

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

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6/20 Weekly ADM. Bulletins
Opened Mar. 21, 1944 - Closed Ap. 12, 1944
mor. - Ap. 1944

S & T AM REPORT. PERIOD 2 : 8 APL 44.

GENERAL.

This week has produced a series of reports from CATANZARO and LECCE Sectors which indicate considerable progress.

It has been observed that as a result of Allied Inspections the Senior Officers of the Italian War Ministry have also been making tours of inspection.

An organisation similar to the British Analyst Inspectorate has also been set up by the War Ministry.

A system of Italian Inspecting Officers has been in being for some time though their effect on efficiency has been disappointing.

Work has been held up by lack of cars for Allied Supervising Officers.

SUMMARY OF REPORTS.

a Major CANN, DADST, in company with G and Q Officer of this HQ visited:

- i. HQ PICENO DIV on 3 Apr
Strength 438 Officers, 554 NCOs & 9005 ORs.
All ranks were satisfied with Rations.
Transport:
Strength 8 x 3 ton, 18 x 15 cwt.
All Vehicles on the road.
POL requirements are all being met.
2. 152 Arty Regt on 3 Apr
No complaints regarding Rations.
Cookhouse and Ration Store clean and tidy and well organised.
Transport:
Strength 45 Light Trucks, 53 Heavy Trucks.
19 V.O.R. due to lack of spare parts and tyres.
POL requirements are being met.
3. 235 Inf Regt on 5 Apr, at LOCORONDO
Strength 129 Officers, 1775 NCOs & ORs.
There were no complaints regarding Rations, except that the soldier would prefer an increase in the Bread ration, and a corresponding decrease in the Biscuit ration.
Transport:
Establishment Strength 30 trucks
Present Strength ... 9 x 15 cwt
All Vehs were in running order, but the number is insufficient to maintain the Regt.
Animals:
A number of these were in an emaciated condition. It was explained that if a Veterinary Certificate were given, additional forage would be obtained.

4548

b Major GRAY, Supervising LO, BARI SECTOR, makes following report consequent on visits to Italian Sup Depots.

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b Major GRAY, Supervising LO, BARI SECTOR, makes following report consequent on visits to Italian Sup Depots.

1. SAN SEVERO, BARLETTA, TRANI & MOLFETTA
These Depots are in a very satisfactory condition.
2. POTENZA
Attempts are still being made to find new premises for this Depot.
3. LOCOROTONDO
This Depot was in a disorderly and dirty condition.
4. GIOIA DEL COLLE
This was by far the best kept Depot visited up to date.
5. BARI
Depots in BARI have been visited on several occasions and are all in excellent order.
6. GENERAL.
On all inspections, no evidence of pilferage or dishonesty, has been found, and all Officers appear to be eager to do a good job.

FTO

2.

c. Major PAPINEAU, Supervising LO, CALABRIA reports on his first inspection of the Supply Organisation in CALABRIA as follows:

1. There appears to be no definite system in operation. It seems that the persons concerned were improvising from one expedient to another and just muddling through. This may be largely due to an excessive dependence on the Italian War Ministry at LECCE for detailed instructions. No difficulty is anticipated, however, in improving the organisation in the near future.

2. CROTONE BULK DEPOT.

No definite arrangements had been made for redistribution from this Depot, largely due to the following:

- a. Non allocation of Rly Trucks and uncertainty as to procedure for obtaining them.
- b. Instructions to limit Distribution Depot holdings to not more than 10 days.
- c. Freezing of all stock at CROTONE by War Ministry until further notice.

3. To clear up above points, Major PAPINEAU visited W.M. at LECCE, and the following was decided:

- d. New Ration Scale came into operation wef April 1st.
- e. Demands for Rly Wagons to be made weekly by SALICE to CALI for transmission to GIOV PLAINO for internal food distribution in CALABRIA.

f. That holdings in Distribution Depots should be, in principle, restricted to 10 days for each item, but discretely on can be used to fill transport.

4. Major PAPINEAU returned to CALANZARO and reports:

g. No supplies had been despatched from CROTONE to D.D. up to week ending 2 Apl, owing to lack of Rly Wagons.

h. 184 tons of rail space had been allotted in the week ending 9 Apl. A programme to fill this space was drawn up on 3 Apl. This programme if executed fairly completely will fill the "gaps" in distribution in the CALABRIA D.D.

- a Lt FREEMAN, Supervising LO, LECCE SECTOR, reports:

1. BRINDISI D.D.

Since new OC has taken over, the Depot improvements have been noticed.

2. TRICASE D.D.
As reported on 25 Mar, this Depot has ceased to function, but is being kept open as the OC has been advised that 1,500 troops (ex PGW) are expected in the locality.

Depot is in a very dirty and untidy condition.

3. MAGLIE D.D. Very satisfactory.

4. OTRANTO D.D. General improvement in this Depot.

5. LECCE BULK SUP DEPOT. An extremely well organised Depot.

6. LECCE D.D. A new OC has taken over this Depot, and a slight improvement has been noticed.

7. SALICE SALENTO Petrol Depot. In first class order.

8. OTRANTO MAIN SUP DEPOT. A well organised Depot. Alterations to

- Procedure for covering them.
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7. SALICE SALENTINO Petrol Depot. In first class order.
8. TARANTO MAIN SUP DEPOT. A well organised Depot. Alterations to the disused factory buildings in this Depot will shortly be put in hand.
9. GALATINI D.D.
As previously reported this Depot is in an excellent order. Feeding Strength has risen to 5,000 troops.
A few Units served by this Depot were visited. It was obvious that accurate check was being maintained of Rations drawn as against actual Ration strengths. Mens Pay & Feeding Strengths are ascertained from Daily Parade States. The latter are checked against Rations drawn, and adjustments are made accordingly on subsequent indents. Pay & Parade States, together with counterfoils of ration indents, are forwarded at the end of each month to HQ IX Italian Army, for check. Discrepancies, if any, are promptly notified to Units for explanation. Thus there appears to be no loophole.

3.

c. Lt. Col. FINCH, ADST, reports as follows on his visit to NAPLES between 4 & 7 Apr.

1. a. PES do not intend to run a Driving School for Italians. They intend to train them with QM Groups in PES.
- b. It has been agreed that all personnel of Italian QM Truck Coys should be paid the extra 20 Lire a day, and not only those driving as previously.
- c. Major LUTZNER has experienced difficulty in getting 3 DIST to draw Ambulances for Italian Medical Units. They dislike taking responsibility for Vehicles over which they would have no control.
- d. Col OFFENHAUER (Senior L O LIA HQ ACC) stated that in order to be able to send an ST Officer back to HQ LIA to report progress every week to 10 days he would need three ST Officers attached to his HQ.
- e. Visited QM PES re discharge of Italian Sups, and the general tendency is that it would be better if Italian Sups were discharged ex ship direct into Allied Depots and then a quota in agreement with the ships manifest handed over to the Italians.
- f. Col CLARKSON, representing Port Comdt 6th Port HQ PES, complained that the Italian Military Labour was not getting enough food, and he pointed out that the Vegetables and Wine on the Italian Ration Scale were not issued by the D.D. but had to be purchased locally by the Unit, and owing to lack of tpt many Units were unable to obtain these essential items. This matter has been taken up with the Italian War Ministry.

2. g. On return journey Col FINCH visited 1001 Gen tpt Coy and it appeared to be working in full swing. A Det of this Coy had been sent to operate in BRINDISI. The Unit was approx 100 Italian ORs deficient. The men appeared much smarter and cleaner.
- h. Contacted ADST (Sups) 2 DISTRICT. he stated that difficulty was being experienced in issuing Rations to Composite Units (Brit/Ital) from British DIDs, as the latter had no stocks of Olive Oil, Wines, Fresh Fruits and Nuts. It was suggested that the Italian personnel of these Units should draw from their own Italian Army Depots as there was always one practically next door to Allied DIDs. This was in accordance with a wish frequently expressed by the Italian War Ministry. ST Distwo agreed to take this matter up with "Q" Distwo.

3. i. ITALIAN DRIVING SCHOOL, POLIGNANO.
There is still no Permanent Cadre, as such, although a Captain has arrived.
The strength at present is:

Officers	6
Under Officers	21
N.C.Os	32
Soldier Pupils	198
TOTAL	257

4547

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has arrived.

The strength at present is:

Officers	6
Under Officers	21
N.C.Os	32
Soldier Pupils	198
TOTAL	257

Of the above, 55 are trained Drivers.
There are 36 Vehicles for Training purposes, all running.

j. 1002 ITALIAN OF COY.

OC British Cadre appears to have no particular difficulties at
the present moment.

The Italian OC has now been replaced, and is in the process of
handing over.

9 Apr 44.

ADST, Army Sub Commission; ACC.

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

Subject: - Weekly Adm Bulletin No 2.

OC
file 3
Army Sub Commission, ACC
Main HQ (MMIA)
LEQUITE (LECCE)
S/AQ/7
5 April 44

1. Handling of dangerous cargoes

The handling of dangerous stores i.e. explosives, chemicals, P.O.L. etc., must be carried out carefully and in close conjunction with Mov & Tn.

Supervising and Port Det LOs will ensure that Italian personnel handling such stores are fully aware of local instructions dealing with fire precautions and action in case of emergency.

2. S & T Report

Report for the period 25 March to 1 April is attached.

EGCH/cc

Lt Col 4546
A.A. & Q.M.G.

S & S ADM. REPORT
PERIOD 25 Feb - 1 Apr 1944

GENERAL.

On 18 Feb a demand was placed on the Italian Ministry of War to produce a Recapitulation Statement of the State of Supplies in all Italian Depots as on the 14th March. This statement after considerable correspondence and reminders was produced on the 31st of March. This statement included stocks originally held by the Italians and accumulated remainders left after issues had been made from Supplies as received from Allied Supply Depots in Italy. It also included bulk receipt of Supplies imported to date in bulk from America. It did not include any issues from American imported stocks as such issues were not to commence till 25th March.

From this state there appears to have been an over-issue of Rations to the total of 1,541,140 Rations during the decade. There would also appear to be an over-issue of Cereals to about 355 Tons amongst other items.

Explanations are being requested from the Ministry of War.

SUMMARY OF REPORTS.

1. March 25.

Lt. Freeland (Supervisory LO) visited Salice Salentino Petrol Depot and found considerable amount of empty Petrol containers of British & American origin. Instructions have been given to Italian War Ministry to return all empty Petrol containers to Allied Petrol Depots.

On visiting S. Panormio Distribution Supply Depot he found on inspecting the books it took at least 10 minutes to work out the stock on hand of one commodity. The institution of a simple stock book was suggested and it was agreed to keep one from the end of the month.

A Master Stock Book showing balances at a glance was only kept at Bari.

2. March 26.

Lt. Freeland visited Brindisi Distribution Depot and found no improvement. The Depot was still very dirty and supplies badly stacked. OC of this Depot appears to resent any suggestions made. It is understood that War Ministry are relieving this OC of his Command.

Lt. Tonks (Port Det LO Brindisi) reported that some clothing marked ITI but addressed 500 AOD had been discharged. It had been forwarded on to 500 AOD by the Ord Port Det who had had instructions that MIA was not to handle such consignments.

3. March 27.

Capt. Craig (S/Capt, ST) visited 2 District and 1001 Gen Tpt Coy for the purpose of determining the number of bodies deficient in 1001 Gen Tpt Coy.

bulk from America. It did not include any issues from American imported stocks as such issues were not to commence till 25th March.

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Capt. Craig (S/Capt, ST) visited 2 District and 1001 Gen Tpt Coy for the purpose of determining the number of bodies deficient in 1001 Gen Tpt Coy. It was found that the total deficiency was 148 men of which 55 had to be trained drivers. These would be ready at the Polignano Driving School on 30 March. It was also found that the 50 Dvrs for HQ, ACC had been absorbed in the Coy and had been shown in all strengths as part of the Coy.

The Coy was in a very bad way for clothing and requires B.Dress, Shirts, Vests and Socks.

This Coy would be able to operate w.e.f. 1st April, 1944.

Major Camm (DADST) visited Tronto for the purpose of making the necessary recommendations for the reconditioning and making suitable part of the Supply Depot, Montecatini, for use as a lock-up store.

He inspected the disused factory building adjoining the Depot and made the necessary recommendations.

These were given to Lt. Crawford (Port Det LO) to give to Major Harvey, DORE, who has undertaken to execute these alterations.

4. March 27 - 28.

- a. Lt. Freeland visited Maglie Distribution Depot and reports that stocks are well kept. 1000 empty sacks were on hand and he instructed they be returned as soon as possible.
- b. Otranto Distribution Depot; fairly clean and well stacked.
- c. Lecce Bulk Supply Depot; a well organized Depot holding approx 1000 Tons.
- d. Lecce Distribution Depot; on previous reports made by this Sub Comm to the War Ministry, the OC of this Depot has been replaced. Improvements are hoped for in the near future.
3600 empty sacks were returned from the Depot on 26 Mar.
- e. Brindisi Petrol Depot; considerable number of empty petrol containers which the War Ministry have been instructed to return to Allied Depots.

5. March 29 - 30.

- a. Main Supply Depot, Taranto; Lt. Freeland reports this Depot was very clean, and all suggestions made on his previous visit had been carried out.
- b. Taranto Distribution Depot; this was discovered by chance through a conversation at another Depot.
Depot was clean and supplies well stacked.
Feeds 10,000 troops.
- c. Italian Port Det Taranto has been receiving instruction on Deck work by an NCO of the RASC Port Det.

6. March 31.

Gallipoli Distribution Depot appears unnecessary, as it feeds 300 troops only, and the Depot at Gelatina is only 13 miles away.

2 Aprl 44.

Lt. Col,
ADST,
Army Sub Comm. AOC.

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b. Taranto Distribution Depot; this was discovered by chance through a conversation at another Depot.
Depot was clean and supplies well stacked.
Feeds 10,000 troops.

c. Italian Port Det Taranto has been receiving instruction on Dock work by an WCO of the RASC Port Det.

6. March 31.

Gallipoli Distribution Depot appears unnecessary, as it feeds 300 troops only, and the Depot at Galatina is only 13 miles away.

2 Apr 44.

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Army Sub Comm. ACC.

SUBJECT:- Weekly Adm Bulletin No 1

1) S & T

(a) Allied Supervising and Port Detachment Liaison Offrs are now established as under:-

NAPLES - Capt BENATTI (Supervising Officer) - May be contacted through Senior MIA LO, HQ ACC.
Lt THOMPSON (Port Det LO)

BARI - Major GRAY (Supervising Officer) - May be contacted through Capt SELLERS (Port Det LO) MIA LO, HQ 2 District.

CATANZARO - Major PAPINEAU (Supervising Officer) - May be contacted thru MIA LO, 31 Italian
& CROTONE Lieut MONCK-MASON (Port Det LO) Corps.

BRINDISI - Lieut TONKS (Port Det LO) - May be contacted through Capt EDWARDS, 54 Port Det, R.A.S.C.

TARANTO - Lieut CRAWFORD (Port Det LO) - May be contacted through ITAL.
PORT DET OFFICE, 9 PIAZZA
ST ELIGIO (near Berth 4)

LECCE Area - Lieut FREELAND (Supervising Officer)

(b) A summary of reports for period ending 25 Mar is attached as Apex 'A'

2) Ord

(a) It is essential for Port Detachments to give numbers of articles in boxes or bales when submitting out turns agreed with Italian Port Offrs,

i.e. 98 bales each 50 pullovers.
50 boxes each 75 prs boots.

saying whether new or partworn and whether from US or British sources.

(b) Every endeavour should be made to ensure proper sealing of trucks before despatch to avoid loss from the determined and organised pilfering that is going on.

Allied Docks Operating Coys have been instructed to obtain 5 mm wire and tommy bars from Sub Areas for this purpose.

(c) When visiting depots, make sure that they are really making efforts to get authorised issues out to the units. At the moment, we have authorised the issue of far more boots and clothing than have actually reached the men who need them.

3. Med

(a) Medical supplies for Italian Armed Forces to become a U.K. commitment.

BRINDISI - Lieut TONKS (Port Det LO) - May be contacted through Capt EDWARDS, 54 Port Det, R.A.S.C.

TARANTO - Lieut CRAWFORD (Port Det LO) - May be contacted through ITAL. PORT DET OFFICE, 9 PIAZZA ST ELIGIO (near Berth 4)

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3. Med

(a) Medical supplies for Italian Armed Forces to become a U.K. commitment. Handling, point of hand-over, and accounting details, still to be arranged. Col PITTSLEY discussing with DDMS, AAI.

Present temporary arrangements to remain in force until permanent scheme ready to take over. Unlikely to be implemented for 2 or 3 months.

(b) 152 Ospedale da Campo moving shortly to CAVA TYRRHENIA for Italian troops in SALERNO area.

(c) Pagani Hospital. All except for 4 pavilions, to be at disposal of Italian Medical Service, Town Major, 94 Sub Area and 3 District all agreed verbally. Awaiting written confirmation.

(d) Italians establishing an Orthopaedic Hospital in BARI for treatment of limbless soldiers etc, and provision of artificial limbs.

/ (e).....

3) cont'd.

- (e) No cases of typhus in Italian Army in February.
- (f) Number of Camp Hospitals still to arrive from SARDINIA reduced to SIX. On arrival, allocations requested to G(SD) A.A.I. as follows:-

ONE under comd FIFTH ARMY for 210 Div
 TWO under comd FIFTH ARMY for NEMBO
 TWC under comd Italian GHQ for PICEHO
 ONE under comd Italian GHQ in reserve

CASERTA
 AS for NEMBO
 MARTINA FRANCA
 BARI

Awaiting Medical and G(SD) A.A.I. confirmation.

4) REMESeverely points for information on Italian Workshop prospects

- (a) Regular maintenance on British lines will be instituted.
- (b) Workshops are being formed at MESSAGNE, BARI, NAPLES, CATANZARO and possibly SALERNO.
- (c) Available equipment and personnel are being sent to these shops, which will carry out repairs up to 2nd line.
- (d) Vehicles repaired will be put into a pool, as far as possible, for equipment of Italian units being formed.
- (e) With the ruling that:- "British vehicles used by Italian units will be repaired and maintained by Italian organisation up to 2nd line" - these Workshops will be used for this work.

- (f) As progress is made the workshops will be able to carry out repairs of Allied vehicles in their area.

- (g) These Workshops will be developed as far as possible and really be the centres of "REME in the Italian Army".

It has been arranged for repairs to vehicles of the Mission to be carried out at Italian Workshops.

Outlying LQ's are advised to contact C.O. of nearest Workshop as necessary.

Maintenance of vehicles still remains the Driver's duty.

5) MOVMovement by rail of Italian Army Stores

Delays have been occurring and investigation has proved the following causes:-

- (a) Wagon shortage

This is universal, but the reason should be known by 15.12.1945

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5) MovMovement by rail of Italian Army Stores

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- (a) Wagon shortage.
This is universal, but the posn should improve by the establishment of wagon pools and a tighter control on movement of civilian traffic.
 - (b) Lack of liaison between SMRE and their local Delegazione Trasporti.
Suggestions are being put to SMRE whereby the local Delegazioni are kept more in the picture.
 - (c) Absence of Wagon labels.
Italian traffic both civilian and military has been moving without wagons being labelled. Special labels are being prepared for A.C.C. traffic (civilian) and Italian Armed Forces traffic. Specimens will be distributed later.
- Special labels are already being used in CALABRIA.

39 Car...
Lt Col
A/Q

SUMMARY OF REPORTS BY S & T OFFICERS OF ARMY SUB COM
ON ITALIAN SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT ORGANISATION FOR THE
PERIOD 13th - 25th March.

GENERAL POINTS.

- (a) As from the 25th March, Italian Armed Forces on the Mainland commence feeding from bulk shipments of supplies consigned direct to them by the Allies.
- (b) Instruction for opening of Driving School at POLIGNANO for training of Italian dvrs under the supervision of 2-District.

1. EXTRACT FROM A REPORT BY Major O.C. PAPINEAU ON NAPLES SECTOR.

Discharge Operating Conditions and Procedure.

(k) The situation is dominated by maximum port pressure with consequent emphasis on speed of clearance at all costs, night working etc. Authorities contacted all agree this situation is not likely to ease, and if there are more night air-attacks (cf. night of 13/14 Mar 44) the pressure will be even greater. Any accountancy proposals must therefore be framed in strict reference to these working conditions.

(l) As result of conditions outlined in (k), the practice in NAPLES Docks is for direct discharge from ships' holds into waiting lorries. The cargo is normally under no circumstances to be allowed to ground on quays for subsequent on - consignment.

(m) It follows from (l) that accountancy tallying at ship side is theoretically possible if one commodity only is coming out solid from a particular hold, but definitely impossible if mixed storage or mixed discharge is encountered for any reason. The port authorities will under no circumstances countenance sorting at shipside.

(q) In view of (m) it would not be correct finally to rule out shipside tallying in respect of ITI food supplies in NAPLES. The possibility requires to be further studied by Italian Port Detachment, Allied Liaison Officer, NAPLES. But it must be recognised for the present that it is inadvisable to take effective shipside tallying for granted for accountancy purposes, and that until further notice Italian Army receipts will have to be based on depot intake closely verified by Allied personnel.

(a) For the next month or two at least the Italian Port Detachment will require the maximum of support and intervention by Allied Port Detachment Liaison Officer to educate the various port operating authorities into recognition of the status of the Detachment and granting them freedom to operate.

Physical Condition of Depots Visited

4543

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Physical Condition of Depots Visited.

(a) The caserma Sani depot is regarded as normally thr NAPLES Supply Unit Depot, and the routing of JOHN MOREHEAD cargo into that location was purely an "ad hoc" arrangement. As a Supply Unit Depot it is reasonably suitable. The JOHN MOREHEAD cargo is in good order in that depot, although the sections in which it is located are extremely dark which would make a stock check difficult.

(b) The NAPLES Bulk Depot, proper is known as Depot 590 for port purposes, and is located in two adjacent buildings addresses, 51 Via Nicola Nicolini (590/2), and 81 Via Ponte Rossi (590/1) (both in the Ponte Rossi District.)

(c) These premises are now full to capacity. Layout of commodities within the premises available has been determined more by order and rate of arrivals than by any preconceived plan, and is far from ideal. Total tonnage in the two locations is approximately 2250 tons.

-2-

(g) It was noted that many of the supplies carry relatively early packing dates (Aug 42 for Tinned Salmon was noted.) W.E. dates are not specifically stated on most of the supplies. It was apparent that ITI supplies have been selected in consigning depots from oldest stocks, and consumption within warranty life will be an important point to watch.

(k) Summarising, by British ESD standards in an undisturbed theatre, the physical condition of the stocks in Depot 590 could be regarded as fair to indifferent. The Italian Officers encountered seemed enthusiastic and keen, but the physical results still leave much room for improvement.

Depot Accountancy.

(p) There appeared to be reasonable efficiency in ensuring that each individual act of receipt or issue in the depot is accompanied by the creation of an initial document. Our efforts to elucidate, however, what subsequently happened to these vouchers, and to form a picture of how the consolidated accounts are built up and to obtain from the Depot Commander statistical information reflecting the physical situation in the depot at a given period did not meet with any success. It would not be sound on the basis of our short investigation to conclude that there is serious inefficiency in respect of these processes, but we certainly received the impression that they might be subject to time-lag.

(y) The despatches from NAPLES to other Bulk Depots were started on 14 Mar 44.

D. Summary of Position of Italian Army Food Supplies Organisation in Naples Sector.

- (a) There are at present three major problems: -
- (i) To ensure that the next convoy containing ITI food supplies gets a fresh start and a good one in respect of port reception arrangements along the lines sketched in Section B above.
 - (ii) To ensure that the present bulk depot situation is prevented from deteriorating further as regards physical condition of stocks and depot accounting and is pulled round to an improvement as rapidly as is practical, and that the next batch of supplies coming in get separate and proper treatment under close Allied guidance as regards physical disposition and accounting. This will call for additional accommodation and if there is much tonnage on the next convoy. Capt. HELLER had depot accommodation question in hand.
 - (iii) To follow up the problem of distribution of food stocks to regional Unit Supply Depots urgently.

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 - (iii) To follow up the problem of distribution of food stocks to regional Unit Supply Depots urgently.

2. REPORT BY LIEUT. COL. H. B. FINCH, ADST, MIA, 21 to 25 March 1944.

1. Visited Italian Supply Depot, POTENZA, 21 Mar, commanded by Capt. MORO, Carabinieri.

Found that sups were still in very unsuitable storage. The repair of the building was still in hand, but it was evident that damage due to rain coming in had been caused. The whole place was damp, and except for the fact that sups were issued almost as soon as received certain losses would have taken place. I advised Capt. MORO that I was dissatisfied and asked him to expedite repairs.

2. Called in at Col. QUINSITH's office, SALERNO, 22 March.

(a) Explained how Italian Government, and Comando Supremo had to be fed either as Army or as non Military. If they were to be considered Army we had no alternative but to obey orders and feed from Italian Stocks & Rations.

(c) Visited D.D.S.T. Three District. (Col. GALLEY).

Col. GALLEY expressed his willingness to start a school to train Italian soldiers to become drivers. Found out that THREE DIST consists

Sheet 3/...

Sheet 2.

(c) -contd.)

-of 57 and 59 Areas and 94 Sub Area.

3.

(a) Saw Lt. Col. JECQ. Food Sub Comm. AGC. Found that he also had a system of Port Liaison. Major BORTONE at NAPLES, Major KNIGHT at BARI. It would appear that there is quite a lot of duplication and that co-ordination might produce an economy of personnel.

(b) Went to see No. 21 and 22 QM Truck Coys at AFRAGOLA.

It would appear that these are run together. Capt. COMINOTTI being in command of a group of the two QM Truck Coys. 2/Lt. FREEMAN is the Cadre or Liaison Officer (American.) At the time

they had 90 out of their 100 trucks on the road. There are 130 good drivers out of the total 200 men. Others are being trained. There are also 18 Mechanics, 14 clerks, 10 cooks, 8 at Control Posts.

(c) Italians asked that they may be issued with their clothing and also in particular their new boots. They had put in an indent for a complete new outfit for every man. If they indented only for what was most urgently required, they would receive it. They promised to do this.

(e) Visited Brig. HINDER, D.S.T. FLAMBO said that he had seen Italian GT Coys and was pleased with 1000 TARANTO. He instructed that every effort should be made to clothe and equip and foster "esprit de corps" and self respect. Lt. Col. DAWSON, A.D.T. FLAMBO gave me the draft of an order expected to be issued by G (SD) FLAMBO regarding Driver Training School POLIGNANO.

4.

Visited Comdr MATTHEWS RM, Chief Accts Off. NAPLES.

Agreed that all information regarding Naval strengths was a TOTAL responsibility and that TOTALI would co-ordinate all transactions with Italian Navy.

5.

Called in at DISTWO PIRE. Saw EDST, Col. WARREN and Lt. Col. HEGAN ⁴³⁴²

(a) Col. HEGAN asked that deficiencies from 1000 Italian GT Coy be made up from POLIGNANO School as soon as possible. I explained that if this was asked for it would be done immediately.

(b) He asked what was to be done with funds and useless soldiers unlikely to be efficient drivers. I asked him to inform MMIA officially so that we may communicate with CMAT and have them moved.

3.

EXTRACT FROM REPORT SUBMITTED BY LIEUT. E.L. MONCK-MASON, R.A.S.C.
PORT DET., L.O. CROTONE.

Period 15 - 21 Mar 44.

1. I have temporarily established my HQ at VILLA PALATE, CATANZARA. I have made arrangements with MOV (Shipping) CROTONE to be kept informed as to arrivals of Ships, and immediately notified directly any supplies are listed for Italian Army.

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4. Visited Comdr HAINES RN, Chief Accts Off. NAPLES.
 Agreed that all information regarding Naval strengths was a TOTAL responsibility and that TOTALI would co-ordinate all transactions with Italian Navy.

5. Called in at DISTWO BARI. Saw EDST, Col. MARUM and Lt. Col. HEGAN ⁴³⁴²
 (a) Col. HEGAN asked that deficiencies from 1000 Italian GT Coy be made up from POLIGNANO School as soon as possible. I explained that if this was asked for it would be done immediately.
 (b) He asked what was to be done with duds and useless soldiers unlikely to be efficient drivers. I asked him to inform EWLA officially so that we may communicate with EWLA and have them moved.

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Whilst in CROTONE, my HQ will be with Capt. GILLISPIE, US Forestry & Mining Engineer, in VIA ROMA, where any messages can be phoned through Military Exchange.

2. On 15 Mar, the S. 156 "COMO" docked and off-loaded a cargo of supplies for Italian Army. Copies of the manifest and certified agreed statement of supplies received, have been forwarded to MIA.

16 Mar 44, No. 53 D.S.D. CROTONE.

In company with S/Ten. VIGLIENGI, Italian Commissariato Representative Tenente Commissario NICOLA (L/c Supplies at D.S.E.) I visited three stores into which supplies had been stacked ex "COMO".

Stacking and handling of commodities was in order, with the exception of a number of broken cases of preserved meat which were in process of being re-stacked.

Sheet 4/....

No. 3 contd.

Warranty Expiry Dates appeared to conform to required conditions with the exception of biscuits which expired in 1943, and in some instances 1942.

In the Barracco Barn, tea was stored. There was approx. 52,000 lbs of tea stored, and Ten. VIGLIENCHI requested that urgent measures be taken to exchange this tea for Coffee of which there is no availability for issue either from D.S.A., or from CATANZARO at the present time. Accordingly I phoned Capt. WYON at CATANZARO who sent a signal to HQ., MMIA requesting details and authority to exchange with a British S.D.

20 Mar 44. Bulk Supply Depot CATANZARO.

I visited this Depot with Col. VIOLANTE, S/Ten VIGLIENCHI and Ten. SCOPPETTONE (i/c Supplies):

Stacking of commodities was satisfactory, though two sugar bags appeared to be slightly damp in which condition, I was assured, they had been received. Warranty Expiry Dates were in order, with exception of certain biscuits and a couple of cases of Corned Beef. Issues procedure seemed to be working satisfactorily. Ten. SCOPPETTONE pointed out the situation regarding Coffee. There was only enough coffee for 2 more days, after which Tea would have to be issued in lieu. I informed him that the matter had been reported to HQ., MMIA.

4. EXTRACT FROM REPORTS MADE BY Lt. BALDINI FOR PERIOD 20 to 24 March.

Taranto Main Supply Depot (MONTICATTI)

1. Lt. Col. BALDINI is in command and escorted me.
2. Supplies are mainly stacked in a large covered shed (open at the sides.) It was very clean.
3. I inspected large stacks of flour, WAX HASH, MACARONI, SPACHETTI, RICE and SUGAR. All commodities were pillar-stacked.

Observations are as follows:-

- (a) There were no Tally Boards.
- (b) Stacks of flour are too large if they are likely to remain for any period, sufficient air circulation to combat weevil infestation is lacking.
- (c) Stacks are tidy but not based on any plan as to future lay out of the Depot.
- (d) A mistake has been made in one pillar of flour which renders it impossible to count.
- (e) No segregation has been made of WARRANTY DATES or MANUFACTURERS.

4. I discussed the above mentioned points at length with Lt. Col. BALDINI. He appears to have been hampered by lack of information.

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- (d) A mistake has been made in one pillar of flour which renders it impossible to count.
- (e) No segregation has been made of WARRANTY DATES or MANUFACTURERS.

4. I discussed the above mentioned points at length with Lt. Col. BALDINI. He appears to have been hampered by lack of information from Ministry of War concerning possible tonnage to be held. (b) and (c) above are therefore understood. He was willing to adopt any suggestions made by me and agreed.

- (a) To prepare Tally Boards similar to those used at British Depots.
- (b) To make smaller stocks of FLOUR on further receipts.
- (c) To sort existing stocks of MEV Hash into Warranties etc.

5. The majority of commodities received are only marked with a packing date and I have given certain periods of warranty but it appears essential to furnish a comprehensive list to Depots for all commodities.

9. Lt. Col. BALDINI appears to be willing to co-operate in any way possible.

Sheet 5/

ITALIAN PORT DETACHMENT - TARANTO

2. Inspected Billets which were extremely clean and tidy.
6. A consignment of ECOTS had been discharged ex S.S. "FORT STURGEON". These were not on ship's papers as ill. They had been forwarded to MONTECATINI. Contents of cases did not agree with number of pairs shown on the outside.

TARANTO PETROL DEPOT

Ascertained that this was now clear of P.O.L.

923 (ITALIAN) DOCKS OPERATING COY. (Just forming).

1. Contacted Major CHAMBERI (O.C.).
2. Accommodated in huts near MONTECATINI. Strength 376. Roofing of some huts incomplete and these now being used. These in use are therefore too overcrowded. Beds are touching and in one hut there are 40 - 50 men. The C.C. asked if it was possible to have a supply of Disinfectants (AL 63 Powder etc), also First Aid Outfit.
3. I inspected the midday meal. It consisted of Veg, Soup, Bread and Figs. The former tasted very good. The ration of bread is 300 grammes per day and was alleged to be 1/3 of that originally issued. Quality was excellent.
3. Contacted Lt. CAMMISHELL M.C. 10, attached No 1 Docks Gp. RE: assisting formation of 923 (ITALIAN) Docks Operating Coy. He is taking up matter of hut roofing.

EXTRACTS OF REPORT ON INSPECTIONS BY LT. EVERARD 22 - 23 MARCH 44

LECCO BULK SUPPLY DEPOT

1. Capt ELMER (O.C.) accompanied me. He appeared very efficient and business-like.
2. The Depot is located in a lock-up buildings dispersed around the town. Except for wide dispersion, they are excellent in every way - not over crowded, dry, and extremely clean.
3. All stacks are tallied. These checked agreed. Majority of commodities kept in "pillar - pile" and the system was immediately started with P. Heat arriving in No. 2 above. Further receipts of flour will be similarly stacked.
4. I explained system of warranties.

LECCO DISTRIBUTION DEPOT

1. Met Major ALTAPANO (O.C.), who escorted me.
2. Present location (disused church) is being vacated and they are in process of moving into new building.

2. Accommodated in huts near PONTICATINI. Strength 376. Roofing of some huts incomplete and these now being used. Those in use are therefore too overcrowded. Beds are touching and in one hut there are 40 - 50 men. The C.O. asked if it was possible to have a supply of Disinfectants (Al. 63 Powder etc), also First Aid Outfit.

3. I inspected the midday meal. It consisted of Veg, Soup, Bread and Figs. The former tasted very good. The ration of bread is 300 grammes per day and was alleged to be 2 of this originally issued. Quality was excellent.

3. Contacted Lt. CAMMISHELL AGO. IO, attached No 1 Docks Gp. RE, assisting formation of 922 (ITALIAN) Docks Operating Coy. He is taking up matter of hut roofing.

EXTRACTS OF REPORT ON INSPECTIONS BY LT. FURIELAND 22 - 23 MARCH 44

LECCE BULK SUPPLY DEPOT

1. Capt DALLINO (O.C.) escorted me. He appeared very efficient and business-like.
2. The Depot is located in 6 lock-up buildings dispersed around the town. Except for wide dispersion, they are excellent in every way - not over crowded, dry, and extremely clean.
3. All stacks are tallied. Those checked agreed. Majority of commodities ~~very~~ ^{very} 1 damaged. No stocks were "pillar piled" but were in good order. I demonstrated "pillar - pile" and the system was immediately started with P. Meat arriving in No. 2 above. Further receipts of flour will be similarly stacked.
4. I explained system of warranties.

LECCE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT

1. Met Major ALFAPANO (O.C.), who escorted me.
2. Present location (disused church) is being vacated and they are in process of moving into new building.
4. Approx. 2,000 empty sacks are on hand. Major ALFAPANO promised to return these on following day, explaining that transport difficulty had delayed previous return.

EXTRACT OF REPORT ON INSPECTIONS BY LT. FURIELAND - 24 MARCH 44

TRICASE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT

1. O.C. was away - saw Sergeant i/c.
2. This Depot has ceased to function, no Italian Troops stationed in the vicinity. Remainder of stock (approx 2 tons mixed Supplies) will be cleared to LECCE within next 14 days.

Sheet 4/

GALLIPOLI PETROL DEPOT.

1. Inspected this with Lieut NGUYEN (O.C.)
2. P.O.L. is in large barrels, well stacked and camouflaged. Approx. stock was: Petrol 12,000 klls, AG 115,650 klls, and Lubs 2,600 klls.
4. Fire appliances were available.
5. The books appeared to be in order.

GALLIPOLI DISTRIBUTION DEPOT

I discovered this by chance. It has only been open for 3 - 4 days.

1. Inspected Depot with Lieut DECARLO (O.C.)
2. Located in one building which is clean and tidy. Stock is very small at present. Sacked supplies were damaged. Commodities were sorted. I tested the scales.
3. The books appeared in order.

GALATINA DISTRIBUTION DEPOT

1. Inspected this with Capt GHECO (O.C.). He appeared very efficient.
3. Depot is extremely clean and tidy. Commodities were well stacked and laid out. I suggested the institution of Tally Boards - OC agreed. The scales were scrupulously clean. There were no empty sacks on hand.
4. Receives Supplies every 4 or 5 days. Feeds approx 4,000 men. Issues are made daily to local troops (2,000) and to remainder every 4 or 5 days.

27 Mar 44.

H. H. H.
Lt. Col.,
ADST,
Army Sub Comm. ACC.

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2. Located in one building which is clean and tidy. Stock is very small at present. Sacked supplies were damaged. Commodities were sorted. I tested the scales.
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27 Mar 44.

H. W. H.
Lt. Col,
ADST,
Army Sub Comm. ACC.

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SUBJECT: Weekly Adm Bulletin

6/200
Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.
Main HQ (MIA)
LEGATE (LEGCE)
S/AQ/7
21 Mar 44.

1. W.e.f. 26 Mar 44, a weekly letter covering points both of policy and service interest will be published in order that Adm Services and all LOs may know the current trend of affairs and to cut down the number of letters sent out during the week.
2. Distribution will be to Liaison Officers in NAPLES, BARI, CATANZARO SARDINIA (when operative) 60 Sub Area and Port Liaison Officers in BRINDISI and TARANTO. Liaison Officers will ensure that the letter is read by all MIA officers in the area.
3. ST., ORD., MEDICAL, REHE and MOW. LO will hand appropriate paragraphs to S.C. 'Q' by 2000 hrs each Saturday. Liaison Officers etc., will forward any items of general interest when convenient for publication in the next issue.

F. J. Noam
Lt-Col.

two.FTH.

A.A. & Q.M.G.
Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

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