

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

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Aug. 1944-

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G/21/12 Weekly Liaison Log L.O. Florence
Opened Aug. 23, 1944. Closed Feb. 2, 1945
Aug. 1944 - Feb 1945

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

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

Subject:- Liaison Log.

M.A.I.A.	9	21
FILE REF	9	21
Date Recd	9/21/2	

Meer,
as Sub Comm.
A) District.
10/16.

17 February 45.

To:- Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
M. M. I. A. R O M E.

Herewith my Liaison log for period 20 Jan to 17 Feb.

1. Arrivals / Departures of Italian Units.

502, 503 and 519 Gd Bns now under 59 Area, 2 District, in SIENA area, Responsibility of 231 Division.
"3" Medical Stores depot moved to RIMINI.
H.Q. 171 Italian Signal Coy from PERUGIA to FLORENCE.
H.Q. 410 I.P.L. Regt from FALCONARA to FLORENCE.
H.Q. 209 Division from OSIMO to PERUGIA.
514 Italian Line Section to 8 Army area.
510 Smoke Coy to District Three.
7 Mountain Regt has moved to FOSCOMBONE.
Arrivals of LEGNARO and FOLGORE.

2. Clothing.

ST I District, sending down to CAPUA to collect a convey of 10 tonners, are bringing back clothing consignment from NAPLES. I am now out of B/Dress trousers and rifts are coming.

Clothing has been brought from OSIMO depot and is now centralised in PERUGIA.

Recent consignments have had many articles damp and covered with mildew.

Shirts are very small and considerable percentage therefore unusable.

Boot repair centre at ANCONA is working well in same building as Dress Ord. Other centres are still having

5472

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Arrivals of LEGNANO and NOCIARE.

2. Clothing.

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Clothing has been brought from CORTONA depot and is now centralised in PERUGIA.

Recent consignments have had many articles damp and covered with mildew.

Shirts are very small and considerable percentage therefore unwearable.

Boot repair centre at AREZZO is working well in some building as Area Ord. Other centres are still having difficulty in getting tools. Pioneer Gp H.Qs have been asked to help them get organised. They are rapidly using up the grindery released by I District. To get more will be a problem.

District offered me 871 prs boots repairable but I explained that they must supply grindery as well. They inform me that MILIA will supply it to me. Previously I could get none. Has some become available and may I submit a request.

Muleteer Centre at FOSSOMERONE is greatly preoccupied about its clothing. I satisfy all their indents as far as possible. They are taking 500 prs boots a week.

I accompanied ACNO, I District, on inspection of clothing depot. He was well satisfied with cleanliness and good

2. Clothing. (cont'd)

order of the store.

3. FOSSOMBRONE.

Reports have been submitted to MMIA.

Medical rejects are absorbed as gifts for I.D. boys in ANCONA area or disposed of by Italian medical authorities.

Request to I District to release 2,000 pris anklets for maleteers.

4. Supplies.

ST., I District, are taking up question of Nov., Orders. They prefer the supplies to be consigned to NAPLES and then called forward by them. Incidentally, apart from oranges, I have never received any signals as on para 4 (a) on reverse of Nov., Order regarding despatch.

Arrangements are on hand for 209 Division to buy 3,000 quintals of wine at SQUINZANO LEONE. They will be responsible for loading, unloading and distribution. I District will arrange eastern wagons.

FOSSOMBRONE sets its rations under arrangements with 8 Army from FANO. It buys its wine locally. 209 Division will include its wine needs.

31 protest against increase from 3 lire to 20 lire for improvement of rations. It will be competition with hospitals etc on open market and will disturb price control. Preferable to augment local purchase items on ration scale.

ANCONA hospital eventually got disinfectants etc from 8 Army 228 Div. Latter was unaware that it had drawn for ANCONA in its bulk allotment and was not too helpful.

War Ministry is continually reminded by 209 Division to send blocks of C.T.C forms. This has gone on for months and none are sent.

Italians do not eat dehydrated carrots. Representations made to DST, AFHQ by ST.

Non issue of soap by DID, 71 Sub Area. Matter cleared.

5471/51

4. Supplies.

ST., I District, are taking up question of Gov., Orders. They prefer the supplies to be consigned to NABLES and then called forward by them. Incidentally, apart from oranges, I have never received any signals as on para 4 (a) on reverse of Gov., Order regarding despatch.

Arrangements are on hand for 209 Division to buy 3,000 quintals of wine at 300 INZANO LXXXL. They will be responsible for loading, unloading and distribution. I District will arrange cistern wagons.

POSSONBRONK sets its rations under arrangements with 8 Army from FIMO. It buys its wine locally. 209 Division will include its wine needs.

ST protest against increase from 3 lire to 40 lire for improvement of rations. It will be competition with hospitals etc on open market and will disturb price control. Preferable to augment local purchase items on ration scale.

ANCONA hospital eventually got disinfectants etc from 8 Army 228 Div. Latter was unaware that it had drawn for ANCONA in its bulk allotment and was not too helpful. 54/1/57

War Ministry is continually reminded by 209 Division to send blocks of B.T.S forms. This has gone on for months and none are sent.

Italians do not eat dehydrated carrots. Representations made to DST, AFHQ by ST.

Non issue of soap by DID, 71 Sub Area. Matter cleared up, District writing a strong letter to D.O. who had't demanded for it.

Letter written to HQ., WHIA re procedure for the cognac issue. ST know nothing about it.

Hospital comforts are always late. WHIA send out circular release letter in good time but it is a long time before ST. District get it from AFHQ channels. DUNS is loud in his complaint.

Cigarettes on repayment are made available in NABLES for 209 Division. Can they be regularly sent up by rail - we can't afford the vehicles to go down there and consequently are about 2 months behind.

7. Rfts. (cont'd)

228 Transit Camp is at PESARO not IESI. 513 Gd Bn was nearly sent to IESI where there would have been no accommodation.

Combat Transit Camp soon found by District at LATINA. Uncertainty of arrival of rfts, changes in numbers and cancellations, makes rfts a rather difficult problem. AAG advised on District directive for rfts procedure.

8. General.

An hour's talk to Brigadier and Staff of 59 Area on problems which Italian units give rise to. Their earlier enthusiasm was thereby weakened.

Inspection of 513 Gd Bn with Brigadier of 55 Area. He was well satisfied. I noticed some beds with 4 blankets and instructed 209 Division to hold another inspection to relieve them of their excess. This resulted in less satisfaction.

Arrangements with MOV., Central Italy for 209 Div to use the rly for their CGAR postal service.

Incident at SIENA provoked by Italian Military of GRUPPO, drunk and carrying weapons. District order issued on the carriage of arms.

209 Division moved to PERUGIA. Intervention to get them garage soon. Now all satisfactorily established.

Visit to 61 Area and was asked to see on general problems AG, ADMG, ADST, ADOS and other officers.

Have pushed the subject of time for military training with British and Italian HQs. Response was good but modified by work commitments. Arrival of rfts will give more opportunity for general smartening up.

Liaison with censor officer for information as to morale and deserters.

Steady number of deserters and malefactors being picked up by GMR.

Applications to I District for 2,000 reticene weekly for Italian Military welfare in I District turned down.

OE, I District, has put forward proposal that Italian

on problems which Italian units give rise to. Their earlier enthusiasm was thereby weakened.

Inspection of 515 Gd Bn with Brigadier of 55 Area. He was well satisfied. I noticed some beds with 4 blankets and instructed 209 Division to hold another inspection to relieve them of their excess. This resulted in less satisfaction.

Arrangements with MOV., Central Italy for 209 Div to use the rly for their CCRK postal service.

Incident at SIENA provoked by Italian Military of GRUPPO, drunk and carrying weapons. District order issued on the carriage of arms.

209 Division moved to PARUGIA. Intercession to get them zerage again. Now all satisfactorily established.

Visit to 61 Area and was asked to see on general problems AQ, ADMS, ADST, ADCS and other officers.

Have pushed the subject of time for military training with British and Italian HQs. Response was good but modified by work commitments. Arrival of rfts will give more opportunity for general smartening up.

Liaison with censor officer for information as to morale and deserters.

Steady number of deserters and malefactors being picked up by CAP.

Applications to I District for 2,000 rations weekly for Italian Military welfare in I District turned down.

GE, I District, has put forward proposal that Italian Engineer Coys have a British officer or cadre similar to I.P.L. Coys.

Capt VERONESE attached to 55 Area from 209 Division as liaison officer.

Capt VITALE, one of two L.Os with 71 Sub Area has now been informed by M of War that their previous order waiting him to MANTOVA has been cancelled. 71 Sub Area, as I have reported, feel that he is wasted where he is now and could fill a better job elsewhere.

..... / Gen cent'd

8. General. (cont'd)

Conference with DA & QMG and other L.Os at FLORENCE.

Inquiries into 502 and 28 Bn HQs. Recommended to
C and OE that former is superfluous.

General information bureau to District and Services.

Inspection of establishment of Balloon Coy at ANCOBER.

Intercession to get U. S. sources, oxygen, styethylene.

Minor reports on miscellaneous subjects for HQ.,

Dist. I District.

6075

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

Subject:- Liaison Log. 6

C/2-1
24/11
Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm.,
A.C. (MMIA).,
c/o HQ., I District,
LO/Q6.

21 January 45.

To:- Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
M. M. I. A. ROME.

Herewith my Liaison Log for period 2 Jan to 19 Jan.

2. Arrivals / Departures of Italian Units.

503 Guard Bn in AREZZO area under 55 Area shortly
to move with 519 Guard Bn to 59 Area.
91 Field Hospital to ORVIETO.

Movements of Pack Tpt Units from ORVIETO to
POSSOMBRONE as per MMIA signal SD 2090.

3. Clothing.

Following have been received for BRI-ITI Military
in I District,

Soles half plain	3,000 pairs
Shoemaker's hand thread	10 lbs.

This was obtained under "Q" authority ID/2701/Q of
18 December, I District.

209 Division are preparing local repair centres at
ANCONA, AREZZO and PERUGIA.

Owing to boot crisis and sub depot at OSIMO being
empty, 990 prs grade III boots obtained from 35 A.O.D.
under authority 61A/OS/25/13 of 5 January.

I have asked MMIA for authority to dispose of bedding
etc., collected in various centres such as PERUGIA, AREZZO
SPOLETO, when need of local units is urgent. Otherwise it
remains unused in care of C/do Predic as there is never
any transport to take the material back to ROME.

2,000 mackinaws and comforters put aside for 228
Division to collect. Urgent need for vests as only 1,000
have been allocated to I District.

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4. Medical.

I District approached to accelerate formation of "S" advanced depot. 209 Division has indented for necessary medical stores.

Conference with DDMS I District. He considers that much bed space is wasted in Italian Military hospitals, and that patients remain much longer than necessary. He does't see need for one ambulance train a week. One a fortnight will do if hospitals function properly. He would like more supervision of patients evacuation ie, a British cadre with interpreters.

4. Medical (cont).

I have instructed Italian Military Hospital PERUGIA to increase capacity to 400 beds. I am arranging with AMG for Red Cross to have space in civilian hospital for over 60 day cases and to cater for emergency evacuations from FLORENCE.

5. Transport.

OCRR at ANCONA wanted a vehicle. Advised to try AMG as they look after civilians.

Report on vehicle state and deficiencies of 209 Division units in preparation.

Arrangements for POL and reserve of 15% to be held until 20th of month. 209 Division point out that Diesel Oil allotment is too low as 38 O.M.P. uses generators etc., and many units use it for cooking. When they give me definite requests for more, I will advise MMIA.

6. Supplies.

ST say it is no good saying that wine is to be found in the ORVIETO area, because they've tried to find it without success.

Hospital comforts release given by I District for January, 209 Division collecting this time from DIDs to save transport. No issue made for period 16 - 31st Dec., as policy had changed.

7. Reinforcements.

Conference with "A" and Labour.

Considerable confusion over rfts at TERAMO and AQUILA. 209 Division, without my knowledge had been told by M of W to collect about 250 ITI - ITI rfts. Through "A" channels, Labour was told to collect rfts from AQUILA and TERAMO for BRI - ITIs. They took 70 from TERAMO originally for ITI - ITIs and put them in 413 I.P.L. Regt. Delegazione "T" told 209 Division to collect 60 ITI-ITIs from TERAMO for 507 Smoke Coy. But although 507 is doing guards, it is a BRI-ITI unit loaned to Area. Their rfts should come through Labour. I suggest that I be notified of what the M of W is doing in the matter of collecting and allocating of rfts. Also that Delegazione "T" keep me informed as to

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ADL "C" Team to supervise a small transit camp at AREZZO, mainly for Lab rfts, similar to one run by I9 Gp in ANCONA.

209 Division to take over IESI transit camp. Rfts can be cleaned, clothed and sorted there. It will be in care of 521 Bn.

8. Discipline.

CMP have established check posts on roads round PRIULI to catch deserters in 85 day drive. 90 have already been caught. They are being collected in 55 Area under orders DPM I District. 520 Guard Bn is providing guards. GOC., I District not too sure as to best policy towards them. Not too keen on sending them back. Can the sending of a Military Tribunal here be expedited. I propose to prepare a report on the lines that a concentration camp be established here for them. There are limits to CCR cells' capacity and it is not their function to hold them for a long time. Many Italian units have not the transport to fetch their absentees. The number caught is steadily increasing.

9. ORVIETO.

DDMS strongly moved by complete lack of hygiene discipline and 6 officers of 91 Field Amb not arriving because on leave.

CE strongly moved by wanton damage to installations.

DA & QMG criticised lack of welfare or interest in same.

Considered impracticable to interchange 300 malcontents with I.P.L. Coys in Distone. DDL would accept them as posted rifts. Remedy would appear to be improvement in the type of Italian officer sent there. 209 Division inform me that on occasion of visit of Gen BERARDI 70 officers had not arrived.

Suggestion that ring leaders be immediately court martialled, but fundamental would appear to be very poor Italian discipline.

10. POSSOMBRONE.

3 officers lent by 209 Division. The fourth one not needed.

Camp personnel arrived virtually naked and clothed by 209.

ORVIETO to forward pants and vests when they arrive. Lack of these and extreme cold promotes much discontent.

They will be working near

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Are the men to have arms?. They will be working near the front line.

Not possible yet for them to be on the phone.

I District took up question of 12 vehicles from ORVETO, having no canopies. I was surprised to hear all the men arrived.

II. CREMONA Rfts.

I was approached for permits for about 500 volunteers to go up to join CREMONA Group. It transpired that CREMONA had been doing some private recruiting. They had laid on 200 (code name COVENANTER). Enthusiastic recruiter had collected another 300. Awaiting authority from CREMONA before despatching these others. The 200 went in CREMONA transport.

12. General.

44 Increment disbanded and dispersed as rfts.

Inspection of 1005 G.T. Coy. Serious trouble was brewing owing to poorness of clothing and lack of vests.

Discussions with AQMG re call-ups in this area. Scheme explained.

Confusion over formation of 61 and 62 Italian Forestry Coys, due to incorrectness of ATHQ letter. Now settled.

Strong letter to HQ., 209 Division re slowness in answering correspondence. Partly caused by weather, poor transport and minate bureaucracy.

200 rfts destined for 5th Army taken by I District as they were apparently lost and didn't know where to go. Problem did not admit of waiting.

171 Sig Coy and dependent units transferred to 231 Division.

Are rfts to allow men entitled to 'ceded' to be demobilised? The percentage of such men is extremely small. It is 190 men ie., 2.2%. They have been promised they can go when their substitutes arrive. If not it would seriously effect their morale and consequent efficiency.

General Bureau of information for Italian Military affairs.

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General Bureau of information for Italian Military affairs.

Capt.
MMIA., IO, I District

Subject:- Liaison Log. S

Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm.
A.C., (LMIA).,
c/o HQ., I District.
IC/G6.
3 January 45.

To:- Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
M. M. I. A. R O M E.

Herewith my Liaison Log for period 19 Dec to 1 Jan.

2. Arrivals / Departures of Italian Units.

519 Bn moved from NORCIA to IMPRUNETTA - 24 Officers
586 O.Rs.
533 Speciale Coy left for PALERMO - 6 Officers 131 O.Rs.
601 A.P.O. and 616 A.P.O placed under 209 Division.
I Bn 403 Regt (Coys 129 - 134) arrived ANCONA Area -
30 Officers 1,050 O.Rs.
314 Italian Field Bakery joined II Field Bakery at
ANCONA from 8 Army Area.

3. Clothing.

"Q" I District has given authority for release of soles, heels, thread, nails and studs for boot repairing. Ordnance will issue according to availability. 209 Division instructed to prepare scheme to effect some local repairs.
Sub Depot returns sent off.

4. Medical.

Hospitals in I District including Gruppi will draw comfort items from 37 and 38 B.S.Ds. I District will issue on old authority for period December 15 - January 15. 5464
When new authority is obtained from AFHQ for month of January adjustment will be made and supplementary issue given. Unless this is done, hospitals may wait weeks for arrival of AFHQ authority and have nothing in meantime.
A large block of flats and 2 smaller villas have been obtained in ANCONA for Italian Military Hospital. It is hoped by a change round of civilians, billets and messes, that bed space will be found for 100. It is proposed to

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A large block of flats and 2 smaller villas have been obtained in ANCONA for Italian Military Hospital. It is hoped by a change round of civilians, billets and messes, that bed space will be found for 100. It is proposed to make it a malaria block.

5. Transport.

Vehicle census returns forwarded from 209 Division. Supplementary return sent for CRR.

6. Supplies.

DDST has circularised Areas re. supply of soaps and cigarettes to Italian Military pointing out that responsibility for initial provision is Italian and that a firm attitude will be adopted on question of issue from British stocks in event of incapacities occurring.

6; Supplies. (Cont).

RCL has been obtained from CIP, ANCONA for month of December after as great a difficulty as last month. A report was submitted by me. Apparently CIP ROME had not been notifying CIP ANCONA of the release.

7. Welfare.

DA & QMG asked me for report on welfare activities of the FRIULI which were stated to be virtually non existent "One draught board produced from behind a sack in a ration store was proudly displayed as a Company's Welfare facilities" is an extract from ADH's report. I passed this on to the FRIULI L.O. I district had already made a money grant to the FRIULI.

209 Division has opened a CASA di Convegno in AREZZO.

8. BRI-ITI rfts depot at ORVIETO.

209 Division have sent their Adm Officer to advise on the Italian Admin side. I have visited the depot again and arranged delivery of some of the three tonners. Remainder of British Cadre very slow in arriving.

9. General.

1. Both I District and 209 Division are agreed on advisability of move of HQ., 209 Division from OSIMO to a more central position. Next step will be to decide where.
2. CMP at TERNI are still catching deserters on their way to ROME.
3. Request submitted to I District for rail transport to move CIL saddlery material from OSIMO to ROME.
4. Considerable confusion over collecting Labour rfts from TERAMO and AQUILA. Most of them had gone home on Xmas leave when vehicles came to collect them. Much vehicle time wasted.
5. 200 Italian Military, presumed to be Labour rfts, arrived at AREZZO on 29 December without warning and badly clothed. Separate report forwarded asking for clothing to be sent with such large numbers as baggage under guard.

6. As 228 Division will shortly be pulling out of Italy

5463

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6. As 228 Division will shortly be pulling out of IESI, I have instructed 209 Division to consider taking over the transit camp there. The Pioneer Wing has already been transferred to ANCONA, under the supervision of I9 Pioneer Group.

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

5463

(X)

Gen (SA) psc check

DR. new being sent - Confusion appears that still denied B up

Why should of that

9. General. (cont).

7. The CIL Ann at IESI and MACERATA is likely to remain there a long time as AAI insisted that it should all be examined by I District. The latter has not got sufficient staff to undertake such a long job - over 1,000 tons.

8. My Dodge vehicle replacement obtained from ROME on 21 December went two days later into workshops. It had a top overhaul, new carburettor, valve springs etc. Came out after four days and went back the same afternoon with a big end gone. As a consequence, I have to postpone all jobs involving use of vehicle.

9. General encyclopaedic service on Italian Military matters.

[Handwritten signature]

MMIA., IO., I District.
Capt.

5462

Subject:- Liaison Log.

Liaison Officer
Land Forces Sub Com
A.C. (M.M.I.A.)
c/o HQ I District.
LO/G6

19 December 44

To Land Forces Sub Com. A.C. (M.M.I.A.)
ROME.

Herewith my Liaison Log for period 5 Dec to 18 Dec.

2. Arrivals / Departures of Italian units.

519 Guard Bn has arrived at NORCIA.

171 Signal Coy HQ has arrived at PERUGIA. It will administer the five signal units which are usually in FLORENCE area and occasionally in I District. I have asked Delegazione T to put them all under 231 Div as it is their nearest adm HQ.

499 Manutenzione Stradale have moved up into the Army area.

3. Clothing.

Indents are pouring in. The clothing sub depot is substantially bare. M.M.I.A. announce that replenishments are being sent.

I have put up to District a request for leather, wax and thread for BRI-ITIS in their area.

Much trouble caused and time spent by units agitating for G 1098 stores which are not essential and which apparently they will never get.

4. Medical.

1,200 sulfanamide tablets recovered from a British hospital. Enquiries for 1,000 beds alleged to be at ASSISI. What the Germans and Allies have not taken, the civilians have stolen.

Inspection of medical stores depot at PERUGIA following reports that it was inadequately supplying needs. These reports exaggerated. The depot's monthly indents on ROME are partially and tardily filled, but it can substantially satisfy requests.

Discussion with A.D.3.T. re. Italian hospitals drawing their comfort items directly from D.I.Ds. instead of 209 Div receiving a bulk allocation from P.S.D.

519 Guard Bn has arrived at NOROLA.
171 Signal Coy HQ has arrived at PERUGIA. It will administer the five signal units which are usually in FLORENCE area and occasionally in I District. I have asked Delegazione T to put them all under 231 Div as it is their nearest adm HQ.
499 Manutenzione Stradaale have moved up into the Army area.

3. Clothing.

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I have put up to District a request for leather, wax and thread for BRI-ITIS in their area.

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Discussion with A.D.S.T. re. Italian hospitals drawing their comfort items directly from D.I.Ds. instead of 209 Div receiving a bulk allocation from E.S.D. This new policy may have passed from AFHQ to AAI but until it gets down to District he will do nothing.

5. Transport.

Reaired output from 38 O.L.P. is still very small. My intercession to stop C.M.P. confiscating jobs they had placed out on local contract, some of it being WD material obtained in CIL days.

6. Supplies.

Ordinary soap and shaving soap now being distributed. CIP at ANCONA had not received their copy of release of POL to ITI-ITIs from Pet Sec AFHQ. I have forwarded them my own copy. This same trouble happened last month and held up collection by 209 Div:

For hospital comforts see para 4.

7. Welfare.

GOC well satisfied with progress in welfare work. He has instructed that 20,000 lire be allocated to 209 Div from District Welfare.

8. PRI-ITI rift camp. ORVIETO.

Recce carried out and Areonautica Barracks selected as suitable. Sitting beard, held, and signals and R.E. work put in hand. Capacity put by DAMS as 3,000. I am confident that the Italians could put in more than 4,000. Separate block for offices and officers. A separate building exists for sick bay and M.I. rooms. Two kitchens being put in order. Ample facilities for stores, instruction rooms and dining rooms. Major Tungate is the only member of British cadre who had arrived on 16 Dec. District is chasing up O2E. A S.African hospital already in ORVIETO will assist with emergency cases.

The establishment needs strengthening on the Q side. O.C. British cadre will submit recommendations.

9. Discipline.

Great embarrassment caused by CMP arresting deserters and putting them in GCR cells, where they cannot be entitled to rations. I notify the unit to arrange disposal of the prisoners. The location of the unit is a difficult problem and then it certainly has no transport to make several day's journey to collect a deserter. Meanwhile the prisoner is not eating except from scraps from the GCR's meagre table. AMG then begin to protest. When possible, I have the deserter moved to the nearest Italian unit. Often, however, they have no transport with which to collect him and no facilities to keep him. Also, there still

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The establishment needs strengthening on the Q side. O.C. British cadre will submit recommendations.

9. Discipline.

Great embarrassment caused by GMP arresting deserters and putting them in OCRR cells, where they cannot be entitled to rations. I notify the unit to arrange disposal of the prisoners. The location of the unit is a difficult problem and then it certainly has no transport to make several day's journey to collect a deserter. Meanwhile the prisoner is not eating except from scraps from the OCRR's meagre table. AMG then begin to protest. When possible, I have the deserter moved to the nearest Italian unit. Often, however, they have no transport with which to collect him and no facilities to keep him. Also, there still remains the problem of getting him back to his unit or a military prison. If he had some entitlement to rations, he could remain in the civilian gaol indefinitely until he were finally recovered by the appropriate authority. It could count against his ultimate sentence.

10. General.

Enquiries about III Bn 522 Regt. Report submitted.

Arrangements for 410 Regt IFL HQ to move from its isolated position at FALCONARA to rejoin its units in 5 Army area.

IO. General (cont).

The move of 533 Speciale Coy from guarding OIL ammunition dumps to CORR duties in ANCONA, provoked much signalling. They were not suitable types for such work. Problem solved by there being no accommodation in ANCONA and need not urgent. Latest order is that they move to PALERMO.

FIAT Military vehicle obtained from Salvage Officer for a Guard Bn.

S.T.8. Forms have been distributed by me to areas for respective D.I.D.s. Each Italian Unit also to have a supply.

I have suggested to HQ 209 Division that they establish two training teams each of 1 officer and 2 NCOs. These to visit units and hold refresher courses in basic military training. This may help discipline and morale.

A detachment of 209 Division established at CORTONA with Vice Comandante Gen. MONACCI. This serves for AREZZO area.

Passes, permits and general information service for District and Areas.

[Signature]
MMIA., LO., I District:
Capt.

Subject:-Liaison Log No.3.

83/12
Liaison Officer, *C/pt*
Land Forces Sub Comm.,
A.C., (M.M.I.A.),
c/o HQ., I District.
LO/G6.

4 December 44.

To:-Land Forces Sub Comm., A.C., (M.M.I.A.),
R O M E.

Herewith my Liaison Log for period 21 Nov 44 to 4 Dec 44 :-

2. Arrivals/Departures of Italian Units.

No.3 Italian Traffic Control Coy have arrived FOLLIGNO under command I District.

I35 Italian Forestry Coy has joined 769 Forestry Coy at VALLOMBROSA.

FRIULI Gruppo has arrived in AREZZO area.

CREMONA Gruppo in process of arriving TERAMO Area.

3. Clothing.

Quantity of socks (alleged I3,000) are arriving at 209 Depot at OSIMO.

I have submitted an indent for urgently needed boot repairing material.

Return of contents of clothing sub depot sent on 1 Dec 44 to H.Q., M.M.I.A. B.D.Trousers, boots and drawers are practically exhausted.

I.W.T. personnel at ANCONA are very urgently appealing for clothing. I have so far refused according to M.M.I.A. instructions.

4. Guard Bns.

C.O. of 520 Guard Bn replaced at 61 Area's request.

71 Sub Area Commander informed me that 521 Bn is sufficient in strength for his needs. It arrived, about 300 having been extracted for muleteers. Usually Guard Bns are more than ample numbers to do local guard duties. IPL Coys and Engineer units have far more urgent need of reinforcements.

5. Gruppi.

At Distone morning conference, G.O.O. emphasized that all

2. Arrivals/Departures of Italian Units.

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135 Italian Forestry Coy has joined 769 Forestry Coy at VALLOMBROSA.

FRIULI Gruppo has arrived in AREZZO area.

CREMONA Gruppo in process of arriving TERAMO Area.

3. Clothing.

Quantity of socks (alleged 13,000) are arriving at 209 Depot at OSIMO.

I have submitted an indent for urgently needed boot repairing material.

Return of contents of clothing sub depot sent on 1 Dec 44 to H.Q., M.M.I.A. B.D. Trousers, boots and drawers are practically exhausted.

I.W.T. personnel at ANCONA are very urgently appealing for clothing. I have so far refused according to M.M.I.A. instructions.

4. Guard Bns.

C.O. of 520 Guard Bn replaced at 6I Area's request.

7I Sub Area Commander informed me that 52I Bn is sufficient in strength for his needs. It arrived, about 300 having been extracted for muleteers. Usually Guard Bns are more than ample numbers to do local guard duties. IPI Coys and Engineer units have far more urgent need of reinforcements.

5. Gruppi

At Distone morning conference, G.O.C. emphasised that all help must be given by services especially Welfare.

Discussed with ADMS fitting of Gruppi into existing Italian Mil. evacuation scheme in the District. Signal sent to H.Q., M.M.I.A. for medical supplies to be accordingly reinforced at OSIMO and PERUGIA.

(R) ... I ...

... 2 ...
6. Supplies.

^{at end of month}
H.Q., 209 Division have been notified that their November soap allotment is in BARI. The last issue of soap here was in October. Its non-availability here is a strong source of complaint.

ST., Distone inform me that hospital comforts are now available for collection by 209 Division.

Arrangement whereby in GI Area, 209 Division was responsible for fresh fruit and vegetable part of ration has broken down due to their lack of transport. Distone reassume responsibility.

ST., Distone annoyed that ITIS have no ST.8 forms. Apparently they are due to come up through M.M.I.A. Their expedition urged by signal.

7. Transport.

Repaired vehicles coming very slowly from 38 O.M.P. I believe the Direttore - Col.RAMPA - is more keen on working for his M.of W. e.g., they have just repaired 2 petrol tankers. I have therefore re-instructed them that their immediate task is to turn out vehicles for 209 Division so that it can function properly. The O.C. workshops could do with more specialists. 209 Division propose to lend him a few so as to expedite output of repaired vehicles.

H.Q., 209 Division are sending out inefficient vehicles to other units so that they can get their own spares from local black markets.

P.O.L. for November for ITI-ITIS eventually obtained from ANCONA at end of the month. Pet Sec. AFHQ did not send a copy of release to CIP., ANCONA. Latter was bureaucratically unco-operative.

Each of the 3 hospitals now has an ambulance.

8. Inspections.

Italian Increment to 6 Vet Hospital. - British O.C. is very pleased with their work.

315 Italian Field Bakery. - Investigation into charges of poor adm and inefficiency of previous O.C. Report submitted to H.Q., M.M.I.A., largely exonerating the O.C.

1005 G.T.Coy. - Brit.Oadre O.C. strongly against policy of splitting up the company into as many as 7 or 8 detachments. Maintenance and discipline suffers.

9. Welfare.

I obtained from P.W.B. ROME, several thousand copies of numbers of Italian "Londo Libero" and delivered them to 209 Division. A welfare centre is being established in PERUGIA.

10. General

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10. General.

O.O., 19 Pioneer Group has written to 209 Division a strong letter of appreciation of valuable work done by IPL Coys at ANCONA during bad weather and increased hours during recent emergency.

A number of volunteers for Maella band are trekking North. I have no means of testing their genuineness. I think a lot are attracted by possibilities of loot.

John Brown
Capt.,
M.M.I.A., I District.

5457

To come with the tentage problem, I have suggested that that 209 Div establish a pool of tentage which is not being used.

Indenting by Italian units is on the whole very poorly done.

5. Medical.

521 Field Hospital has now moved to PRASSINETO to come with AREZZO area. It has a very good location, and soon is ample to permit of expansion. 30 extra beds and small tables are being obtained from 228 Div det. at AREZZO. Water Tanker is laid on and electric light ensured.

The ANCONA hospital is still very cramped for space. It has obtained only one villa nearby of the four which were semi promised. Problem referred to I District, but soon in ANCONA is virtually unobtainable.

247 Field Hospital has arranged for 30 beds at OSIMO civilian hospital for the over 30 days cases. Hospital comforts are still awaited.

6. Transport.

Representations to DPM through FML for more assistance to be given by OGP to hitch hiking Italian Military. One IFL rft waited three days at FOLLIGNO before he got a lift to ANCONA.

Policy. Move of Vice C/oc. 209 Div.

I propose its resurrection and establishment in or near AREZZO, where there are some 4,000 Italian military units and a transit camp mainly for rfts going to 5 and 8 Armies. At present there is a detached HQ of 228 Div. which administers a few service units and some IFL coys on call for 8 Army. OSIMO is too far away to control 209 Div interests satisfactorily. Also as the weather deteriorates this detached 228 Div HQ will find it most difficult to maintain contact with its division. It would be desirable for all Italian units u/o I District to be administered by 209 Div.

8. General.

Engineering and signal stores cleared from JESI. Details of arm dumps and their exact location passed to I District.

Quantity of laboratory material located in a factory at

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8. General.

Engineering and signal stores cleared from JBSI. Details of arm dumps and their exact location passed to I District.

Quantity of laboratory material located in a factory at TERNI. Obtained for 209 for them to collect and requisition. Italian vehicle dump located near AREZZO. Communicated to 209 for them to make arrangements with a civilian firm for repairs and spare parts.

Various enquiries from Services at HQ I District, passes, permits, chits, issue of clothing and sundry police matters.

[Signature] Cent.
Lieutenant Officer.

Subject:-Weekly Liaison Log No.I

Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm.,
A.C., (M.M.I.A.),
c/o HQ., I District.
LO/G6.

8 November.

To:-Land Forces Sub Comm., A.C., (M.M.I.A.),
R O M E.

Herewith my Liaison Log for period 26 Oct 44 to 5 Nov 44:-

2. Arrivals/Departures Italian Units.

515 Guard Bn are in AREZZO area and 520 Guard Bn is now at
IESI, for the ANCONA area.

3. Conferences.

(1) A conference was held at HQ., I District with DDMS, AQMG.,
ADST., ADL., Col.SALINARI and myself.

It was decided that to cope with the move of IPL Coys over
to the AREZZO area, an Italian hospital should be established
there. 209 Division has chosen to move 52I from FALCONARA, as
their other field hospital 247 at OSIMO has far better chances
of expansion, and evacuation from the ANCONA hospital is now
functioning. Hospital comforts will come up by RASO channels
and will be handed over to 209 Division, who will re-allocate
to the hospitals under their command. It is hoped that these
comforts will soon arrive.

Except in 6I Area, Italian military will draw all their
food supplies from DIDs. In 6I Area, they are to establish a
depot and supply the fruit and vegetables. They will draw flour
from the DID and make their own arrangements for turning it
into bread.

DDL is to keep me informed of plans for moving the IPL Coys
so that 209 Division can cope with the admin problems caused
thereby.

(11) Conference with new GOC 209 Division, General OLMI and
his Chief of Staff. The Vice Comando at CHIETI has been dissolved.
No need for a separate V/Odo in I District. Most of the officers
to be distributed among regts and other Vice Commandants will

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4. Clothing.

A large consignment is now here in 35 AOD. There is a considerable discrepancy between the clothing signalled by LO., 54 Area as despatched and that which 35 AOD have received. For example, shirts are down from 6,700 alleged sent to 750 received. I have signalled LO., 54 Area to see if he can explain it. A considerable part has now been distributed to Italian units. It has been largely issued to employing formations, who will redistribute to Italian companies working for them.

...cont'd...

5. Transport.

Inspection of tyres at 38 O.M.P. MACERATA.
Control of output of vehicles to 209 Division.
Submission of increase in POL allotment for Iti-Itis.
Possibility of some inefficient Italian vehicles
from LEGNANO being turned over to 38 O.M.P. District
asked to be of assistance.

Report submitted on Italian Military ^{vehs} held by AMG
PERUGIA.

Similar situation arises with spares; the local
civilian 'ufficio ricambi' has quantity of alleged
military spares.

Finally successful in getting 40 BLR's vehicles
taken away from 38 O.M.P.

O.C. 38 O.M.P. replaced for inefficiency.

6. Medical.

ANCONA hospital soon finally obtained making capacity
up to 300 beds. Red Cross at PERUGIA ^{TERN} assigned from drawing
military rations. Arrangements with AMG so as to increase
their soon to take any emergency overflow from PERUGIA
hospital. Inspection with ADM3.

100 beds (Italian) available from 303 in SIENA. MIA
notified for disposal.

Evacuation from FLORENCE to PERUGIA is far smaller
than anticipated.

DDMS very forcefully of opinion that men are held in
hospitals far too long.

Instructed medical representative on LEGNANO B.L.U.
as to his duties. He had received no instructions as to
the job and had got some mistaken ideas.

Report on medical aspects of FOSCOMERONE.

DDMS made very strong comments about lack of vaccines
and disinfectants at ORVETO. Largely due, I feel, to
ignorance of procedure and inefficiency of O.C. 91 Ospedaleto,
now replaced.

7. Rfts.

70 have been collected from TERNI for 513 Gd Bn.
71 Sub Area are ~~collecting~~ 80 from TERNI for 521 Gd Bn.
Lab., 61 Area, is to collect 114 from AQUILA for I. B. Rfts.

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Finally successful in getting WD BLR's vehicles taken away from 38 O.L.R.

O.O. 38 O.M.R. replaced for inefficiency.

6. Medical.

ANCONA hospital soon finally obtained making capacity up to 300 beds. Red Cross at PERUGIA ^{TERMI} stopped from drawing military rations. Arrangements with AMG so as to increase their soon to take any emergency overflow from PERUGIA hospital. Inspection with ADMG.

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71 Sub Area are ^{collecting} 80 from TIRANO for 521 Gd Bn.

Lab., 61 Area, is to collect 114 from AQUILA for I.P.L. rfts.

Can parties of rfts sent to AREZZO or ANCONA be

labelled in signals as for I District, 5 or 8 Army.

Otherwise confusion ensues.

Tented site for 1,000 promised by 55 Area in walking distance from railroad. 231 Division to be responsible.

209 Division run a small staging area at IESI for

50 - 100 men. 19 Pioneer Gp run a private camp for their

own lab rfts at ANCONA for about 200. Have told 61 Area

that if they could give a site, I could establish an

emergency organisation at ANCONA, by allotting 500 tent

pieces and 500 blankets.

5454

..... cent'd

515 and 520 Bn arrived here semi-naked. 520 Bn at ANCONA could not be put to employment until clothing was eventually issued. They arrived here with half the necessary tentage. As there is no roofed accommodation in ANCONA - IESI area, they had a very thin time. It is hoped that the intention to send indented clothing up with them as baggage will not break down.

future Gd Bns

5. Transport.

I have been given option for a time on vehicles leaving MACERATA, where 38 OMP is repairing Cif vehicles. They have not done much yet as the authority for release of petrol from CIP at ANCONA for ITI-IMI units had not arrived by 5 Nov 44 and they could't use their generators in the workshops.

Special leave passes (in Italian and English) are to be issued to Italian units. Movement of such personnel is now severely hampered by order that they cannot use the railway. The success of hitch-hiking on WD transport is not very great.

6. Welfare.

Paraffin obtained for Italian Welfare centre in ANCONA for illumination. Very successful Italian athletics and football programme at ANCONA on 5 Nov 44. 61 Area Commander attended and presented a cup. DDL and COs of Pioneer Groups, Italian general and colonels also present.

7. Formation of New Units.

Difficulty arises over availability of stores from Italian sources. It takes a considerable time to know if they're available and them to get them up here. Meanwhile the formation of the unit is required urgently.

8. Inspection of Hospital at PERUGIA.

Very satisfactorily run. Capacity is 300 beds, with possible expansion to 350. Number of patients was 280. It is now under command of C.do LAZIO, UMBRIA. It would have been preferable for it to be directly under 209 Division as it caters exclusively for their troops. It has but one unreliable ambulance as transport for all purposes. Its medical supplies need reinforcing to cope with move of ospedale to ARREZO.

5453

W. J. G. Jones

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5453

J.H. Brown

Capt.,
EMIA., LO., I District.

Subject: No.1 Liaison Log for period 31 AUG to 10 SEPT 44.

Army Sub Commission, (ACC).,
MMIA., L.O., No.1 District.

17 Sept 44.

Ref: L.O/G.6

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

Copy to: H.Q., 1 District.
MMIA., L.O., 8 Army.

Herewith my Liaison Log for the period 31 AUG to 10 SEPT 44.

2. Daily Log.

THURSDAY, 31 AUGUST 44.

HOWARD with clerk and Batman/Driver left ROME to take up appointment M.M.I.A., L.O., No.1 District.

FRIDAY, 1 SEPT. 44.

Contacts with Staff and Services 1 District made. Office set up and telephone installed, (extension No.87). GELARDI (MMIA., AQMG., C.I.L.) discussed C.I.L. move with HOWARD and DA & QMG., 1 District.

SATURDAY, 2 SEPT 44.

HOWARD to H.Q., C.I.L. where a conference was held on move of C.I.L. and the administration of their remaining units in 1 District. The following were present - General UTILLI and Chief of Staff, General PROPERZI and Chief of Staff, Lt.Col.HOWARD and Major GELARDI.

SUNDAY, 3 SEPT 44.

HOWARD to FOLLIGNO.

MONDAY, 4 SEPT 44.

HOWARD to H.Q., 209 Division, OSIMO to contact General PROPERZI and staff.

TUESDAY, 5 SEPT 44.

HOWARD to ANCONA with Lt.Col.SALINARI, Chief of Staff to 209

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HOWARD to FOLIGNO.

MONDAY, 4 SEPT 44.

HOWARD to H.Q., 209 Division, OSIMO to contact General PROPERZI and staff.

TUESDAY, 5 SEPT 44.

HOWARD to ANCONA with Lt. Col. SALINARI, Chief of Staff to 209 Division to establish contacts between latter and 61 Area.

WEDNESDAY, 6 SEPT 44.

HOWARD to FOLIGNO.

THURSDAY, 7 SEPT 44.

PROPERZI, SALINARI and Liaison Officer arrived FOLIGNO to contact General HEYDEMAN and Staff.

...cont'd...

FRIDAY, 8 SEPT 44.

PROPEZZI and staff return to OSIMO.

SATURDAY, 9 SEPT 44.

HOWARD at FOLLIGNO.

SUNDAY, 10 SEPT 44.

HOWARD at FOLLIGNO.

Removed to G/1

3. Order of Battle.

I attach as Appendix A.1. the nearest that I can get to an Order of Battle for 1 District.

4. Arrivals/Departures Italian Units u/c 1 District.

(i) C.E.L. is still in the process of moving South, both by rail and by road. Its present areas of concentration are SIGILLO R.9816 and URBISAGLIA, R.5002 (Ref. Map ITALY 1:200,000). The last C.I.L. units (except for mules and a maintenance party and 1 Coy. of the MONTEGRANERO Alpino Bn. for guard duties) should have left 1 District by 24 Sept 44.

(ii) Until the Order of Battle is reasonably accurate it is difficult to list the movements of Italian Units to and from 1 District..

5. Boots and Clothing.

The position here is still far from satisfactory. Lt.Col.MORIARTY's visit to ROME of 12 Sept. to deal with this question and the establishment of a depot at IESI in accordance with your AQ/15/1 of 30 Aug 44 should ensure that the system of distribution is established for all Italian troops under command Eighth Army and 1 District.

6. Soap and Cigarettes.

The arrival from Italian sources of the above, for distribution to Italian units has been so uncertain recently that 1 District has been obliged to provide from British stocks. I am aiming to build up a sufficient reserve from Italian sources to enable 209 Division to begin and maintain distribution as from 1 Oct 44.

I attach as Appendix
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7. Medical.

The Ospedale per Bambine at ANCONA has been placed at the disposal of 209 Division w.e.f. 15 Sept 44. Arrangements have been made to staff this hospital mainly from personnel of the old Territorial Military Hospital of ANCONA who are at present at OSIMO.

...cont'd...

7. Medical.(cont'd).

The fact that this personnel has not yet been screened is unfortunate but unavoidable since CERSA is not allowed by Eighth Army to function as far North as OSIMO. In the meantime, it is vitally important to get 200 beds going as soon as possible in ANCONA to deal with the 10,000 odd I.P.L. personnel in that area.

8. M.T.

The M.T. position of 209 Division is bad and is likely to remain so unless an allocation of M.T. along the lines of my request (see my signal LO/Q.10 of 6 Sept 44) can be made.

9. I.P.L. Companies.

The personnel of these Companies are said on all sides to be doing very valuable work especially in the ANCONA area.

10. Welfare.

A welfare centre for Italian troops in ANCONA has been started entirely owing to the efforts of Lt.Col.KENT, O.C., 19 Group P.C. and Col.MARCHE, O.C., 401 Regt. It is proposed to start other Centres at OSIMO and CHIARAVALLE thus getting the Italian Army to become "welfare minded" and enlisting the aid of local civilians (including signore and signorine) on a voluntary basis.

11. Conclusion.

The main problems to be dealt with are:-

- (i) to establish a clothing and boots depot at IESI and ensure an even flow of replacements.
- (ii) to establish a reserve of soap and cigarettes sufficient to cover commitments.
- (iii) to provide 209 Division with a sufficient M.T. to render it executive.
- (iv) to establish telephone and later, if possible, signal communication between H.Q., 1 District, H.Q., 209 Division and ROME.
- (v) to initiate a welfare policy for which Italian officers would be mainly responsible.

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- (iv) to establish telephone and later, if possible, signal communication between H.Q., 1 District, H.Q., 209 Division and ROME.
- (v) to initiate a welfare policy for which Italian officers would be mainly responsible.
- (vi) to make certain that H.Q., 209 Division functions as an adm H.Q. for all Italian troops in 1 District. At the moment for various reasons, most of them, but not all, ascribable to its own unsatisfactory personnel, it is hardly functioning at all.

...cont'd...

Sheet No. 4.

12. Recommendations.

ORTONA should cease to be a railhead for Italian Army supplies to Eighth Army and I District. IESI should become so instead.

13. Requirements.

(i) An additional L.O. (if available) for I District to cover the next six weeks and allow me to go on inspection tours of units.

(ii) A typewriter.

H.A.C. Howard

Lt. Col.,
MMIA., L.O., No. 1 District.

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

5449

TOP SECRET

Army Sub Commission (ACC)

EMIA

Subject: Florence

To: Army Sub Commission (ACC)

Main H.Q.

MAINTA FLORENCE

FILE REF DO/H/16
23 AUG 44

Date Recd 25/8/44

D 1 copy only rec'd.
(we require 3!)

Herewith report on FLORENCE for the period 17-23

AUG 44.

2. MILITARY SITUATION.

I arrived in FLORENCE on 17 AUG and found the military situation still very fluid. 71 Garrison H.Q. where I reported, situated South of the R. ARNO (see Appendix A and ITALY/10.000 Town Plan of FLORENCE) had been shelled two nights before and had sustained casualties. The Enemy, holding all the dominant heights North of the R ARNO, was shelling Route 2 by night and by day, and also the Bailey bridge over the river after dark. Patrol clashes Allies and Partisans/Enemy in the Canal area drew mortar fire and light shelling as far in as the centre of the City.

Sniping by Blackshirts or Enemy X agents was not uncommon in the area of Piazza Cavour and was still fairly fierce on the outskirts of FLORENCE. The following day the Enemy made a slight withdrawal which eased the situation but which did not affect the zones covered by his mortar and shell fire within it.

The position which is the same at the time of writing ~~was~~ this report would appear to be due to the fact that both the Enemy and ourselves are thin on the ground on the FLORENCE front, that the complete liberation of the city is dependent on pending operations, and that neither side wishes to be responsible for ~~serious~~ serious operations which might burden them with the responsibility of destroying the still undamaged part of the City.

3. Col PIACENTINI.

I introduced Col PIACENTINI to O.C. 71 Garrison and also to Brigadier Firth the officer in charge of operations in the FLORENCE area.

It was agreed that he would be allowed to open an office as un-official representative of the Ministero della Guerra, and carry out the following tasks. (i) listing and examination of ex-regular army personnel not engaged in active operations with the partisans. (ii) listing and examination of such personnel now serving with the partisans only after the latter had become non-operational and with the consent of the Allies (iii) the listing of Italian war materiel available in FLORENCE provided that any information on this subject should be passed to the Garrison Commander for his decision as to its immediate availability for the Partisans who were short of arms and munitions.

A suitable office is being found for Col PIACENTINI who also asked that the DISTRETTO MILITARE should be placed at the disposal of the Ministero della Guerra in order that its records might be preserved and that the soldiers families who had always drawn their pensions there might still

after dark. Patrols of Italian soldiers and partisans were in the center of the City.

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I have told Col PIACENTINI that he should return to ROME on or about the last day of this month and that in the light of his report the Ministero would have to ask MMIA for leave to send him back if his work was not completed.

4. ITALIAN WAR MATERIEL.

So far Col PIACENTINI's search for Italian war materiel has drawn an almost complete blank. It is unlikely that any boots, clothing, arms, ammunition or cash will be recovered, but a few vehicles in varying state of decomposition have been located, also an ~~army~~ Army workshops from which most of the tools and M.T. spares have been taken ~~away~~ away. It is possible

that with the withdrawal of the Enemy altogether from the FLORENCE area further M.T. materiel may become available. The Istituto Geografico Militare has produced some survey materiel which is now being collected and controlled by the Allies helped by an officer of the Stato Maggiore, and it is thought that the Istituto Chimico Farmaceutico which is at RIFREDI and still in German hands may have some old stock left.

5. PARTISANS.

(a) Appendix B gives the chain of command for Partisan Forces operating in the FLORENCE area, and Appendix C gives a summary of the work achieved by them.

(b) Probably in no single action up to date have the Partisans been used so directly to support our operations as in the case of our entry into FLORENCE where they have been working almost as an integral part of our armed forces, cleaning up snipers, supplying fighting patrols by day and by night, carrying out recesses and collecting information.

(c) The City of FLORENCE Bands, although they have sometimes done well, obviously carry a lot of passengers in their ranks. The elements of the ARNO Div and the ROSSELLI Bdes which fought their way into the City had more stuffing to them, were better armed (partly with Allied equipment dropped by parachute in the mountains) and have given better results.

(d) Casualties are notably high --- far higher than those suffered by Allied troops taking part in these operations over the same period.

(e) Under an able and respected commander, Lt Col NICOLI, the Partisans have given first-rate results and everyone is pleased with them from G.O.C. 13 Corps downwards.

(f) They have a sufficiently high morale and esprit de corps to constitute a menace to peace and ~~the~~ order unless they are carefully and sensibly handled from the moment that they cease to be operational and are asked to hand in their arms by A.M.G.

(g) The best fighting materiel in their ranks is probably the communist element and it is difficult to see how such an element enrolled into the Italian Army (if it wished to be enrolled) would be able to become an integral and disciplined part of it.

(h) Since the operations in the FLORENCE area are not yet over I have nothing to report on the demobilisation and disarming of the Partisans North of the ARNO. Those South of it gave up their arms without any trouble but these were then given to the Partisans still fighting. My impression is that A.M.G. officers responsible for disarming Partisans must rely ~~mainly~~ entirely on their leaders for information and discipline, and that as few people except the Partisans themselves know what Allied arms ~~the~~ were dropped over them by parachute or what Italian arms they ~~the~~ were able to acquire, it is unlikely that a high percentage of the arms now held by them will be given up when their operational functions cease.

(i) The Greening Commission and the War Materiel Disposal Detachment attached to 8 Army have not yet put in an appearance here which perhaps is just as well.

(j) 5 Army is reported to be taking over FLORENCE from 8 Army.

CONCLUSIONS.

(c) The City of FLORENCE has plenty of time to carry off Italian war materiel from a large city he never fails to do so. There were said to have been large stocks of boots in the City until quite recently.

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6x CONCLUSIONS.

(i) Where the ~~German~~ German has plenty of time to carry off Italian war materiel from a large city he never fails to do so. There were said to have been large stocks of boots in the City until quite recently.

~~Further~~ Furthermore since a certain number of the Partisans are ex regular army or carabinieri it is not difficult for them to loot barracks or armours. The total Italian war materiel therefore likely to be available on our arrival is not likely to be very great unless the Allied advance is ~~very~~ rapid.

(ii) The problem of the Partisans, from the point of view AMG/ACC and MIA is liable to become acute as we go North because:

- (a) they are fighting better, being more useful to the Allied war effort and will therefore expect better treatment.

3.

- (b) the movement as a whole is well organized, and "Old Comrades" associations may easily grow up with politico/military background and programme. The communists are the best organized and disciplined of the Partisans and may try to form separate "Old Comrades" unions of their own.
- (c) it is too early to know what percentage of arms they are handing in and what withholding. I am of the opinion that harassed AMG Officers must trust Partisan leaders who will therefore hand in whatever they feel inclined to according to their lights.
- (c) the partisan spirit is not conducive to military discipline and I feel sure that there would be too much mistrust on the part of both the Italian Army and the leftist partisans to make a large scale ~~xxxx~~ enrolment possible even if it was required.
- (d) although further ~~xxxx~~ small regular army units are working as Partisans, in the FLORENCE area the percentage of ex regulars is not likely to exceed 15% --- but this is my guess
- (e) I In the light of events I do not consider that my mission here or that of Col PIACENTINI was essential, but I do feel that in all the big towns that we come to during the course of our advance the old Italian Army has ~~xxxx~~ many interests in the form of pensions, records, property, etc that it would be in the interests of everybody to let them have some representative on the spot. Furthermore if there is any likelihood of Italian war materiel being discovered unless AMIA and Italian Army interests are represented early on in the proceedings there will be very little hope of recovering any of it.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS.

- (i) The question of Col PIACENTINI's return here should be settled when the Ministero raise the question.
- (ii) The question of whether to send an AMIA and Ministero representative to big towns such as MILAN, TURIN, GENOA and VENICE after their capture should be considered, when the time comes, on its merits.
- (iii) The Ministero della Guerra is almost certain to ask to ~~xxxxxx~~ operate Distretti Militari in the ~~xxxxxxx~~ large towns we come to as civilian offices for the maintenance of records and the payment of pensions. This is a policy decision but I do not see any objection to it.

H.A.C. Hayward
3.1.10

Lt Col

Colstream Guards.

Military Mission to the Italian

Army. ~~xxx~~

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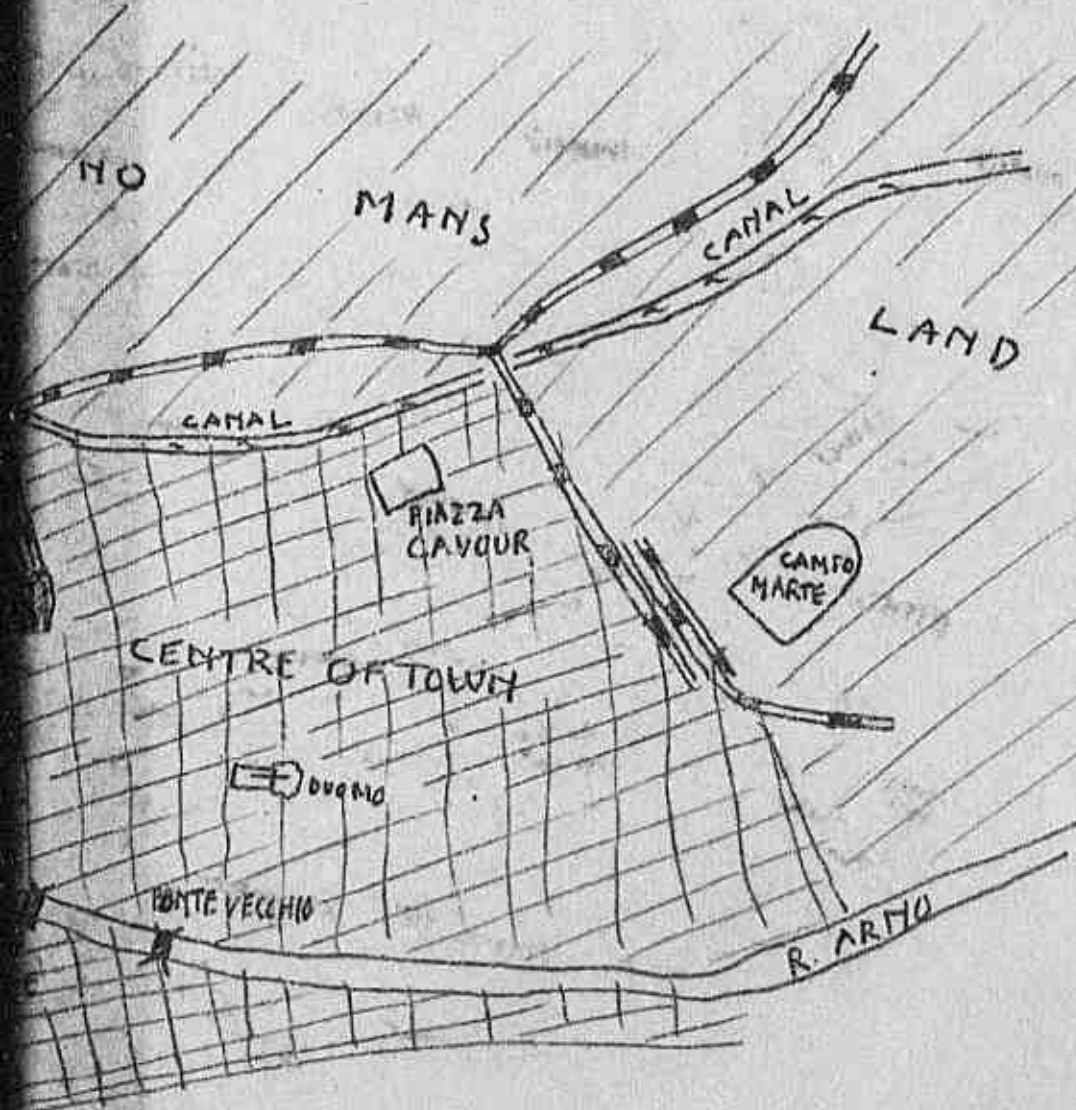
L.A.C. Hayward
3110

Lt Col
Colstream Guards.
Military Mission to the Italian
Army. ~~MMX~~

UN 23 Aug 64

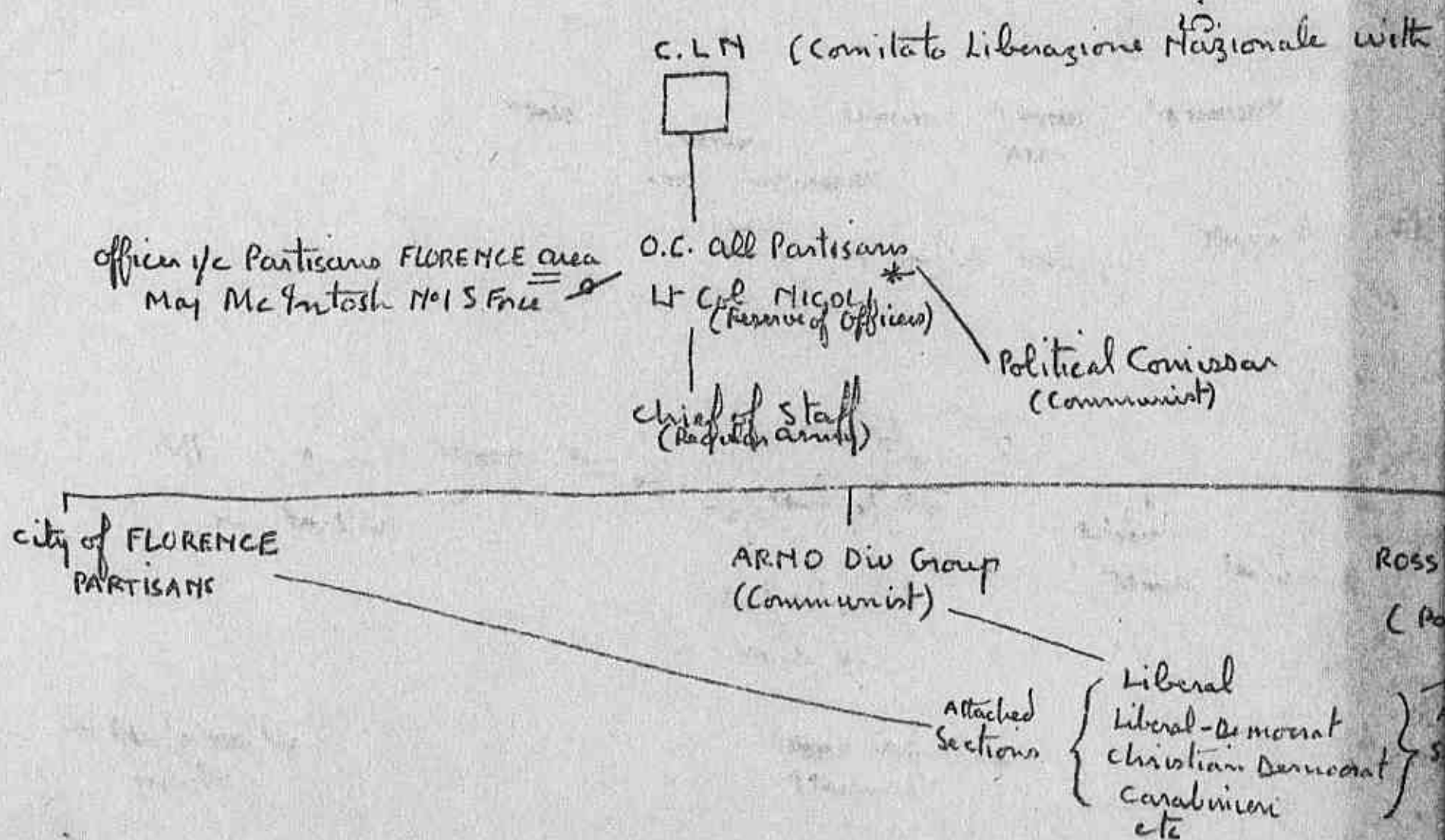
Appendix A

IN
PATROLS
L7 FIESOLE



Note: On 17 Aug our positions and the enemy's faced each other across the canal. Night 17/18 Aug he withdrew North of the sky and we advanced our FOL's up to it on 18 Aug.

TABLE SHOWING CONTROL SYSTEM PARTISANS
IN FLORENCE AREA.



* All executive orders must bear two signatures that of the ^{Operational} ~~Arms~~ Partisans and a
 McIntosh signed controlled and was responsible for all Partisan activity in

TABLE SHOWING CONTROL SYSTEM OF PARTISANS
IN FLORENCE AREA.

Appendix B

C.L.N. (Comitato Liberazione Nazionale with all parties represented)



O.C. all Partisans

LT Col. NICOLINI
(Reserve of Officers)

Political Commissar
(Communist)

Chief of Staff
(Regular Army)

ARNO Div Group
(Communist)

ROSSELLI Ade Group
(Party of Action)

Attached
Sections

Liberal
Liberal-Democrat
Christian Democrat
Carabinieri
etc

Attached
Sections

Bear two signatures that of the ^{operational} ~~Army~~ Partisans and also of the Political Commissar
and was responsible for all Partisan activity in collaboration with allies and
FLORENCE

1. FIRST PHASE.

The CLN (Comitato Liberazione Nazionale) started controlling all Partisan activities in the FLORENCE area about the middle of May. It was then in touch with AAI by W/T and its military executive was then, and is now Col NICOLI. The most important contribution of the Partisans to the Allied cause at this time was a negative one in that they prevented the Enemy making full use of the Fascist Republicans for whom the Partisans were a match. Their strength ~~at that~~ was then about 3000 of whom only 1500 were armed, and they belonged to all political parties, but the majority were either Communists or Party of Action. Other activities included the liquidation of marked men, the maintenance of communications with the South and sabotage. At the request of the Allies they shot Volpini who had maltreated Allied prisoners of war, as a result of which an action 17 Partisans were caught and shot.

2. SECOND PHASE.

At the beginning of August Maj McIntosh No 1 Special Force arrived on the South bank of the R ARNO and established contact with the CLN, and with Col NICOLI, actually crossing over the other side of the River into German occupied FLORENCE under heavy Partisan escort. From then on he virtually directed operational Partisan activities according to calls made upon them by the Allied military commander, Brigadier FIRTH.

It was decided to move into FLORENCE and through the Enemy lines elements of the ARNO Div (600) and the ROSSELLI Bdes (2-300) who were engaged operationally elsewhere on the front. After suffering considerable casualties in getting through (one unit started 80 strong and arrived with only 20 men) these ~~new~~ new units which were better armed and equipped with Allied materiel, moved into the line with the old City bands.

The City was then divided into four sectors, each with its allocation of Partisan units responsible for the collection of information, communications, fighting patrols, reconnaissances, and the elimination of Enemy agents and snipers. Between the 11 and the 20 Aug the Patriots in the FLORENCE area had about 160 killed and 350 wounded. ~~xxxx~~ The total number of men engaged during this period cannot greatly have exceeded 1500.

Sources: Maj McIntosh
Col Nicoli
I ICU
PWB

5443

11 439