

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

ACC

10000/120/983

G/21/5 Wk
Opened May
May - Aug. 19

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

10000/120/983

G/21/5 Weekly Liaison Log CALABRIA

Opened May 4, 1944 - Closed Aug. 7, 1944

May - Aug. 1944

Subject:-No. 11 Weekly Liaison Log for period 31 JULY 44
to 6 AUG 44.

15
L.O., Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C.,
Military H.Q., CALABRIA,
Ponte grande-CATANZARO. ---

7 Aug 44.

Ref:-G.7/25.

To:-Army Sub Commission, (M.M.I.A.),
H.Q., A.C.C.,
R O M E.

1. The following is the daily log for the period 31 JULY 44 to
6 AUG 44:-

MONDAY, 31 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON admitted to RAZZA hospital, CATANZARO with fever.

TUESDAY, 1 AUG 44.

5320

1. GENTILE discussed M.T. position with Military H.Q., CALABRIA.

WEDNESDAY, 2 AUG 44.

1. GENTILE held conference with General CORONATI re horses
of Artillery of MANTOVA.
Inspected 120 engineer personnel prior to their departure
from CATANZARO to attend signals school at FRANCAVILLA.

THURSDAY, 3 AUG 44.

1. GENTILE discussed bridges and transport with local officer,
of Public Works and Urban Planning.

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

R O M S.

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WEDNESDAY, 2 AUG 44.

1. GENTLE held conference with General CORONATI re horses of Artillery of MANTOVA.
Inspected 120 engineer personnel prior to their departure from CATANZARO to attend signals school at FRANCAVILLA.

THURSDAY, 3 AUG 44.

1. GENTLE discussed bridges and transport with local officer, of Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission, A.C.C.

FRIDAY, 4 AUG 44.

1. NEWTON discharged from hospital. Quite fit.
2. GENTLE held discussions with Region VII., A.C.C., Supply Officer re M.T. Transport for Olive Oil for Italian Army.

...cont'd...

Sheet No.2

SUNDAY, 6 AUG 44.

1. NEWTON discussed artillery horses with General CORONATI.
2. GENTILE with Comando Genio, discussed work of dismantling and consigning hutting to 15 U.S.A.A.F.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 31 JULY to 6 AUG 44.

Serial.	Entrained.	U N I T.	Strength Required.		Strength Entrained.		Remarks.
			Offrs.	O.Rs.	Offrs.	O.Rs.	
1119	2 Aug 44.	120 Signallers.	-	120	-	120	

3. Visits by Allied Officers.

Capt. SPEARING arrived on Sunday, August 6th., on his way to NAPLES. Discussed one or two movement problems. 5319

4. General Remarks.

(a). Centro Orainamento Volontari.

This Unit moved on 2 Aug 44 from VIDO VALENTIA to CHIETI - strength 24 Officers and 523 O.Rs.

(b). Artillery Horses.

General CORONATI is co-operating very well in this matter. He has often commented on the man-power that could be

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			Offrs. O.Rs.	Offrs. O.Rs.	
1119	2 Aug 44.	120 Signallers.	- 120	- 120	

3. Visits by Allied Officers.

Capt. SPERLING arrived on Sunday, August 6th., on his way **5319**
to NAPLES. Discussed one or two movement problems.

4. General Remarks.(a). Centro_Organimento_Volontari.

This Unit moved on 2 Aug 44 from VIBO VALENTIA to CHIERI -
strength 24 Officers and 523 O.Rs.

(b). Artillery Horses.

General CORONATI is co-operating very well in this matter.
He has often commented on the man-power that could be
released in this way. The horses will be concentrated at
CUTRO, CROTONE and CATANZARO MARINA.

(c). 417 Regiment.

Owing to a small outbreak of Small Pox at NICASTRO, the
Units of the 417 Regiment there have been moved to
SOVERIA MANELLI for a short period of isolation.

Ammerling Capt.,
M.M.I.A. L.O., Military I.Q., CALABRIA.

Subject:-No.13 Weekly Liaison log for period 14 Aug 44
to 20 Aug 44.

14

3/21

L.O., Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C.,
Military H.Q., CALABRIA,
Ponte grande-CATANZARO. -----

22 Aug 44.

Ref:-G.7/29.-----

D

To:-Army Sub Commission, (M.M.I.A.),
H.Q., A.C.C.,
R O M E.

I. The following is the daily log for the period 14 Aug 44
to 20 Aug 44:-

MONDAY, 14 AUG 44.

I. NEWTON discussed tyre situation with Direzioneze
Automobilistico.

5318

2. Arrangements for last shipments of timber hutting for
15 U.S.A.A.F. made by GENTILE.

TUESDAY, 15 AUG 44.

I. NEWTON discussed with Capt. HARRIS, requisition of
sheep and goats for French Army.

WEDNESDAY, 16 AUG 44.

I. NEWTON met General CORONATI to discuss speeding up
departure of units still remaining for Allied Forces.

To:-Army Sub Commission, (M.M.I.A.),
H.Q., A.C.C.,
R O M E.

I. The following is the daily log for the period 14 Aug 44
to 20 Aug 44:-

MONDAY, 14 AUG 44.

- I. NEWTON discussed tyre situation with Direzioneze Automobilistico.
2. Arrangements for last shipments of timber hutting for 15 U.S.A.A.P. made by GENTLE.

5318

TUESDAY, 15 AUG 44.

- I. NEWTON discussed with Capt.HARRIS, requisition of sheep and goats for French Army.

WEDNESDAY, 16 AUG 44.

- I. NEWTON met General CORONATI to discuss speeding up departure of Units still remaining for Allied Programme.
2. GENTLE arranged for road job to be carried out at CAPO SPARTIVENTO.

THURSDAY, 17 AUG 44.

- I. Capt.NEWING, 2 i/c., 274 Works section, R.E., CROTONE, discussed with NEWTON points about Italian transport and Forestry Coy.

...cont'd...

FRIDAY, 18 AUG 44.

- I. NEWTON inspected Units of 417 Regiment at SOVERIA MANNELLI.

SATURDAY, 19 AUG 44.

- I. NEWTON went to CROTONE to visit 274 Works Section, R.E.
NEWTON went to ISOLA CAPO RIZZUTO to discuss departure of 30 R. & R., R.A.F., and the disposal of the Italian soldiers at present employed.

SUNDAY, 20 AUG 44.

- I. NEWTON instructed to bring Detachment to ROME. Informed General CORONATI.
2. GENTILE - general arrangements prior to closing down at CATANZARO.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 14 AUG 44 to 20 AUG 44.

No Units left CALABRIA on Allied Programme.

5317

3. Visits by Allied Officers.

- (i) Major P. THRUPP stayed at Villa Parlato on August 15/16 on his way to NAPLES.
- (ii) Major HARVEY, Department of Public Safety, A.C.C., ROME came to talk about restoring a car to an Italian Major working for the Allies.
- (iii) Capt. NEWING came from CROTONE to discuss Italian Army Road Transport working for the 274 Works Section RE.

SUNDAY, 20 AUG 44.

1. NEWTON instructed to bring Detachment to ROME. Informed General CORONATI.

2. GENTLE - General arrangements prior to closing down at CATANZARO.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 14 AUG 44 to 20 AUG 44.

5317

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(iii) Capt. NEWING came from GROTONE to discuss Italian Army Road Transport working for the 274 Works Section RE.

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Capt.,
M.M.I.A., I.O., Military H.Q. CALABRIA.

Subject:-No. 12 Weekly Liaison Log for period 7 AUG 44
to 13 AUG 44.

MEMO	9
FILE NO.	
Date Recd	19/8/44

L.O., Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C.,
Military H.Q., CALABRIA,
Ponte grande-CATANZARO.

14 AUG 44.

Ref:-G.7/28.

To:-Army Sub Commission, (M.M.I.A.),
H.Q., A.C.C.,
R O M E.

1. The following is the daily log for the period 7 AUG 44
to 13 AUG 44:-

MONDAY, 7 AUG 44.

1. LT. TONKS left CATANZARO.
2. NEWTON had conference with Direzione Automobilistico on tyre situation.
3. NEWTON discussed transport with Supply Officer, Region VII. GENTLE discussed with local officer of Public Works & Utilities Sub-Commission, A.C.C., various points concerning bridges on East coast road REGGIO CATANZARO MARINA - CROTONE.

5316

TUESDAY, 8 AUG 44.

1. NEWTON discussed the boots and clothing situation with Major GARUFI, Military H.Q., CALABRIA, and Security with R.P.S.O., Region VII.
2. GENTLE arranged allocation rail transport for timber hutting for 15 U.S.A.A.T.

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

- R C M B.
1. The following is the daily log for the period 7 AUG 44 to 13 AUG 44:-

MONDAY, 7 AUG 44.

1. Lt. TONKS left CATANZARO.
2. NEWTON had conference with Direzione Automobilistico on tyre situation. 5316
NEWTON discussed transport with Supply Officer, Region VII.
3. GENTLE discussed with local officer of Public Works & Utilities Sub-Commission, A.C.C., various points concerning bridges on East coast road REGGIO - CATANZARO MARINA - CROTONE.

TUESDAY, 8 AUG 44.

1. NEWTON discussed the boots and clothing situation with Major GARUFFI, Military H.Q., CALABRIA, and Security with R.P.S.O., Region VII.
2. GENTLE arranged allocation rail transport for timber cutting for 15 U.S.A.A.F.

WEDNESDAY, 9 AUG 44.

1. NEWTON talked with Major HOLLAND, O.C., 274 Works Section, R.E. (for points, see Visits from Allied Officers).

...cont'd...

THURSDAY, 10 AUG 44.

1. NEWTON discussed Drivers Course with Major TORCHIO, O.C., 66 Autogruppo Pesante. (see General Remarks).
2. GENTLE inspected L. of C. CATANZARO to REGGIO. Visited Italian engineer stores at REGGIO.

FRIDAY, 11 AUG 44.

1. NEWTON discussed Train Guard with Mov. & En., REGGIO.
2. GENTLE returned to CATANZARO.

SATURDAY, 12 AUG 44.

1. NEWTON visited Americans at VILLAGGIO MANCUSO.

SUNDAY, 13 AUG 44.

1. GENTLE discussed mine clearing with Comandante Genio.
2. Sgt. BRAY arrived from TARANTO to take P.U.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 7 AUG 44 to 13 AUG 44.

No Units left CALABRIA on Allied Programme.

3. Visits by Allied Officers.

- (1.) Major HOLLAND, O.C., 274 Works Section, R.E., came to introduce himself to N.M.I.A., I.O. on Wednesday August 9th. The 274 Works Section have taken over from 14 Forestry Coy., N.Z.E. Among points discussed were:-

- (a) 101 Italian Forestry Coy. - the method of its employment and its administration.
- (b) The section of M.F. detached from 66 Autogruppo for work with the Works Section.

5315

SATURDAY, 12 AUG 44.

1. NEWTON visited Americans at VILLAGGIO MANCUSO.

SUNDAY, 13 AUG 44.

1. GENTILE discussed mine clearing with Comando Genio.
2. Sgt. BRAY arrived from TARANTO to take P.U.
2. Progress of Allied Programme from 7 AUG 44 to 13 AUG 44.

5315

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3. Visits by Allied Officers.

(1) Major HOLLAND, O.C., 274 Works Section, R.E., came to introduce himself to M.M.I.A., L.O. on Wednesday August 9th. The 274 Works Section have taken over from 14 Forestry Coy., N.Z.E. Among points discussed were:-

- (a) 101 Italian Forestry Coy. - the method of its employment and its administration.
- (b) The section of M.T. detached from 66 Autograppo for work with the Works Section.
- (c) The general situation of transport, tyres and spare parts in CALABRIA.

(11) ON SUNDAY, 14 AUG 44, Sgt. BRAY arrived from M.M.I.A. H.Q., ROME to collect the P.U. at present on charge to this detachment. He will leave in its place a Doug.

...cont'd...

4. General Remarks.

(a) Reinforcements.

On August 8th. 50 Medical personnel left CATANZARO SALA for the Military hospital, MESSINA.

(b) Course of Instruction for Drivers.

Major TORCHIO, C.C., 66 Autogruppo Pesante, approached me early in the week and pointed out that the allocation of petrol per head for trainees was inadequate to ensure their efficiency at the end of the course. At present, he is allowed 50 litres per man and this does not give them much driving time. (My Q.2/ of 8 Aug 44 and your ST.285 of 9 Aug 44 refer).

(c) Boots and Clothing.

There are still 1,344 men in CALABRIA dressed completely in civilian clothes. (See my Q.4/74 of 9 Aug 44).

The 1,000 Reapers of the MANTOVA Division recently returned from TOGGIA have their boots and clothing in a deplorable state as a result of their labours.

(d) The tyre situation.

The tyre situation becomes worse daily. If Military H.Q., CALABRIA receives the allocation of tyres and tubes requested in my Signal Q/1 of 10 Aug 44, the minimum requirements of transport for military needs can be met.

5314

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5314

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Amment
M.M.I.A., L.O., Military H.Q., CALABRIA.
Capt.,

Subject:--No.10 Weekly Liaison Log for period 24 JULY 44
to 30 JULY 44.

6/24
L.O., Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C.,
Military H.Q., CALABRIA,
Ponte grande-CATANZARO.-----

31 July 44.

Ref:--G.7/24.

To:--Army Sub Commission, (M.M.I.A.),
H.Q., A. C. C.,
R O M E.

I. The following is the daily log for the period 24 JULY 44 to
30 JULY 44:--

MONDAY, 24 JULY 44.

I. GENTLE discussed with Signal officer of Comando Genio
telephone and telegraph circuits used by Allied Military
Authorities in CALABRIA.

TUESDAY, 25 JULY 44.

- 5313
- I. NEWTON and GENTLE attended military tribunal for trial
of two Italian officers responsible for transport working
for 14 FORESTRY COY., N.2.E.
 2. GENTLE settled claims for irregular requisition of
engineer materials.

WEDNESDAY, 26 JULY 44.

I. NEWTON discussed transport for Olive Oil with Spanish

I. The following is the daily log for the period 24 JULY 44 to 30 JULY 44:-

MONDAY, 24 JULY 44.

- I. GENTLE discussed with Signal officer of Comando Genio telephone and telegraph circuits used by Allied Military Authorities in CALABRIA.

5313

TUESDAY, 25 JULY 44.

- I. NEWTON and GENTLE attended military tribunal for trial of two Italian officers responsible for transport working for I4 FORESTRY COY., N.Z.E.
2. GENTLE settled claims for irregular requisition of engineer materials.

WEDNESDAY, 26 JULY 44.

- I. NEWTON discussed transport for Olive Oil with Supply and Transport Officers, A.C.C., Region VII.
2. GENTLE settled claims for irregular requisition of engineer materials.

THURSDAY, 27 JULY 44.

- I. NEWTON attended Military tribunal.

...cont'd...

FRIDAY, 28 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON held further discussions re transport for Olive Oil.
2. GENTLE discussed with local representative of Public Works Sub Commission, A.C.C., re transport and engineer stores.

SATURDAY, 29 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON - Sick.
2. GENTLE discussed unexploded bombs and minefields in CALABRIA with Public Safety Officer, A.C.C., Region VII.

SUNDAY, 30 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON - Sick.
2. GENTLE arranged with Supply officer, A.C.C., Region VII., supply of civilian rations for personnel in military convalescent hospital at S. CRISTINA L'ASPRONTE.

5312

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 24 JULY 44 to 30 JULY 44.

Serial.	Entrained.	U N I T.	Strength Required.	Strength Entrained.	Remarks.
			Offrs.	O.Rs.	Offrs.
				O.Rs.	O.Rs.

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SUNDAY, 30 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON - Sick.

2. GENTLE arranged with Supply officer, A.C.C., Region VII.,
supply of civilian rations for personnel in military convalescent
hospital at S. CRISTINA L'ASPRONTE.

5312

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 24 JULY 44 to 30 JULY 44.

Serial.	Entrained.	U N I T.	Strength		Remarks.	
			Required.	Entrained.		
			<u>Of frs.</u>	<u>O.Rs.</u>	<u>Of frs.</u>	<u>O.Rs.</u>
1051 C.	27 July 44.	509 Smoke Coy.	5	281	5	281

...cont'd...

3. Visits by Allied Officers.

Transport Officer from R.E. WORKS SECTION, which is taking over from I4 FORESTRY COY., N.Z.E., visited this H.Q. on 29 JULY to discuss various points regarding Italian transport and personnel engaged on timber work.

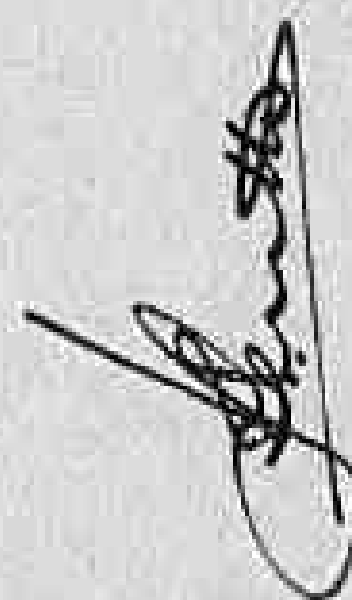
4. General Remarks.

Transport.

18 vehicles, (12 of which are effective), which were working for A.C.C., Region VII., distributing supplies for civilian population, have been withdrawn and will work for Lt.TONES, transporting Olive Oil for Italian Army.

General transport situation is still very difficult. Military H.Q., CALABRIA is unable to supply sufficient transport to GENIO CIVILE for road and bridge works on Military L. of C. in CALABRIA. (see my Q8/I43 of 16 JULY 44 to H.Q., 2 District, copy to you) and as a result this work, which should be completed during the present dry season, is being seriously delayed.

5311



R.E., L.O., Military H.Q., CALABRIA.
Capt., R.E.,

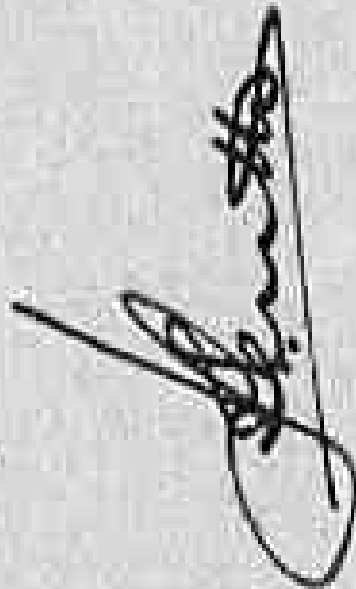
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5311



R.E., L.O., Military H.Q., CALABRIA.
Capt., R.E.,

Subject: No. 9 Weekly Liaison Log for period 17 JULY 44 to 23 JULY 44.

FILED	17 JUL 44
Dist. Recd.	17 JUL 44

L.O., Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C.,
Military H.Q., CALABRIA,
Pontegrande-CATANZARO.

24 JULY 44.

Ref:--G. 7/23.

To:--Army Sub Commission, (M.M.I.A.),
H.Q., A.C.C.,
R O M E.

1. The following is the daily log for the period 17 JULY 44 to 23 JULY 44:--

MONDAY, 17 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON discussed transport with Supply Officer, A.C.C.

TUESDAY, 18 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON met General CORONATI to talk about discharge of 1913 Class.

5310

GENTILE inspected bridges in CATANZARO MARINA area.

WEDNESDAY, 19 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON met Region VII Legal Officer to discuss forthcoming trial of two Italian officers charged with stealing petrol.
2. GENTILE dealt with hutting programme for 15 AIR FORCE.

THURSDAY, 20 JULY 44.

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

i. The following is the daily log for the period 17 JULY 44 to 23 JULY 44:-

MONDAY, 17 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON discussed transport with Supply Officer, A.C.C.

TUESDAY, 18 JULY 44.

5310

1. NEWTON met General CORONATI to talk about discharge of 1913 Class.

GENTILE inspected bridges in CATANZARO MARINA area.

WEDNESDAY, 19 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON met Region VII Legal Officer to discuss forthcoming trial of two Italian officers charged with stealing petrol.
2. GENTILE dealt with hutting programme for 15 AIR FORCE.

THURSDAY, 20 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON discussed Fascist tendencies in civil personnel of Comando Genio with R.S.O., Region VII.
2. GENTILE visited CROTONE. Discussed timber with 14 Forestry Coy., N.Z.E., and rail transport for timber hutting for 15 Air Force with Movements.

FRIDAY, 21 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON visited Commissariato to prepare them for arrival of Lt. TONKS.

FRIDAY, 21 JULY 44 (cont'd).

2. GENTLE settled claims for irregular requisition of engineer stores.

SATURDAY, 22 JULY 44.

1. Lt. TONKS arrived.
2. NEWTON discussed Military H.Q. transport situation with General CORONATI.
3. GENTLE dealt with the settling of claims for irregular requisition of engineer stores.

SUNDAY, 23 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON went with Lt. TONKS to meet Major SYKES, Regional Supply Officer, Region VII., A.C.C., and two officers from Commissariate to begin oil talks.

5309

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 17 JULY to 23 JULY 44.

Serial.	Entrained.	U N I T.	Strength Required.		Strength Entrained.		Rema TKS.
			Offrs.	O. Rs.	Offrs.	O. Rs.	
10510	20 July 44	508 Smoke Coy.	5	281	5	281	
5150	20 July 44	73 Field Bakery.	2	115	2	117	

3. GENTLE dealt with the settling of claims for irregular requisition of engineer stores.

SUNDAY, 23 JULY 44.

1. NEWTON went with Lt. TONKS to meet Major SYKES, Regional Supply Officer, Region VII., A.C.C., and two officers from Commissariato to begin oil talks.

5309

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 17 JULY to 23 JULY 44.

Serial.	Entrained.	U N I T.	Strength Required.		Strength Entrained.		Rema TKs.
			Offrs.	O.Rs.	Offrs.	O.Rs.	
1051 C	20 July 44	508 Smoke Coy.	5	281	5	281	
5150	20 July 44	73 Piers Bakery.	2	115	2	117	

3. Visits by Allied Officers.

Lt. TONKS arrived on the evening of July 22 to obtain oil for Italian Army. Meetings arranged with Regional and Provincial Supplies Officers, Region VII., A.C.C., and with Officers of Commissariato.

4. General Remarks.

1. Transport.

I had several meetings with General CORONATI and his Transport Officers to discuss the desperate state of Italian Army transport in CALABRIA. At the time of the move of H.Q.'s and ministries to ROME, XXI Corps sent 120 vehicles (plus 5 autobuses) out of CALABRIA. This serious diminution of transport (which was already in a sorry state) has had serious repercussions.

(a) Distribution of Supplies throughout CALABRIA has been notably affected.

(b) Bodies of men required to make up Units on the Allied Programme have not been able to be moved.

(c) Orders have been received by the Military H.Q. of CALABRIA to cut down personnel of Services and Depots etc. This has been considerably retarded by the absence of adequate transport.

In my signal Q.3 of 23 July 44 I have asked for the return of some of the 120 vehicles or failing that a supply of tyres to put other vehicles on the road.

(a) Military H.Q., CALABRIA have been unable to accede to requests from Region VII., A.C.O. to assist with military transport in the distribution of grain to avert a serious crisis.

5308

2. Discharge of 1913 Class.

This has had repercussions on Units on the Allied Programme. In the 417 Regt., for example, there are 120 of 1913 Class. If these are not to be included in the Unit when it leaves CALABRIA, a little extension of time must be given to replace these men - not a very easy task, especially in view of i.(b) above. However, General CORONATI assures me that these adjustments will have been made in time for the scheduled departure of the Units on the Allied Programme.

3. Smoke Companies.

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- (b) Bodies or men required to make up Units on the Allied Programme have not been able to be moved.
- (c) Orders have been received by the Military H.Q. of CALABRIA to cut down personnel or Services and Depots etc. This has been considerably retarded by the absence of adequate transport.

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3. Smoke Companies.

With reference to the departure of the Smoke Coys. (508 and 509, from CROTONE and CATANZARO respectively; I have been asked several times by Military H.Q., CALABRIA to hasten the departure of these Units. (508 Smoke Coy. left on 20 July). The men are not allowed passes of any sort and they become completely demoralised after a long confinement in murky barracks. If an approximate date of departure could be given for the 509 Smoke Coy., a few day passes could be issued.

Comment
Capt.,
M.M.I.A., L.O., Military H.Q., CALABRIA.

Subject: No. 8 Weekly Liaison Log for period 10 JULY to 16 JULY 44.

L.O., Army Sub-Commission, (ACC),
Military H.Q., CALABRIA,
Ponte Grande-CATANZARO.

17 JULY 44.

Ref: G.7/22.

To: Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.,
Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.),
ROME.

1. The following is the daily log for the period 10 JULY 44 to 16 JULY 44:-

MONDAY, 10 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON visited 2 Traffic Control Sections at NICASTRO and inspected them with General CORONATI.
- (2) GENTILE settled claims for irregular requisition of engineer material.

Tuesday, 11 JULY 44.

5307

- (1) NEWTON inspected 73 PANETTIERI at COSENZA.
Discussed new Security line with Regional P.S.O.
- (2) GENTILE discussed practice bomb site for 15 Air Force with D.A.D. Claims and Harnings, CC.RR, Comando Genio.

WEDNESDAY, 12 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON inspected 509 Smoke Coy at CATANZARO.
- (2) GENTILE settled claims for irregular requisition of engineer material.

1. The following is the daily log for the period 10 JULY 44 to 16 JULY 44:-

MONDAY, 10 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON visited 2 Traffic Control Sections at NICASTRO and inspected them with General CORONATI.
- (2) GENTLE settled claims for irregular requisition of engineer material.

TUESDAY, 11 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON inspected 73 PANETTIERI at COSENZA.
Discussed new Security line with Regional P.S.O.
- (2) GENTLE discussed practice bomb site for 15 Air Force with D.A.D. Claims and Hirlings, CC.RR, Comando Genio.

5307

WEDNESDAY, 12 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON inspected 509 Smoke Coy at ~~SAFANARO~~.
- (2) GENTLE settled claims for irregular requisition of engineer material.

THURSDAY, 13 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON met General CORONATI to discuss situation of personnel over establishment in Depots.
- (2) GENTLE discussed transport for Genio Civile with Military H.Q., CALABRIA.

FRIDAY, 14 JULY 44.

- (1) GENTLE discussed progress of hutting for 15 Air Force.

SATURDAY, 15 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON inspected 508 Smoke Coy. at CROTONE.
Discussed exemptions for Italian soldiers with 14 Forestry Coy., N.Z.E.
- (2) GENTLE held conference with local representative Public Works Sub Commission, A.C.C., re M.T. and engineer stores situation.

SUNDAY, 16 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON discussed with Region VII. the powers of Requisition and Exemption recently given to General CORONATI in respect of road transport.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 10 JULY 44 to 16 JULY 44.

Serial.	Entrained.	U N I T.	Strength Required.		Strength Entrained.		Remarks.
			Offrs.	O. Rs.	Offrs.	O. Rs.	
1080 A	16 July 44	2 Sections Traffic Control.	1	40	1	40	5306
---	---	---	1	40	1	40	
1075 A	10 July 44	523 Bn. H.Q.	4	40	4	40	---

- (1) 8 July 44 - 37 missing men sent on to 507 Smoke Coy. Serial 1051 C.

- (11) 11 July 44 - 3 of the 5 missing vets sent on for the 213 Infermeria Quarantel (Serial 1200).

3. INSPECTION REPORTS.

Inspection Reports follow for:-

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 10 JULY 44 to 16 JULY 44.

Serial.	Entrained.	U N I T.	Strength Required.		Strength Entrained.		Remarks.
			Offrs.	O.Rs.	Offrs.	O.Rs.	
1080 A	16 July 44	2 Sections Traffic Control.	1	40	1	40	5306
1075 A	10 July 44	523 Bn. H.Q.	4	40	4	40	

(1) 8 July 44 - 37 missing men sent on to 507 Smoke Coy. Serial 1051 C.

(11) 11 July 44 - 3 of the 5 missing vets sent on for the 213 Infermeria Quarantini (Serial 1200).

3. INSPECTION REPORTS.

Inspection Reports follow for:-

- (a) 508 Smoke Coy., CROTONE.
- (b) 509 Smoke Coy., CATANZARO.
- (c) 73 Sq. Panettieri, COSENZA.
- (d) 2 Sections Road Control, NICASTRO.

4. VISITS BY ALLIED OFFICERS.

- (1) F/O. NAPIER, O.C., 30 R. & R., ISOLA CAPO RIZZUTO, came to CATANZARO to discuss the Italian soldiers who work on the aerodrome.
- (2) Lt. COOK, M.T.O., 14 Forestry Coy., N.Z.F., arrived from CROTONE to ask for transport replacements.
- (3) Lt. DAVEY, S.T.O., CROTONE, came to requisition a car.

5. GENERAL REMARKS.

The officer responsible for the preparation of the 508 and 509 Smoke Companies made repeated requests for the early departure of these units. The men are restless and impatient and a reserve or 10% is kept standing by which could well be used for other units on the Allied Programme.

5305

Amnest
 N.M.I.A. L.O., Military H.Q. CALABRIA
 Capt.

Subject:-No. 7 weekly Liaison Log for period 3 JULY to 9 JULY 44.

6/21/44
L.O., Army Sub-Commission, (A.C.C.),
XXI Italian Corps,
Pontegrande-CATANZARO.

10 July 44.

Ref:-G.7/20.

To:-Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.,
Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.),
LEQUILE (LECCE).

I. The following is the daily log for the period 3 JULY 44 to 9 JULY 44:-

MONDAY, 3 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON inspected 525 and 526 Bn. H.Qs. (Serial IO75 A) at 5304 CATANZARO.
- (2) GENTLE discussed Claims with D.A.D., Claims & Hirings at CATANZARO.

TUESDAY, 4 JULY 44.

- 1 NEWTON discussed man-power and transport with the I4 N.Z.E., GROFONE.
- (2) GENTLE discussed road and bridge works with local representative of Public Works Sub-Commission, A.C.C.
Discussed requisition of Bombing Site for I5 Air Force with D.A.D., Claims & Hirings.

WEDNESDAY, 5 JULY 44.

- (1) HOWARD returned from REGGIO.
- (2) NEWTON reviewed XXI Corps vehicles working for Allies with Cap.ZAFFIRO, Dir.Tras.
- (3) GENTLE arranged rail transport for timber hutting at various points in CALABRIA.
Discussed pre-Armistice timber contracts with Comando Genio.

1. The following is the daily log for the period 3 JULY 44 to 9 JULY 44:-

MONDAY, 3 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON inspected 525 and 526 Bn. H.Qs. (Serial IO75 A) at 5304 CATANZARO.
- (2) GENTLE discussed Claims with D.A.D., Claims & Hirings at CATANZARO.

TUESDAY, 4 JULY 44.

- 1 NEWTON discussed man-power and transport with the I4 N.Z.E., CROTONE.
- (2) GENTLE discussed road and bridge works with local representative of Public Works Sub-Commission, A.C.C.
Discussed requisition of Bombing Site for I5 Air Force with D.A.D., Claims & Hirings.

WEDNESDAY, 5 JULY 44.

- (1) HOWARD returned from REGGIO.
- (2) NEWTON reviewed XXXI Corps vehicles working for Allies with Cap.ZAFFIRO, Dir.Tras.
- (3) GENTLE arranged rail transport for timber hutting at various points in CALABRIA.
Discussed pre-Armistice timber contracts with Comando Genio.

THURSDAY, 6 JULY 44.

- (1) HOWARD left CATANZARO for ROME.
- (2) GENTLE to CROTONE to discuss timber with I4 Forestry Coy., N.Z.E. and to arrange rail transport for timber hutting for I5 Air Force.

...cont'd...

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

FRIDAY, 7 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON discussed Italian transport situation with Region VII Supply Officer.
- (2) MONCK-MASON left CATANZARO for LEQUILLE.
- (3) GENTLE arranged for rail transport and loading teller mines at MARCELLINARA.

SATURDAY, 8 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON discussed with General CORONATI commitments of the MANTOVA Division and proposed dispositions of forces in CALABRIA.
- (2) GENTLE dealt with Claims.

SUNDAY, 9 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON confirmed boots and clothing situation with XXXI Corps.
- (2) GENTLE dealt with Claims.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 3 JULY 44 to 9 JULY 44. 5303

Serial.	Entrained.	U N I T.	Strength Required.		Strength Entrained.		Remarks.
			Oftrs.	O.Rs.	Oftrs.	O.Rs.	
1200	4 July 44	213 Infermeria Quadrupedi. ✓	14	253	9	243	(a)
I075A	4 July 44	524 Bn.H.Q.	4	40	4	40	(b)
		525 Bn.H.Q.	4	40	4	38	(b)
		526 Bn.H.Q.	4	40	4	38	(b)
		303 Group H.Q.	4	40	4	38	(b)
		304 Group H.Q.	4	40	4	40	
I072	4 July 44	Drivers for I005 G.T. Coy.	-	120	-	105	(c)
10510	3 July 44	507 Smoke Coy.	5	281	5	244	(a)

SUNDAY, 9 JULY 44.

- (1) NEWTON confirmed boots and clothing situation with XXXI Corps.
(2) GENTLE dealt with Claims.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 3 JULY 44 to 9 JULY 44. 5303

Serial.	Entrained.	UNIT.	Strength Required.		Strength Untrained.		Remarks.
			Oftrs.	O.Rs.	Oftrs.	O.Rs.	
1200	4 July 44	213 Infermeria Quadrupedi. ✓	14	253	9	248	(a)
1075A	4 July 44	524 Bn.H.Q.	4	40	4	40	(b)
		525 Bn.H.Q.	4	40	4	38	(b)
		526 Bn.H.Q.	4	40	4	38	(b)
		303 Group H.Q.	4	40	4	38	(b)
		304 Group H.Q.	4	40	4	40	
1072	4 July 44	Drivers for 1005 G.P. Coy.	-	120	-	105	(c)
1051C	3 July 44	507 Smoke Coy.	5	281	5	244	(d)

- (a) The deficiencies in this Serial are of men who are to be furnished by S.M.R.E.
(b) See my G6/366 of 7 July 44 to XXXI Corps, copy to you.
(c) 15 drivers failed to qualify.
(d) See my G6/352 of 4 July 44 to XXXI Corps, copy to you.

...cont'd...

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

3. General Remarks.

(1) I spoke to XXXI Corps very severely about the granting of leave to personnel of 507 Smoke Coy., and I intend to insist that the culprit is dealt with in such a way as to afford an example to others who tend to slackness.

(2) General CORONATI discussed with me on July 8:-

(a) Reduction of Infantry Depots from five to three in view of the fact that there will only be three Regiments in CALABRIA. These Depots he proposes to place at CASTROVILLARI, NICASTRO and REGGIO (or VIBO VALENTIA).

(b) Transference of MANTOVA Division H.Q. to CATANZARO from COSENZA. He would like to have his own H.Q. (Military Command of CALABRIA) also at CATANZARO, but suggests that if both commands cannot be accommodated in CATANZARO, the old XXXI Corps H.Q. should transfer to COSENZA.

I am opposed to any such move until the Allied Programme has been completed to the last man in respect of XXXI Corps. He proposes to visit S.M.R.E. shortly to discuss these points with them.

5302

as requested
Capt.,
L.O., XXXI Corps.

Subject:-No. 6 Weekly Liaison Log for period 26 June to 2 July 44. 8

6/21

L.O., Army Sub-Commission, (ACC).,
XXXI Italian Corps,
Pontegrande-CATANZARO. - - -

27 July 44.

Ref:-G.7/19.

To:-Army Sub Commission, ACC.,
Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.),
LEQUILLI E. (LECCE).

I. The following is the daily log for the period 26 June to 2 July:-

MONDAY, 26 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON had talk on Security with Sgt. SURMAN of the F.S.S.
- (2) GENTILE dealt with Rail transport for Bailey bridging ex CALABRIA.
- (3) MONCK-MASON visited CATANZARO Supply Depot.
Arrived REGGIO CAL. in the evening.

TUESDAY, 27 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON went to CASTROVILLARI to inspect 303 Gp. H.Q. 5301
(see Inspection Report).

WEDNESDAY, 28 JUNE 44.

- (1) GENTILE carried out inspection of L. of C. CATANZARO -
LAGONEGRO.
- (2) MONCK-MASON inspected Supply Installations at REGGIO CAL.

THURSDAY, 29 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON discussed with Regional Commissioner, Col. FEASEY, -
(a) Misuse of Italian Army transport.
(b) Passes to the ROME Area.
Security discussed with Major. RICHARDSON.

(2) GENTILE continued with Road and Railway inspection

MONDAY, 26 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON had talk on Security with Sgt. SURMAN of the F.S.S.
- (2) GENTILE dealt with Rail transport for Bailey bridging ex CALABRIA.
- (3) MONCK-MASON visited CATANZARO Supply Depot.
Arrived REGGIO CAL. in the evening.

TUESDAY, 27 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON went to CASTROVILLARI to inspect 303 Gp. H.Q. 5301
(see Inspection Report).

WEDNESDAY, 28 JUNE 44.

- (1) GENTILE carried out inspection of L. of C. CATANZARO -
LAGONEGRO.
- (2) MONCK-MASON inspected Supply Installations at REGGIO CAL.

THURSDAY, 29 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON discussed with Regional Commissioner, Col. FEASEY, -
(a) Misuse of Italian Army transport.
(b) Passes to the ROME Area.
Security discussed with Major. RICHARDSON.
- (2) GENTILE continued with Road and Bridge inspection,
LAGONEGRO - CROTONE.
- (3) MONCK-MASON inspected Supply Depot at VIBO VALENTIA.

FRIDAY, 30 JUNE 44.

- (1) HOWARD returned from ROME.
HOWARD and NEWTON held conference with Chief of Staff and
Major. BRAGA on Allied Programme.
- (2) GENTILE visited CROTONE. Arranged road repair job to assist
timber hauling. Arranged rail transport for timber hutting
ex XXXI Corps for 15 Air Force.

...cont'd...

SATURDAY, 1 JULY 44.

- (1) HOWARD and NEWTON met CORONATI after his return from ROME.
- (2) MONCK-MASON inspected new premises for Supply Depot at CATANZARO SALA.

2. INSPECTION REPORTS.

Inspection Reports follow for

- (a) 303 Gp. H.Q. CASTROVILLARI.
- (b) 525 Bn. H.Q. CATANZARO.
- (c) 526 Bn. H.Q. CATANZARO.

Received.

all of which are alerted to leave on 4 July 44.

3. GENERAL REMARKS.

- (a) During this week we received first intimation of the change over of CALABRIA from a Corps Command to a "Military Command". General CORONATI accepted this without comment, and seemed pleased that the change was not more drastic. I am at present studying the new organisation, which should free a small army of men for the Allied Programme.

5300

- (b) Appendix "A" is a rough estimate of the men who have left CALABRIA for the Allied Programme. (Units formed here for S.M.R.E. are not included).

- (c) On July 1st. a letter was sent to Corps re the slovenly guard arrangements for timber bridges on the L. of G. (see my weekly Liaison Log No.3 (June II), 5(b) (ii).).

- (d) With the greatly depleted transport at their disposal, .XXI Corps contrive to assist A.G.C. as far as possible with Red Cross work, etc. etc. In a recent conference with the A.G.C. Supplies Officer and a XXI Corps transport representative, I pointed out that our assistance on this

(a) 303 Gp. H.Q. CASTROVILLARI.

(b) 525 Bn. H.Q. CATANZARO.

(c) 526 Bn. H.Q. CATANZARO.

all of which are alerted to leave on 4 July 44.

3. GENERAL REMARKS.

(a) During this week we received first intimation of the change over of CALABRIA from a Corps Command to a "Military Command". General CORONATI accepted this without comment, and seemed pleased that the change was not more drastic. I am at present studying the new organisation, which should free a small army of men for the Allied Programme.

5300

(b) Appendix "A" is a rough estimate of the men who have left CALABRIA for the Allied Programme. (Units formed here for S.M.R.E. are not included).

(c) On July 1st. a letter was sent to Corps re the slovenly guard arrangements for timber bridges on the L. of C. (see my Weekly Liaison Log No.3 (June II), 5(b) (ii).).

(d) With the greatly depleted transport at their disposal, .XXXI Corps contrive to assist A.C.C. as far as possible with Red Cross work, etc. etc. In a recent conference with the A.C.C. Supplies Officer and a XXXI Corps transport representative, I pointed out that our assistance on this head was likely to become less and less.

Amman
Capt.,
L.C., XXXI Corps.

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

APPENDIX "A".

Progress of Allied Programme from CALABRIA.

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>Men.</u>
<u>March 44.</u>	239	6721
<u>April 44.</u>	31	2804
<u>May 44.</u>	86	3404
<u>June 44.</u>	57	1816
Departing July 4/5	39	891
Totals	<u>452</u>	<u>15636</u>
Total		16,088

(plus 200 Muleteers waiting at
NICASTRO).

16,288

5299

We were instructed by AAAI to leave them
approx. 3 July till further orders.
There 500 1/2

Subject: - 19. 5 Regt Major IAN L. B. 19th June 25th.

I.O., Army Sub-Commission, (104),
XXI Italian Corps,
Pescostagno-CAPIZZANO.

26 June 44.

Ref: 19. 5 Regt.

To: - Army Sub-Commission, 192,
Major I.O., (M.I.I.E.),
LIVORNO. (1922).

I. The following is the daily log for the period 19/25 June 44 :-

MONDAY, 19 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON visited LAMI Autogruppo Pesante to discuss tyres and spare-parts.
Visited programme reviewed with Major IAN and new Chief of Staff.
- (2) MORCK-WILSON returned from visit to COSMIL and CISTROVILLANO Supply Installations.

TUESDAY, 20 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON visited C.A. ITALIA, PESCOSTAGNO del R., to discuss Military Security procedures.
- (2) GEMMIS inspected bridge on E. of C., CAPIZZANO - MESSICO C.A.
- (3) MORCK-WILSON made a routine inspection of CAPIZZANO Supply Depot. Visited Det. 174 Battery at PESCOSTAGNO.

WEDNESDAY, 21 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON discussed transport and transport with officers of 14 Forestry Coy., M.I.E.
General discussion with M.E. CORONATI prior to his departure for ROMA.
- (2) GEMMIS dealt with civilian claims for requisitioned engines stored.
- (3) MORCK-WILSON visited PESCOSTAGNO Supply Depot and Italian units at LAMI and PESCOSTAGNO and discussed security of depot.

5298

MONDAY, 19 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON visited AMV Ambrogio Deserte to discuss types and spare-parts.
Visited Ambrogio reviewed with Major Lima and new Chief of Staff.
- (2) MONTGOMERY-NELSON returned from visit to COSMIA and AMBROSIO-MILANO Supply installations.

TUESDAY, 20 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON visited Col. THOMAS, Procuratore del Re, to discuss military tribunal procedure.
- (2) GIBBIE inspected buildings on I. of U., CALABRIZO - BECCIO GIL.
- (3) MONTGOMERY-NELSON made a routine inspection of CALABRIZO Supply Depot. Flashed Det. 174 Deputy at MARCONI-MILANO.

WEDNESDAY, 21 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON discussed Procurement and Logistics with officers of 14 Forestry Coy., N.E.E.
General discussion with E.E. CORONATI prior to his departure for ROME.
- (2) GIBBIE dealt with civilian claims for requisitioned equipment stored.
- (3) MONTGOMERY-NELSON visited AMBROSIO Supply Depots and Italian Units at ISOLA MIA MILANO regarding supply of boots.

THURSDAY, 22 JUNE 44.

- (1) GIBBIE, with MONTGOMERY-NELSON, visited CALABRIZO S.I.A. - repair work at new depot.
- (2) MONTGOMERY-NELSON visited new premises for Supply Depots at CALABRIZO S.I.A. in company with GIBBIE to inspect progress of repairs and installations.

(R)

...cont'd...

Sheet No. 2.

SUMMARY, 23 JUNE 44.

- (1) GEMMIE - Regularization of engineer claims.
 (2) MURPHY-MASON visited Italian units and personnel employed at SIAA labor camps.

SUMMARY, 24 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON inspected 213 Veterinary Hospital and 304 GP. H.Q., at VISO VALLERIA.
 attended festival of Condado Genio.
 inspected Engineer Stores with General BELARINO.
 (2) GEMMIE attended annual Festival of Condado Genio.
 (3) MURPHY-MASON visited Italian units and personnel employed at SIAA labor camps.

SUMMARY, 25 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON inspected 507 Supply Coy., and 304 Hq. H.Q., at BUCCHIO.

2. Progress of Relief Programs from 17 June 44 to 25 June 44.

Serial.	Disturbed. H n i t.	Survivors Required.		Survivors	
		Cases.	S.Rs.	Cases.	S.Rs.
1200	18 June 44 Molestosa	-	200	-	200
-	18 June 44 NJ Police	5	37	5	305
				305	

3. Notes of Inspection of Italian Units.

500 Supply Coy.

(3) REPORT-NO. 500 visited Italian units and personnel at 500 miles away.

REPORT NO. 500

(1) REPORT annotated 507 Source 207. and 504 B.C. H.Q. at HECIO.

2. REPORT of Allied Engineers from 12 June 44 to 22 June 44.

Serial.	Described.	Unit.	Strength Required.		Strength	
			Offn.	O.R.	Offn.	Strength.
1200	12 June 44	141st Engineers	-	200	-	200
-	12 June 44	213 Tropic	3	37	3	352497

5 in hospital

3. REPORT on Inspection of Italian Units.

500 Miles, Source 207.

While at HECIO inspected other units ready to leave in the Allied Engineers. I visited the 500 miles Source 207. They were all equipped in dived equipment and boots and were very quiet on parade - in fact very quiet. I inspected them prior to their departure in civilian clothes and some-made sandals. They were still quiet of underwear etc., but I have since arranged for the receipt of essential items. The officers complained of their equipment, saying that they were getting a little restless because of this.

* Nov Regis chased us for such formation of the Coy, & apparently they are not...cont'd... using them. Am signalling on L.O. 800-7

4. General Remarks.

1. Delays are constantly occurring in the reception of radio on the Allied program and the situation of any reserve of clothing situated in San Francisco, Calif.. On the 20th, the United States Army Medical Corps Transport, when delivered and tests are performed at WASH it may be needed and before transport can be made available and for the supplies. A reserve of clothing and supplies - controlled by WASH, U.S., Army Corps - at San Francisco, would ease the situation.

2. The Comando Radio has been based on 24 June 44. The people of the English personnel seemed very high, and the Chief Engineer - Col. G. G. G. G. - once more showed his work. The English Stores, which I inspected, were in very good condition - particularly the radio stations held at the disposal of the allies.

Amended
 5246
 L.D., Army Corps.

answered
 For 5246
 L.H. ...
 L.O. ...

12. The Comanche Gears were ...
 Battle of the Engineer ...
 Engineer - Col. ...
 Scores, which I ...
 particularly the ...

APPENDIX WA.

Inspection Reports follow for:-

- (a) 213 Infermeria Quadruped, VIBO VALENZUELA.
- (b) 524 Bn. H.Q., MEXICO.
- (c) 304 Group H.Q., VIBO VALENZUELA.
- (d) 507 Smoke Coy., MEXICO.

Subject:-No.4 Weekly Liaison Log - June 12th. to June 18th.

L.O., Army Sub-Commission, (ACC)..
XXI Italian Corps,
Ponte Grande-CATANZARO.-----

19 June 44.

Ref:-G.7/MS/17.

To:-Army Sub Commission, ACC.,
Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.)..
L E Q U I L E. (LECCO). -

I. The following is the daily log for the period 12/18 June 44:-

MONDAY, 12 JUNE 44.

- (I) NEWTON discussed points of security with CALABE.
- (II) GENTILE dealt with civilian claims for requisition of engineer stores. Made arrangements for shipping hutting ex CALABRIA.
- (III) MONCK-MASON, routine visit to NICASTRO Depot.

TUESDAY, 13 JUNE 44.

- (I) HOWARD left for NAPLES.
- (II) NEWTON and GENTILE to CATANZARO SALA to inspect LXVI Autogruppo Pesante.
- (III) MONCK-MASON visited unit at MARCELLINARA and P.O.L. Dump at CAGLIANO.
- Lt. MAIRIS and one section C.M.P. arrived for temporary work or L. of C. H.Q. at COSENZA, one sub-section at GIOIA TAURO, one sub-section at SOVERIA MARELLI.

WEDNESDAY, 14 JUNE 44.

- (I) Conference at Corps H.Q. on progress of Allied Programme. (NEWTON, MAEG-BRAGA, Cap. CROPALLO).
- (II) GENTILE. Dismantling BAILEY bridges.
- (III) MONCK-MASON to CROTONE to inspect Supply Depots, etc.

5295

I. The following is the daily log for the period 12/13 June 44:-

MONDAY, 12 JUNE 44.

- (I) NEWTON discussed points of security with CALABI.
- (II) GENTLE dealt with civilian claims for requisition of engineer stores. Made arrangements for shipping butting ex CALABRIA.
- (III) MONCK-MASON, routine visit to NICASTRO Depot.

TUESDAY, 13 JUNE 44.

- (I) HOWARD left for NAPLES.
- (II) NEWTON and GENTLE to CATANZARO SALA to inspect LZVI Autogruppo Pesante.
- (III) MONCK-MASON visited unit at MARCELLINARA and P.O.L. Dump at CAGLIANO.

Lt. MAIRIS and one section C.M.P. arrived for temporary work on L. of C. H.Q. at COSENZA, one sub-section at GIOIA TAURO, one sub-section at SOVERIA MANELLI.

WEDNESDAY, 14 JUNE 44.

5295

- (I) Conference at Corps H.Q. on progress of Allied Programme. (NEWTON, MAGG.BRAGA, CAP.CROPALLO).
- (II) GENTLE. Dismantling BAILEY bridges.
- (III) MONCK-MASON to CROTONE to inspect Supply Depots, etc.

THURSDAY, 15 JUNE 44.

- (I) NEWTON to CROTONE. Meeting to discuss transport working for H.Z. Forestry Coy. with Representatives from XXXI Corps and 14 Forestry Coy., H.Z.E.
- NEWTON and GENTLE contacted new C.O. ISOLA CAPO RIZZUTO - F/O.NAPIER.
- NEWTON to Artillery festival with Corps Commander and Gen.BOLCINA.

FRIDAY, 16 JUNE 44.

- (I) NEWTON had talks with Col. TROTTA, President of Military Tribunal, re newspaper demand for "purge" of Gen. NICOLA GALASSO, President of Military Tribunal, NAPLES.
NEWTON to SILA with Major ROBERTSON, 73 A.A. Bde. Made arrangements for move of 145 A.A. Group to SYRACUSE.
- (II) GENTILE. Settling civilian claims for requisitioned engineer stores.
Arranging rail transport for BAILEY bridging and hutting.
- (III) MONCK-MASON inspected CATANZARO Supply Depot.

SATURDAY, 17 JUNE 44.

- (I) NEWTON met Gen. CORONATI with Major ROBERTSON to confirm points on move of 145 Gruppo.

SUNDAY, 18 JUNE 44.

- (I) Conversations with local representative Public Works Sub-Commission, A.C.C.
- (II) MONCK-MASON visited COSENZA and CASTROVILLARI Supply Depots.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 10 June 44 to 18 June 44.

Serial.	Entrained.	Unit.	Strength Required		Strength Entrained.		Remarks.
			Offrs.	O.Rs.	Offrs.	O.Rs.	
1096 B	10 June 44	544 Service Coy.	4	132	4	132	
1090 1093 1095	12 June 44	Reinforcements	27	154	21	154	6 officers injured on way to station, will be sent on.

3. Notes on Inspection of Italian Units.

(a) 66 Autogrupo Pesante.

This unit has been static for some time, and is well organised. All accommodation consists of timber hutments. Workshops and tyre stores appear efficient and business like. Personnel are chiefly from Northern Italy, and are generally smart. Unit internal administration is good, and messing, bathing, facilities, tailor's and cobbler's.

SUNDAY, 18 JUNE 44.

(I) Conversations with local representative Public Works Sub-Commissioner, A.C.C.

(II) MONCK-MASON visited COSENZA and CASTROVILLARI Supply Depots.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 10 June 44 to 18 June 44.

Serial.	Entrained.	Unit.	Strength Required		Strength Entrained.		Remarks.
			Offrs.	C.Rs.	Offrs.	C.Rs.	
I096 B	10 June 44	544 Service Coy.	4	I32	4	I32	
I090	12 June 44	Reinforcements	27	I54	21	I54	6 officers injured on way to station. will be sent on.
I093							
I095							

3. Notes on Inspection of Italian Units.

(a) 66 Autogruppo Pesante.

This unit has been static for some time, and is well organised. All accommodation consists of timber hutments. Workshops and tyre stores appear efficient and business like. Personnel are chiefly from Northern Italy, and are generally smart. Unit internal administration is good, and messing, bathing, facilities, tailor's and cobbler's shops are very well organised. General morale appears to be good. Clothing is fair, although boots are a problem. The O.C. of the unit pointed out that if overalls were available for the troops, their clothing would last much longer and could be kept in much better condition.

(b) I79 Autogruppo.

This unit has been responsible for all the recovery work on the Allied L. of C. REGGIO - NAPLES and REGGIO - TARANTO and is a thoroughly efficient and well organised unit.

cont'd...

Workshops and stores are well organized. Personnel are largely from Northern Italy and are keen and efficient. Clothing position is fair, although there is a shortage of boots and overalls. Internal administration of unit is good.

4. General Remarks.

1. The Artillery Festival held at CROTONA on Thursday, 15 June 44 showed the morale of the Corps in a very favourable light. General CORONATI and General BOLOGNA were both present. There were some splendid horses in the show.
2. Lt. Col. CAHOPREST (see my last Black/White list dated 15 June 44) is being transferred from XXI Corps. His departure will be a great loss to the Corps and will have repercussions on this office, since he co-operated so very well always.
3. The transport situation in the Corps becomes increasingly worse. A great deal of transport has been claimed by S.M.R.E. and vehicles are going off the road every day for need of tyres or spare parts which cannot be found.
4. The activities of the L.O's here have been seriously restricted during this week owing to the fact that only one unreliable vehicle of the detachment was available for use. The replacement of our two B.I.R. vehicles would greatly ease the situation.

5293

Amment Capt.,
for Lt. Col.,
M.M.I.A.,

General Cunningham and General Bolger were both present. There were some splendid horses in the show.

2. Lt. Col. CAROPHIE (see my last Black/White list dated 15 June 44) is being transferred from XXXI Corps. His departure will be a great loss to the Corps and will have repercussions on this office, since he co-operated so very well always.

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5293

Amman Capt.,
for Lt. Col.,
M.M.I.A.,
L.O., XXXI Corps.

Subject: No. 3 Weekly Liaison Log 5 June 44 - 11 June 44.

L.O., Army Sub-Commission, (ACC).,
XXI Italian Corps,
Ponte grande-CATANIZARO.-----

" June 44.

Ref: G. 7/16.

To: Army Sub-Commission, (ACC).,
Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.).,
LIGULLE (LECCE).-----

I. The following is the daily log for the period 5/11 June 44:-

MONDAY, 5 JUNE 44.

(i) MONCK-MASON to ISOLA CAPO RIZZUTO to discuss rations for Detachment.

TUESDAY, 6 JUNE 44.

(i) HOWARD inspected I Group of 155 Regt. Arty. at BORGLA with General CORONATI and then proceeded to REGGIO CAL.

(ii) MONCK-MASON visited P.O.L. dump at CAGLIARO.

WEDNESDAY, 7 JUNE 44.

(i) HOWARD inspected 507 Smoke Coy. at REGGIO in the morning and with Colonel JASPER and Capt. WOMBELL the 350 Train Guard Coy. in the evening.

(ii) MONCK-MASON inspected NICASTRO Distribution Depot.

(iii) Brigadier RAIKES and Capt. THATCHER from 73 A.A. Bde. SICILY arrived and had a conference with General CORONATI regarding the availability of 145 Italian A.A. Group in SLLA. NEWTON was present.

5292

THURSDAY, 8 JUNE 44.

(i) HOWARD to MESSINA and back.

I. The following is the daily log for the period 5/II June 44:-

MONDAY, 5 JUNE 44.

- (1) MONCK-MASON to ISOLA CAPO RIZZUTO to discuss rations for Detachment.

TUESDAY, 6 JUNE 44.

- (1) HOWARD inspected I Group of 155 Regt. Arty. at BORGIA with General CORONATI and then proceeded to REGGIO CAL.
- (1i) MONCK-MASON visited P.O.L. dump at CAGLIARI.

WEDNESDAY, 7 JUNE 44.

- (1) HOWARD inspected 507 Smoke Coy. at REGGIO in the morning and with Colonel JASPER and Capt. WOMBELL the 350 Train Guard Coy. in the evening.
- (1i) MONCK-MASON inspected NICASTRO Distribution Depot.
- (1ii) Brigadier RAIKES and Capt. THATCHER from 73 A.A. Bde. SICILY arrived and had a conference with General CORONATI regarding the availability of 145 Italian A.A. Group in SILA. NEWTON was present.

5292

THURSDAY, 8 JUNE 44.

- (1) HOWARD to MESSINA and back.
- (1i) RAIKES and THATCHER to SILA with GENTLE. Italian A.A. Group inspected (see my signal G.2 of 10 June 44).
- (1ii) NEWTON talked over MANTOVA responsibility for all guards on Allied dumps with Major. TAYLOR L.R.O. and necessity for returning present Depot guards to Depots for Allied programme.
- (1iv) MONCK-MASON to CROTONE to inspect Bulk Depot and new premises of Distribution Depot.

FRIDAY, 9 JUNE 44.

- (1) HOWARD inspected Serial 1096 B 544 Stretcher Bearer Coy. and Re-inforcements for P.B.S. at VIBO VALENTIA, Serials 1090, 1093 and 1095 en route REGGIO CAL. to CATANZARO. General CORONATI was also present.
- (11) General BROWNING and Capt. CHAYTOR arrived for night.
- (111) NEWTON saw Major THOMAS, C.C., 14 Forestry Coy., NZE about formation 101 Forestale Coy. (serial 2006).
- (iv) BENTLE inspected bridge works CATANZARO - REGGIO CAL. and engineer stores MARCELLINARA.

SATURDAY, 10 JUNE 44.

- (1) General BROWNING and CHAYTOR to SILLA where Generals CORONATI and BOLOGNA were met. Defence of SILLA discussed and Power Station at TIMPA GRANDE visited.
- (11) HOWARD to OMIGLIATELLO where conference held with Capt. ERIKSON 80 Engineer Coy. (Forestry) U.S. Army and then on to SILLA.
- (111) MONCK-MASON inspected CATANZARO food depots.
- (iv) NEWTON discussed security in CALABRIA with Sgt. SHERMAN, F.S.S.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 5 June 44 - 11 June 44.

Serial	Entrained.	Unit.	Strength Required.		Strength Entrained.		Remarks.
			Offrs.	O.Rs.	Offrs.	O.Rs.	
1051 C	8 June 44	505 Smoke Coy.	5	28I	5	28I	
1051 C	8 June 44	506 Smoke Coy.	5	28I	5	28I	
							5291

3. Notes on Inspections of Italian Units.

(a) 155 Regt. Arty. (MANTOVA Div).

(1) General BROWNING and CHAYTON to SILA where Generals CORONATI and BOLOGNA were met. Defence of SILA discussed and power Station at TIMPA GRANDE visited.

(11) HOWARD to CAMICIELLO where conference held with Capt. ERIKSON EC Engineer Coy. (Forestry) U.S. Army and then on to SILA.

(111) MONCK-MASON inspected CATANZARO food depots.

(1v) NEWTON discussed security in CALABRIA with Sgt. SURMAN, P.S.S.

2. Progress of Allied Programme from 5 June 44 - 11 June 44.

Serial	Entrained.	Unit.	Strength Required.		Strength Entrained.		Remarks.
			Offrs.	O.Rs.	Offrs.	O.Rs.	
1051	C 8 June 44	505 Smoke Coy.	5	281	5	281	
1051	C 8 June 44	506 Smoke Coy.	5	281	5	281	
							5291

3. Notes on Inspections of Italian Units.

(a) 155 Regt. Arty. (MANTOVA Div).

This regiment arrived recently in CALABRIA from APULIA with three groups. It has now been assigned as its fourth group the 1st. motorized group of 100/22 guns. This unit which was dealt with in my report G7/MS/9 of 4 May (erroneously dated 4 Apr) para 3, sub para (b) is now at TIRIOLO.

I Group CROTONE

This is a horse drawn group with 100/22 guns. The C.O., Capt. PICCA seemed alive and keen. The group was the best seen and was in good condition.

Group BORGIA.

This horse draw group with 100/22 guns was in a disgraceful condition when inspected by General CORONATI and myself. Saddlery was filthy, stirrup irons, bits, guns and arms were in a dirty condition. The C.O. is a general staff officer, Lt.Col. ANNARUMMA and he was left in no doubt about the General's view on the state of his unit. CORONATI is an old gunner and once commanded the 13 Arty. Regt. said to be one of the best Italian gunner units pre-war.

3. III Group CUTRO.

Commanded by an old and somewhat decrepit officer Lt.Col. CALVANI. This horse drawn group of 75/27 appeared in reasonable order except that the guns inspected were in a dirty condition. No registers had been brought down from APULIA for the guns which were taken over from the PICENO Div recently.

(b). 350 Train Guard Coy. REGGIO CAL.

This unit is now organically complete and only needs an issue of boots and clothing to begin training. An inspection report will be rendered for it as soon as possible. The C.O. Capt. ~~MAORNONE~~.

was not impressive but the other officers were of a good type. The men are 100% Calabresi, but I think this has the makings of a good unit.

(c) Inspection reports follow for:-

544 Stretcher Bearers Coy. Serial 1096 B.

Reinforcements for P.E.S. Serial 1090, 1093 & 1095

4. Notes on Duties carried out in CALABRIA by XXXI Corps. 5290

(a) Guards on VP's.

ground
General BOLOGNA's appreciation for the A.A. and G.O. defence of the SILAN hydro-electric plants have not yet been received from Corps. A copy will be forwarded as soon as possible with my comments. G.O.C. XXXI Corps orders to the MANTOVA Div for guarding railway UP's has been received and is being studied.

(b) Appendix "A" shows the present disposition of the MANTOVA Div.

(c) The volume of traffic along the L. of C. appears to be increasing. Exact figures for the number of vehicles and men passing through the staging areas have been requested from XXXI Corps.

(b). 350 Train Guard Coy. REGGIO CAL.

This unit is now organically complete and only needs an issue of boots and clothing to begin training. An inspection report will be rendered for it as soon as possible. The C.O. Capt. ~~MORNO~~ was not impressive but the other officers were of a good type. The men are 100% Calabresi, but I think this has the makings of a good unit.

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(b) Appendix "A" shows the present disposition of the MANTOVA Div.

(c) The volume of traffic along the L. of G. appears to be increasing. Exact figures for the number of vehicles and men passing through the staging areas have been requested from XXXI Corps.

(d) Internal Security.

Nothing to report.

(e) Miscellaneous duties carried out by XXXI Corps on behalf of the Allies.

(1) 15 horses have been lent to the U.S. ~~AR~~ Corps rest camp at VILLAGGIO MARCUSO.

(11) 1,000 men from the MANTOVA Div for harvesting in the FOGGIA area left CALABRIA on 10 June 44.

5 General Remarks.

(a) Morale.

The liberation of ROME and the successful initiation of the second front has had an exhilarating if unsettling effect on officers and men of XXXI Corps. Those with families in ROME or north of it are desperately anxious for news. As the Allies get further north some desertions amongst northern N.C.Os and O.Rs may be expected but it is hard to gauge what proportions these will reach.

(b) Discipline.

(i) An unfortunate incident occurred at REGGIO CAL. when some elements of the NEMBO Div on leave tried to break up the Prefect's procession in honour of the liberation of Rome, seize some red standards and raise the tricolour instead. The matter is now settled and the necessary steps have been taken by the Garrison Commander, REGGIO CAL. to curb the spirits of the NEMBO if the occasion again rises.

(ii) I do not consider that the discipline of MANTOVA units guarding the road L. of C. is satisfactory and a tour of inspection will shortly be undertaken so that XXXI Corps can put this right.

H. A. C. Howard

It. Col.,
M.M.I.A.,
L.O., XXXI Corps.

5289

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It. Col.,
H.M.I.A.,
L.O., XXXI Corps.

5289

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Appendix "A".

The following is the battle order for the MANTOVA Division
on 11 June 44:-

Division H.Q.	GOSENZA.
114 Inf. Regt. H.Q.	COSENZA.
2nd. Bn.	COSENZA.
1st. Bn.	CASTROVILLARI.
76 Inf. Regt. H.Q.	PETILLO POLICASTRO.
1st. Bn.	SILA.
2nd. Bn.	SILA.
119 Inf. Regt. H.Q. and one Bn.	REGGIO CAL.
209 M.G. Bn.	CATANZARO.
+ 155 Raggruppamento Arty. H.Q.	CROTONE.
1st. Group	CROTONE.
2nd. Group.	BORGIA.
3rd. Group.	CUTRO.
4th. Group (Motorized)	TIRIOLO.
104 Med Sec.	COSENZA.
102 Q.M. Sec.	COSENZA.
104 Eng. Bn.	COSENZA and along L. of C.
	5288

+ Whole Raggruppamento leaving for SILA on 20 June 44.

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BEST COPY POSSIBLE

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No. 785020

Army Form C-2190.

MESSAGE FORM

Social No.

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS

IN

OUT

GR.

Office Date Stamp

4 6/2
407

TO

M M I A

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

FROM

LO 31 CORPS

Original's Number

Originals: 1

Date: 10/2

In Reply to New

Ref my weekly letter. I'd no 2 @ Paris
not sent in triplicate @ If you require
two further copies @ will dispatch in
triplicate in future

This message may be sent As Written
by any means
(except)
(.....) Wireless

This message must be sent in Cipher
if liable to interception or to fall into
enemy hands

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

Time of Origin

1050

Signature

Signature.

* Originator may delete "except" and insert "including".

(Below this line is for Signals use Only)

System In	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender
2200/PMEXY/IND/IND P-1			1140								

T.M. 5287

T.O.R.

Subject:--No. 2 Week1 Liaison Log 29 May 44 - 4 June 44.

L.O., Army Sub-Commission, (ACC).,
XXXI Italian Corps,
Pontefranda-CATANZARO.

10/6
1 June 44.

Ref:--G. 7/15.

To:--Army Sub-Commission, ACC.,
Main H.Q., (MILA).,
LEQUILE. (LECCE).

I. The following is the daily log for the period 29 May 44 - 4 June 44:--
MONDAY, 29 MAY 44.

- (1) HOWARD to LEQUILE.
- (2) GENTILE prepared roads and bridges report.
- (3) MONK-MASON visited REGGIO Distribution and P.O.L. Depots and Pastaficcio.

TUESDAY, 30 MAY 44.

- (1) NEWTON visited 542 Special Service Coy. at NICASTRO, also inspected 19 Inf. Depot.
- (2) GENTILE had conference with Chief of AASS re bridge works.
- (3) MONK-MASON visited REGGIO Distribution and VIBO VALENTIA Depots.

WEDNESDAY, 31 MAY 44.

- (1) Conference between Generals CORONATI, OXILIA and HOWARD on future strength and establishment, CALABRIA.
- (2) NEWTON inspected 504 Smoke Coy. at CROTONE, also 350 Train Guard Coy.
- (3) GENTILE - Regularising claims for engineer stores.

THURSDAY, 1 JUNE 44.

- (1) GENTILE visited engineer stores at CATANZARO SALA.
- (2) MONK-MASON visited CROTONE Distribution Depot.

FRIDAY, 2 JUNE 44.

- (1) HOWARD returned to CATANZARO contacted General BOLOGNA at COSENZA who advised the impossibility of now training the MANTOVA Div. in view of complete decentralization on guard and other duties.
- (2) GENTILE inspected works on road CATANZARO - REGGIO.
- (3) MONK-MASON visited P.O.L. Dump, at CAGLIANO.

SATURDAY, 3 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON inspected 506 Smoke Coy. at CATANZARO.
- (2) GENTILE inspected hutting with Lt.Col.HARRIS, U.S.ARMY and

- (1) GENTILE prepared roads and bridges report.
(3) MONK-MASON visited REGGIO Distribution and P.O.L. Depots and Pastaficcio.

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(2) MONK-MASON visited CROTONE Distribution Depot.

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- (1) HOWARD returned to CATANZARO contacted General BOLOGNA at COSENZA who advised the impossibility of now training the MANTOVA Div. in view of complete decentralization on guard and other duties.
(2) GENTILE inspected works on road CATANZARO - REGGIO.
(3) MONK-MASON visited P.O.L. Dump, at CAGLIANO.

SATURDAY, 3 JUNE 44.

- (1) NEWTON inspected 506 Smoke Coy. at CATANZARO.
(2) GENTILE inspected hutting with Lt.Col. HARRIS, U.S. ARMY and arranged for dismantling, loading and consignment. Regularising claims for engineer stores.
(3) Monk-Mason visited proposed new premises for Bulk Depot at CATANZARO SALA. Also inspected CATANZARO Distribution Depot.

SUNDAY, 4 JUNE 44.

- (1) HOWARD and NEWTON visited Artillery Groups at CUTRO & CROTONE. Contacted F/O KELLY at Airport of ISOLA CAPO RIZZUTO about air courier service.
(2) GENTILE - provisional arrangement for supply of telegraph poles for C.S.O., A.A.I., from civilian contractor.

...cont'd...

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2. Visits by Allied Officers to M.M.I.A., L.O. XXXI Corps.

DATE.	NAME and UNIT.	OBJECT of VISIT.	REMARKS.
29 May 44	Capt. MONEYPENNY, Region VII. A.C.C.	Situation about recovery of military M.T. by Italians.	
31 May 44	Lt. COOK, 14 Forestry Coy., N.Z.E.	Tyres for Italian transport employed by them.	

3. Progress of Allied Programme from 29 May 44 to 4 June 44.

SERIAL No.	DATE ENTRAINED.	U N I T.	STRENGTH		RE M A R K S.		
			REQUIRED	ENTRAINED			
			Offs: O. Rs.	Offs: O. Rs.			
I051C	4 June 44.	504 Smoke Coy.	5	281	5	281	
I094	31 May 44.	542 Service Coy.	5	200	5	200	
I072	31 May 44.	Drivers.	-	136	-	132	I deceased. I in hospital. I on leave. I A.W.O.L.
I120	1 June 44.	350 Train Guard Coy.	6	150	6	150	
I090	1 June 44.	Engineer Reinforcements.		50		50	5285

4. Notes on Inspection of Italian Units. (inspected by Capt. NEWTON).

I9 Inf. Depot, NICASTRO.

It. Col. AMBROGI has recently taken over command from Col. MANTUANI. The building itself is pretty bad and insect-ridden and cannot be

3. Progress of Allied Programme from 29 May 44 to 4 June 44.

SERIAL No.	DATE ENTRAINED.	U N I T.	STRENGTH		R E M A R K S.		
			REQUIRED	ENTRAINED			
			Offs: O. Rs	Offs: O. Rs			
I051G	4 June 44.	504 Smoke Coy.	5	281	5	281	
I094	31 May 44.	542 Service Coy.	5	200	5	200	
I072	31 May 44.	Drivers.	-	I36	-	I32	I deceased. I in hospital. I on leave. I A.W.O.L.
I120	I June 44.	350 Train Guard Coy.	6	I50	6	I50	
I090	I June 44.	Engineer Reinforcements.		50		50	5253

4. Notes on Inspection of Italian Units. (Inspected by Capt. NEWTON).

I9 Inf. Depot, NICASTRO.

Lt. Col. AMBROGI has recently taken over command from Col. MARELLI. The building itself is pretty bad and insect-ridden and cannot be decontaminated owing to absence of glass in windows. Sleeping accommodation was bad. As in all the Depots, the men were almost entirely in civilian clothes.

I55 Raggruppamento Artiglieria. (inspected by Lt. Col. HOWARD and Capt. NEWTON).

I and 3 Groups at CUTRO and CROTONE.

The Camp sites were good and the horses were being well cared for. The men were clean and neatly dressed, and the officers appeared keen.

.....cont'd....

The guns of one battery were in a bad state and the Battery Commander didn't know the history of the barrels.

Separate Inspection Reports on the following Units have been or will be despatched:-

505 Smoke Coy.

506 Smoke Coy.

542 Service Coy.

350 Train Guard Coy.

5. Notes on Duties Carried out in CALABRIA by XXXI Corps.

Miscellaneous Duties.

(I). XXXI Corps has supplied a Requisitioning Commission and about twenty all ranks to assist Lt. WINGFIELD in his mule requisitioning.

(II). Transport supplied for one day to enable sleepers to be transferred to repair rail-track REGGIO - NAPLES, requested by Capt. HOWEL, American Railway Operating Coy.

(III). 1,000 harvesters alerted for 8 June for FOGGIA Area.

5284

amnestia
Capt.,
for Lt. Col.,
M.M.I.A.,

350 Train Guard Coy.

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5 5284

amended
Capt.,
for Lt. Col.,
M.M.I.A.,
L.O., XXXI Corps.

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

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

Subject: -No. I Weekly Liaison Log 21/28 May 44.

6/21/44 IA

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L.O., Army Sub-Commission, (ACC).,
XXXI Italian Corps,
Pontegrando-CATANZARO. - - - -

28 May 44.

Ref: - CY/MS/14

To: - Army Sub Commission, ACC.,
Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.).,
LEQUILE. (LECCE). - - - -

1. For the movements of L.O's of this detachment and inspections carried out by them, see App "A".

①

8053

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

App A

HOWARD

NEWTON

GENLE

DATE	PLACE.	INSPECTIONS OR CONTACTS MADE.	PLACE.	INSPECTIONS OR CONTACTS MADE.	PLACE.	INSPECTIONS OR CONTACTS MADE.	PLACE.
21	PALERMO	I Bn 518 Inf. Regt formerly 2II Div. now IBS.	CATANZARO	Conf. with Chief of Staff re formation of IOI Coy. Forestale	CATANZARO	Comando Genio hutting for USAAF. Removal BAILEY Bridges.	CATANZARO
22	PALERMO TO REGGIO.	-	CROTONE	Inspected 80 Bn bis 207 Anti-para Coy. before departure.	CROTONE	Contacted 14 NZ Fortry Coy. re timber for Bridge works. RAF at ISOLA CAPO RIZZUTO.	CROTONE
23	REGGIO	Mov & Tn. Provincial Commissioner Town Major.	CATANZARO	1). Conference at Corps HQ. on requisitioning of mules. (2). Meeting with Gen. CORONATI & Head of Region VII.	CATANZARO	Settling irregular requisition claims. Comando Genio.	CATANZARO
24	REGGIO	H.Q. 2II Div.	CATANZARO	Attended commemoration service with Gen. CORONATI.	CATANZARO	Conference with Lt. Col. THOMSON, Public Works Sub-Commission, ACC.	CATANZARO
25	REGGIO	H.A. and I Bn. II9 Inf. Regt 504 & 507 Smoke Coys. 666 XXXI Corps	CATANZARO	Visited all workshops with Maj. HALL.	L. of C. Works. CATANZARO REGGIO.	Inspection with Capt. MCPHAIL from 2 District.	CATANZARO
26	REGGIO TO CATANZARO	-	COSENZA	Visited Workshops with Maj. HALL. Insp 16 Inf. Depot.	CATANZARO	Discussed engineer policy with MCPHAIL. Comandb Genio.	CATANZARO
27	CATANZARO	HQ. XXXI Corps.	CATANZARO	XXXI Corps.	L. of C. Works CATANZARO CASTROVILLARI	Inspection of all works.	CATANZARO

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

NEWTON

GENLE

MONCK-MASON.

PLACE.	INSPECTIONS OR CONTACTS MADE.	PLACE.	INSPECTIONS OR CONTACTS MADE.	PLACE.	INSPECTIONS OR CONTACTS MADE.
CATANZARO	Conf. with Chief of Staff re formation of IOI Coy. Forestale	CATANZARO	Comando Genio hutting for USAAF.	CATANZARO	Contacted Automobilistica re
CROTONE	Inspected 80 Bn bis 207 Anti-para Coy. before departure.	CROTONE	Removal BAILEY Bridges. Contacted 14 NZ Fort Coy. re timber for Bridge works. RAF at ISOLA CAPO RIZZUTO.	CATANZARO	P.O.L. Contacted Commissariato and HQ. XXXI Corps re Supply questions.
CATANZARO	1). Conference at Corps HQ. on requisitioning of mules. (2). Meeting with Gen. CORONATI & Head of Region VII.	CATANZARO	Settling irregular requisition claims. Comando Genio.	NICASTRO	Inspected Distribution Centre and local unit at mealtime.
CATANZARO	Attended commemoration service with Gen. CORONATI.	CATANZARO	Conference with Lt. Col. THOMSON, Public Works Sub-Commission, ACC.	CROTONE	Attended Commission for Write Off of Supplies unfit for human cons. Inspected Bulk & Distribution Depot.
CATANZARO	Visited all workshops with Maj. HALL.	L. of C. Works. CATANZARO REGGIO.	Inspection with Capt. MCPHAIL from 2 District.	CATANZARO	Attended Commission for Write Off of Supplies unfit for human consumption.
COSENZA	Visited Workshops with Maj. HALL. Insp 16 Inf. Depot.	CATANZARO	Discussed engineer policy with MCPHAIL. Comandb Genio.	CATANZARO	Inspected Distribution Depot.
CATANZARO	XXXI Corps.	L. of C. Works CATANZARO CASTROVILLARI	Inspection of all works.	CATANZARO	Contacted Commisariato & visited proposed new premises for Depot.

5282

Visits by Allied Officers to M.M.I.A., L.O., XXXI Corps.

5201

DATE.	NAME and UNIT.	OBJECT OF VISIT.	REMARKS.
21	Capt. LORD WESTBURY, M.M.I.A.	Movements liaison.	
22	Capt. MCINTYRE, R.Sigs.	Labour and Signal stores.	
23	Lt. WINGFIELD, U.S. Army.	Mules for 5th. Army.	
24	Maj. HALL. REME. MMIA Capt. McPHAIL RE. Staff. Roads & Brdgs CE.2 District.	Inspection of Workshops. Inspection of roads and bridges works on L. of C.	
25	Capt. LORD WESTBURY, M.M.I.A.	Movements liaison.	
26	Capt. BUCHANAN R.Sigs. Cipher Officer DISTONE.	Arrange for cipher liaison between REGGIO & CATANZARO.	
27			

3. Progress of Allied Programme from 30 Apr 44 to 27 May 44.

SERIAL No.	DATE ENTRAINED	U N I T.	STRENGTH REQUIRED	STRENGTH ENTRAINED	REMARKS
			Offs: O. R.	Offs: O. R.	
I054	5 May 44	9 Pack Tpt. Coy.	IO 485	IO 485	
I05IB	I May 44	502 Smoke Coy.	5 28I	5 28I	
I052A	I May 44	302 Q.M. Truck Bn.	2I 496	2I 415	
I052A	6 May 44	30I Q.M. Truck Bn.	2I 496	2I 496	
I077	20 May 44	400 Reinforcements.	- 400	- 400	
I058A	22 May 44	To Engineer Regiment	(22) 530	(22) 530	
I080A	I5 May 44	2 Traffic Control Section.	2 80	2 80	

24	Maj. HALL. REME. MMIA Capt. McPHAIL RE. Staff. Roads & Brdgs CE.2 District.	Inspection of Workshops. Inspection of roads and bridges works on L. of C.
25	Capt. LORD WESTBURY, M.M.I.A.	Movements liaison.
26	Capt. BUCHANAN R. Sigs. Cipher Officer DISTONE.	Arrange for cipher liaison between REGGIO & CATANZARO.
27		

3. Progress of Allied Programme from 30 Apr 44 to 27 May 44.

SERIAL No.	DATE ENTRAINED	U N I T.	STRENGTH: STRENGTH		R E M A R K
			REQUIRED	ENTRAINED	
			Offs	O. R. Offs	O. Rs
I054	5 May 44	9 Pack Tpt. Coy.	IO	485	IO 485
I051B	I May 44	502 Smoke Coy.	5	28I	5 28I
I052A	I May 44	302 Q.M. Truck Bn.	2I	496	2I 4I5
I052A	6 May 44	30I Q.M. Truck Bn.	2I	496	2I 496
I077	20 May 44	400 Reinforcements.	-	400	- 400
I058A	22 May 44	To Engineer Regiment	(22)	530	(22) 530
I080A	I5 May 44	2 Traffic Control Section.	2	80	2 80
I088A	I5 May 44	300 Muleteer Reinforcements.	-	300	- 300

4. Notes on Inspection of Italian Units.

(I). II9 Inf. Regt. (less its 2 Bn) just arrived from APULIA should have the makings of a good regiment as it is largely composed of northerners.

Boots and clothing are in the same bad condition that applies until recently to the other two infantry regiments of the MANTOVA Division. The C.O. appeared capable and energetic but the inspection carried out was too brief to allow an appreciation of discipline, training and morale. The men complained that rations in CALABRIA were scarcer than in APULIA and that it was not possible to purchase 5 cigarettes a day in the canteen besides their rations. The absence of fish and corned beef in the CALABRIAN rations was noted with disfavour.

(II). The I Bn. 518 Inf. Regt. of 2II Div. now transferred under command of I.B.S. at PALERMO is dispersed on guard duties round the town. Only Bn. H.Q. and part of one Coy. were seen. The men were dressed in the same clothes as they left CALABRIA in but boots and tinted battle-dress were being made available to them.

The Calabrian boots and uniforms once exchanged ^{will} ~~were~~ to be sent to a clothing depot at SYRACUSE. Ten men went absent within the first few days and presumably returned to CALABRIA, crossing the straits in fishing boats. The fee for this traffic is less than 100 Lire. The morale of the men appeared adequate for the job they were doing. The quality of the food was said to be better in SICILY than in CALABRIA probably due to the fact that the MIGLIORAMENTO RANCIO is 10 Lire a day to cover high living costs instead of 3 Lire.

(III). Separate inspection reports on the following units have been or will be despatched:-

9 Pack Tpt. Coy.

502 Smoke Coy.

504 Smoke Coy.

301 Q.M. Truck Bn.

Serial No. 1058A Engineer Bn.

5. Notes on Duties Carried out in CALABRIA by XXXI Corps.

(a). Guard on V.P.'s.

The guard duties on the Hydroelectric Plants in the SLIA

men were dressed in the same clothes as they left CALABRIA in but boots and tinted battle-dress were being made available to them.

The Calabrian boots and uniforms once exchanged ^{will} ~~were~~ to be sent to a clothing depot at SYRACUSE. Ten men went absent within the first few days and presumably returned to CALABRIA, crossing the straits in fishing boats. The fee for this traffic is less than 100 Lire. The morale of the men appeared adequate for the job they were doing. The quality of the food was said to be better in SICILY than in CALABRIA probably due to the fact that the MIGLIORAMENTO RANCIO is 10 Lire a day to cover high living costs instead of 3 Lire.

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502 Smoke Coy.

504 Smoke Coy.

301 Q.M. Truck Bn.

Serial No. 1058A Engineer Bn.

5. Notes on Duties Carried out in CALABRIA by XXXI Corps.

(a). Guard on V.P's.

The guard duties on the Hydroelectric Plants in the SILA area have now been taken over by the first and second Bns. of the 114 Regt. of the MANTOVA Division. General BOLOGNA is preparing a report on the ground defences of the area and an improvement of efficiency in these important guards is expected.

(b). L. of C. Duties.

Pending a clarification of the question whether or not the L. of C. duties carried out by XXXI Corps are to be continued, control posts and staging areas are being run by a skeleton staff (see my signal G2/25 of 27 May 44).

5. (c). Internal Security.

Nothing to report.

(d). Miscellaneous duties carried out by XXXI Corps on behalf of Allies. -----

(i). 8000 litres of petrol lent to S & T officer, CATANZARO Province, will be returned.

(ii). 3 vehicles and 15 horses with one section to look after them have been lent to the U.S.A.A.F. rest camp at VILLAGGIO MANGUSO.

(iii). 3 vehicles have been lent to the Regional Agricultural Officer, CATANZARO, for a period of 15 days on urgent agricultural needs.

(iv). 200 men of the MANTOVA Div at REGGIO have been placed at the disposal of A.C.C. for the systematisation of their food depots for a period of 10 days.

6. General Remarks.

(a). Morale.

The morale and general organisation of the Depots in XXXI Corps is far from satisfactory. I will report on this during my visit to IEQUILE.

(b). Discipline.

No further incidents have been reported between Allied soldiery and Italians along the L. of C.

(c). Personalities.

Nothing to report.

5279

H.A.C. Howard

(19). 200 men of the MANTOVA DIV at REGGIO have been placed at the disposal of A.C.C. for the systematisation of their food depots for a period of 10 days.

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The morale and general organisation of the Depots in XXXI Corps is far from satisfactory. I will report on this during my visit to LEQUILLÉ.

(b). Discipline.

No further incidents have been reported between Allied soldiery and Italians along the L. of C.

(c). Personalities.

Nothing to report.

H. A. Howard

Lt. Col.,
M.M.I.A.,
L.O., XXXI Corps.

ACTION SLIP

This slip will NOT be removed

To: 606

~~for KERR~~

AR

SOR Syp

SORE

G-1

G-11 (2nd)

G-10

G-1

G-1 (1)

12/5-

Action para 13 and 16 (v) 12/5

Para 10 RHP 13/5

11/5 14/5

15/5

~~G-1~~

12/5

B

Please return by A/R for further study
with the file have been.

Note for S. A report of this nature ⁵²⁷⁸
duplicate would enable much work to be
started earlier? A/R

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d) Organisation - hrs
centralisation - hrs

c) Equipment - Attempts at improvisation

d) Results - apparent standard -
keenness - interest

e) General

Subject April Report of Italian Army - Calabria.

No 1A

SECRET.

L.O., Army Sub-Commission, ACC.
XXI Italian Corps,
Ponte Grande-CATANZARO.
4 Apr 44.

To: Army Sub Commission, (ACC);
Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.);
LEQUILIE (REGG).

Ref: G: I/MS/9.

I submit herewith the above report for the period 14 to 30 Apr 44.
The period 1 to 13 Apr has already been covered in my G/MS/4 of 18 Apr 44.

2: Itinerary.

Date Location
14-18 LEQUILIE

Units Inspected

Contacts
No 2 District BARI

G O C
G S C I
G II (I)
G II

20-24 CATANZARO
25-26 COSENZA

XXI Corps
ACC Provincial Comd.
G O C General BOLOGNA
Col. GIERDANO
Capt. MUCIGLI
Col. MANTELLI
Col. COSLINZA
Col. CIOPPEL
9 Selmeria (part) alerting
for move to IBS

27 SIA Area

217 Coy Antiparachutists Lt. MOLFINI
80 Territorial Regt. (bis) Maj. DE MEO
14 Raggruppamento of Arty. Lt. Col. DE STEFANO
H.Q. 76 Inf Regt. Col. SAITERNO
1 Bn. 76 Inf Regt. Capt. TRIPICOLI
2 Bn. 76 Inf Regt. Capt. INSALACO
1 Group of Arty. Maj. CASTIGLIONE
+ Units of the MANTOVA

28 SOVERIA MANELLI
NICASTRO

MARCELLINARA

3. Report on Italian Units visited.

(a) For a report on the MANTOVA Div. see Appendix A.
(b) 16 Inf. Regt Depot COSENZA

The above unit had a parade state at its barracks of 299 out of a total strength of 1797. - in addition it had 9 detachments round the Province comprising some 290 all ranks.
The C.O. was a live wire who appeared to be

2. Itinerary.	Date	Location	Units Inspected	Contacts
	14-18	TEQUILA		No 2 District BARI G O C G S O 1 G II (I) G II
20-24	CATANZARO			
25-26	COSENZA			
27	SILA Area			
28	SOVERIA MANFREDI RICASTRO			
	MARCELLINARA			

E.C. MANTOVA Div.
 E.C. 114 Inf. Regt.+
 2 Bn. 114 Inf. Regt.+
 16 Inf Regt. Depot
 Mil. District (COSENZA) Col. CIORFI
 9 Salmeria (part) alerting
 for move to PBS
 217 Coy Antiparasitists Lt. MOFINI
 80 Territorial Regt. (bis) Maj. DE MEO
 14 Raggruppamento of Arty. Lt. Col. DE STEFANO
 E.C. 76 Inf Regt.+
 1 Bn. 76 Inf Regt.+
 2 Bn. 76 Inf Regt.+
 1 Group of Arty.+
 + Units of the MANTOVA

XXXI Corps
 ACC Provincial Comd.
 G O C General BOLOGNA
 Col. GIORDANO
 Capt. MEIOGLI
 Col. MANTERLI
 Col. CIORFI

3. Report on Italian Units visited.

- (a) For a report on the MANTOVA Div. see Appendix A.
 (b) 16 Inf. Regt Depot COSENZA

The above unit had a parade state at its barracks of 2897 out of a total strength of 1797. In addition it had 9 detachments round the Province comprising some 290 all ranks.

The C.O. was a live wire who appeared to be running his command well. 62% of the men seen were in civilian clothes and the same percentage were without boots, the remainder were in U.S. uniforms. Under the circumstances it was not possible to assess the discipline of the men or their value to the Allied cause.

- (c) Military District (COSENZA)

This unit deals with all mobilisation, recall, desertion etc papers of a considerable area - actually larger than the Province of COSENZA.

It had a parade state of 144 all ranks out of a total of 177. Most of the men were clerks with a certain amount of service and as they worked indoors all day both the clothing and boots position was much better than in most units. No one was actually

2/ inefficient and Coy 25% needed new uniform and 31% new boots.

(d) 9 Salerno Coy. COSMZA.

This was one of the two companies originally ordered for PBS and now amalgamated into a new No 9 Coy. The mules were in good condition considering a hard winter during which little or no fodder was available for them. A good effort had obviously been made to get this unit into good order prior to its departure for PBS.

(e) 217 Coy. Antiparacutists. SIIA Area.

This unit with its H.Q. at TITACRANT showed a parade state of 234 all ranks out of 253.

The C.O. appeared to be energetic and alive to the responsibility of guarding two of the three Hydroelectric plants but the unit as a whole was second class, with a large percentage of Calabresi.

The sentries were alert and a workable alarm system had been thought out, but I did not get the impression that a determined attempt at sabotage would be prevented.

As a MANTOVA bn. is shortly to take over the guard duties in the SIIA area, the organisation of anti sabotage defence will be raised with General BOLOGNA at a later date. 23% of this unit had no boots, 22% had U.S. Italian army boots and 50% needed new clothing.

There was no one in civilian clothes.

(f) 80 Territorial Regt. (bis) - COTRONI.

The H.Q. of this unit only was visited. It is now formed of three coys, one at COTRONI one at MESURAC working mainly for the Allies or Italian guard duties and one in the CASA PASQUALE area guarding the hydro electric plants.

It had a parade state of 500 all ranks out of 535. From what the C.O. told me it appears that this unit is used mainly as a reservoir of companies and men to reinforce other units and to do any odd jobs in the area. It is composed mainly of Calabresi and for geographical reasons apart from anything else can obviously have little coherency as a unit. 29% of this unit needed new boots and 58% new clothing.

(g) 14 Raggruppamento of Arty. SOVERIA MANELLI.

This unit has four gruppi under command:-

IV Gruppo	COSMZA
CIII =	SPEZZANO AIBANESE
CIX =	SOVERIA MANELLI
CIXV =	CASA PASQUALE

I only inspected the men of the Raggruppamento H.Q. and CIX group at SOVERIA MANELLI which is about to be disbanded.

The unit as a whole is split up geographically, and in its components on odd guard and labour duties.

Only the CIXV A.A. group at CASA PASQUALE is functioning in an arty. role.

Figures of boots and clothing requirements were received only for the H.Q. of the Raggruppamento at SOVERIA MANELLI and 3276

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CIII =	SPEZZANO ALBANESE
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CIXV =	CASA PASQUALE

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The unit as a whole is split up geographically, and in its components on odd guard and labour duties.

Only the CIXV A.A. group at CASA PASQUALE is functioning in an arty. role.

Figures of boots and clothing requirements were received only for the H.Q. of the Raggruppamento at SOVERIA MANELLI and CIXV.

(h) 1 Group of Arty. - MARCELLINARA.

This unit is the best gunner unit yet seen and is complete with guns and vehicles. It is the only component left of the old 11 Raggruppamento of motorised arty. which sent its other three groups to the combatant division between Nov. 43 and Jan. 44. It had a parade state of 249 all ranks out of 338.

Both officers and men are mainly from the North and as the 11 Raggruppamento was a Piemontese motorised arty. unit the degree of training and discipline are both likely to be of a high order.

The steadiness on parade of the men was better than any observed to date and their handling of the guns and weapon training was obviously good even though I was able to see very little as I was pressed for time. The unit being small was better off for clothing and boots than any other yet inspected.

4. Progress of Allied Programme of Requirements from Italian Army.

The following units have been despatched from CALABRIA since my last report:-

Serial No.	Date Untrained.	Unit.	Strength	
			Required.	Untrained.
			Offs.	O.Rs.
1057A.	9 Apr 44.	708 & 718 Ordnance Coys.	-	372
1068A.	21 Apr 44.	624 Sig. Coy.	4	120
1051B.	25 Apr 44.	501 Smoke Coy.	5	281
			5	235 +

+ Deficiency since made up.

5. M.T.

The M.T. problem is being dealt with in a separate report.

6. Statistics on Sickness, Leave, Absenteeism and Clothing of ^{certain} Units inspected.

All percentages are based on effective strength (Forza effettiva).

Unit.	%age of effective strength present.	%age in hospital leave.	%age on leave w/o boots.	%age absent w/o boots.	%age with unserviceable boots.	%age in civilian uniform.
114 Regt. MANTOVA.	73%	6%	10%	3%	33%	25%
1 Group Arty., MANTOVA.	61%	3%	4%	1%	17%	13%
217 Coy., Anti-Parachutist	92%	3%	4%	1%	23%	17%
80 Territorial Bn. (bis).	19%	10%	10%	6%	-	20%

5. M.T.

+ deficiency since made up.

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Units.	%age of effective strength present.	%age in hospital leave.	%age on leave w/o boots.	%age absent w/o leave.	%age with unserviceable boots.	%age in civilian uniform.
II4 Regt. MANTOVA. §	73%	6%	10%	3%	33%	13%
I Group Artv., MANTOVA. +	61%	3%	4%	1%	17%	1%
217 Coy. Artl-Parachutist	92%	3%	4%	1%	22%	50%
CO						
Territorial Bn. (bis).	79%	10%	10%	0%	29%	28%
Depot 16 Inf. §	41%	9%	9%	1% x	20%	20%
Military District + COSENZA.	64%	2%	2%	-	31%	25%

§ Units over 1,000

+ Units under 500

x A most unlikely figure as the majority of the men on strength to this depot are Calabresi.

cont'd...

4
The figures for leave and absenteeism show a marked improvement on the state of affairs found during my recent inspection of units at REGGIO CALABRIA and VIBO VALENTIA (see my last report 67/MS/4 of 18 Apr 44) probably owing to the fact that there were present a much higher percentage of non Calabrians and that most of the units were in General BOLOGNA's area of command if not directly under him.

7. Boots and Clothing.

There are 4,500 soldiers dressed in civilian clothes in CALABRIA and 10,000 pairs of boots are urgently required. A separate report has already been rendered.

8. Absenteeism.

At the time of writing this report the statistics for absenteeism all over CALABRIA are not available but I am of the opinion that two factors can reduce the absenteeism amongst XXXI Corps troops, first, the arrival and distribution of boots and clothing, secondly, stringent disciplinary action against men going absent prior to their unit entraining for employment with the Allies outside CALABRIA. Thirdly, a firm propaganda to show that absenteeism on the part of soldiers leaving with their unit to serve under the Allies, is a disgrace to Italian arms, (especially as most of them are not leaving to fight) and tantamount to aiding the enemy. A few severe disciplinary measures against deserters would undoubtedly have a salutary effect but I feel strongly that they must depend on the arrival of boots and clothing which is a sine qua non of morale and discipline. I suggest that XXXI Corps be informed that the next 50 men to go absent before their unit leaves CALABRIA, and after all ranks have been warned of impending departure, be shipped to a P.O.W. Camp in North Africa on the first liberty ship available in a Calabrian port, and that 50 eligible P.O.W. be returned with the status of co-belligerents. I can see no other way of stopping the rot.

9. Morale.

The morale of Italian units seen on my recent inspection was higher than that of those seen on my tour earlier in the month.

The reasons for this were that there were fewer without clothes and boots and that they either belonged to or were influenced by the MANTOVA Division which was a good Italian combatant unit pre-armistice.

10. Mine Lifting.

Since the armistice the Comando Genio of XXXI Corps have cleared 32

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The reasons for this were that there were fewer without clothes and boots and that they either belonged to or were influenced by the MANTOVA Division which was a good Italian combatant unit pre-armistice.

10. Mine Lifting.

Since the armistice the Comando Genio of XXXI Corps have cleared 32 minefields and lifted or exploded 2931 mines. There are still 35 5274 active minefields in CALABRIA and the work of clearing them is being carried out by 6 officers and 75 men specially assigned to the task and working in six squads with 6 Italian mine indicators. Hitherto, unknown German minefields are still being discovered in CALABRIA

....cont'd....

II. Suicide of Italian Officer.

On the 15 Apr 44., Lt. Col. PARRABBI commanding the 1st. Btn. of the 76 Inf. Regt. of the MANTOVA Division shot himself. An oldish man of some seniority it was rumoured that he was still pro-German (he held German decorations) was depressed by the clothing conditions in which the soldiers under his command still found themselves and that when during the early part of April General BOLOGNA had inspected his unit and told them that it was intended that the MANTOVA would shortly be prepared for combat he took his life. It was also reported from a Civilian source that General BOLOGNA had reprimanded Col. PARRABBI for wearing his German decorations. The report prepared at our request on the death of this officer by AXVI Corps was a masterpiece of reticence. I thought it unwise to pursue the matter but I was interested to note during my inspection of the Btn. in question a marked coolness towards me on the part Lt. Col. PARRABBI's successor Capt. TRIFOGLI.

The latter is a competent officer from a Granatieri di Sardegna Regiment, the greater part of whose unit are the other side of the line.

I shall be interested to note his reactions when I inspect his unit again.

12. Forage.

The following is a translation of a promemoria on forage given me by General BOLOGNA. It applies only to the animals of the MANTOVA Division:-

"During the winter, no hay was distributed to animals. The absence of ~~these~~ commodities has made serious inroads on their general condition.

Straw has been distributed but not in a continuous and regular manner because of the lack of M.T. On the other hand, concentrated feeds (oats and carob) have never been wanting and have been given alternatively as feeds to the extent of about Kg. 3.300 per animal. At the present time there is a complete absence of hay and straw and it is anticipated that these commodities will not be available for a long time. Animals are sent out grazing but the grass is not sufficiently advanced in all areas to be of use.

In the COSENZA garrison a 'green diet' will be instituted giving each animal a certain amount of cut grass. Contracts are being prepared. In the area NICASTRO where the 76 Inf. Regt. is concentrated it is not possible to put animals on to a 'green diet' because only small plots of land, insufficient for requirements, are cultivated with clover and grass".

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13. Communications:

5273

A letter signed by Lt. Col. HAUGHTON dated the 20 Apr 44 and despatched by Italian courier reached this detachment the morning of 3 May 44. We have had no personal mail since 19 Apr 44 and are unlikely to get any before 8 May 44. Col. KIRKWOOD the new Commissioner for Region VII. is investigating the possibility of arranging for a REGGIO AERONAUTICA machine to connect him to RAPIDS.

...cont'd...

14. Summary.

The MANTOVA Division is by Italian standards in good order despite its deficiencies in boots and under clothing (not uniforms) and will, with a new deal, become a first rate internal security division.

The 1st. Group of Artillery of the MANTOVA Division armed with 100/24 Hows and mechanized should be a first rate reinforcement unit for the Combat Div. if one is needed and ammunition is available. General BOLOGNI would naturally fight hard to keep it with his Division.

Boots, Clothing and Morale are available in small quantities only, whereas absenteeism in units leaving CALABRIA for the Allied programme is abundant. The four are inter-dependent and the increase in the first three will see a reduction in the fourth.

15. Conclusion.

(i). The MANTOVA Division is, with a few inconsiderable exceptions, the only military unit in CALABRIA capable of organized military action. On these grounds it should be clothed and equipped up to the establishment laid down for it by Allied policy as soon as possible. It should not be dispersed on guard duties with the exception of Hydro Electric Plants, SILE, and V.P.'s. on road L. of C. It should never be employed on guard or labour duties for the various Allied detachments working in CALABRIA. Its six infantry Bns. and one M.T. Bn. should be employed on roughly the following basis:-

- 33-I/3% ---- Guard duties SILE and L. of C.
- 33-I/3% ---- Internal security CATANZARO, COSENZA, REGGIO CAL., NICASTRO.
- 33-I/3% ---- Training and hardening under canvas in a mountain area.

(ii). The Allies have during the past winter lost valuable animals through the lack of provision of essential feeds. Mules and horses are still in the main in very poor condition. With the Italian Army in CALABRIA as at 10 Apr 44., there were still 1,010 mules and 601 horses. These figures do not take into account the animals lent to civilians for farm work because the Army had no means of keeping them alive.

16. Requirements.

(i). All requirements for boots, clothing, P.O.L., Food and M.T. have already been submitted in detail in Major PAPINIAU's report, G.2. of 30 Apr 44.

(ii). The immediate despatch of all the MANTOVA Division units now in APULIA to CALABRIA. The P.O.L. sent to the P.O.L. in CALABRIA.

Starting to leave 15 May 44

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Stamps to leave 15 May 62
(ii). The immediate despatch of all the MANTOVA Division units now in APULIA to CALABRIA. The Bn. sent to TORRE ANUNZIATA from the 119 Inf. Regt. should likewise be relieved and sent to CALABRIA at the earliest possible date.

(iii). The disorganization caused by the present accelerated demands from XXXI Corps on account of the Allied programme will form a separate report.

...cont'd...

(iv). The animal feed requirement of XXXI Corps will form a separate report.

(v). I should like M.M.I.A. to effect through A.C.C., an arrangement whereby an Italian Air Force machine would complete a round trip NAPIES - LECCE - ISOLA GIPO RIZUTO (near CROTONE) every five days.

All mail problems would immediately be solved for ourselves and for A.C.C.

H. A. C. Howard

Lt. Col.,
M.M.I.A.,
L.O., XXXI Corps.

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

H. A. Howard

Lt. Col.,
M.M.I.A.,
L.O., XXI Corps.

5271

The Mantova Division.

All Inf. Bns. of the Div. in CALABRIA except the 1st. Bn. of the 114 Inf. Regt. at CASTOVILLARI were inspected on arrival at the Barracks of the 114 Inf. Regt. at COSENZA General BOLOGNA and I were met with the honours due to his rank by the Barrack Guard and Bugler. The 2nd. Bn. was drawn in the Barrack square and they presented arms while the band of the Regt. played an uninspiring little tune of welcome.

General BOLOGNA then walked quickly down the line saluting each Platoon, the slope, the Order, and the Squad at ease were then given and the Bn. was handed over for my inspection. I inspected each Platoon and asked whatever questions I wished from Officers and men.

I was then treated to a mixed programme of drill and weapon training (of a very elementary order) and the Bn. then marched past the General with the band playing it round the Barrack square.

I then inspected Barrack rooms, Kitchens, Latrines, Ablution rooms, Store room, M. I. room, Stables etc.

I asked more questions and was given the statistics that I had asked for from General BOLOGNA the day before.

Almost exactly the same ritual was adopted in the case of the 76th. Inf. Regt. at MICASTRO except that owing to lack of parade facilities in the Town the parade was held in the country some four miles from it and one mile from SAMBILISE where the 2nd. Bn. was quartered.

The following statistics are produced for information.

Regtl.	Actual	% Sick	% On	% Absent	% Without	% With	% In
Estab.	Strength.	in Hosp.	Leave.	without any Boots.	U/S.	U/S.	Civilian
Officers/ORA/Offs/ORA.							

Boots. Uniforms. Clothes.

Leave.

90	2100	106	2003	6%	10%	3%	33%	25%	13%	6
76	Regiment.									

90	2100	101	1337	5%	7%	1%	27%	26%	26%	6%
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3.

(a) Command

The following are my observations on the MANTOVA. The Command throughout the Div. is good, the weakest limb being possibly the two Regtl. Commanders.

(b) Officers.

Junior Officers appear to lack confidence and arrive but their interest in and knowledge of their men was good.

(c) I.C.Os.

In the past I.C.Os. have not had much chance of exercising command and their aims therefore to a great extent been lost. A new policy of giving I.C.Os. a far greater degree of command is about to be put into effect on orders from S.M.R.E.

(d) Discipline. There is no doubt that the MANTOVA retains a degree of discipline and adherence to military tradition which by Italian standards is good and by any standard a remarkable in view of the fact that (Mantova)

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3. The following are my observations on the MANTOVA.
 (a) Command The Command throughout the Div. is good, the weakest limb being possibly the two Regtl. Commanders.

(b) Officers. Junior Offrs. appear to lack confidence and drive but their interest in and knowledge of their men was good.

(c) N.C.Os. In the past N.C.Os. have not had much chance of exercising command and their ^{VALUE} ~~value~~ therefore to a great extent been lost. A new policy of giving N.C.Os. a far greater degree of command is about to be put into effect on orders from S.M.R.E.

(d) Discipline. There is no doubt that the MANTOVA retains a degree of discipline and adherence to military tradition which by Italian standards is good and by any standard is remarkable in view of the fact that they have been so long without the outward and visible signs of being soldiers in good boots and clothing.

As a result of a recent distribution of Khaki summer uniform General BOLOGNA has been able to clothe almost all his men with a semblance of uniformity. But boots, shirts, underwear and socks are still necessary in order to make the Division able to train, and Boots are immediately necessary in order to make them able to function at all as an internal security Division.

(e) Drill. The arms drill was; by our standards, poor and the men were not steady on parade, but again, considering the conditions, the results can hardly be considered unsatisfactory. The final march past of all three Bns. was remarkably good in view of the extraordinary contraptions

of deal or personal manufacture which adorned the set of about one third of the men.

(f) Weapon Training. From very brief observation I should say the standard was not ~~high~~ high and this was the only time that I felt that more should have been done, notwithstanding the difficulties to train the men.

(g) Interior Economy. This was really satisfactory and, in contrast to some of the displeasing aspects I found in other Italian Units, a tribute to the efficiency of the Unit.

(h) Messing. The cooking sampled during my visit was good. Complaints registered were on the usual lines of too little bread and too little pasta.

(i) Health. The men's health was good, most cases of Hospitalization being due to recurrent Malaria.

(j) Absenteeism. There was a remarkably low percentage of absenteeism in the Div. the reasons being, I think, good discipline and a relatively low total of Calabresi amongst the men, over fifty percent ^{of whom} were from the North.

(k) Morale. Despite the G.C.Cs. assurance of the will to fight of the MANTOVA I cannot help feeling that at the moment anyhow the Calabresi in the Div. would be dead against it and the Settebrioni apathetic but it is very hard to assess Morale as a result of a brief inspection.

(l) General BOLOGNA. I feel that the MANTOVA Div. owes a great deal of its present cohesion as a Unit to its Commander. He commands Discipline, cleanliness and work. He is a great upholder of Regtl. tradition and imparts as much formality to parades inspections etc. as he possibly can.

He has instituted in the CCS YZA Garrison a system of pickets which patrol the town during working hours and ask Offrs. and men in the streets and cafes what they are doing and where they are going to. Disciplinary action is taken against those with unsatisfactory answers.

He has organized all his Offrs. and N/Cs/ Messes with as much formality as possible and great attention is paid to the punctilious handling of Regtl. Colours on and off Parades.

In short General BOLOGNA strives to revive in his Div. as much attention to the outward forms of soldiering as he possibly can in order to raise Morale and improve Discipline - and to a considerable extent he has succeeded.

If the question arose within the next six months of transferring the General to another Command I should be strongly against such a move as I believe the Div. as a whole would suffer.

4. Conclusion. The MANTOVA Division in my opinion will be able, given time and the necessary conditions, to form a first class internal security Unit. My first impression is that the percentage of Calabresi is now already too high for it to be effective as a combatant Unit, but a final verdict must be deferred until it can be seen encamped in its own grounds, away from the towns, properly clothed and shod.

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x should policy change

1194