine matters. Spent five minutes with him this morning to ensure we start off in step. He gave ample assurances of wholehearted co-operation. I particularly stressed need to keep the mission fully in the picture about ~~their~~ intentions, especially in the initial stages or any project.
4. Staff officers of the Mission visiting Italian units:- as a matter of form would prefer if the SMRE were warned of visits planned, even if only in very general terms. If visits made on the spur of the moment would like to be in a just the same. Told him I thought there would be no difficulty over this, but would let him know definitely on return of 2 i/c.

Lt Col MILLERINI

5. Docks Operations Coys:- designation will be as follows:

- TARANTO	15 Mar	321 Reparto Portuale
	31 "	922 "
- BRINDISI	15 "	923 "
	31 "	924 "

As they have a Major in comd they are unable to call them coys, so instead of bns it was suggested we compromise with "units"

6. Part of 209 Div NOT emp by allies:- discussed the figures shown in the latest strength state, with ref to availability for ACMF programme. He asserted that part of the 2800 men are actually already in the lab pool - will go into this again to-morrow with MAIOCCI. He proposes meeting serials IO04 and IO64 as follows:-

IO04: 96 Bn (POLIGNANO)
 IO64: 372 Bn now at BARLETTA. This bn is said to be on guard duties, but it is also suggested that their duties are very light and could be met by the local "presidio" tps. Query: can we ascertain poen and advise if this can be done?
 He proposes to build up the arty regt ~~from recruits~~ and utilise this for IO63, thus maintaining the identity of this arty regt with the ~~mix~~ 209 div.

Lt Col GUIDA

7. He showed me a letter from BADOLIO to ORLANDO (he will give me a copy to-morrow) advising that Gen MACFARLANE had announced that IO00 vehicles would be made available to the Italians, 800 to go to civil authorities and 200 for

SORE
 3772

2 i/c

1/4

comd

7 Mar 44 contd.

Italian army MT pool. They are organizing the latter into two coys, each with about 180 personnel, of which 125 avrs.

8. They are establishing a map-making branch at the SURE, organ from suitable personnel on corps HQs. For the time being it will be concerned with looking after what maps they have already available, as they do NOT have the machinery here for producing maps. G

9. Gen MAT IOLI
Strength of BARLETTA lab pool:-surplus personnel here over the revised figure of 600 is for BARI pool, but owing to lack of accn in BARI they will continue to hold the excess at BARLETTA until required. G i(L)

10. Requested him to have a reconciliation made of the strength figures his branch provides and the corresponding figures shown in MAIOCCHI's return. G i(L)
G iii

11. Maj MAIOCCHI
402 Inf Regt, BARLETTA:- this has now absorbed 54 Lav BN, the latter having been disbanded. G iii

3771

LIAISON WITH SMRE

5 Mar 44

- Lt Col WILLESTORINI
1. Berile Bn, CHIATONA:- requested him to obtain usual details for laying on tpt, though he was NOT to infer from this that the move had been authorized. G ii
 2. Dvrs in port lab fms:- a recent census conducted by IX Artieri Regt had produced a list of about 100 men who had already had civilian licences. Requested him to see that same number of non-specialists are made available soonest and the 100 dvrs handed over to IX Artieri Regt. Reminded him that these would be in addition to 400 dvrs promised from IX Regt by BERARDI. G ii
G 1(L)
 3. 7 Pack Tpt Coy:- info him of move to 5 Army, location thought to be near CASERTA. They did NOT know whether the rfts had gone fwd or NOT, but will take the necessary action. G ii
- Lt Col CHECCHIA
4. IOOI and IOO2 GT Coys:- Instructions have already been issued to IX Corps to replace OC IOOI Coy, and similar instrs are going out for IOO2. It is important, however, that once we have made a serious complaint, as we have done in this case, we do NOT subsequently interfere with whatever action the Italians consider necessary. A/Q
ST
- Capt FORENZA
5. Seven extra box waggon S. PIETRO V. to BARI:- confirming phone conversation, these trucks are required to move wooden boxes, and are destined to I sub-depot 500 AOD. Staff Capt
Q
- Lt Col WILLESTORINI
6. 20 Artieri Coy:- left TRANI I Mar, together with HQ 502 Bn SORE
G iii

3770

LIAISON WITH S M R E

3 Mar 44

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

1. With Maj CHOWN to discuss their request for infm regarding British and American guns and amn, with a view to enabling them to make up amn in filling factories in freed Italy, if necessary using fuzes and charges from Allied sources.

A/Q

2. Our request for Beretta amn, SD 1/2/27 of 1 Mar:- the 40-round G 11tr magazines we have also requested are for the machine carbine, therefore query if the rounds are NOT also required for the same weapon. In this event they point out that they have asked us for 1,000,000 rounds, and now we are asking them for 1,000 rounds.

G 11tr

Gen BELLATTI

3. With Maj CHOWN with ref to request for infm - see 1 above:- the general defined the poem as they see it as follows:- either

comd

G

A/Q

a) we want them to utilise all their available guns and amn, if necessary making up sn/ells in the filling factories with parts from Allied sources, or using their guns with Allied amn, if interchangeable, or

b) whether it is our intention eventually to xxxxx make good their deficiency by giving them guns and amn.

In the event of course a) being probable, he would like all necessary infm to enable them to determine interchangeability of amn and shell parts, in the event of b) he is anxious to know what type of guns would be supplied and their performance.

4. Lt Col GRIGLIO

Handed in our comm to-day's date ref interpreters, an laid particular stress on urgency of meeting requirements of 3 Dist.

G 1

Lt Col GUIDA

5. 212 Div:- two sides just to hand, communicated contents to SD and helped draft sig in reply, requesting exact figures for each bn and bty.

G 11

6. Capt GAY's coy:- comm to hand from comm 9 Corps giving details of additional personnel and eqpt for this unit, which it was asserted had been agreed in concert with Maj FIELDMAN. Asked

G 1

3769

785020

a) we want them to utilise all their shells in the filling factories if necessary making up shells from Allied sources, or using their guns with Allied ammo, if interchangeable.

b) whether it is our intention eventually to xxxxxx make good their deficiency by giving them guns and ammo.

In the event of course a) being probable, he would like all necessary info to enable them to determine interchangeability of gun and shell parts, in the event of b) he is anxious to know what type of guns could be supplied and their performance.

4. Lt Col GRILLIO
Handed in our comm to-day's date ref interpreters, an laid particular stress on urgency of meeting requirements of 3 Dist. G 1

5. Lt Col GUIDA
212 Div:- two sigs just to hand, communicated contents to SD and helped draft sig in reply, requesting exact figures for each bn and bty. G 1

6. Capt GAY's coy:- comm to hand from comm 9 Corps giving details of additional personnel and eqpt for this unit, which it was asserted had been agreed in concert with Maj FIELDMAN. Asked them to send us copy of the comm which we would send to Maj FIELDMAN for his comments, as to my knowledge we had heard nothing about it hitherto. G 1 3769

7. Lt Col WILKINSON
Return of Italian casualties:- ref my ltr of yesterday, the confusion was caused by our letter M/3/374 of 15 Feb, which did actually request additional info by theatres of ops. Can I take it that for original request details for Italian theatre will suffice? A/Q

8. Docks operating coys:- they want to know at what stage in the proceedings tpt will be provided from Allied sources? SOME

9. Gen MATIOLI
Shooting of Italian sailor by Indian sentry:- he was concerned about this incident, as the sailor had died as the result. While admitting that the sentry had every right to shoot, he queried whether it was essential for the sentry to shoot to kill, bearing in mind the triviality of the offence. It is alleged that some cigarettes were taken from a store, and on being challenged the sailor took to his heels.

LAFAGON WITH S E R R

PHE 44

Gen MARZONI / Gen MARZONI

1. With came and 2 i/c in connection with programme and personnel or as found in the magazine.

Lt Col FIAZZO

2. With LAFAG to find out about whereabouts of and from port for transport cases in Canada. 200 have been taken from MARZ, of which 130 have already been released. No further withholds anticipated; other than the 1000 Avieri - and for these no date has been fixed. They do NOT have no placements for 1000 Avieri.

Gen MARZONI

3. Info him of proposed end of naval personnel to replace docks operating cases in FIAZZO and MARZONI, 1000 at 15/1 and 1000 at 31/3.

Lt Col FIAZZO

4. With LAFAG - examined files relating to setting up of transport cases and other cases to be dealt with refugees.

Gen MARZONI

5. Collected PO of combatant civ

Lt Col FIAZZO

6. 105 Arty Reg:- one of their billets has been cleared already: Gen MARZONI; the remainder will be vacated 5 Mar.

Lt Col MILLER

7. Requested him to hasten casualty return of Italian army for month of Jan, and arrange for speedier return in future.

3768

G 1 (L)

3. Info him of proposed end of naval personnel to replace cooks operating guns in HVARDO the BELLOL, 15/3 and 100 at 31/3.

D 1

4. Lt Col WILLIAMS - examines files relating to setting up of branch units and other orgs to dealing with refugees.

2 i/c

5. Collected TO of command div

2 Mar 44

6. Lt Col WILLIAMS - one of their billets has been cleared already : was BELLOL; the remainder will be vacated 5 Mar.

G 1

3768

7. Lt Col WILLIAMS - Requested him to hasten casualty return of Italian army for month or Jan, and arrange for expedient info in future. He stated that since the last return they had received request for fuller details, to incl casualties in Balkans Sicily, Air Force and any other theatres. Will leave this to-morrow.

G 11

8. Six pack of units in Sardinia:- info him that these had now been inserted in programme and given a high priority for sent from SA-DINIA

G 11

9. Rits for smoke unit:- clarified that the 50 men for serial IOO4A were to be non-specialists and due to join 343 Bn

G 11

10. 209 Div units NOT emp by 8 Army:- 96 Bn is 500 strong and arty unit is 300 strong. They will in set build up 96 Bn to 800 and assign to IOO4 serial, and make up arty unit for serial IOO4 subsequently.

Gen MAGOTTE

11. With G 1 to complain about units being set up for dealing with refugees without instructions from MAIA.

LIAISON WITH S M R E

28 Feb 44

Lt Col SAMPÒ

1. Alpini Bn for 5 Army:- they are anxious to have this unit on the move. Told him we had received no authority yet from XENX ACMT, therefore the request cannot be put in.

2 i/c

Maj LUNARDONI

2. Farriers for X Corps:- if we will put this request in writing he will see it gets to the Ministry and the available farriers sent to whatever destination we give. Available personnel is in CAMPANIA.

G i

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI

3. Mule and horse shoes for French:- stocks of four types requested, on the mainland, are between 11,000 and 26,000 per type. Out of these they have to provide for Manova and Piceno divs. They agree that they could release first 20,000 requested, but their stocks ought to be made up from SARDINIA. Confirmed that nails can NOT be spared from mainland stocks.

G i
Ord

Further messages received from VALLONI indicate that French requirements are 20,000 shoes and nails to match, per month. They await to hear from me what we want them to do.

4. Lt Col SAMPÒ

Alpini and Bersaglieri rits:- looking ahead to the time when rits of these rits are needed for the combatant ~~div~~ ^{div}, he stated that only source was SARDINIA. What steps should they take to ensure such rits are available on the mainland when needed?

2 i/c
G i

5. Rits for Pack units:- they are still most concerned over the situation of their pack units, which have been in the line for many weeks, if not months, without any relief. They feel that no one is interested in the fate of these units and would we tell them how to set about getting the matter seen to?

2 i/c
G i

Gen NARIOTTI

3767

3. Mule and horse shoes for French:- stocks of four types requested, on the mainland, are between 11,000 and 26,000 per type. Out of these they have to provide for Mandova and Piceno divs. They agree that they could release first 20,000 requested, but their stocks ought to be made up from SARDINIA. Confirmed that nails can NOT be spared from mainland stocks. Further messages received from VALLONI indicate that French requirements are 20,000 shoes and nails to match, per month. They await to hear from me what we want them to do.

4. Lt Col SAMPÒ
Alpini and Bersaglieri rits:- looking ahead to the time when rits of these rits are needed for the combatant ~~div~~ ^{div}, he stated that only so far was SARDINIA. What steps should they take to ensure such rits are available on the mainland when needed? 2 i/c
Gi

5. Rits for Pack units:- they are still most concerned over the situation of their pack units, which have been in the line for many weeks, if not months, without any relief. They feel that no one is interested in the fate of these units and would we tell them how to get about getting the matter seen to? 2 i/c
Gi

Gen MARIOTTI
Gen BRUNETTI
with Gi : 3767

6. 212 Div:- discussed situation and recapitulated events since our sig of 19 inst. Delay NOT considered excessive by MARIOTTI in view of difficulties of comms and general situation in CALABRIA. Agreed to repeat sigs through our WT channels. This was subseq only done. 2 i/c
Gi

7. Lt Col MILLETTORINI
186 Arty Bty, nr BARDISI:- IX Corps have replied that they cannot be out of present accommodation before month-end - this is being followed up to obtain exact date. Gi(L)

8. Gen MARIOTTI
Gen BRUNETTI
Scrutinising availability of tps on mainland for ACMF programme. Result of their tooth-combing is about 8000 men. Went through the complete strength state, and analysed their units by category, i.e. L of C etc., Corps tps. Final analysis set out on paper. 2 i/c
comd

LIAISON WITH S M R E

27 Feb 44

Maj LUNARDONI (vet)

1. Mule and horse shoes for the French:- thinks they can provide the 20,000 fromstocks on mainland, but NOT the nails. Will let me know definitely to-morrow. G i P
Ord

2. 400 small horses from SARDINIA:- they have authorised Gen. MAGLI to provide, but there is nothing to show in their files how or where they are to be delivered. Do we need this inim? G ii

3. Parriers for X Corps:- the Ministry have told him they can lay their hands on the best part of 20 - further details to-morrow. G iii

Gen MARIOTTI

4. Fixed appointment for comd/BERRARDI for 1700 hrs. Discussed letter on programme sent to NESSE, our copy needed before this evening.

Maj VERONI

5. 904/905 Lav Art Coys:- he has found further 30 specialists in BRINDISI Lab pool and hopes to find remainder in TARANTO. (see below). He estimates that each ~~XX~~ Lab bn may have in it 30 specialists, making a total of 300 for BRINDISIALONE. Situation of these two coys is now: 904 fiftyone short, 905 nine only short. 2 i/c
SORE
G i(L)
DADL

Gen MATIOLLI

6. While I was talking to him, Gen MARIOTTI came in and asked about releasing the specialists for eng' units, the number mentioned being 60. MATIOLLI protested somewhat, but MARIOTTI insisted and it was decided to release them immediately, without awaiting their replacement. G i(L)
DADL

Lt Col GUIDA

7. Air Force combatant bn:- asked him to get details of strength, composition etc, so that we could consider the matter. 39 6/8

Lt Col MILLEFIOINI

letter on programme sent to MESSE, our copy needed before this evening.

5. Maj VERNI 2 i/c
904/905 Lav Art Coys:- he has found further 30 specialists in BRINDISI Lab pool and hopes to find remainder in TARANTO. (see below). He estimates that each ~~lab~~ lab bn may have in it 30 specialists, making a total of 300 for BRINDISI alone. Situation of these two coys is now: 904 fiftyone short, 905 nine only short.

6. Gen MARIOTTI G i(L)
While I was talking to him, Gen MARIOTTI came in and asked about releasing the specialists for engr units, the number mentioned being 60. MARIOTTI protested somewhat, but MARIOTTI insisted and it was decided to release them immediately, without awaiting their replacement.

7. Lt Col GUIDA 34 8/8
Air Force combatant bn:- asked him to get details of strength, composition etc, so that we could consider the matter.

8. Lt Col WILFREDINI 2 i/c
212 Div and 23 Artieri Bn:- no details of the former yet. He is sending another sig to-day, though as the mil line is down, it will have to go over the civil circuit. Again offered him the facilities of our WF set. 23 Artieri Bn will be ready 6 Mar - tpt already requested.

9. Gen BERARDI:- comd
with comd and 2 i/c. Subjects discussed:
- conference with Gen MACFARLANE and Marshal MESSE
- SMSE proposals for meeting the programme for Feb & Mar.
- Gen MARIOTTI's appointment as Corps Comd in SICILY.
- Present emp of 67 Regt
- Tpt of Italian mil personnel from NAPLES and REGGIO
- Despatch of "guide" to SALERNO
- WF sets for Alpini bn
- Tpo of *slow origin*

LIAISON WITH SMRE

26 Feb 44

Gen SOLARELLI

1. Still waiting for further instrs from MESSE about the orders he is to take back to PALESTINE. INFANTE is supposed to be bringing them back with him from SALERNO.

comd
2 i/c
G i(L)

Gen BRUNETTI

2. He is working alongside Gen MARIOTTI and it is assumed that he will take MARIOTTI's place when the latter goes, possibly on a provisional basis.

comd
2 i/c
G

Col PULIZZI

3. With Capt ROZINS:- General discussion, incl rail tpt for mil personnel between NAPLES and REGGIO, tpt of 200 tons petrol to CALABRIA (this has just been approved), etc.

G

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

4. Personnel for new GT coy at POLIGNANO: already in situ, strength: 1 Capt, 5 lts, 10 ncos, 240 ors.

G
ST

- 5) 300 avrs at NAPLES ex SARDINIA:- SMRE have designated them as 1004 and 1005 GT coys and have incld BASSO accordingly. They are worrying as Basso has told them that the Allied authorities are calling them 2 and 3 Provisional coys, and fear they same trouble as with the pack tot coys.

G

6. Airforce Bn for combatant div:- they would like to have our views on emp of this unit, which our caters is being forced onto them by the Aeronautica, for prestige reasons.

comd
2 i/c
G

7) 904 and 905 Artieri Lav Coys:-

- Maj VERONI has found all but 80 specialists for these units and it is hoped to have the coys ready by the month-end. For the remainder VERONI is obtaining particulars of specialists on port lab, by arrangement with the lab inspectorate, and we will be advised as soon as the numbers required have been found.

G i(L)
SCORE
DADL
3765

8. IX Corps will submit to SMRE names of avrs they know of who are now in the port lab units, for whatever action we may consider appropriate.

G
G i(L)
DADL ST

petrol to CALABRIA (this has just been approved), etc.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

4. Personnel for new CT coy at POLIGNANO: already in situ, strength: 1 Capt, 5 lts, 10 ncos, 240 ovs. G ST

5) 300 ovs at NAPLES ex SARDINIA:- SMRE have designated them as IOO4 and IOO5 CT coys and have inia BASSO accordingly. They are worrying as Basso has told them that the Allied authorities are calling them 2 and 3 Provisional coys, and fear they same trouble as with the pack tot coys. G

6. Air Force Bn for combatant div:- they would like to have our views on emp of this unit, which one matters is being forced onto them by the Aeronautica, for prestige reasons. G

7) 904 and 905 Artillery Lvs ^{COYS}:- Maj VERONI has found all but 80 specialists for these units and it is hoped to have the coys ready by the month-end. For the remainder VERONI is obtaining particulars of specialists on port lab, by arrangement with the lab inspectorate, and we will be advised as soon as the numbers required have been found. G i(L) SCRE DADL 3765

8. IX Corps will submit to SMRE names of ovs they know of who are now in the port lab units, for whatever action we may consider appropriate. G i(L) DADL ST

9. Strength etc. of 212 Div:- details NOT yet to hand. Requested him to sig XXXI Corps insisting that inim required be sent to-day without fail, if necessary approx figures where actual NOT available. G

10. Pack arty bty, MANDURIA:- Lt Col SAMPÒ advises that this unit will definitely NOT be ready to move before 20 Mar approx. 2 i/c G

11. Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI:- 75/13 amm - 20,000 rounds in depots as follows: TARANTO 9,000
LOCCO OTONDO 3,000 Tpt request, except last item, recd to-day.
S. MICHELE 1,000
LECCE 1,000
CALABRIA 6,000 G sd

13. Six mule pack tpt rfts of 5 Army:- these are now ready. Told them they could file the correspondence for the moment, and we would let them know what to do in due course. G sd

14. Inid them that we proposed taking actual strengths of Alpini Bn and Pack Bty for the TO of combat div. We await resulting variations to rifles, etc. 2 i/c

785020

LIAISON WITH 3 R R

25 Feb 44

Lt Col GUIDA

1. With ADST about 67 Coy. Later a phone message came through from IX Corps informing that 1002 Coy now complete in all five pls and that balance of POLIGNANO will be brought up to 250 personnel by to-morrow. Can we arrange for transport vehicles to be made available so that they can get on with work. They also await details of WE.

2. Combat div:- collected answers to some previous questions and also left others for answering. On the subject of gun for Alpini Bn and Marine Bn they referred me to Servizio Artilleria.

3. Bn of truck drivers for COSSICA:- this sailed 16 Feb by American ship John Crocker, strength: 180 ltrs, 22 mcs, 4500rs.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

4. 212 Div and 23 Artillery Bn:- stressed urgency of having details for transport arrangements - what is holding them up is weight of baggage for entraining at each sta. The 204 Gruppo Artillery are Corps lps and only shown among the div units for admin purposes. This accounts for about 160 horses.

Maj MALOCCHI

5. Use of their craftsman for TO of Combatant div:- no difficulty about laying this on.

6. Our Order of Battle:- he queried whether we had taken into account the Res Bn for the Mot Bde located MADDALONI, strength 26 officers and 166 mcs. Query also SALERNO PBS ??

Gen MARIOTTI

7. Inia him of comd's visit to NAPLES, in the course of which the question of 67 Regt and pack units will be raised. Explained to him the form as regards the six rfts of 50 each, and that for these, as for any other units or rfts for Army area, the prior authority of Army was required. It would be as well to explain this in writing, to avoid future complications.

Lt Col MARIOTTI

4. Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
212 Div and 23 Artieri Bn:- stressed urgency of having details for tpt arrangements - what is holding them up is weight of baggage for entraining at each sta. The 204 Gruppo Arty are Corps tps and only shown among the div units for admin purposes. This accounts for about 160 horses. G 11
5. Use of their craftsmen for TO of Comstant div:- no difficulty about laying this on. 2 i/c
6. Our Order of Battle:- he queried whether we had taken into account the Res Bn for the Mot Bde located MADDALEONI, strenuously 26 citrs and 166 orgs. Query also SALERNO PBS ?? 3764 G 11
7. Gen MAGGIOTTI
Inid him of comd's visit to NAPLES, in the course of which the question of 67 Regt and pack units will be raised. Explained to him the form as regards the six rfts of 50 each, and that for these, as for any other units or rfts for Army area, the prior authority of Army was required. It would be as well to explain this in writing, to avoid future complications. G 1
8. Lt Col CATERPILLI
Mortar and 75/13 gun for Alpini and Marine Bns:- Mortar gun is already being sent to I Mot Bde for the Alpini; and there is also sufficient on hand for the Marines. Amn for Mountain arty is only sufficient for the tp of the Alpini Bn and there is NONE for the IV Bty of 58 Regt (MANDRIA). Unloc is 250 - the Alpini hold 500 rounds and 20,000 are being shipped for them. 2 i/c G
9. Lt Col CALLO
WT exp't to be turned in:- they are still expecting a list from CAMPANIA. They will send us copy of a letter from IX Corps about outstanding sets in that area. SD Sign

4. Lt Col MILLETTORINI
212 Div and 23 Artillery Bn:- stressed urgency of having details for tp arrangements - what is holding them up is weight of baggage for entraining at each sta. The 204 Gruppo Arty are Corps tps and only shown among the div units for admin purposes. This accounts for about 160 horses. G 11
5. Use of their craftsmen for TO of Combatant div:- no difficulty about laying this on. 2 i/c
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7. Gen MARIOTTI
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8. Lt Col CHERRI-BELLI
Mortar and 75/13 gun for Alpini and Marine Bns:- Mortar gun is already being sent to I Mot Bde for the Alpini; and there is also sufficient on hand for the Marines. Ann for Mountain arty is only sufficient for the tp of the Alpini Bn and there is NONE for the IV Bty of 58 Regt (MANDRIA). Unloc is 250 - the Alpini hold 500 rounds and 20,000 are being shipped for them. 2 i/c G
9. Lt Col CALLO
Wt exp't to be turned in:- they are still expecting a list from CAMPANIA. They will send us copy of a letter from IX Corps about outstanding sets in that area. SD Sign

LIAISON WITH S M R E

24 Feb 44

Gen MATTEOLI

1. Four socks operating coys:- these will be formed by the end of the month. He is anxious that the specialists of the new units shall start try as soon as possible. On the question of replacing the men in the lab pool he is just throwing his hands in the air.

CL (L)
SORE

Col POLIZZI

2. Italian offer to trace rly eqpt in SICILY:- he has already signalled twice to NAPLES for this offer, but has NOT recd a reply yet. Will continue to follow.

SORE

Capt FORRESI

3. 20 Artillery Coy:- collected copy of their sig of 22 inst requesting rpt from PRANI to TERMOLI.

SORE
Q

Lt Col SIMONETTI

4. Mob Arty Wksp NUORO:- handed him one copy of MESSA's letter to us ~~XXXXXX~~ and discussed how the mob wksp could be transported to Mainland. He agreed that with present means this is out of the question and will put Comando Supremo in the picture.

G

Lt Col GUIDA

5. Rits for pack tpt coys:- discussed the proper channels through which demands of this sort should flow, coming from Italian units under comd 5 Army. He asked me to mention the matter to Gen MACIOTTI.

G

6. Second transit camp for NAPLES area:- they had assumed that we already knew all about the matter as it had originated from Allied sources. Promised to send us immediately what infm they had, and in the meantime would we please sanction tpt for the second "tapes".

G
Med

3763

Lt Col PAMERAI

7. Pigeon service:- told him that we had no interest in the matter at the present time and that we would prefer to leave the decision to them. WM Will we put this in writing please. He proposes to close down subsidiary lofts and maintain only

SO SIGS

ing tpt from TRAMI to TERNOLI.

Lt Col SIMONETTI

4. Mob Arty Wksp NUORO:- handed him one copy of MESSE's letter to us
~~xxxxx~~ and discussed how the mob wksp could be transported to
 mainland. He agreed that with present means this is out of the
 question and will put Cosasco Supreme in the picture.

Lt Col G IDA

5. Rits for back tpt coys:- discussed the proper channels through
 which demands of this sort should flow, coming from Italian
 units under command 5 Army. He asked me to mention the matter
 to Gen MAIOLINI.

3763

6. Second transit camp for NAPLES area:- she, had assumed that
 we already knew ~~all~~ about the matter as it had originated
 from Allied sources. Promised to send us immediately what
 info they had, and in the meantime would we please sanction
 tpt for the second "tapca".

Lt Col PANTERAI

7. Pigeon service:- told him that we had no interest in the
 matter at the present time and that we would prefer to leave
 the decision to them. We will we put this in writing please.
 He proposes to close down subsidiary lofts and maintain only
 the main ones.

8. Revised strength state of Italian sigs:- according to him the
 arrangement was that the original state would be returned
 to him periodically for revision. He is now having our copy
 brought up-to-date.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

8. 185 Arty Bty:- about to be disbanded - will let us know shortly
 when accn will be available

9. Serial 1024:- query about 3 Artillery Coy for 3 Dist - 501/502
 BN ?

Three Las Cabañas

LIAISON WITH S M R E

23 FEB 44

Lt Col SIMONETTI:-

1. Air service LEUCE - SALERNO:- advised him that three seats were available for Italian personnel proceeding to and from SALERNO and that these would be allotted through the tpt office of SMRE. A letter to this effect had already been sent.

2. 622 Line Tele Coy:- They had NOT been advised about projected move by rd to CASTELLAMARE. Put him in the picture and he will arrange that OC unit contacts MOV TARANTO

3. Tpt for Italian Navy:- he wants to know whether there have been further developments with FOTALLI.

4. Their request for additional train accommodation for mil personnel from REGGIO:- they have included this in their weekly demand; explained general situation and suggested that flow from SICILY be strictly limited to number of seats on ~~xxxx~~ train. Same principle to apply to moves from NAPLES, where all seats for mil personnel have for the moment been cancelled.

5. Lt Col SANPO:-

180 volunteers for I Mot Bde:- explained to him that this was out of order; the Mot Bde was already over-strength and there was no authority or request from 5 Army for rifts for the bde. Their request IO58/T/F of 22 inst is cancelled by mutual consent, and he will see that similar requests flow through proper channels in future.

6. Alpini PIGNONE En:- This was inspected to-day by Berardi and found to be in good shape. Confirmed that it will be ready to move by month-end. It has 230 mules on strength, incl pack bty, but these also require feeding up. Location: CIGERNINA; strength state follows.

7. Mules from SA DINIA:- they have had a final comb-out in SARDINIA and scraped together a further 128 mules. These are reputed to be positively the best.

2 1/c
G3762/c
G

personnel from REGGIO:- they have included this in their weekly demand; explained general situation and suggested that flow from SICILY be strictly limited to number of seats on xxxx train. Same principle to apply to moves from NAPLES, where all seats for all personnel have for the moment been cancelled.

5. Lt Col SANPO:-

2 i/c
G

180 volunteers for I Mot Bde:- explained to him that this was out of order; the Mot Bde was already over-strength and there was no authority or request from 5 Army for lifts for the bde. Their request IO58/T/F of 22 inst is cancelled by mutual consent, and he will see that similar requests flow through proper channels in future.

3762c

6. Alpini PIEDMONT Bn:- This was inspected to-day by Berard and found to be in good shape. Confirmed that it will be ready to move by month-end. It has 230 mules on strength, incl pack bty, but these also require feeding up. Location: CISTERNA; strength state follows.

G

7. Mules from SARDINIA:- they have had a final comb-out in SARDINIA and scraped together a further 128 mules. These are reputed to be positively the best.

8. Gen MACIOTTI:-

Letter to MESSE about agenda for conference with Gen MACFARLANE. comd
Handed him BERARDI's copy and read it over to him; he was quite unperturbed and promised to let us have the answer to-morrow.

9. Lt Col GUIDA:-

1002 GT Coy: advised him that redundant personnel to remain at POLIGNANO and that total to be made up to 250 to meet item ICIII in pro ramme. WE to be supplied by us later. G ST

10. Further details for table of org of combatant div:- submitted 2 i/c
ten questions to which the answers will be forthcoming to-morrow.

61

LIAISON WITH SMRE

28 FEB 44

Lt Col PIZZONIA

I. With G I(L) -- Coy emp with US air force unit at CANOSA is being replaced from PARLITTA lab pool. Other coys are reputed to be similarly employed at S. PANORAZIO and AMENDOLA. Examined graphs of availability of lab at ports and numbers employed - situation satisfactory at present. Small reduction at BARI being made good. Nothing known about intentions of Air Force in the matter of recalling classes to the colours.

DADL

Maj MAIOCCCHI

2. Pack lpt coys:- revised strength returns are just to hand and are being included in state at 20 inst.

G

Lt Col WILLEPICHINI

3. Italian personnel with IO Veh Coy:- consists of about 120 avrs supplied by IX Corps last Oct at request 2 Dist.

EME

4. IO6 Territorial Bn:- no longer required by 6 BSA; IX Corps has assigned IO3 men for special police duties on rly - the remainder of coy being broken up. Location GIOIA DEL COLLE.
IO7 Territorial Bn:- proceeding to SAN SEVERO for VP duties. Location: ASCOLI SATURNIO. Has one coy at PAL. S. GERVASIO, but this is moving too.
IO8 Territorial Bn:- has been broken up. Personnel assigned to former 53 BN Lav- now 4 Bn 407 Regt. Location: MONTEIASI

G

3761

5. Mob bath unit at ENINDISI:- this unit is attd LI Corps and travelling round this corps area. SMRE have assigned similar units to 209, 210 divs and also to I Mot Pde, and they state that they should have joined their respective fms by now.

GI (L)

Lt Col GUIDA

Lt Col WILDEFIONINI

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IO8 Territorial Bn:- has been broken up. Personnel assigned to former 53 BN Lav- now 4 in 407 Regt. Location: MONTEIASI

5. Mob bath unit at MANDISI:- this unit is attd LI Corps and travelling round this corps area. SMRE have assigned similar units to 209, 210 divs and also to I Mot Bde, and they state that they should have joined their respective fms by now.

Lt Col GUIDA

6. Collected revised table of org of combat div - new totals are between 12,000 and 13,000 men. Later requested him to add details of rifles issued to all units in the div.

Gen MA IOTTI

7. With 2 i/c, G I.- Combatant div:- accuracy of tables of org as regards weapons, MT and personnel - figures stated to be latest available and reasonably accurate.

8. Alpini Bn:- available to leave by the end of the month San Marco Bn:- available to leave at once.

Both bns can be inspected at any time, by arrangement with LI Corps

Pack arty bty:- available within 15 days provided supplementary rations of forage are issued to mules. The second pack bty will be coming from SANDINIA with the NEWBO div.

9. Discussion of programme and availability of personnel on the mainland

EME

G

3761

CI (L)

comd
G

comd
G

IV bty 58 Hvy
Regt

comd
G.

785020

LIAISON WITH SMRE

21 Feb 44

Lt Col WILLEPOTINI

I. Mob Arty Wasp, NUORO:- strength: 1 offr, 3 ncos, 22 ocs, 20 militarized personnel, latter scattered about the island on various jobs. G I

Gen. SOLDARELLI

2. Just back from BRINDISI where he had been instructed by MESSE NOT to proceed to PALESTINE to-morrow and to await further instrs. Q inid

Gen. MARIOTTI

3. Availability of tps on the mainland to meet part of Feb and Mar programme:- After drawing to his attention the advantage of utilising redundant tps on the mainland & thus improving the priority of the NEMBO Div, I submitted the following rough estimate of surplus personnel:- Comd & G 2 i/c

-availability at 1 Feb according to SMRE state 85.000
 -less estimated Italian army needs for L of C tps, depots, districts etc 25.000
 -less tps still to be demob 6.000

31.000
54.000

-less part of the three divs to be found on mainland:

32.000 - 8.000 (Mob Bde) - 5.000 (NEMBO) = 19.000
 -less 2II Div 3.000

22.000

32.000

3760

In reply MARIOTTI stated that

- he did NOT disagree with our calculation
- he too was anxious to get as many more men as possible from the mainland
- unfortunately they were finding it increasingly difficult to ~~keep~~ get hold of the men that were left
- 25.000 for their own L of C tps was the figure he was aiming to get down to in due course, but it would take

thus improving the priority of the NEWBODiv, I submitted the following rough estimate of surplus personnel:-

-availability at I Feb according to SMRE state 35,000
 -less estimated Italian army needs for I of C
 tps, depots, air tracts etc 25,000
 -less tps still to be commo 6,000

31,000
54,000

-less part of the three divs to be found on mainland:

32,000 - 8,000 (Mob Res) - 5,000 (NEWBODiv) = 19,000
 -less 2II Div 3,000

22,000
32,000

3760

In reply MARIOTI stated that

- he did NOT disagree with our calculation
- he too was anxious to get as many more men as possible from the mainland
- unfortunately they were finding it increasingly difficult to ~~fix~~ get hold of the men that were left
- 25,000 for their own I of C tps was the figure he was aiming to get down to in due course, but it would take some time
- there was a commission going round in each corps at the moment breaking up unessential units
- additional men would be forthcoming in this way, but NOT fast enough to make appreciable contribution to programme

4. Combatant unit:- owing to miscalculation of the first figures submitted the numbers of the 1st had risen to over 15,000 by this morning. Discussed the implications of this and as a result the figures are being revised and new details will be available to-morrow (22nd). Requested that figures for strength of personnel, animals and vehicles for each unit be included with the revised figures.

Comd
 2 i/c

LIMBON FOR 2 4 3 E

20 Feb 44

I. Capt W. L. L.:-

3000 trucks for BUL has been reported to OUPINZANO
The request will be at 3000 (000) overflight in-
till 14 inst - return 57/11/1 or 3 in it - can we
guarantee please?

2. Capt L. L. L.:-

Collected nominal roll of 102 line Tels Coy

30 days

3. Lt Col L. L.:-

Collected letter and Order of Battle component CIV

301 days

4. Lt Col L. L.:-

Discussed 07. 07 ED at State Magazine so it affects
equip, clothing and 120

3000

5. Maj L. L.:-

Told him that SD had been unable to find up any
more prisoners - he promised to see the Ministry
of War and try to raise a few through them.
Arranged to go with him to Ministry in this
connection 21 inst.

6. Lt Col L. L.:-

Appointment of Maj L. L.:- this unit is on the
at 30. 14 of Eng Dept of War Ministry in 14
at 30. 14 of Eng Dept of War Ministry in 14
at 30. 14 of Eng Dept of War Ministry in 14
at 30. 14 of Eng Dept of War Ministry in 14

301

3759

7. Maj L. L.:-

Part of Doses Operation. Coys has been taken in
Base of Lab Inspectorate. The 5 Comp Inspectorate
Portelli (see 10. 14 inst) is confirmed at
Cullin, 12 inst, 30 inst, 30 inst, 30 inst, 30 inst
London and Inspectorate. Query: is it
practicable to bring these men on to mainland
and arrange 100% of their services?
30. 14 inst confirmed.

301

8. Further discussion about pro. 100% and units 100%

3000 & 3

5. MEXI HEADLINE:-

Told him that SD had been unable to find on any more arrivals - he promised to see the Ministry of Air and try to make a few more, he had. Arranged to go with him to Ministry in this connection of inst.

6. LA COL AIRFIELD:-

Appointment of Maj. WOODHEAD:- this officer is at the Airfield in the Dept of War Ministry and is also stated to have been to visit with him of new supply units.

7. Run of Base Operations:- Coys has been taken in hand by the Inspectorate. The 5 Corp aerodrome Portmali (see log in inst) is confirmed as Caribian, then in 3 parts, 30000, 24 hrs; various landing and unloading ships. Query: Is it possible to bring these men on to mainland and capture Caribian I or their as vessels? " Coy is not confirmed.

8. Further discussion about 200 planes and units from WINDMILL. Confirmed that item 1020 can be given on for inspection lab and there units in the process. Also considered possibility of surplus war spo on mainland - following is calculation: 20/25.000 32.000

- Three days in programme
- Two units and other units working for allies
- Fly Coy
- AA and anti-aircraft units
- Coastal unit (1000 all & 12 give)
- Dive in programme (?)
- Still to be used
- En unit in support programme

55.000
2.000
9.000
2.000
7.000
6.000
7.000

151.000
153.000

- Given, on on mainland at 20 Jan

LIAISON WITH S M R E

16 Feb 44

Lt Col SAMPO
(ops)

Gen AMBROSIO, Inspector Gen of Italian Army, will be moving to SALERNO with the Comando Supremo and has put in a request through Stato Maggiore for a pass to 5 Army rear area to enable him to visit Italian units there.

Lt Col

MILITARY INI Art. Artillery Pl, PIRAVAIRANO:- further enquiries have shown this to be the first Posacevi Pl, which with the latest one formed should go to make the 301 Posacevi Coy. Personnel numbers 50, and NO2 150 as originally indicated.

Lt Col SICHETTI
(tpt)

Tpt request for 800 Italian Navy personnel:- following our non-acceptance of their request (689/T/W of 14 inst) an offer was sent to TARANTO to secure authorization from FOTALLI, who is stated to have said that he did NOT know the drill. The matter is at a standstill.

Capt FOSCHINI
(tpt)

Move to sig 2115 o 15 inst:- the small parties are all prisoners under escort whom they wish should travel in one party. Second. Personnel for PARI 44 per.

Lt Col GUIDA
(ord & mob)

17 Feb 44

1302 GI Coy move to B. INI:- a further call to Bari elicited the fact that the move in small parties was the result of a request by a major of the 3,37 (NO1 better identified) pending suitable arrangements for accom.

Barriers to X Corps:- None available on the mainland.
? SICHETTI?

Remembering of Pack Tpt Coys:- they do not agree one detail of our figures and will give us parties late to-morrow.

Lt Col

MILITARY INI Italian personnel with 10 Ven Coy, 4000001. Nothing

785020

(tpt)

Capt ROMANZI
(tpt)

moveit sig 2115 o. 15 inst:- the small parties are all prisoners under escort whom they wish should travel in one party. Second. Personnel for BARI AA col.

17 Feb 44

Lt Col GUIDA
(ora mob)

1002 GI Coy move to B. TMDIST:- a further call to Bari elicited the fact that the move in small parties was the result of a request by a major of the 3757 (NOT better identified) pending suitable arrangements for acen.

Parriers to X Corps:- None available on the mainland.
? SARDINIA? -

Remounting of Pack Tpt Coys:- they do NOT agree one detail of our figures and will give no partic lars to-morrow.

Lt Col

WILLIAMSON

Italian personnel with 10 Veh Coy, MOSCOW:- Nothing known off-hand - will try and get the details.

43 Artillery Bn from CALABRIA:- signalling for latest posn; at 1 Feb they were 100 men short. They also need 4 carts and 4 trucks to complete tpt. Next situation NOT known - finding out about this too. He stated that precedence had been given to completing supply units with 8 Army as requested by us.

Armed train:- the request to put this in order is stated to have come from a Major of British or American unit (NOT better identified) who applied direct at P. PONTIC. Now ready to move; est 4 officers and 130 ORC. Availabilit. of arm: 300 rounds.

Gen WILLIAMSON
(1ab)

Port Lab situation at mid-Feb:-

BARI	Available for duty	7200	4050
W. INDIAN I..	"	5800	3750
TIRANTO...	"	3150	3000

785020

16 Feb 42 contd.

Lt Col of 1st Bn
(cont)

Very much a small ci-weekly train service
LTS - 1st Bn (via TAVANTO) which is used
by all personnel returning to CIVILY, per
week's letter is dep, 101st Bn.
The section is either one extra train per week
for the only, or an increased share for the on
the civilian trains, bringing back for the up
to 3 Coaches or trucks.

Gen 1st Bn

Order for Combat unit:- passed on in which the
comd brought back from 5 Army - no comment.

San Marco Bn:- explained the need for Army autho-
rity before units or the are moved into Army area.
As we have heard unofficially of intention of
moving into an area, requested that we be
informed officially, to enable necessary authority
to be obtained from Army.

Order of battle of Combat Div:- understand that
this is ready and has only to be moved by
ARMY - should be in our hands to-morrow.

3756

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

3756

to be obtained from any.
Grade of Battle of Combat Div:- understand that
this is ready and has only to be approved by
MILITARY - and to be in our hands to-morrow.

LIAISON WITH S M R E

15 Feb 44

Lt Col SAMMO
(ops)

Coastal def units at BARLENA:- the necessary instrs for the move of these units were signalled to IX Corps to-day, as per sig handed to G office.

Met Capt/ MARCA, OC San Marco Im. which is completing its tra at CHIATONA. Strength about 250 all ranks. Composition: 3 rifle coys, 1 sq coy. He was trying to get twelve vehs out of th Army, unsuccessfully, and had been told to try the Navy. His bn is ready to move and the 1st request will be coming through almost at once.

Lt Col

MILLINGTON

Aut Autieri Pl. PIERRAYVIRANO:- today will get the break-down by trades for us.

1002 AT Coy:- Passed on request that three pairs from SARDINIA be allowed to remain on. Also to increase BK to five pls. Also that the entire personnel attd this coy be moved to BALINIEL to-day.

They are anxious to have a reply to their II/3/400/V of 24 Dec concerning setting up of adm centres in SICILY.

Camps for personnel back from Balkans:- It is their proposal to set up Quarantine/Isolation/Recovery camps for dealing with personnel back from the 3753 at BARI - REINFOR I - TARNIC - NACH S.

3 & 4 Batt Spec Laveratori:- This nomination is again amended to: eight coys from div exppers. (ex SARDINIA)

Mod Arty Wap MICRO:- No details available at SANS - they have already signalled for same.

I Mot Wap:- An offer visiting SMRT to-day info that this inn had been in the line since 5 inst, in sector SCAPOLI - CASTEL S. VINCENZO.

Dvrs for I Mot Wap:- In consideration of non-return

only option
through
transit

down by trucks for us.

1002 AT Coy:- Passed on request that three cubs from SARINIA be allowed to remain on. Also to increase NE to five cubs. Also that the entire personnel at this coy be moved to BRINDISI to-day.

They are anxious to have a reply to their 1113/200/V of 24 Dec concerning setting up of new centres in SICILY.

Camps for personnel back from release:- It is their proposal to set up Quarantine/Isolation/Quarantine camps for dealing with personnel back from the 3755 at BRINDISI I - TARANTO - NAPLES.

3 & 4 Batt Spac Laboratory:- This nomination is again amended to: eight cubs from div cubs. (ex SARINIA)

1002 AT Coy:- No details available at 1002 - they have already signalled for same.

1002 AT Coy:- An offer visiting SARINIA to-day into that this can had been in the line since 8 inst, in sector SARINIA - CASTEL S. VINCENZO.

Dura for 1002 AT Coy:- In consideration of non-return of 200 cubs borrowed by 5 Army, can they make up the deficiency with the surplus personnel of 1002 AT Coy.

Handled in unofficial list of nominations of units due to move from SARINIA - most of these were new to the Stato Maggiore.

G 11(A)	
G 10	1002
G 11(2)	1117
SIXE	
SIXE Siga	11

*only appear
things
stand*

DI 1300H, WITH S M R R

14 Feb 44

Lt Col

WIDENING INI

(org mob)

With SOME:- fan of Docks Operating coys, two each at TARANTO and SARDINIA, from existing lab units, if possible to incl personnel from former Italian dock units. One such unit in SARDINIA: 5th Comp Portale, (5011rs 670rs) and possibly a few elements of the 8th. As soon as they receive our list they will get the new coys organized through OC lab in the two ports.

Armd Train:- in answer to a request from the Mission they have put in order the 225 Tp Armd Train of 144 three guns, three amn trucks and three vans. Location: METAPONTE

Mob Arty Wksp, NUBRO:- detail of strength and eqpt will be phoned through later

Coastal Arty Bty, BARLETTA:- they had just recd our G/3/13 and will let us know the situation regarding the arty pieces.

148 Comp Lavoratori:- Gen C. IVARO will let them know in 4/5 days whether this coy can be replaced by MASS

105 Comp Minatori:- location METAPONTE; strength 15/140 - they say it is shown on the usual strength return.

1001 & 1002 GP Coys:- change-over, going according to plan; the 150 covs from SARDINIA arrived at POLIGNANO 13th. 2 Dist have stated that 1002 must be issued with battle-dress.

Lt Col CHIA

(serv art)

Amn from BARLETTA:- compared certain figures of amn stocks in the island brought back by GII(SD) with figures in their possession - some were higher and some lower. Particularly interested in rounds for Berretta SMCs. Discussed method of bringing amn to the mainland.

DIALOGUE WITH S.M.R. 2

13 Feb 44

Capt. ORNELI
(lpt)

Retified him of two items on the current ten-day rpt list which we are cancelling: submarine nets and 1 wood for Italian navy. These to be put up through naval channels.

Up to 1000 hrs to-day there was no sign of the rolling stock for fourth installment of 68 Regt due to move to-day. It is suggested that the trucks had been commandeered by NTO BRINDISI.

They are getting a little anxious about move of War Ministry, requested on 10th for night of 16/19 inst. No news of the rpt yet.

Lt Col SANTO
(ops)

MEMO Riv:- Conc area has not been chosen north of TARANTO, roughly in area bounded by MINOCHIA, PRANOVILLA, MARTINA FRANCA, GIOIA, CAST L'ANGETA. Exact details say/ soon as possible.

Lt Col GILIO
(serv genio)

Handled in request for release of picks and shovels for sig units.

Lt Col

MILANOVA IMI
(ops & mob)

With Capt FOX. Reorg of 1001 and 1002 GT Coy:- went over the ground very thoroughly and helped them to draft signal to IX Corps laying on the various moves etc. An offer was instructed to take the signal personally to BARI this afternoon.

Plan of ten ans of non-specialists in SARDINIA 3753 over our letter and confirmed that this demand is NOT additional to previous request for 15,000 me to be alerted.

Maj VERONI:- Advised that we expected this offer to be mobile and have a car at his disposal when required for visiting units in course of fan.

Maj MAIOUCHI
(ops)

Collected usual ten-day strength return of Italian army revised as at 10 inst. The next return is to incl units in 10/15/44 which are just to hand.

LIAISON

WITH S M R E

12 Feb 44

Lt Col

MILLEPIONINI

(org & mob)

61 Pz Amb:- instructions have already been given that the amb have to be brought with the unit from SARLINIA

Sapper off to co-ordinate new units:- Maj VERONI has been appointed and will be taking up his duties on 14th. He is recently back from the BALKANS.

The situation of new sapper units forming is due to be submitted on 15th. This will refer to actual state order about the beginning of the month. This time lag is due to delays in comms between corps and units and corps and Stato Maggiore. No returns have yet been recd from corps and chaser sigs are being sent.

Discussed visit of SONE to units at CINCSA and TRANI and there should be no difficulty in arranging for Maj VERONI to accompany on 15 or 16.

Lt Col GALLO
(serv sigs)

With SO Sigs. Discussed turning in of RT sets at BARI etc and supply of additional RT sets for Radiocontrollo pl.

Lt CHIEFOLI
(tel comms)

With SO Sigs. In absence of Lt Col PANGRATI left message about comms between Stato Maggiore and SALENTO (for BARI - SALerno leg) and between mainland and SARLINIA.

Maj SCARATI
(ops)

1500 civilians to be engaged at NUBES:- letter of instruction to Italian authorities at NUBES will be going to-day, with a copy to C. Ascertained later that this copy will NOT be available until late to-morrow or to-morrow.

SONE
Rpt.

3752

Lt Col GALLO
(serv Genio)

Lt CRIDICI
(tel comm.)

Maj SCIENTI
(ops)

Col PALLAVICINO

With SO Sigs. Discussed various in of WI sets at
BARI etc and supply of additional R/S sets for
Radiocontrollo Pl.

With SO Sigs. In absence of Lt Col PANCHAL left
message about comm. between Stato Maggiore and
GALLIANO (for BARI - SALERNO leg) and between
mainland and SARINIA.

1500 civilians to be engaged at Naples:- letter
of instruction to Italian authorities at NAPLES
will be going to-day, with a copy to us.
Ascertained later that this copy will NOT be
available until late to-morrow at or to-morrow.

Left message about camp beds.

Ca

Ca

Ca

Ca

Ca-1

Ca-2

Ca-3

R 13/2

R 13/2

R 13/2

R 13/2

R 13/2

LIASON WITH S M & S

II Feb 44

Gen MAIOTTI

Expressed himself as being very satisfied with the very frank talk of last evening with the comm, on the subject of strength of the Italian army and recalling men to the colours. Was at the moment engaged in writing letter to War Ministry outlining proposals for this recruiting. Stated that comm area of NUBHO div would probably be in lower half of APULIA, but that LI Corps has NOT yet advised exact location. I mentioned Yugoslav camps in BRAVINA area, which he quite appreciated, but apparently this area is no longer being considered for the NUBHO. Engr offer to co-ordinate new sapper units:- an offer has been named by War Ministry - they are waiting to see him before confirming the appointment.

Advised him that we cannot expect any news from Italian Navy, following receipt of letter from POTALI

Lt Col G I LIC
(personnel)

Lt Col SANPO
(ops)

SMAR staff list in course of preparation - will be brought over by SANLIONI later to-day. (for G III(I))

2 Regt Camp:- Maj PERCOLA, Campi Rifornimento, LCOE will fix an appointment with Gen DECUZZI, comm 2 Campo Rifornimento whenever Lt Col GENTILE wishes to visit the camp.

3751

S. MA CO En has moved (by sea) from GALLIPOLI to CHIAIORE, where further, it will be carried out within 4 or 5 days, after which it will be ready to move up to I Mot Bco. I suggested he put in request for fuel in plenty of time to avoid last minute rush.

Maj MAIOCCI
(ops)

Units in BRINDISI area:-
- 4 Bty 75/13

moved to MANU IA, formerly in Lume
farm buildings Mass. PUNICELLA which
have since been taken over by lab unit.
location S.VITO - S. BONO as arty unit
but now going port lab, strength 17/230.
- Det of 47 Int Regt Depot - owing to winter location

Lt Col G I LIO
(personal)

Lt Col SANPO
(ops)

Navy, following receipt of letter from FORALLI

SMAR staff list in course of preparation - will be brought over by CARLEONI later to-day. (for III(I))

2 Regt Camp:- Maj PEROLA, Campi Riformamento, LUCE will fix an appointment with Gen DEQUILLI, Comd 2 Campo Riformamento whenever Lt Col CARLEONI wishes to visit the camp.

3751

S. MARCO Bn has moved (by sea) from GALLIOLI to CHIAONE, where further work will be carried out during 4 or 5 days, after which it will be ready to move up to I Mot Bde. I suggested he put in request for but in plenty of time to avoid last minute rush.

Maj MAIOCCHI
(ops)

Units in BRINDISI Area:-

- 4 Bty 75/13 moved to MANERIA, formerly in large farm buildings near BICHIGLIA which have since been taken over by lab unit.
- 122 Bty 75/25 location S. VITO - 11.500 as army unit but now doing port lab, strength 17/230
- Det of 47 Int Regt Depot - owing to mistram location in correct details were given. Location: private buildings in town, 101 on the Via di MESAGNE - strength 16/407
- part arm litters, port lab.

Lt Col

MILANOINI
(mob & org)

Det Fossacchi Coy:- 100 HQ and second pl left 17/15 incl for area of camp.

Recruitment of volunteer avrs:-

- REQUIREMENTS:- requires to disclose certain details, volunteers are passed to MT units belonging to each Italian Corps, for fitting out. He wants to know:
 - where they are to be sent after that,
 - the date we shall be ready to take them over,
 - the cost on which they are to be based. In this connection they have stated that the smaller the truck cost is such more convenient for their own arrangements.
 - arrangements for drawing pay. It is also to complicate matters for them if they have to draw from Italian Treasury.

LIAISON HIGH COMRE

10 Feb 44

Lt BULLI

(Liaison)

They require an explanation of the 'gross column of figures of our AQ/I5/7 of 1 Feb - sent to them under cover of our SD/I4/I of 3 Feb.

Lt Col CAMPO

(ops)

Proposed visit of Lt Col COMIANTY to 2 Revere camp:- An offer of SMRE will be placed at our disposal and date and time of visit will be fixed with him.

Maj SCAPATI

(ops)

With Maj ARCHDALE. The Italians in the Naples area have already been approached by the Allied authorities with a request NOT to pay civilians more than the Allied rates, so as to avoid competition and a general rise in wages. SCAPATI says that on a basis of equal pay the civilian worker will go to the Allied employer every time, as in one way or another he manages to secure some rations from latter source, and food being the price it is, particularly in the NAPLES area, this is a big inducement. He said that in the same area a competitive wage is from 120 to 140 Lire per day, plus rations. Conclusion: If civilian specialists are emp by Italian army in same area as corresponding Allied units, in addition to equality of pay, there must be equality of opportunity of securing rations, especially in areas where cost of living is very high, if we are to avoid these xxx civilians transferring from the Italian to the allied units.

Col. PALMAVICINI

Wants to know how he can send letters to PHE, one in I WAF 44578 and one in INDIA.

Lt Col MILNERI

(ops & mob)

For schools in SARDINIA etc:- a sig is being sent to-day with instructions for collecting the personnel for running the schools. The complete admininstr will follow in a day or two. Output for the first month is planned as follows:-
- SARDINIA 700 In two or more schools, at local discretion
- CALABRIA 100 Under auspices XXXI Corps

3749

latter source, and food being the price it is, particularly in the NAPLES area, this is a big inducement. He said that in the same area a competitive wage is from 120 to 140 Lire per day, plus rations. Conclusion: If civilian specialists are emp by Italian army in same area as corresponding Allied units, in addition to equality of pay, there must be equality of opportunity of securing rations, especially in areas where cost of living is very high, if we are to avoid these xxx civilians transferring from the Italian to the allied units.

3749

Col. PALLAVICINI

I want to know how he can send letters to me, one in Italy, one in INDIA.

Lt Col MILLERIN

(one 8 mo)

For schools in SARDINIA etc:- a sig is being sent to-day with instructions for collecting the personnel for running the schools. The complete em instr will follow in a day or two. Output for the first month is planned as follows:-

- SARDINIA 700 In two or more schools, at local discretion
- CALABRIA 100 Under auspices XXXI Corps
- ABRUZZO 100 " IX Corps
- SICILY 100 " SARDINIA Div
- 1000

This will take a little time to org, and on the basis of one month's tuition it is NOT expected that the first ems will be available before end Mar. A second course is planned on the same basis, but they have NOT thought beyond this.

1002 TP Coy will definitely be completed and trained by the end of Feb, according to IX Corps.

810 Plotone Radiocontrollo left 6 inst by rail for S. SPIRITO
XXXXXXX.

821 Tele Line Coy left CATANZARO for BARI 5 inst.

It is confirmed that Arditi Bn sailed from SARDINIA 2 inst.

3 Pl of 21 Tels Coy left GIOIA 22 Oct at disposal of 15 Army Gp - they would like to know present location.

2 Bn 68 Regt left this morning - move of the regt to be completed by 14th.

LIAISON WITH S M R E

6 Feb 44

Gen MARIOTTO

Our letter to MESSE of to-day's date about ~~xxx~~ truck dvr programme:- handed in BERARDI's copy. After taking it in to BERARDI, MARIOTTO made the following pts:-
-the best and most immediate source in their opinion is SICILY, both as regards civilians and PWs
-availability of civilians is closely related to local existing lab demands, and for this reason SICILY should be much more profitable than CAMPANIA
-according to infm obtained by Maj SCAPATI just returned from NAPLES there are in CAMPANIA approx 800 civilians waiting to be recalled to the colours as dvr, ~~xxxx~~ MARIOTTO calculated that might affect the recall of the I910-I2 classes by 200, leaving a further 800 available from this source.

A memo on these lines is being prepared for MESSE.

Lt Col

MILLEFIORINI

(ord & mob)

20 Arteri Coy, TRANI:- strength 5 offrs, 217 ors
baggage: 70 quintals - NO tpt

822 Tele Coy:- Ready to move 9 inst - location :MANDURIA

SARDINIA priority list:- change in designation -
Eight Artieri Coys should now read:

3 & 4 Battaglioni Speciali Lavoratori

3748

Instructed him that the det of 400 men for dvr duties ex SARDINIA were to be 100% dvr. He stated that a comm had just been recd from SARDINIA to the effect that the composition of this body had already been laid down by ACC. I told him that irrespective of anything that had gone before ACC requirements were now 100% dvr and SARDINIA to be infd accordingly, and that this serial was of the highest importance.

Parachutists released from SICILY:- to report to
47 Rgt Ftr, LECCE

Lt Col RAMPA

(serv genio)

Request for Italian valves:- ~~NX~~ PC I.5/100 valves
NOT available

LIAISON WITH SMRE

5 Feb 44

Lt Col SANPO
(ops)

An offr had reported from BARI bringing with him plans of the Italian mine-fds near GALLIPOLI which it had been proposed should be cleared by the Poles. It appears that the Italians have been clearing this area and only three fds remain to be cleared, involving a total of under 300 mines. Further, the mines are A tk ones of the V3 pattern, which the offr stated it was inadvisable to lift, but which had to be dealt with by firing. For these reasons Maj Phillip decided to let the Italians finish the job.

Maj MAIOCCHI
(ops)

IO6 Territorial Bn, GIOIA:- present strength 27 offr and 254 or's. Previous return misleading, as it incl NA personnel (Nuclei Antiparacadutisti)

Centro Raccolta Quadrupedi, PUTIGNANO:- It is said that after the Bari Remount Sta was broken up at the beginning of the year the War Ministry discovered that they were left without any est of this kind, & without our agreement a new remount sta was set up at PUTIGNANO. This at first consisted of a disproportionate number of men to animals, but this is now being rectified, and the latest return shows 20 offr, 530 or's, and 200 animals, about half horses and half mules.

Lt Col CHIPPARELLI
(serv artigleria)

Is anxiously awaiting the rounds of amm for TMC for testing with their own automatic wpn.

3747

Lt Col PANERAI
(telecomms)

RF 250 sets for comm with SALERNO and SARDINIA:- One of these sets is available at FRANCAVILLA and one in CAMPANIA, but it is NOT known yet where the latter is in store. There is also at least one of these sets in SARDINIA, which has been used by Allied tps. The condition of these three sets is NOT known. In the event of further sets being needed, there are one or more RFN5 sets in CALABRIA which are suitable for the job.

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While he was in BARI yesterday, he arranged for the collection of the cells from MONOLI.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
(ora)

Requires confirmation that specialist units from SARDINIA are to embark with their vehs: e.g. 6I Fd Hosp with its amb?

400 dvrs on the priority list from SARDINIA:- are these to be treated as a unit and given a N9, or are they to be treated as dvr rfts?

Summary of our requirements of dvrs from SARDINIA as given verbally to MILLEFIORINI to-day:-

400 dvrs	- see above	} on priority list
140 "	- QM Dvr Coy	
400 "	- 1003 GT Coy	
500 "	- Bn for CORSICA	

*Cont in this bag
transmitted to Rome in April*

5 Feb 44 (cont)

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
(ord)

ACC letter of 26 Jan ref NEF/mms/hd:- he is NOT too clear on the relation between this request for new units etc and other current demands, all items except 1, 2 and 8.

WT Security Sec:- new designation :
- 810 Plotone Radiocontrollo

Sig Wksps ex SARDINIA:- these already have their own designations, and it is suggested that they be allowed to retain same.

Lt Col GUIDA
(mob)

Just back from accompanying BERARDI on a visit to CALABRIA lasting several days. One gathers that they were fairly satisfied with what they saw. Spoke well of Maj LENTZNER's work and said that his name was known wherever they went.

Capt DELLA CORNA
(mob)

20 Artieri Coy:- Location, TRANI
IX Corps sent off a DR to-day to the unit to secure other details required, but up to 1800 hrs he had NOT returned to corps HQ. Will phone through details as soon as they are available.

3746

LIAISON WITH S M R E

3 & 4 Feb 44

Gen MATTIOLI

(lab)

He confirmed that Gens TOMMASELLI and CHATRIAN are to be responsible for org and adm of all lab in 57 Area and 94 Sub Area respectively, in the same way as MOGGIO and MOCCIA in APULIA. He will send a letter to the two Gens outlining the working arrangements to be followed and requesting contact to be made with the area cmds. A copy of this letter is to come to the Mission. However, MATTIOLI understands that the two Gens are already in close contact with the areas as the result of their normal functions as OSC tps.

Further 500 men arrived in BARI for port lab 2 Feb; further I60 due in a day or so.

As figure for "presenti" in BARI on 31 Jan was 6235, MATTIOLI considers that with the rfts referred to above he has just about reached the target figure of 7,000, without taking into account the 1200 men working in the vicinity of BARI, (BITONTO, MODUGNO.)

MATTIOLI asked whether we were aware that men of the calling up age-gps in CAMPANIA were NOT doing military service.

In view of the shortage of manpower in the army, with particular ref to the withdrawal of "avieri" from BARI, the query was raised as to why "avieri" of the I913 to I918 classes should NOT be recalled to the colours.

3745

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

(ord)

25 and 152 Artieri Coys:- Will be ready to move by evening of 6 inst. This infm came through by phone this morning and tpt was immediately requested.

20 Artieri Coy ready to move 7 inst.

15,000 non-specialists from SARDINIA:- commented on the large margin allowed; strength of Raggr Granatieri should be 1116 offrs and 2118 or's. Latest totals available are 1121 offrs - 21531 or's = 22652

Casualty returns for Winston Churchill:- the delay in communicating figures up to 31 Dec was due to the fact that they were trying to collect returns for the Balkans,

into account the 1200 men working in the vicinity of BARI,
(BITONTO, MODUGNO.)

MATTIOLI asked whether we were aware that men of the calling
up age-gps in CAMPANIA were NOT doing military service.

In view of the shortage of manpower in the army, with par-
ticular ref to the withdrawal of "avieri" from BARI, the
query was raised as to why "avieri" of the I9I3 to I9I8
classes should NOT be recalled to the colours.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

3745

(ord)

25 and I52 Artieri Coys:- Will be ready to move by evening
of 6 inst. This infm came through by phone this morning
and tpt was immediately requested.

20 Artieri Coy ready to move 7 inst.

I5.000 non-specialists from SARDINIA:- commented on the
large margin allowed; strength of Raggr Granatieri should
be II6 offrs and 2II8 or's. Latest totals available are
II2I offrs - 2I53I or's = 22652

Casualty returns for Winston Churchill:- the delay in
communicating figures up to 3I Dec was due to the fact
that they were trying to collect returns for the Balkans,
Corsica etc. Told them to limit themselves to tps under
comd 5 and 8 Armies. These are available ~~immediately~~ in about three
figures for January in about one week's time.

Col QUERCIA

(servizi)

I F H Q tpt requirements:- infd him of the action we are
taking with regard to their request for I2 Jeeps. The
remaining saloon cars among the vehs handed back to the
Italians up to 3I Jan are all out of commission. Brought
away with me details of condition of these vehs. They
are in a bad way for cars - QUERCIA mentioned that to-day
they had to use BERARDI's car to fetch some refugees(?)
from TARANTO.

Maj D'ANTONA

(mob)

7Pack Tpt Coy is stillborn, as the mules required for it
have had to go into the pool of I630 animals to be moved
to the mainland in Feb.

Centro raccolta Quadrupei, PULIGNO:- he is looking into
the possibility of spare personnel here.

LIAISON WITH S M R F

2 Feb 44

Col QUERCIA
(servizi)

Delivered message stressing urgency of issuing boots to tps with 8 Army and to those on port lab as soon as the boots are delivered to LA ROCCA depot. Advised that 3000 prs are going to TARANTO by allied tpt. Up to yesterday 1700 hrs there was no news from BARI that any boots had yet been delivered to the depot.

DADONIS
you disagree?

Disinfectant required by port lab:- their stocks are barely sufficient for hospital requirements.

Lt Col

Can't say what monthly consumption is! Still that some could be issued for urgent special case.

MILLEFIORINI
(ord)

Signal ordering units from SARDINIA was being enciphered; gave him our signal ref demob of personnel in these units and this was added to the signal being sent off.

68 Inf Regt:- warned him that dvrs would NOT be released by 5 Army. He said he had been told to draft a letter to the Mission requesting that, in the event of the dvrs NOT being returned within a reasonable period, one of the newly formed GT coys should be turned over to I Mot Bde to replace the dvrs lost to 5 Army. Told him I thought such a request would be useless in view of increasing demand ~~was~~ for dvrs which they were already unable to meet. Can we get any sort of a promise from 5 Army ~~to~~ to approximate date of release?

Col QUERCIA
(servizi)

LANCIA Ardea car LE 5536:- This car was out of commission for some time, and about one week ago was handed over to Gen MATTIOLI. It had already been replaced to I F H Q, but on my advising that they were insisting on having this car they promised to send it off and get the other one back. They have also promised to send up three mcs for the Italian LOs, and advise on the state of repair of the three remaining cars.

Gen MARIOTTI

Handed to him the supplementary request for SARDINIA. Went over it together and subsequently he called MILLEFIORINI in and provisionally chose the units to provide the 15,000 non-specialists. The units will be confirmed to-morrow a.m. Stressed the question of demob - he will allow 20%

by 5 Army. He said he had been told to draft a letter to the Mission requesting that, in the event of the drvs NOT being returned within a reasonable period, one of the newly formed GT coys should be turned over to I Mot Bde to replace the drvs lost to 5 Army. Told him I thought such a request would be useless in view of increasing demand for drvs which they were already unable to meet. Can we get any sort of a promise from 5 Army to approximate date of release?

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Et Col SANPO
(ops)

Minefields at GALLIPOLI:- will phone IX Corps in the morning and get name of offr to accompany the POLES.

Col PULIZZI
(tpt) *pred.*

92(Italian) Fd Hosp:- the Italians are anxious to expand this unit from 50 to 100 beds, with a corresponding increase of personnel. As the move is due to take place to-morrow (3) PULIZZI requested the Ministry to phone Maj HEGGIE.

Discussed bi-weekly train service between NAPLES and the "heel". He had already drafted a letter of his own which was awaiting signature, requesting a third weekly train for the use of military personnel only.

PULIZZI is due to leave in a few days to take comd of a lab regt. This seems a pity, as he appears to be one of the most capable men at the Stato Maggiore - he is a full time tpt offr - and very co-operative.

*If this becomes a
large static unit
Army may feel it
a regretful loss to
stop it.
Not so: time for
allowing civil service
organise*

LIAISON WITH S M R E

31 Jan 44

Capt FORESI

(tpt)

The delay in transit of their comm of 25 Dec to FLAMBO being investigated. Future comms to be sent either by WT, or by courier. They have their own courier, but told them they could make use of our service for urgent comms to FLAMBO.

Inf'd of move to-day by rd of 820 Tele Coy from FRANCAVILLA to BARI and that rail tpt to be cancelled accordingly. 82I Coy to move by rail if rd tpt NOT available before the train is laid on.

Col QUERCIA

(servizi)

Request for btys for LEGNANO RT sec:- explained that until this fm becomes operational they will NOT be needing their Wireless sets. He agrees, and this part of the request to be cancelled.

WT material for S.Marco (Marines) Bn:- there seems to have been some intention of sending this bn to join the I Mot Bde, hence their need for wireless eqpt. IO Feb had been fixed as the date for them to move. Told QUERCIA that this was a new one on us. He rang MARIOTTI and said cancel the request.

Confirmed (in conversation) that 29 Bersaglieri Bn had actually left this morning, to join I Mot Bde.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

(ord & mob)

Confirmed that new pl of 80I POSACAVI Coy now ready to move. 3743

Talked to him about strength and WE of bns. NOT in the picture about future intentions. In the course of conversation said that the three divs they have in mind at the moment for the current programme are:-

- NEMBO cum I Mot Bde
- PICENO
- MANTOVA

Gen MARIOTTI

Discussed forthcoming moves of units from SARDINIA. Units NOT specified will have to be nominated in SARDINIA.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

(ord & mob)

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- PICENO
- MANTOVA

Gen MARIOTTI

Discussed forthcoming moves of units from SARDINIA. Units NOT specialised will have to be nominated in SARDINIA.

Strength of bns in combatant units:- Their intention is to build these up to full est, as they have already done in the case of the inf regts in the I Mot Bde (e.g. 67 Inf Regt, and now 68 Inf Regt). They are NOT able to do this in the case of special units such as Bersaglieri, owing to shortage of personnel.

Ref NEMBO Div from SARDINIA -

Has tpt been arranged for the bty of guns to move with the div?

have been some intention of sending this on to join the I Mot Bde, hence their need for wireless eqpt. IO Feb had been fixed as the date for them to move. Told QUERCIA that this was a new one on us. He rang MARIOTTI and said cancel the request.

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785020

LIAISON WITH SMRE

30 Jan 44

Maj MATIOCCHI

(ops)

CVI Terr Bn due to move from GIOIA to BARI town end of Dec. This unit is still at GIOIA. It is that the OC duly presented himself to Comd 6 Pa Area on 25 Dec - reason for not moving NOT known? accn?

Col QUERCIA

(servizi)

Confirmed that clothing etc for Italians in 8 A area awaiting collection since 20 inst and that called on 2I. LO Rear 8 Army infd that clothing collection (incl blankets) and that offr ic lorr has to apply to Direzione Commissariato Militare (Maj CORLETO), Via S Francesco d'Assisi, Bari.

Lt Col CHECCHIA

(servizi)

Form of six new Artieri coys:- can he be infd of tools and eqpt required by these units?

Capt FORESI

(tpt)

Lt Col SIMONETTI

Produced list of outstanding requests, which I brought away with me and submitted to G II for infm. Agitating about move of 68 Inf Regt. Clarified point and just in case the move should be made by rail for details of entraining stas etc. They could not state this then and there and promised to signal us later in the day.

Lt Col GUIDA

(ord & mob)

Gen BERARDI

As a result of our enquiries he finds he can draw on the Reparto Carristi for about 60 dvrs.

With comd. re arty for Nembo Div ex Calabria; MT etc.

LIAISON WITH S M R E

30 Jan 44

Maj MAIOCCHI

(ops)

CVI Terr Bn due to move from GIOIA to BARI towards end of Dec. This unit is still at GIOIA. It is known that the OC duly presented himself to Comd 6 Base Sub Area on 25 Dec - reason for not moving NOT known. ? accn ?

Col QUERCIA

(servizi)

Confirmed that clothing etc for Italians in 8 Army area awaiting collection since 20 inst and that noone called on 2I. LO Rear 8 Army infd that clothing awaiting collection (incl blankets) and that offr ic lorries has to apply to Direzione Commissariato Militare, (Maj CORLETO), Via S Francesco d'Assisi, Bari.

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(ord & mob)

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Gen BERARDI

With comd. re arty for Nembo Div ex Calabria; MT dvrs etc.

Liaison with SMRE

28 Jan 44

Capt BONEERRARO
(see reteria ops)

Requested him to secure names and full particulars and photos of the Carabinieri engaged on the courier service between TARANTO and CROTONE

Maj SCAPATI
(ops)

With Maj ⁴²ROCHDALE to arrange about visit to NAPLES, with the object of enrolling 1000 civilians through contractors known to HQ FFAA CAMPANIA. LtCol SANPO tried to make out that during the previous day's discussion a figure of between three and four thousand civilians had been mentioned.

Maj PINNA
(ops)

In the course of conversation he mentioned that the I85 Parachute Bn (Nembo) had left ~~SANPO~~ ^{Sanpo} this morning by rd for the CASERTA area, and that the King had been there to see them off.

Lt Col SANPO
(ops)

In connection with MARIOTTI's letter of to-day about conc area for NEMBO Div, he stated that it was their intention to form a single div with the NEMBO and the I Mot Bde, and that it was for this reason that the CASERTANO had been chosen for the NEMBO. The HQs of the I Mot Bde are nearby at S. AGATA DEI GOTI.

Col. QUERCIA
(servizi)

Six trucks were sent from 8 Army to BARI on 21 Jan to collect clothing for Italian tps in 8 Army area. It is reported that on arrival clothing was NOT ready and that vehicles had to return empty. I examined their files on the subject, from which it would appear that some part of the consignment was at the Deposito V.E. Direzionale (Cappannoni La Rocca) all the time, so the doubt arises whether enquiries were made at the right place. It is known that MMIA LO with 2 Dist was NOT infd of the matter.

In the same connection, the general delay in fitting out new units was also brought up. The normal

Cap B. Boneerraro (Ops)
Write Fieldwork (Ops)
Write P. P. (Ops) send to
to P. P. (Ops) send to

Lt Col SANPO

(ops)

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In the same connection, the general delay in fitting out new units was also brought up. The normal procedure is as follows:-

Mob & Ord instruct Corps to form unit and indent on Servizi for clothing and eqpt
Servizi then request authority of War Ministry for release, as it is they who control stores
War Ministry authorise issue from stores, which may be in half-a-dozen different localities.

In practice, Corps have to wait until last man is found to complete unit before indenting for clothing, several days are then wasted while the list travels to and from the Stato Maggiore and the War Ministry.
Can this system be reviewed and hastened?

Total of Yugoslav deserters from LI Corps to-date is now 533.

Lt Col SANPO

1945-5

See
29/1 13.

Situation of ALPINI in SARDINIA and on mainland.

27 Jan 44

The following emerged from a conversation with Lt Col GUIDA. That part which concerns SARDINIA was subsequently confirmed by an Italian officer just back from the island.

- Mainland: The TAURINENSE Alpini Bn being formed at CISTERNINO was originally intended for I Mot Bde, but it will now go to form I75 Alpini Regt, together with the MONTEGRANERO Bn now forming in SARDINIA. Intentions for empl NOT known.
- SARDINIA: total strength of Alpini about 3000. The pick of these will go to form a combatant bn - the MONTEGRANERO referred to above. The next best will be drafted into two bns reputed to be earmarked for CORSICA. The remainder, nominally amounting to three bns, are unfit, overage, and due for demob for one reason or another.

File 100
SPH

785020

LIAISON WITH SMRE

26 Jan 44

Maj MATOCCHI
(ops)

It was agreed that on future strength ^{returns} he would show a reconciliation of his figures and the War Ministry figures issued ten days earlier. He will also incl in his marginal notes the actual numbers affected, as well as the other details he is already showing.

An approx reconciliation of the current return is as follows:-

- Total per War Ministry return 10 Jan 177.012
- plus, 8 Army units excl from WM figures 2.195
179.207
- minus, reduction in strength in CALABRIA based on return NOT available when WM figures were published 4.834
- corrected War Ministry figures 174.373
- compares with SMRE figures 174.200

The Reparto Istruttori Alpini is located at PIEDIMONTE D'ALIFE, and consists of 9 ofrs, 53 or's.

Lt Col SANPO
(ops)

Promoted from maj. Said the TAURINENSE ALPINI Bn was being trained, but could not, or would not say for what purpose. Will try and find out elsewhere.

Nobody knows where the I Reparto Autonomo is at the moment - they will find out and let us know.

Servizi Genio
Col RAMPA

The following are the only RI2 sets available for Intercept unit:-

- 2 with LI Corps - condition NOT known. (FRANCAVILLA)
- 2 at fixed radio sta at BARI - presumably good order
- 3 with XXXI Corps - condition and location NOT known.

I brought away a signal with me addressed to XXXI Corps in connection with last item, for onward transmission through our signal office.

3740

-compares with SMRE figures

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I brought away a signal with me addressed to XXXI Corps in connection with last item, for onward transmission through our signal office.

An ofr just in from the fa was enquiring from RAMPA about WT sets for the 29 Bersaglieri Bn. He gave me privately the following infm about forthcoming moves by rd - Italian MT being used:-
28 Jan Nembo Parachute Bn from SQUINZANO 555 all mks
31 Jan 29 Bersaglieri Bn from SALICE - about 625 dtt
During first days of Feb, 68 Inf Regt

All above going to join I Mot Bde.
The 51 Bersaglieri Bn is said to be no more. 29 Bn is up to full strength, and together with the 33 Bn from SARDINIA will form the 4 Bersaglieri Regt, instead of the 13 Bersaglieri Regt.

Showed me a sig requesting tpt for 68 Regt's pack tpt, which he said he had been told he could send by Capt BIRD over the phone.

Capt FORESI
(tpt)

Nothing known here about the 100 ski tps subject of our SD/2/53 of 22 Jan.

Lt Col GUIDA

LIAISON WITH SMRE

25 Jan 44

Maj MAIOCCHI
(ops)

The strength return of the Italian Army, which they are sending us every ten days is needed by them as well, so no extra work is involved. Details for SARDINIA will be incl in the next return. The Order of battle for SARDINIA will be ready by to-morrow evening, and they will lend us a copy. Borrowed a copy of the Order of Battle for the mainland, which is to be returned in a few days.

Details of personnel in hosp are incl in the return on page 3 ~~xxxxxx~~ under the heading "DIREZIONE DI SANITA-PUGLIE"

Capt FORESI
(tpt)

Has been in touch with RTO LECCE about 2IO Artieri Coy. RTO LECCE has in turn been through ^{to} Nov BRINDISI who were NOT able to authorise tpt.

MOVIE has been hand

Col MICHELOTTI
(mob & ord)

Is shortly leaving SMRE to go to IX Corps - it is said to take the place of Col SICARDI as Chief of Staff. His place at SMRE will be taken by Lt Col MILLEFIORINI.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
(ord)

300 engr rtfs for 8 Army:- Is expecting a return at the end of the month showing the deficiencies in the various engr units with 8 Army. In the meantime is finding out the present strength and composition of Artieri pls of the Coastal divs, and also which of these are already working for us.

20 Artieri Coy:- originally requested for ³⁷³⁹ 71 Sub- Area and cancelled for this purpose by our GSD/4/3 of 22/12 Together with 2I Artieri Coy, being formed into 502 Artieri Bn - ref I325/MOB of 11 Jan. Location:- TRANI

LIAISON WITH SMRE

23 Jan 44

Gen MATTIOLI
(lab)

Requested appointment for Lt. Col. MORIARTY with Gen MARIOTTI for this afternoon to discuss port lab situation. This was fixed for 1700 - 1800 hrs.

On the subject of the 240 men available at TARANTO, it appears that these were earmarked for 7I Sub Area and will be ready to move 24 Jan, either by rd or rail. Later arranged with Capt BIRD that they would go by rail, and requested SMRE Tpt office to apply for necessary tpt.

Lt Col PANERAI
(telecomms)

Passed on two items for infm.

Lt Col GUIDA
(mob)

He was busy locating tps for lab duties at the ports, in preparation for a meeting at SMRE at 1600 hrs. Asked him about how many he was trying to find - he said about two thousand. Enquiries about odd units in SARDINIA left for later.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
(ord)

Lavoratori del Genio coys required for end Feb. Only five likely to be available instead of six, as far as he can anticipate at the moment. There is also a shortage of certain types of specialists.

Lt MARCO cannot be found - further details required of present location.

Capt FORESTI
(tpt)

The 60 and 22 Carabinieri are two separate dets. They have no infm about the former, but wish us to authorise the move if possible.

3738

LIAISON WITH S M R E

24 Jan 44

Lt Col QUERCIA
(serv. genio)

List of WT sets transmitted 22 inst ref 5/I2I2 Serv.
Details from XXXI Corps are awaited - they were
sent off from CATANZARO 22 inst.

Request for passes for CE and CRE rep:- copies are
being prepared - ref 2 Dist I468/3I/Q of 17 Jan

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
(ord)

Collected:-

- WE and details of eqpt of Italian Fd Bky units.
- situation of specialist personnel for six Lavoratori
del Genio Coys
- WE of fire fighting units; none available on the
mainland.

Our SD/4/4 of 22? Dec requested I2 electrical fitters
for transformer work - only two traced to date, and
these and any others found would be so many less for
the engr coys being formed. See above.

The engr coys in question are being formed as to
personnel and basic normal unit eqpt only. Tpt, tools
and tech eqpt are NOT being supplied by the Italians.

Capt FORESI
(tpt)

Says he was told over the phone by a capt of Mov
2 Dist that NO moves of any kind will be made
without authority of FRAMBO. This is quite
contrary to latest understanding. Among the moves
held up in this way is the 2IO Artieri Coy.

No authority yet for move of 22 Carabinieri from
BARI to TERMOLI. The other 60 have already gone.

447 Bn/- $\frac{1}{2}$ left TREBISACCE and $\frac{1}{2}$ left REGGIO on 18
inst, both for TERMOLI

SEGRETERIA

There is daily Italian courier service by means of
a Carabiniere each way between LECCE and CATANZARO
with the following itinerary:-

LECCE - TARANTO - METAPONTO - CROTONE - CATANZARO

There should be no difficulty in getting the courier
to pick up mail from RTO TARANTO, and vice versa, and
facilities should be given for the journey, as at
present one gathers the couriers are having some
difficulty with the trains. Action wanted please.

Gen MARIOTTI
Gen MATTIOLI

Following a phone call from Lt Col MARIOTTI I called on MATTIOLI and represented our strong concern over the transfer of 240 men to BRINDISI from the lab pool at TARANTO, without the prior concurrence either of the Mission or of the people on the spot. I reminded MATTIOLI that when he had put fwd a proposal for such a transfer a few days earlier we were NOT able to agree without further investigation. His reply was as follows:-

- as Inspector of Lab it was his responsibility to org available lab to the best advantage
- this was an odd number of arty men whom he wished to regroup with arty personnel at BRINDISI
- there were 1000 navy men at TARANTO who would be available very shortly to replace them
- our lab demands for TARANTO were much higher than they need be, compared with actual empl of lab during Jan, and this small number could easily be spared

To this I replied:-

- that in view of the posn very clearly defined at our last meeting this was tantamount to unilateral action on his part
- that in view of past experience navy men were NOT acceptable in substitution of army personnel without agreement of those concerned on the spot
- that our lab demands for each port were part of a long-term plan and could not be arbitrarily scaled down
- that by the removal of these 240 men we were now below the figure required for TARANTO

I then saw Gen MARIOTTI, and after I had outlined the posn MATTIOLI was called in and repeated more or less what he had said before. MARIOTTI subscribed to these views, and stated further that:-

- as long as the discharge of ships was NOT held up there could be no objection on our part to these transfers of personnel such as had just taken place.

during Jan, and this small number could easily be spared

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I then saw Gen MARIOTTI, and after I had outlined the posn MATTIOLI was called in and repeated more or less what he had said before. MARIOTTI subscribed to these views, and stated further that:-

- as long as the discharge of ships was NOT held up there could be no objection on our part to transfers of personnel such as had just taken place.
- in any case "the lemon had already been squeezed dry", there was no further personnel to draw from on the mainland, and that apart from adjustments from one port to another, the only source now was from SARDINIA
- although on paper it appeared that there was surplus personnel in the combatant divs, actually this was all needed to bring the authorized divs up to full strength.

LIAISON WITH S M R E

21 Jan 44

N I L

22 Jan 44

Gen MATTIOLI

(lab)

With Lt. Col. MORIARTY - two-hour discussion, during which the seriousness of the port lab shortage in relation to the programme est by Gen DOWLER at the beginning of Dec was made very clear to the Inspector of Lab. He said he knew nothing about the proposal to remove the Avieri from the BARI lab pool. After leaving the office for a short while to talk to Gen MARIOTTI, he returned and stated that the men required by the month-end to reach the target figure would be forthcoming, providing there were no difficulties over tpt.

XX

Capt FORESI

(tpt)

Rechecked a FLAMBO signal covering various tp moves to take place in the next few days. Our signal in correction puts the matter in order.

The two tele line coys are still without tpt.

Lt Col GUIDA

(mob)

Requested infm about Italian Bakery ~~units~~ units. Fm of third tele line coy getting under way.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

(ord)

In reply to his signal requesting that surplus personnel or Remount sta be used as rfts for No 1 Pack Tpt Coy, Gen BASSO has signalled that he has been instructed to form a second remount sta. As Stato Maggiore know nothing of this, they have signalled back that Gen BASSO has no authority to form this second remount sta. In the meantime we do NOT know whether the IPack Tpt Coy has been reinforced or not.

8734

LIAISON WITH S M R E

20 Jan 44

Lt Col PANERAY
(telecomms)

Inf'd him that we had got through to NAPLES the previous day by phone and that the line was good. Very interested, but has NOT yet tried the other circuits.

Lt Col QUERCIA
(servizi genio)

Return of WT sets to depots by the three corps NOT yet completed, but he is going to send us in a list at once of the material already collected. He is assuming that we do NOT wish him to call in the sets in use with the Italian AA org at BARI.

4000 insulators available at BARI. Letter following.

Passes for reps of CE and CRE to enter Italian engr stores sent to the MISSION under cover their letter of II Dec N°633

Lt Col GUIDA
(mob)

7 Alpine BN is leaving to-day, but is NOT yet provided with interpreters - they are scratching around for some. Numbers entrained :- 9 ofrs, 12 nco's, 48I men. Confirmation of departure rec'd from Tpt Office SMRE.

Eqpt of W/I Pl:- Two RI 2 sets - all they have available in good order. Others are being repaired. If it is found that this type of set is satisfactory in their new emp, other sets can be issued when repaired.

Badges for grey-green BD. Probably only stars and badges of rank required, but will confirm. ITALIA flashes NOT available. Advised that GAY's party already equipped with grey-green BD, which they did NOT know.

Gave him warning order about a third line^{tele} coy - GUIDA later advised that apart from two coys with army corps no further personnel available on mainland. Wants to get them from SARDINIA. Told him to put it in writing.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
(ord)

No reply yet from SARDINIA about specialists in mob wksp's there. Being followed-up.

Lt COL GUIDA

(mob)

7 Alpine BN is leaving to-day, but is NOT yet provided with interpreters - they are scratching around for some. Numbers entrained :- 9 offr's, 12 nco's, 481 men. Confirmation of departure recd from Tpt Office SMRE.

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Lt COL MILLEFIORINI

(ord)

No reply yet from SARDINIA about specialists in mob wksp's there. Being followed-up.

No reply from IX Corps about new Posacavi PL. This also being chased. Later advised that he had been through to IX Corps by phone and that they were sending someone up to TRANI from BARI, as it was impossible to get through to TRANI by phone.

25 and 152 Artillery Coys of LEGNANO Div, available on temporary basis. Location: MANDURIA. MMIA to advise where required and when. Action wanted please.

210 Artillery Coy:- Tpt and tech eqpt details ^{NOT} available. Will be advised as soon as possible.

Maj PINNA

(ops)

BERARDI wants appointment with Gen MACFARLANE; advised that this should be done through Comando Supremo. Object is to discuss situation in SARDINIA.

II4 MG Bn:- Strength 28 offr's, 25 nco's, 460 or's baggage and other details separately.

I and 2 coys at OTRANTO, 705 and 706 coys at GALLIPOLI Ready to move 24/25 inst.

continued...

20 Jan 44 continued

Col PULIZZI
(tpt)

40 Horses for XV Army Gp:- Tpt laid on for 22 inst.
556 Coastal Bn:- Two Coys passed through BARI on 18 inst, on their way from CROTONE to TERMOLI.

First batch of engr rffs left LECCE for FOGGIA to-day.
Departure confirmed. 4 offrs and 180 or's
Second batch leaving to-morrow.

Maj MAIOCCHI
(ops)

Data for Order of Battle will continue to be supplied on 10, 20, and 30 of each month, as this is more convenient for them. One due to-day is in the mail.
MAIOCCHI pointed out that his figures would always vary somewhat compared with the ration return, as he had a few days longer to prepare his figures⁺. However, where these differences occur, he will account for them by marginal notes.
+ and therefore incl more up-to-date infm.

Col PULIZZI
(tpt)

Second Line Tele Coy ex CATANZARO:- Tpt was requested from FLAMBO in the regular way, but NO reply received by Tpt Office SMRE. As this coy is required in BARI to tie up with its eqpt delivered there, action required please.

LIAISON WITH SMRE

19 Jan 44

Col PULIZZI

(tpt)

With Capt BIRD - discussion of new tpt arrangements in APULIA, (to be confirmed in writing) and other matters. PULIZZI is going to CALABRIA on Monday to visit his Delegazioni there. Gave him Maj LENZNER's address.

Maj PINNA

(ops)

Stressed great inconvenience caused by last minute changes in mov arrangements, as in case of 7 Alpine Bn. Requested him to arrange that these things are properly laid on in future.

II4 MG Bn:- Full particulars promised for later to-day.

29 Bergaglieri Bn:- infm previously given NOT accurate. Ops staff seemingly NOT in the picture. See below.

Returned two SMRE letters about Sicily, and asked that it be clearly est that these matters must be dealt with through Comando Suprmo channels. Same applies to questions affecting SARDINIA, also Italian Navy and Air Force.

LT Col GUIDA

(mob)

29 Bersaglieri Bn:- ~~XXXXXX~~ Approx 350 men of this bn together with the remnants of 5I BN are to form one of the bns of the I3 Bersaglieri Regt of the I Mob Bde. The other bn will be the 33 Bn from SARDINIA. GUIDA says that a discussion has been going on as to whether 29/5I bn is to be formed in APULIA or on CAMPANIA. Gen UTILE was round at SM to-day, and it appears that LI Corps has prevailed and that ~~xxx training~~ ^{reforming} is to be done in APULIA. This means that the remainder of 5I Bn will have to travel down from CAMPANIA. It has NOT been settled whether it is to be called 29 or 5I.

Gen MATTIOLI

(lab)

Saw Brig Palmer in BARI yesterday and discussed various matters incl:- searching lab personnel after work in docks, which he asked should be done by Italian personnel (this was agreed); request for soap, anti-lice powder, disinfectant etc.

Raised question of naval lab at BRINDISI, which ³⁷³² MATTIOLI ^{said} was at present outside his control. Lt Col MORIARTY has since discussed this with him, also the question of transferring 1000 additional sailors from TARANTO to BRINDISI.

Also availability at BARLETTA, with particular ref to 372 Bn which is on guard duties, yet figures as prt lab, also on our Order of Battle.

LIAISON WITH SMRE

18 Jan 1944

Col PULIZZI

(tpt)

Discussed notification to us of departure of units according to schedule - this is slow at the moment and will have to be accelerated.

7 Alpine Bn:- according to infm passed to Delegazione Tpti Bari by 2 Dist, just received at SMRE, this bn is to proceed to PERSANO on 20 inst. PULIZZI agreed his request for tpt was vague, and will have this watched infuture. Suggests for this time that 6 trucks and 1 coach are laid on at CISTERMINO, and 7 trucks at PRINDISI.

210 Artieri Coy:- tpt requested for 20 inst - direct to 2 Dist.

Engr rits for 8 Army:- 200 to leave LECCE for FOGGIA ~~IX~~ I9 inst, and 200 20 inst ditto. Infm recd through Delegazione Tpti Bari and 2 Dist.

40 horses for XV Army Gp:- Tpt requested ~~in Bari~~ in Bari for 20 inst.

Maj PINNA

(ops)

Passed on Fé d'OSTIANI's name.

II4 MG Bn:- location : OTRANTO

strength : about 500

stores : ?

Hopes to let us know later to-day if and when ready to go and full particulars.

29 Bersaglieri Bn:- This is the second bn to make up the I3 Bersaglieri Regt in the DAPINO Gp. The other bn is the 51, which has already been in action. 29 Bn is NOT the unit of 650 rfts originally discussed in this connection, which was composed of 500 inf men (since absorbed into 68 regt) and I65 Bersaglieri (now in 29 Bn).

There is also a bn rft unit for DAPINO Gp being formed in CAMPANIA, comprising both inf and bersaglieritps; PINNA assures me that this has never been the subject of discussion.

Gen MARIOTTI

1000 CT Coy is under comd IX Corps. To overcome adm difficulties, OC coy is being told to apply to the grn comd ^{73rd} LOW-BARDI) for his requirements, since Corps HQ at BARI are too

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Gen MARIOTTI

IOOO CT Coy is under comd IX Corps. To overcome adm difficulties, OC coy is being told to apply to the grn comd (73rd LOM-BARDI) for his requirements, since Corps HQ at BARI are too far away for easy working.

Lt Col PANERAI
(telecomms)

DRY cells:- advised that their requests will be supplied by us and that we are only waiting to know where and how to collect.

MONOPOLI- SAN VITO - BRINDISI phone comms:- he is enquiring to what extent they will be affected, and will let us know.

(R) is item on our programme (I am 109 of ASD letter of 26 Dec)
~~There is~~ we must organise a program report on raising of
units in programme — say fortnightly. Would it be
better to have it on 7 or 14 of month as to avoid the date
of fortnightly strength state?

18/1/61
COP

LIAISON WITH S M R E

17 Jan 44

Maj. SANPO
(ops)

- Handwritten:* Report to 5th Army 68 6608 07 15 Jan (above)
- This ofr, formerly 2i/c, has now taken over the office following Col. LELLA's departure. SANPO was away to-day and I spoke to Maj PINNA, who referred my enquiries to Gen Mariotti, and later gave me the following replies:-
- Conditions of billets of IOOI GT Coy at POLLIGNANO - an ofr is being sent out there straight away, and they will let us have a report on action taken.
 - 29 Bersaglieri Bn is the unit referred to in 5 Army sig of I5 inst as replacement for DARPINO Gp. This bn is in this district and will be ready to move in 2 to 3 days. It will move by rd in Italian tpt. Understand it will be inspected by MESSE on 19 - (by moving by rd they will be able to make some propaganda on the way to their destination, -my comment)
 - Bn for guard duties at SALERNO. II4 MG Bn has been suggested to Comando Supremo and a decision is being sought by phone to-day. PINNA promised to ring us later in the day and advise about move.

Lt Col PANERAI
(telecomms)

Away sick; unable to contact his lt.

Lt Col GUIDA
(mob)

Handwritten: Sign. 11

Designation of 3 Special Artillery Coy is being changed to 800 POSACAVI Coy. Will try and confirm in writing later to-day that they are ready to move.

Handwritten: Sign. 11

Lt MARCO has been named to command the new pl being formed for cable-laying, and IX Corps is being chased for date when pl will be ready.

Handwritten: Sign. 11

IOOI GT Coy, which is nearly complete, is understood to be destined for PALO DEL COLLE (nr BARI). Contrary to previous advice, IOO2 Coy will be substantially formed in two or three days by a draft of 200 partially trained men from 9 Regt Autieri. These men will be passed out as fully trained 20 days from the day when the trg vehs are supplied. Action required please.

Plans for IOO3 are based on this coy being formed from personnel in SARDINIA.

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Lt Col GUIDA

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Maj LUNARDONI

(vet)

States that list of farrier stores was sent to us on 27 Dec. Obtained copy for DADOS.

Our urgent request for 40 horse for XV Army Gp is undergoing the usual lengthy procedure between office and office. Told him to get cracking.

Gen MATTIOLI

(LAB)

Away for the day. Reserve matters in hand for his return.

Col PULIZZI

(tpt)

Basing himself on FLAMBO directive for tpt requests in cases where comms are difficult and the tpt urgent, PULIZZI has applied to MOVIT direct in a number of recent cases. He is sending us a copy of comms received from Delegazione Trasporti Bari, saying that they have been infd by 2 Dist that none of these moves can be made without prior authorisation from FLAMBO. This affects several moves of interest to the Mission services, notably engrifts for 8 Army and 2IO Artieri Coy.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

(ord)

By signal 15 Jan he instructed FFAA Campania to bring I Coy Salmerie up to strength from rfts available in Campania, consequent on movement from BARI to Campagna of Remount Sta. Signalling to-day for confirmation; this has been done.

LIAISON WITH S M R E

17 Jan 44

Maj. SANPO

(ops)

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Report
5th Army
68 4608
07/15 Jan
(above)

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Col PULIZZI
(tpt)

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Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

By signal 15 Jan he instructed FFAA Campania to bring I Coy Salmerie up to strengthen from rits available in Campania, consequent on movement from BARI to Campania of Remount Sta. Signalling to-day for confirmation that this has been done.

LIAISON WITH S M R E

16 Jan 44

Col PULIZZI

(tpt)

Can he have something ⁱⁿ writing, please, about new arrangements for tpt in APULIA.

Tpt for 210 Artieri Coy for 19 inst is being requested to-day.

IX Corps have requested cancellation of tpt for 519 GAF Tp from GROTTAGLIE to BARI, as tpt has already been completed by rd with vehicles provided by allied HQ;

Lt Col GUIDA

(mob)

1001 GTC probably completed to-day.

1002 GTC unlikely to be completed by 25 inst, unless ^{gfts} brought over from SARDINIA - letter to follow.

LIAISON WITH S M R E

15 JAN 44

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

(ord)

First batch of engr rfts for 8 Army ready to leave
I200 hrs I7 inst, provided tpt is available.

Further pl of non-specialized personnel for cable laying
has been laid on - our SD/8/9 refers

Lt Col GUIDA

(mob)

Enlarged on our request for a coy for mess duties at
SME CAPUA. They do NOT like this, and we shall probably
have a squeal.

LI Corps advise that I Autonomous W/I Pl (for XV ArmyGp)
formed at II2 WT Coy FRANCAVILLA is ready to move.

IOOI GT Coy only 38 men short now. It is reported that
the 9 vehs supplied for trg are NOT in working order.

Action required please.

Posn of IOO2 Coy will be notified in a day or two.

The situation of 2IO Artieri Coy is as follows:-

Our initial request I7 Dec

Further comn extending time limit by
two weeks 20 Dec 28

Order passed to LI Corps giving "dead-
line" as IO Jan

Our order to move 28 Dec

Passed on to LI Corps 9 Jan

Offr from LI Corps advises SM personally
that unit still short of men II Jan

I5 Jan

From the above it emerges that :

- A IO-day hold-up on the part of SM at the start
- NOT a word or ack from LI Corps until I5 Jan
- SM Tpt office wisely refrained from laying on tpt
until they had made sure that the unit was ready
to move.

The unit will be ready to move on I9 or 20 inst -
from LECCE.

Action required please.

Posn of IOO2 Coy will be notified in a day or two.

The situation of 2IO Artieri Coy is as follows:-

Our initial request 17 Dec

Further comn extending time limit by two weeks 20 Dec

Order passed to LI Corps giving "dead-line" as 10 Jan 28 Dec

Our order to move 9 Jan

Passed on to LI Corps 11 Jan

Offr from LI Corps advises SM personally that unit still short of men 15 Jan

From the above it emerges that :

- A 10-day hold-up on the part of SM at the start
- NOT a word of ack from LI Corps until 15 Jan
- SM Tpt office wisely refrained from laying on tpt until they had made sure that the unit was ready to move.

The unit will be ready to move on 19 or 20 inst - from LECCE.

Another Case :- 3 Special Artieri Coy

Formed at Gen Utile's request at end of Nov

Stores authorised at that time, to which were added

a few special items (all available from Italian stores) at our request, which was dated 4 Jan

Reply from IX Corps stating that men are ready

but stores NOT yet issued 14 Jan

Col PULIZZI
(tpt)

Tpt for 7 Alpine Regt requested from FLAMBO 8 Jan . No reply received to date. Action required please.

Tpt request renewed for Line Coy FRANCAVILLA to BARI.

LIAISON WITH SMRE

14 Jan 44

Col PULIZZI
(tpt)

Advised posn of:- amm wagons from Calabria for DAPINO Gp
air force and navy tpt needs
recovery of mob rly wksp in SICILY
requisitioning of vehs for rly in Sicily
request of two rly coaches for tpt of
sick in APULIA

On the subject of the 1200 soldier workers for BARI who
did NOT materialise for the tpt laid on for them, it seems
the tps were already in BARI, and the tpt should NOT have
been asked for.

Tpt for 210 Artieri Coy NOT yet laid on. They were follow-
ing usual procedure of waiting to receive confirmation of
numbers etc; from the Army Corps.

Gen MATTIOLI

Demobbed tps from North Italy are retained with their unit
until they produce written evidence of having found civilian
emp. It is NOT practicable to eliminate these men from
rfts before they are sent to the ports for lab. MATTIOLI
takes the line that we do NOT need to bother about these
matters of detail any longer, as he will make it his job
to see that we get the totals we ask for. Similarly he
is only interested in the totals of parade states for each
centre, and these are the only figures he will have available.
Requested him to pass them on to us about the middle of
each week.

Tps are sent on leave on two main grounds:-
Compassionate leave, as we understand it;
Agricultural leave.

3727

Compassionate leave is for few days only, Agricultural
leave may be up to 3 weeks. There is no leave granted
in the ordinary sense. Percentage on leave therefore bears
no fixed relation to strength of unit, as it varies with
the composition of the unit, i.e. whether many farm workers
etc. MATTIOLI is leaving this aspect, too, to the dis-
cretion of the local lab comd., and just concerning himself
with the totals for the area.

Col MAIANA is NOT yet in TARANTO. Meantime Gen LOMBARDI,
at COMANDO PRESIDIO R.E. is answering for lab matters.

Col LELLA
(ops)

Left SMRE to-day to take comd of 150 Inf Regt.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
(mob)

Latest details of ^{engr} rfts for 8 Army are now:-
200 to leave provisionally on 17 inst
200 two or three days later.

Confirmation to-morrow.

CALLING-UP: The 1924 class has already been called up, except
for small numbers in CALABRIA. 19-year olds are
liable in this war; in Great War it was down to,
18

LIAISON WITH

SMRE

13 Jan 44

Gen MARIOTTI

With comd, re recruiting additional MT personnel
combatant divs
carabinieri

Lt Col PIZZOLINI
(lab)

left message for Gen MATTEOLI re situation at BARLETTA.
Approx 300 rfts required to complete requirements
there, and allow for shifts. Accn no problem.

Enquired whether they knew anything about ffts for
BARI on previous day being cancelled - they heard
about it late in the afternoon. Are making enquiries.

Lt Col PANERAI
(telecomms)

Advised of arrangement for passing their comms for
Naples via sigs office Bari.

For comms between LECCE and FRANCAVILLA they have
at present only one line between LECCE and BRINDISI,
and one line BETWEEN BRINDISI and FRANCAVILLA.
The former has to serve all comms from LECCE to
BARI (phantom line NOT working properly) and it is
difficult with the priorities for Govt calls to
synchronize both secs of the line to FRANCAVILLA.

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI
(serv arty)

Advised about posn of Beretta automatics and amn
supposed to come from SARDINIA; if the matter has
NOT been settled this has to be done through ACC.

Complained of continued delay in providing ³⁵²⁶tpt for
amn destined to DAPINO* Gp from CALABRIA. Latter* is
reputed to be actually short of certain types of amn.

Col PULIZZI
(tpt)

Requested decision about two hospital coaches for
conveying sick and wounded in APULIA.

Prospected move of 68 Regt to DAPINO Gp. When this
is authorised they will need 50 trucks for animals
alone. FOGGIA - BENEVENTO - NAPLES line now work-
ing - about five trains per day in each direction.

300 engr rfts for 8 Arm NOT yet ready to move. Latest
infm is that they will be ready on 15

Gen MARIOTTI

Delivered sig about combatant divs and fixed appoint-
ment with Marshal MESSE for 1000 hrs to-morrow.

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
(mob)

Nothing new about GT coys. Thinks the gap has been
narrowed for 2nd coy, but will give me further details
to-morrow.

LIAISON WITH SMRE

12 Jan 44

Lt Col CANNONE
(Mob)

Three farriers for X Corps. One left on 10 inst,
other two about to go. Copy of IX Corps sig on its way.

Lt Col CHECCHIA
(Servizi)

Clothing for 3 Artieri Coy duly taken up with IX
Corps yesterday.
Eqpt for Telegrafisti Coy at Francavilla will be issued
to them to-morrow.

Particulars of offr trying to requisition building
at FASANO are given as:-

Capt NORMAN - on behalf of Col PELLAR, 10 Vehicle Coy

Lt Col PULIZZI
(tpt)

Tpt for 300 engr rfts for 8 Army NOT yet requested
by LI Corps, despite messages sent to them. An offr
is being sent there to-day.

Still no reply from FLAMBO to requests for tpt - their
request for 64 trucks for amn for DAPINO gp dated 25
Dec considered urgent. They have signalled accordingly
with copy to us.

Maj. SANPÒ
(ops)

Reply to our G/9/II 9 Jan (composition of divs and
Carabinieri) ready in draft form and being considered
by Gen MARIOTTI. Arranged to call again this after-
noon to collect reply - either written or verbal.

Lt Col GUIDA
(ord)

His understanding of the present posn of Italian divs
is as follows:-

DAPINO ~~XXXXX~~ : 67 Regt two bns ^{25 25}
Bersaglieri two bns No 33 ^{and 25}
with elements of the 29 Bn in the latter.

EMILIA
under
consideration

I20 Regt from CATTARO
II9 Regt at present with PICENO div
Other units from MANTOVA div

LEGNANO

68 Regt - earmarked for DAPINO and
ready to move 20 inst.

93 Regt
II4 "

ex MANTOVA div

Maj. SANPÒ
(ops)

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II9 Regt at present with PICENO div
Other units from MANTOVA div

LEGNANO
68 Regt - earmarked for DAPINO and
ready to move 20 inst.

93 Regt
II4 " ex MANTOVA div

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
(mob)

Disbanding of 308 Coastal Bn. Their comn of 8 Jan
II52/ORD should be taken to read nothing more than
a change of designation. In effect above bn will be
known as 9 MG BN as from I5 inst.
Requested a signal be sent to IX Corps asking for
strength of 9 MG Bn on I5 inst.

Gen. MARIOTTI
Maj. SANPÒ
(ops)

Called for reply - see above - but this was NOT ready.
They appear to attach importance to the wording, as
the Gen wanted to submit reply to BERARDI first.
Promised for early tomorrow.

Gen MATTEOLI
(lab)

600 more men have been moved to BRINDISI. Of these
400 are housed in tents supplied by the sub-area, and
200 in existing accn. 350 sailors are arriving shortly.
About 8 huts have been found in the area - it is hoped
to reassemble these in BRINDISI, to house 100 to 150
men apiece.

BARI availability approx 5,300; from which have to be
deducted 300 of remount sta going to NAPLES, and added
a net figure of about 1600, which is what they estimate
rfts in view will produce. MATTEOLI is confident of
reaching the target for Jan and FEB, but anticipates
difficulty in arriving at the figure for I Mar.

LIAISON WITH SMRE

12 Jan 44 contd.

Lt Col PIZZOLINI
(lab)

Senior Italian lab offr in BARLETTA:

Col Tommaso AIELLO

15° Regt Fanteria

Col Maiana has NOT yet taken up his duties at Taranto.

Lt Col CANNONE
(mob)

LI Corps instructed to apply forthwith for tpt for moving 210 Artieri Coy to ACERRA - and an offr to report at once to IO5 DCRE.

3724

LIAISON WITH SMRE - 11 Jan 44

Lt CHIERICI
(Telecomms)

Will see that LECCE - MAGEIE line is operated by SET. at either end.

For WT comms with SARDINIA SMRE make use of Italian Navy set.

The three BRINDISI - LECCE ^{circuits} working satisfactorily.

Mag. LUNARDONI
(Vet)

Request for 40 horses etc was passed to Col VALLONE verbally by Col INTRONA of COMANDO TERRITORIALE BARI. Nobody seems to know who the horses are for. Told the maj we can do nothing until he finds out.

Lt Col LICCI
(Servizi)

Clothing for 3 Coy Artieri at TRANI was requested through WAR MINISTRY on 7 inst - it appears latter has failed to pass on authority to IX Army Corps. SMRE will chase.

Lt Col CHIAPPARELLI
(Serv Artigleria)

Is anxious to limit issue of amm for Beretta automatics for I Reparto Speciale to 130,000 rounds, ref SD/I/2/5 8 Jan.

Is equally anxious to sup Beretta automatics to Mob Bde with 5 Army out of stocks withdrawn from Italian Navy, amounting to 43I pieces, and NOT withdraw 33I automatics from SARDINIA for this purpose as proposed by AFHQ to ACC in their 20986 of 29 Dec. Para one refers, as they were also to withdraw amm for Berettas from SARDINIA.

Lt Col GUIDA
(Mob)

Personnel for GT Coys running short. Thinks he can complete IOOI from available resources, though ~~these~~ are becoming of increasingly poor quality. If much difficulty is encountered with IOO2 - as he anticipates - may have to request their withdrawal from SARDINIA.

Lt Col SIMONETTI
(Tpt)

Already requested FIAMBO for tpt for Remount Sta IOJan

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI
(Ore)

Confirms that 9 MG Bn is up to full strength and

(Serv Artiglieria)

matics for I Reparto Speciale to 130,000 rounds, per SD/I/2/5 8 Jan.

Is equally anxious to sup Beretta automatics to Mob Bde with 5 Army out of stocks withdrawn from Italian Navy, amounting to 43I pieces, and NOT withdraw 33I automatics from SARDINIA for this purpose as proposed by AFHQ to ACC in their 20986 of 29 Dec.
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Lt Col SIMONETTI Already requested FIAMBO for tpt for Remount Sta IOJan

(Tpt)

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

(Ord)

Confirms that 9 MG Bn is up to full strength and carrying out duties of former 308 Coastal BN

Col LELLA

(Ops)

Has to obtain name of senior offr i/c lab at BARLETTA from BARI - will notify later. Addresses of others:
Col MOGGIO= same building as Pnr Gp BRINDISI.
Col MOCCIA= HQ IX Army Corps BARI
Col MAIANI= still to take up his duties at TARANTO.

SECRET

LIAISON AT SMRE

- morning of 10 Jan 44

Lt Col. CANNONE
(Mob)

Personnel of remount sta for 5 Army. Full complement will be ready to move 14 inst - probable deficiency in farriers and vet offrs. Told Cannone to have tpt laid on straight away. ? destination

Col LELLA
(Ops)

Nothing to report.

Lt Col Panerai
(Telecomms)

Delivered letter for sig sec going to SALERNO - work there is for new quarters for King and Govt cepts, ex BRINDISI and BARI.

Col GRIGLIO
(Personnel)

Lt COLONNA's wherabouts

Col. PULIZZI
(Trasporti)

Warned of forthcoming moves of rfts far of engrs for 8 Army, and personnel of Remount Sta for 5 Army. Request for tpt for engrs already recd.

Discussed their requests to Flambo for tpt. - Capt Bird infd.

Pulizzi mentioned new arrangements for securing rail tpt in APULIA, through Mov Bari .

Gen MATTEOLI
(Lab)

Was in Bari yesterday and the day before. Feels strongly about conditions under which Italian Mil lab ~~xxx~~ working. Would like us to sup his tps with anti-house powder. Slight moans about squads of workers being kept for hours on the quai without any work. Hopes to build numbers up very shortly.

Lt Col
MILZEFIORINI
(Ordinamento)

Collected ests of mob wkps in SARDEGNA for sig.

Lt Col CANNONE
(Mob)

Follow-up re 3 Farriers for X Corps - no reply yet. Had signaa sent to Italian HQ in Campania to find out if they had arrived there.

Gen MATTEOLI
(Lab)



Lt Col
MILZEFIORINI
(Ordinamento)

Lt Col CANNONE
(Mob)

Was in Bari yesterday and the day before. Feels strongly about conditions under which Italian Mil lab ~~are~~ working. Would like us to sup his tps with anti-mouse powder. Slight means about squads of workers being kept for hours on the quai without any work. Hopes to build numbers up very shortly.

Collected ests of mob wksp in SARDEGNA for sig.

Follow-up re 3 Farriers for X Corps - no reply yet. Had signal sent to Italian HQ in Campania to find out if they had arrived there.

*X Should be requested direct from
Sub. Area by Italian. Prob. covered
Matteoli told.*



17 Dec 43

DAIRY HANSON, LOG

Subject

History

Hallam Avenue
State

Informed by Col Zeller that Gen W B Smith
of 5 AFHQ was attending operations for conference
held on weapon & arm figures of Italian
which included Col. Morrell. Data obtained
from Comdante Reparto of 13 in Sardinia was
compared to figure provided by Col Simmons
LD. to Hallam (including Sardinia). SMRE were
to provide remaining data by this evening &
sent to Col Zeller at ACE.

b) at the request of the Comd, Rang Brig.
Morrell to know whether Col Simmons should
go to the Conference tomorrow. Rang Morrell
decided he should go.

Ver offe - Garrison
for 5 Army.

Officio Ordinamento had still not found
any means of sending these men to 5 Army.
I suggested they go and the two leaves were
to, Spino Bado, for which I made out papers.
This was too late as letters were being turned
over. I then suggested they go to 31st Div
being going to 1st PzK Transport Coy. This had
not been decided to them. I suggested they leave
with all depots in SMRE and have a letter
might be going.

Ver after 2 hours.
for 5 days.

go to the conference tomorrow. King mentioned
that he should go.

Officers Ordinarients had still not found
any means of sending there upon to 5 Army.
I suggested they go and the two horses going
to Borno Bar for which I made out papers.
This was too late as horses are leaving tomorrow
evening. I then suggested they go and
berry going to 1st Pack Transport Coy. They had
not looked to them. I suggested they have
with all depots in 5th ME and can a berry
might be going.

The depots remaining for at least another day at Bundee are C of S, S.D., Services and G (Ops). These are expected to move day after tomorrow.

Whole dept has moved with advance party of 400 to SENECA near Indian Reservation where they are now within next week or so but nothing is definite yet.

Lyman Co. 1894

S.M. D.R. MOVL.

David Lee
400.

785020

16 Dec 43

DAILY MESSAGE LOG

Subject

Dekton

14 Pack for Coy

MTI Office had arranged for a truck & driver to be made available for this week but an investigation they admitted they had not made the location of the unit. They are making arrangements for the supply of fuel from their own sources.

C (ops)

where not certain of the difference between the boundaries of Rear Combat Zone & limit of control of movement as shown on our thick trace supplied to them.

✓
C
Applying this of clearing 11/12 today 11/12

400 Markers are

SIRBIDIA

NO
NO
NO

SMAC enquired whether we ever gave an order in writing for 200 markers to be concentrated in SIRBIDIA - to be used as reserves. This is over & above the two units says already provided - a further 300 caps would be ready in SIRBIDIA. The 200 markers were seen given in letters from 15 Dec. via Gen. OTM. Dated 20 Nov.

150 small

Indians have

1 made enquiries from 1st

SARK enquired whether we ever gave an order in writing for 400 mules to be concentrated in SARDHAT - to be used as reserves. This is over & above the two mule days already provided - a further 350 days mules ready in SARDHAT. The 400 mules were to be ready by 1 Feb. Instructions have already been given in letters from 15 AG, Sec. Gen. WHE dated 20 Nov.

I made enquiries from Ufficio Ordinamento who promised to look into the matter. They were optimistically vague about the existence of such mules.

Received from (Glor) Halima Army State as at 10 Dec. State of CCRR, MVS, etc.

Col Kella phoned to say that Col VILSONE had informed him that of the 4 labour groups available ready for BARI, two had been allocated to BRINDISI by 2 District. 6-7 groups were going from SQUINZANO to BARI, 8-9 groups from VIGLIE to BRINDISI. Strength of each group was:

19 mules, 17 mules & 600 lbs.

2 District were arranging the mule transport.

Kella

400 mules in
SARDHAT

NO

150 mules
riding horses
(A.Q. 18 of 2 Dec)

Halima State
from (Glor)

4 Labour Bns

785020

15 Dec 43

Subject

Mass Cattle -
Registration Cards

Below

Care had previously arranged through SMC the registration of cars. 2 animals allotted - one at Bari Care has rescheduled. Syrus for that care is standing batteries. Bari (G.M.T. Regt) are withholding these cars on the grounds that returned Bahian MT is to be kept (see our memo). Care would approximate our order to release these as he is in urgent need - we are sure Care would have to get this fixed back. SMC have written us a letter with details.

Said Col. Woodhouse. He was requested by the Brigadier (Capt Fox) can be released in about 3 days. so even as he has put his relief in the picture. Bahove problem in Registrar is augmented by the fact that 3.19 Vandy has handed over to U.S. but last round barracks, which could have easily accommodated additional Bahove. Americans did not do this through the normal channels

BA
Average *idea*
16/12/43
Col.

Letter not received yet 17 Dec 43

21 Subs Given

Letter not received
yet 17 Dec 94

77 Subo Area

Case would then go to his by us
back-SURE have written in a letter
with details

Saw Col. Woodhouse - He ofr.
requested by the Brigadier (Capt Fox)
case be released in about 3 days. so
soon as he has put his relief in the
picture. Labored problem in the
is augmented by the fact that 3:19
Wang has handed over to U.S. Air Force
native barracks, which could have
easily accommodated additional
barracks. Americans did not do this
through the normal channels

1st Pack Tol Coy

An official request was made by
them for a truck. - SURE are also
providing a driver, who will apparently
leave after to the unit. They are
satisfied that it's held up satisfactorily

Yonkers Coy

785020

15 DEC 43
DAILY HANGLON HSG

Embarked

Armed Weapons
Armed State

Station

1. Saw Gen Taylor - gave him the latest order figures from SMRE. He told me he had written to them giving the total amounts - allocations of arty weapons - arms - showed me the copy. Later I saw Gen Taylor again with Col Zeller. I was decided that whilst Gen Taylor would deliver the Sardinian state from Syracuse bound. MIA, would obtain from SMRE state of total arty - arms available in the mainland, with details as to where it is located, if in depot or distributed among formations. Col Zeller is collaborating with

2. Arty see SMRE for details of guns as well as arms. This may take a little time as the dept is flapping.

Transport Effect
(Can't move (if
even for DAPNO)

2. District has informed them that the previously arranged move of 24 munition trucks destined for DAPNO Pde is postponed for 7 to 8 days - that these trucks are to be unloaded again. SMRE have been given no specific reason for this - point out the urgency of work for DAPNO which had been planned there was in fact one of the reasons why the Pde went into action. They are refusing

3718

located, with details as to where it is located. If an agent is distributed among information, Col. Zeller is, collaborate with me.

Agent Galt see SMAC for details of plans as well as agent. This may take a little time as the report is ongoing.

A District has informed them that the previously arranged issue of 32 munitions trucks destined for DAPINO Rde is 5-18 postponed for 7 to 8 days & that these trucks are to be unloaded again. SMAC have been given no specific reason for this - point out the urgency of such for DAPINO which had been promised them was in fact one of the reasons why the Rde went into action. They are relying on this supply - ask me to help them.

They have instructed Bahon Movement REGGIO EMILIA to arrange the immediate issue of this by train SPERAZZO ABBIATE-NO SILENTO. They were told by a District to contact REGGIO direct. They understood that according to our letter of instructions that in this case they should have contacted WAP's, via District. They would appreciate a clarification on this point.

Transmit office
(Real Works R.H.
agent for DAPINO)

311 Reg Coy
227 Div

R

Subject	Action
<u>Harker Bay for</u> <u>71 Sub. area</u> RE Harker Bay RDL <u>Eng. Office.</u> RE Harker Bay RDL	This Coy was asked for some weeks back through 7 Army. Who could not supply me at the time. A further request was made, but not through us, and a Coy of 300 men has now been formed under a "Randomized" leader a consist of 6 pls each of 50 men 4 pls are road laborers and 2 pls carpenters & bricklayers. Coy is going to S VTO and has been named "20 Bittern Coy". They would like a meeting from us on the channel to be held for making requests for materials etc. ie. a) should they (SMRE) inform us of all demands made by their units - having received our yes or no, then ask them inform the Detachment General at the M of W who will inform the staff. or b) should M of W inform us after having had demand from SMRE. This is a longer procedure & they favor the former method. But in case we have to veto a demand

Eng Office

CDL

Retired Returns

for Col King

Red Storage
accommodation

DADST

They would like a ruling from us on the channel to be used for making requests for materials etc. ie. I should they (SMRE) inform us of all demands made by their units & having received our 'yes or no' they can then inform the Directorate General at the M of A who will release the stuff.

or I should M of A inform us after having had demands from SMRE. This is a longer procedure & they favour the shorter method. But in fact we have to take a demand & it will only have gone as far as SMRE & the procedure is quicker.

Message was left as per instructions from Q, for Col King. He was away & no-one knew when he would return.

For maximum storage of frozen meat space is required for 15000 quintals. If, as SMRE believe, they are being allocated a quota of fresh meat for use in hospitals only 600 quintals space will be required.

14 Dec 48

Covers
7 p.m. back to me

DAILY HANSON LOG

Subject

Action

Gen. Taylor

Gave me copy of further request from FREEDOM for AFE and S.A.F. for Yugoslavia. He said the next further signals to FREEDOM regarding policy of using Italian Combat Units but they inevitably refer to you and official. He is trying to adjust on the official policy being followed as soon as possible. He added he was getting the Italian state from SORDIA - 1 told there. I hope to have the matter state for the Italian mainland by this evening.

Italian state

Art's lecture supplied signals this evening but seemed me they were given to me "unofficially". It seems that LEGUANO did so to be given a number of workers & they were that were how many. The signals given exclude the materials and down held by DARIO group.

Specialist Units

3717

Gen. Taylor said he had been asked by Gen. Robertson to speak up by means of a letter to Meier, the provision of specialist units that had been asked for & that M.A.I.A. knew what units were concerned. He would like to know which there are so that he may quote them in his.

3717

evening but arrived in the morning. They were given the usual "unofficially" is news that the DAPNO is to be given a number of members. They were that since now entering the situation given outside the situation and again held by DAPNO group.

Gen. Taylor said he had been asked by the Robertson to spend up by means of a letter to move, that execution of specialist units that had been asked for. That M.M.A. knew what units were concerned, he would like to know, which those are, so that he may quote them in his letter to Messrs.

Col Burns commented that newspaper problems would be dealt with by Gen. CONNOR & BULLO would help in any nuclear problems. He asked me to keep in contact with him. He will also arrange to visit me whilst SORE.

SPARE (S.D.) were uncertain as to whether a further Coy had been asked for. I cleared up the situation & asked them to find out if the last pl. which was waiting, had moved. Friday, TRANI, had gone across.

SPARE (S.D.) was anxious to know when the Coy were going to be moved. I told them that they would be moving with it. I was finding

Specialist Units

King Sec

RE

DAPNO Group
Combat King Coy

1000 G.T. Coy

Subject

M.T. office.

Action.

A Corps has asked what type of M.T. will be made available for training the remaining two G.T. Corps in order that they may have necessary fuel, to be based on the fuel consumption of the particular type of vehicle.

Major Cave, some time ago, had asked SMRE for requisition two civilian cars for transport. Two cars were earmarked by 9 M.T. Regt at BARR. Major Cave sent up four types - intended for two Batteries. 9 M.T. Regt now declines to release the cars in question quoting our instructions that no Italian M.T. is to be requisitioned. Can we order the release of these cars otherwise he will have to recall the four types he has supplied. He is badly in need of these vehicles & would appreciate our order to release them.

SMRE would like to know if Lieut Busco, whom Otto took with him to Army, so, to be retained officially as L.O. with the Italian force H.Q. I told them to assume that he was unless we informed them to the contrary.

Major Cave,
(M.T. Sec. - H.C.C.)

Italian L.O.s

that no Italian M.T. has to be requisitioned. Can we order the release of these cars otherwise he will have to reduce the four figures he has supplied. He is hardly in need of these vehicles I would appreciate our order to release them.

SMKE would like to know if Lieut Bisco, whom Otto took with him to Army, is, to be retained officially as L.O. with the Italian force H.Q. I told them to assume that he was unless we informed them to the contrary.

Appt. for Brig Discharge. Phoned Duty ofr this evening to postpone appt till 15 pm on 15 Dec. They will phone us if this is not possible.

T. Dennis Capt.

Italian L.Os

Appt. for Brig Discharge
with 1st Gen Maweth

14 Dec 43

DAILY LIAISON LOG

Subject	Action
<u>Vet Hospitals</u>	SMRE are fairly certain that 110 & 130 Vet hospitals are available. If not those two, others are certain to be available or can be got ready at once. Have left verbal instructions to this effect & have also signalled Flambro
<u>Marker State</u>	Figures will be ready tomorrow morning
<u>Refy Section</u>	They are very worried about lack of 47/32 & 75/18 ammo for DAPMO Group. They have written us requesting release of ammo for 3916 S. 40000 as they are unable to complete the necessary "in-furces" for the side. D. J. Jones

12 Dec 43
DAILY LIAISON LOG

Subject	Action
Two Vet Hospitals	Made enquiries at SMR. They said they would condition today the existence of any such hospitals in E andina
1000 GT Coy.	Was been ready to move since 10 Dec. They have heard nothing more from TORO and are still awaiting answer. We have now signalled about this.
308 Bm Any info.	Gave Gen. Mariotti the job of our letter. He suggests that the 308 Bm 372 Bm should move up and order to make good all deficiencies
PADULA	Camp is officially known as Centro Apfuevda Voluntaria. PADULA. Gen. Mariotti has instructed 31 Bn 15 to look out for a suitable site in Calabria

A. Young (Sg)

have Gen. Mariatti the just a couple
 weeks. He suggests that the spare Pen
 272 Pen should move up and order
 to make good all deficiencies.

Camp to literally number as
 Centre of the Voluntary - PADOLA
 Gen. Mariatti has instructed 31 3415 to
 look out for a suitable site in Chakira

Agencia Coy



308 Pen

Any add:

PADOLA

✓
 signed

11 Dec 53
Daily Liaison HDB

Daily Liaison HDB

SubjectAFHQ Market
Demand

Action

Some Party decision at SMRE with
are gathering in data, they think that
on the mainland there is almost no
in the reports is only a little with field
information. They received some certain
reports to the office earlier on and
practically no stocks are held by coastal
units.

Left a note for Gen Taylor to this
effect.

Malian State

Gen. MacArthur informed me it
should be steady movements with latest
figures. He suggests that in future the
information should emanate from our
sources, i.e. 2 (Ops) SMRE at the state
ministry (Alibor). This will avoid obvious
contaminated in figures especially between
Indochina (could be nation strength) &
C-ops) based on effective strength.

Could left with data today for
the next is pretty tied up with data

3714

Vehicles from
10 Vehicle Park Bay

All vehicles have an acknowledgment in
showing on the latest return list are
the most

For. Blametha. unimproved are at should be ready. Numerous with latest figures. We suspect that in future the Blametha will be available from the states and the. (one) SMRE at the war university (abandoned). This will avoid obvious consequences, no surprise especially between Blametha (double in nation strength) - (type) based on effective strength.

avoid last with DTS today for every
the need is fairly that up with DTS

3714

All vehicles (last in automobile) as shown on the latest return list are off the road. For Blametha is having them delivered to Blam for quick repairs and its appearance for more urgent repairs. Out of the 7 staff cars only 2 apparently are available. The rest are to be patient over this. I will get the MT and the road as soon as possible. MT office is sending a list of vehicles for our interest together with a request for repairs (if there be any).

SMRE have this in hand - have orders for 105 beds that are available. 2000 bunks. Demand of which will have to be repaired. All available beds will be released.

PTO

Blametha. H.C.

Vehicles from
10 Blametha Park (C)

1 District demand
for 105 beds (H.C.)
2900 bunks

Subject	Action
<u>Move of Tank</u> <u>Unit Done</u> <u>TAVANCO KAZANS</u>	this unit exists solely of refugees tank men who are being checked a unit to a concentration area they have NO TANKS (TAVANCO is between Kazan - Galapaga FANZAN is on east coast of Kamau)
<u>Sub-areas</u>	Gave K 63 up to date situation re Sub-areas obtained from 71 Sub area
<u>SEVINZANO</u> <u>Moscow</u>	71 Sub area are slightly short that they have been advised by 2 tankist. They will they required was site stored from the factory which the management know would not affect the working of the factory I informed them that Gen Belcher would lead them an office to find other accommodations at the time of my visit Gen Belcher was conferring with Col. Woodhouse

As You see

10 Dec 43

DAILY LIAISON LOG

Subject

Action

Move of 2nd Div

Completed to Transport Office about
not helping to schedule as already used
a baggage bus train. They thought it
due to certain inputs not having had
their full complement at the time but
they understood breaking equipment.

Engineer Sec

Re our SD/1483 15 AG of 5 Dec. Col
G420 would like to clarify information
in para D of two items above. We are
they like the complete parts or sections only.
~~the~~ and all they like to be taken or replaced.
We understood that action was not required
immediately.

Gen Taylor

discussed to see late afternoon
in freedom request for available stock of
light heavy machines (air body - Sandoria)
let the side nothing regarding H43113
the S.M.R.E. where it comes under. Act
see. Brought back copies of request 18

in para d) of two store depots. The are
they the complete parks in sections only.
~~the~~ and out they to the Artillery or Zappan.
He understood that action was not required
immediately.

known to the late afternoon
in the afternoon request for available stocks of
light heavy weapons (in Italy - Sardina)
at the base rolling regarding Italy 37113
the SMRF, when it comes under Art
see. Brought back copies of request to
in Moravia.

Yours truly
Taylor

9 Dec 43. 1
DAILY HANSEN LOG

Private

Subject	Action
<u>LEGATION DIV</u>	The difference between Albert's figures & those furnished by SRA's cannot be explained by HENRI. He thinks Albert's may have better information - but he did not know him. He regarded his state as being authentic. (Albert)
<u>Italian Force HQ</u>	They are now ready to move & wait for order to confirm this.
<u>PRESIDENT MINISTERS</u> <u>BRANDISH</u>	This is surely a shadow area HQ which controls all forces in Brundish from the point of view of controlling the civil population: i.e. a net or big force that it controls formations up to Div HQ - but it has no WE. The 7394 were away include those already shown on our ordinary state - better says Albert can 3712k this up

James Coy

8 Dec 43

DAILY LIAISON LOG

Subject

Action

Italian Force
HQ

Col. BIANCHI - confirmed new
killer. Received from him a letter
giving organization - general information
about the HQ.

a col. Ricci is replacing Col ESCALPON
the latter is returning to Army.

Italian State

Picked up some rough figures from
Col. LEHIA on the SMRE - Comando Supremo.
4-51 Corps. The two latter are not up to
date but officers have been sent to each
Corps to bring back their figures.

305 Bn

Col. LEHIA checked up on the 3711 but
it is NOT known.

372 Bn is still alive.

Sappers for MAF
Red Group

The remaining pl. is all complete - ready
at TRANI. MAF Bde are sending MT to
kill them - in order to save train space.
They should have been but

305 RmSappers for next
Field GroupMANITOVA DIV

9-51 Corps. The two latter are not kept to state but officers have been sent to each Corps to bring back their figures

Col Lema checked up on the 3511 but it is NOT known.

372 Rm is still alive.

The remaining pl. is all complete & ready at TRANSI. Most Rde are sending MT to kill them. in order to save their space they should leave any day but we shall be given a date as soon as possible

was unable to contact Gen. Maristhe all day. He is only person who can give us this information

James Cox

Subject

Transportation

SM & C

Action

Confirmed new amendment to our recent instructions - checked over latest unit moves. Have arranged to be informed of all intended moves - when they are approved, so we also informed of date of departure - arrival. Both the latter have confirmed in writing.

Units now on the move - we shall be informed in writing of the details of each daily reinforcement.

210 Div

MANTOVA DIV

When reached on the subject Gen. Marzetti explained that the Division to all intents & purposes be considered as 37100 reasons: 113 Inf Regt was gone to Naples 114 Inf Regt is to go as reinforcement to LEGNANO DIV. DIV. Only has nearly all been allocated to I Motor Group.

There remains Div HQ & odd service units. The latter may also go to LEGNANO whilst Div HQ may have the job of controlling

7 Dec 43

DAILY WISDOM 106

OK

7

210 DIV

MANITOBA DIV

Unit head in the move - we shall be informed in writing of the details of each daily movements

When briefed on the subject Gen Mariotti explained that the Div may be all intents purposes be concerned with reasons: 113 Inf Regt has gone to 114 Inf Regt is to go as reinforcements to 115th Div. Div. Artillery has mostly all been allocated to I Mook Group

There remains Div HQ & odd service units the latter may also go to 115th Div. Div HQ may have the job of controlling newly formed units from the various transport centers. According to our O & B there is also a 70 Inf Regt of good strength. I will find out what is the situation now of this Regt

Agnes Regt

785020

6 Dec 43

DALEY LAMSON HQG

Subject

Action

Introduced Otto & O'Donnell to Gen Mariotti they discussed the Italian contract & to their mutual satisfaction.

MT Section

Gen BERGONZI who is OC, asked for a special long term pass as he is continually travelling & also special notice on his car to avoid it being continually stopped by Americans.

SS T.O

Unable to contact Cond Tones re the use of the truck for Italian ops

3709

T. J. Davis

3 Dec 43

DAILY WATSON LOG

Subject

Action

1800 airmen to move from Bari

How Gen. Aliberti when reaction was, are they under control among our force? He gave instructions to the air force to find accommodation. This was not before lunch. This evening Col. Lella informed me that these 1800 were to be distributed among the trained groups of bases. This was shown through to G.R. I was told to instruct S.M.E. to get them moved. This has been laid on a confirmed by Staff Captain Q. Col. Lella has ordered the move through his transportation officer.

Clothing blocks in Italy

obtained this from Gen. Aliberti - passed it to Capt Bird taking back with him at lunch time.

Gen Taylor re arm request.

3708
This was in the hands of Lt. Shuttle.
71 Sub Area had received a request from Ordnance via "Director" for information on how much of a certain calibre (amm. was being used by Allied forces Sub Area was being made a verbal request to S.M.E. for general arm stock in Italian Army. Messrs. function is revealed in a copy of his letter. Sub Area have wrongly made direct application to S.M.E. - also asked for wrong information. It is suggested that Commando Reference be

Clothing Stocks in
Stocks

Gen Taylor re
Asian request.

showed this from Gen. Aliberti -
passed it to Capt Bird. It being back with
him at himself home

3708

This was in the hands of Col Thutle:
71 Sub Area had received a request from
Ordinance for 2 District for superintended in
how much of a certain caliber (some was being
used by allied forces. Sub Area misunderstood
I made a verbal request to SMR for
general area stock at Italian Army. Messrs
reaction is revealed in a copy of his letter.
Sub Area have written several direct applications
to SMR & also asked for wrong information.
It is suggested that Commando (Rupremo) be
informed of the situation. Matter now in
hands of Q^m

Col Thutle also informed me that lists
of clothing stocks in Italy are with AFHQ.
The high priority of OSS, SOE - "INCLAVE" for
Blackad operations may result in all clothing
stocks being rapidly withdrawn from Santa
Cruz (the only depot and SMR formed
by Gen Aliberti) to be provided by certain types
of arms. Apart from (S. C. 15150) there are
virtually no other depots in the island.

Italian clothing
Depots

Cold Storage Space
in Bari.

Deposits of Italian immediate requirements
for storage space will be available tomorrow

710

Subject210 Div.Action

deaf elements move forward. SMR have it all fixed up - have received detailed orders from movement. They feel that their efforts are to travel in cattle trucks & have asked us to try & avoid this.

Official mail
from CAMANZOO

Correspondence from Hq. KENTON to us was delivered in speed by SMR. I am following how this happened. It appears to be an error on the part of the correspondence office - must be cleared up in order to avoid any awkward consequences.

Transport office
SMR

They are anxious for a reply to their request to set up a Transport Delegation at PHEMO. No deal with national leaders of SABODA Div & other formations. We have already referred to AFHQ on the matter.

Artillery division

They would like us to grant them storage space at the CRINO 2 Km 8 Artillery depot which are apparently being occupied by the See that letter Ref No 606 of 5 Dec. They urgently need these depots to cope with the impending arrival of arms & equipment from Salvador - other localities. They are the only two decent depots they have & apparently we have dumped some of their arms & materials within the area.

Transport Officer
SHER

They are anxious for a reply to their request to set up a Transport Detachment at PAFERMO to deal with internal subverses of SABRODA Div & other formations. We have already referred to AFHQ on the matter.

Artillery Section

They would like us to grant them storage space at the CIMINO 2 Km S Arty depots which are apparently being occupied by us. See their letter Ref No 606 of 5 Dec. They urgently need these depots to cope with the impending arrival of ordnance equipment from Sardinia - other localities. They are the only two decent depots they have & apparently we have dumped some of their own materials within the area.

Brig DOCHESNI

Appt fixed to see Messer tomorrow at 1000 hrs. Col Pallavicini will meet Brigadier at SMRE at approx 0950 hrs.

Col OPS SMRE

Subsequent to the moving of the 1800 armoured from Bari, their reaction is to query the necessity of sending the four groups of Savakore to Bari. In fact Sabakore independent are now to elation off.

A. J. J. J.

C 4 Dec 43.

Fol.

Daily liaison log

Action

Subject
SMRE.

Routine visit - nothing special to report.

SMRE. will be glad to have some maps if we can spare them. Our taking home even.

3707

3 Dec 43

DAILY LIAISON LOG

Subject

Action

Col. Lella.
CCRR

Lella considers that CCRR should come under heading of soldiers - as they are part of the Armed Forces. The majority are employed on purely military work - i.e. V.P. guards. L of C guards etc. Those employed on the keeping of public order form a very small percentage - though they are doing a civil job are still considered military personnel. He estimates about 1500 are doing such work.

Legions R.G.F.

These are frontier guard personnel normally employed on land frontiers. As the only frontiers are now only coastal, it is the intention to use these Legions on coastal defence - they will be incorporated in the general defense scheme now being prepared for Southern Italy.

M.V.G.N.

The majority of these are being disbanded - only a few will be retained. Also 3706 by the Army.

Gen. Marzetti.

Raised question of drawing staff cars from MONOPORT also recall of Col. Eschapon - Capt. Pelligrini (these were dealt with later by Brigadier - G.F.).

Col. Poluzzi
(Transportation)

Raised two queries on the new organisation for movements. These were answered as he is sending copies of our instructions to all his depots.

By Gen. Cap.

2 Dec 43

DAILY LIAISON LOG

T. J. J. J.

Subject

Action

227 Div

Obtained from Col Lella a further detailed synopsis of the Div.

State of ItalianArmy

This is not ready yet. They allege difficulties of obtaining information from Corps owing to their new organization. They will endeavor to let us have it as early as possible.

Ammunition

The stocks of ammo existing in Sardinia are one of their chief worries. I met group is apparently in need of further ammo & the question of being allowed to draw from Sardinia is a point they wish to raise with us.

OrganizationS.M.R.E.

I have asked Col Lella for the organization & heads of dept of the S.M.R.E. This is being prepared.

3705

1 Dec 43

File

2-10-43

DAILY LIAISON LOG

Subject

Action

Movement of Italian Units

Visited Transport Office at SMRE with Capt Bird. Copy of AFHQ instructions handed to Italians. Received from them detailed O B of 210 & 227 Divs. We instructed them to wait for our orders before moving 227 Div

Told Gen Mariotti to stress importance of two liaison offers as per Gen Robertson's request.

Rang Col Bella in the evening re 227 Div return. He states that division in strength of Div due to release of latest age groups. Have arranged to collect other details from him this morning 3:04

Made appl for Col Shuttle to call here at 1030 hrs today also for Brigadier to meet Gen Board at 1830 hrs (2 Dec)

28 NOV 43

DAILY LIAISON LOG

Xavier Corp

Subject

Action

Gen Taylor.

a) He is anxious to see the Brigadier as soon as possible. especially to confer with Col Vintrop

b) The forming of mobile pack units in Sardinia which he had taken up with the Supreme Command and subsequently referred to us for action, was referred back to him today, when I reminded him that Sardinia was not in our sphere of action.

546 Rev - 372 Rev.

Col Lella was in the picture regarding the movement of these Revs. The subsequent order was handed to him this morning.

S.M.R.E.

Col Lella has been asked by the Supreme Command for a speech of 3000 words organisation with eight names of offices etc. One is being prepared. He also asked for no. of O.R.s and M.T.s. It is questionable whether we should provide latter two items.

Col MacArthur

Mackay

546 Rev - 372 Rev.

S.M.R. Co.

Col. Woodford

Engineer Sec. S.M.R.

Brigadier

Col Lella was in the center regarding the movement of these Revs. The movement order was handed to him this morning.

Col Lella has been asked by the Supreme Council for a speech 30000 organization with steps & names of officers etc. One is being prepared. He also asked for no. of officers and M.T. It is questionable whether we should provide rather two others.

Notification of conference between Brigadier Col. Woodford and Commodore Cooke, 29 Nov. May Gen. think tomorrow presence of the Brigadier was requested if possible.

O.C. Sec. is Col. GARD. He is of the opinion that we should still deal with Gen. CRIVARO - but he is prepared if necessary to deal with us. His position is not yet clearly defined.

Appt to see Col. Mittington ^{Amers} planned through & confirmed. (1900)

27 NOV 43

DAILY LINDSON LOG

Haines City

Subject

Action

308 - 546 Bus

CR discussed situation with Gen. Mariotti who confirmed 546 Bus was ready to go - 200 reinforcements were ready for 508 Par.

Madison Speeches & Services had employed

The continuance of this speeches three a month was agreed - confirmed by Gen. Mariotti. All cells provided in Republic.

Two Pack Artillery Bty.

Artillery Section of SMR was warned of the probable request for two Btys. An approval was provided by them and checked for the 75/18 and 75/13.

General

Gen. Mariotti requested as list of officers of this mission to put the Supreme Command in the field 3702

26 Nov 43

DAILY LIAISON LOG

Subject

546 Bn

Action

Reported to Gen. Mariotti that Ben had failed to move -- gave him details of previous instructions regarding its move. He instructed Col killed to Ben that one Ben moved to FOGGIA. 9 Inf Bn (consisting of elements of PIVON - LEGNARO Divs) is being prepared to replace the Ben moving from BARLETTA

308 Bn

Chorus SMRE 1930 hrs re Army Signal. Gen. Mariotti said he would contact 9 Corps at once. He also said that 546 Bn was now ready to leave. I asked him to tell 9 Corps to contact Otto for movement arrangements.

3701

~~Two Bn for~~

25 NOV 43

DAILY LIAISON LOG

Subject	Action
Two Italian POWs for 5 Army.	Gen Taylor has requested that we carry on with this. He has instructed the Supreme Court to permit these two but to contact us with the details. Copy of Gen Taylor's memo to Supreme Court brought back.
Italian Mission to Sicily for Recovery of War Materials	At the end of mission has apparently attended in Palermo without instructions (according to signal from Palermo). This mission was granted pass by us when we were given to understand that the whole thing had been laid on by Italian liaison Dec 27th. I am clearing the matter up.
	Mr. Gen. Martelli told me early in Nov that he had ordered five party of they were to inspect in Sicily, report on shifts assigned to strengthen them out & make inventory of contacts. Also arrange to call STATE DEPT. Also we were to work with them. 3700

Gen. Br. D. 111 told me today that
the three he had bought there
probably they were to inspect
the Society's report on Shells and
be strengthened then and a small
number of contacts. Also compare
cycles. Local SHOTTE CREEK
probably told me when he was
present that it was from that
mountain.

transfer.
 he was invited from Tampere
 to bring his all Malin
 there and back on his
 this is changed on arrival
 SARA DA D.V.
 T. J. B.

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

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

24 NOV 43

DAILY LIAISON LOG

L. J. Cap

Subject

Action

Volunteer Concentration
Camps

Gen. Mariotti had apparently asked for one to be set up at MONOPOLI. This was turned down by the thumbs up. He would still prefer GRAVINA if this can be arranged. I told him it was doubtful & suggested he find another place. He is considering it.

Vehicle Park Coy

Gen. Mariotti would prefer to pick up vehicles as they come into the park & take them to his men immediately, workshops in BARI where they can be repaired. He distributed. He does not think that an Italian Dec is required at the Park yet, but if the intake of vehicles increases he is quite prepared to do so.

113 Inf Regt

a)

Gen. Mariotti has heard from R.H.Q. that the C.O. is not allowed to leave around without his unit. They feel that the C.O. should be permitted both to allow the C.O. to carry out his duties as C.O. & to control the morale of the troops.

b)

Personnel from R.H.Q. have been ordered to work as laborers - this is impaired the efficiency of the H.Q.

c)

Only the actively working are kept - no instructions are issued to advise personnel involved with the

113 Inf Rept

785020

- a) Gen. Mariatti has heard from R.H. J. that the C.O. is not allowed to travel around without his unit. They feel that he should be permitted both to allow the C.O. to carry out his duties as C.O. & as he controls the morale of the troops.
- b) Personnel from R.H. J. have been ordered to work as laborers - this is improving the efficiency of the H.Q.
- c) Only two vehicles working are being fed - no ration are issued to administrative personnel incl. officers with the result they have to scrounge food from the area.
- d) 5 Army is collecting refugee troops - civilians - employing them as laborers paying them up to \$50 per a day. As they doing heavy work for about pay is not good - way hard to do. Normally Italian Army employed Civilian Germans who produced labor manual laborers - if they were more employed they need gratified with additional pay as compensation. The similar system might be introduced (view of para d). He is writing to inform.
- He had impression that 5 Army is very interested in forming a labor force & should not help it. On the other hand he welcomes 8 Army's help & would like us to consider as mentioned in yesterday's report. I told him that the Brigadier is the problem of Army - probably

785020

23 NOV 48

DAILY LIAISON LOG

R. J. G. G.

Subject

Action

Liaison

Gen Mariotte was anxious that MT. belonging to the units that are to be moved first should also go by train. as they are not far for a long trip & it would mean that the first unit would probably be without transport until the MT caught them up. I said Movements Brindisi, who will try & arrange this. We have also written to them on this

Habian Admin
in north Italian
is under 8 Army

Gen Mariotte suggested that in view of the pending arrival in the FOGA area of the remainder of 15 Bde. to join the Bde already there & the probability of either 1st Army required later by 8 Army. HQ 209 Coastal Div (which commands 15 Bde) might be used to form an all embracing admin HQ for Habian 1st employed by 8 Army. This is only a tentative suggestion. I did not mention that 1st Army to not require the remainder of 15 Bde in FOGA area. thinking at order to move to south 3698 indication from Army as to where they would move. Gen BEARDON would like a chat with him when he returns

I met him this evening when he was visiting AMM. He remembered me & told me to come and see him. I think it would be good idea to arrange meeting between Brigadier & he later

SUBJECT

ACTION

210 Dm

Move lands on for-
RUC 110 Reg. 480 & 311 Reg. "movements" request
that 110 be sent by road.
Gen. Marotta suggests 210 might move in
the next batch.

State of Hawaii
Army

I have given them to SMEE together with the
notes. This will be dealt with by their C Ops
office.

PADDO-7

is a Collection Center for volunteers drifting
down the west coast. Gen. Marotta is keen
to establish a similar one on East coast.
Their first location near Prudhoe was 3697
down by sea & he would like us to agree to
GRADVA da PADOA. He expects the first flow of
volunteers very soon.

DAILY LIAISON LOG

7th

SUBJECT

ACTION

Payment of Italian Tps

Copy of Gen Alibek's letter & that from Merrill were given to Col Mayne who passed them on to HE YUNG, Finance Minister. The latter was in conference with a Col. FORTY, Finance Officer. Capt Monica will call on Col Mayne this morning for resulting information.

3096

210 Div

The detailed O of B down to the Red as requested by us will be ready this morning & will be picked up.

