

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

ACC

10000/120/996

G/21/20

opened
June 1944

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

10000/120/996

G/21/20 Weekly Liaison Loop L.O. 5th Army
opened June 30, 1944 - Closed Feb. 12, 1945
June 1944 - Feb. 1945

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

ACV/jad
1 March 1945

Subject: Weekly Liaison Logs 33 and 34.

To : Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (MFA)
A.F.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with G/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities based upon my own observations and opinions and not those of the 5th Army Commander, for the weeks ending 24 February 1945:

a. Movements of Italian Units: See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures: None.

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: Partisan Center Firenze. Have already made a recommendation to the effect that the AMG officers who are running these camps should be required to make daily strength returns in order that they may be compared with the rations drawn. Now they draw rations in bulk for an estimated number and then make no accounting of rations drawn, so far as I know. Capt. Limbert, AMG officer, promised me a monthly report which may give me the necessary information.

2. Mistakes or Events:

a. Italian Vehicles: Further in reference to your signal ST/1004 of 19 January 1945 and AQ2772 of 12 February 1945, an officer from Gersati and one from AMG Florence are now collecting the vehicles but are having trouble agreeing on what is military and what is civilian. May have to have a Court of Inquiry sit on every vehicle and make a decision. AMG Florence tried to get General Hume, G-5 5th Army to intervene but he refused to go to AFHQ and stated that military needs come before civilian. Will keep you informed of progress.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as US-Itis are concerned. Equipment and clothing for 6th Guard Regt are enroute from Naples which should equip them to scale.

c. Replacements: No change since last report.

See memo dated 6/21 of 5 March 45

d. Italian Patriot Ration Situation: See comments above. Queries: Should soap and cigarettes be issued to partisans as part of the ration? I think so. Certain labor camps near Leghorn have been formed, are employing partisans and feeding them military rations for more than 30 days. I don't think this is in accordance with directives.

e. Italian Patriot Enrollment: General Gerice, Delegation T, told G-5, 15th Army Group that he didn't have authority to enroll any more partisans but Col. Ingledew told me 2 days ago that I could enroll 500 partisans if available in 210 Division. I know of none being enrolled, although I have informed Delegation T HQ that I had such authority and to go ahead and enlist them if there were any volun-

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: Partisan Center Firenze. Have already made a recommendation to the effect that the AMG officers who are running these camps should be required to make daily strength returns in order that they may be compared with the rations drawn. Now they draw rations in bulk for an estimated number and then make no accounting of rations drawn, so far as I know. Capt. Limbert, AMG officer, promised me a monthly report which may give me the necessary information.

2. Mistakes or Events:

a. Italian Vehicles: Further in reference to your signal ST/1004 of 19 January 1945 and A92772 of 12 February 1945, an officer from Cersati and one from AMG Florence are now collecting the vehicles but are having trouble agreeing on what is military and what is civilian. May have to have a Court of Inquiry sit on every vehicle and make a decision. AMG Florence tried to get General Hume, G-5 5th Army to intervene but he refused to go to AFHQ and stated that military needs come before civilian. Will keep you informed of progress.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as US-Itis are concerned. Equipment and clothing for 6th Guard Regt are enroute from Naples which should equip them to scale.

c. Replacements: No change since last report.

See memo dated 6/31/45

d. Italian Patriot Ration Situation: See comments above. Queries: Should soap and cigarettes be issued to partisans as part of the Ration? I think so. Certain labor camps near Leghorn have been formed, are employing partisans and feeding them military rations for more than 30 days. I don't think this is in accordance with directives.

e. Italian Patriot Enrollment: General Cerice, Delegation T, told G-5, 15th Army Group that he didn't have authority to enroll any more partisans but Col. Ingledew told me 2 days ago that I could enroll 500 partisans if available in 210 Division. I know of none being enrolled, although I have informed Delegation T HQ that I had such authority and to go ahead and enlist them if there were any volunteers. I reiterate, the partisans are not anxious to enlist and only want a boarding house and uniform until they get to Bologna or farther north, and then most of them will go home. Had a conference with G-5, 15th Army Group yesterday, I think we are in agreement and have no serious problems. He told me of about 800 up in the hills who wanted to enlist under their own officers and have their own army. I told G-5, MSHA would take them individually, but not on their terms.

f. Dossier of Italian Officers: Reference your TS/1/123 of 1 January 1945. Not completed.

3. General Interest: Nothing.

Distribution:

Addressee: 2 copies
File

NAME	A
FILE REF	5/21
Date Recd	3/31

R.O. Van Kirk
R.O. VAN KIRK,

Major, Infantry
Sr. (MIA) I.O. 5586
5th Army

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.F.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad
12 February 1945

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log #32.

To : Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (MIA)
A.F.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities based upon my own observations and opinions and not those of the 5th Army Commander, for the weeks ending 11 February 1945:

- a. Movements of Italian Units: See Weekly Status Reports.
- b. Arrivals and Departures: Capt. F.R. Clark, MIA HQ.
- c. Conferences: Routine.
- d. Inspections: 17th and 18th Pack Mule Coys, reports being forwarded under separate cover.

2. Mistakes or Events:

a. Italian Vehicles: Further in reference to your signal ST/1004 of 19 January 1945. A.M.G. Florence has not yet indicated its decision with reference to the 32 vehicles originally listed to them. Am pressing them for a decision and will notify you as soon as I know the outcome.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as US-Itis and Guard Bns are concerned.

c. Replacements: No change since last report.

d. Italian Patriot Enrollment: No change.

e. Dossier of Italian Officers: Reference your TS/1/123 of 1 January 1945. Expect to have it completed within a period of another 10 days.

3. General Interest: Nothing.

R.C. Van Kirk
R.C. VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MIA) L.O.,
5th Army.

Distribution:
Addressed 2 copies

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

- c. Conferences: Routine.
- d. Inspections: 17th and 18th Pack Mule Coys, reports being forwarded under separate cover.
2. Mistakes or Events:
- e. Italian Vehicles: Further in reference to your signal ST/1004 of 19 January 1945. A.M.G. Florence has not yet indicated its decision with reference to the 32 vehicles originally listed to them. Am pressing them for a decision and will notify you as soon as I know the outcome.
- f. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as US-Itis and Guard Bns are concerned.
- c. Replacements: No change since last report.
- d. Italian Patriot Enrollment: No change.
- e. Dossier of Italian Officers: Reference your TS/1/123 of 1 January 1945. Expect to have it completed within a period of another 10 days.
3. General Interest: Nothing.

Distribution:
Addressee: 2 copies
File

R.C. Van Kirk
R.C. VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MIA) L.O.,
5th Army.

Q1/10

5385

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.F.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad
5 February 1945

Subject: Weekly Liaison Logs 30 and 31.

To : Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (MIA)
A.F.O: #394, U. S. Army.

G/21
1/2

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities based upon my own observations and opinions and not those of the 5th Army Commander, for the weeks ending 3 February 1945:

- a. Movements of Italian Units: See Weekly Status Reports.
- b. Arrivals and Departures: Gen. Browning, Capt. Chayter, Major Rex Pinkley and Col. Noakes from MIA HQ.
- c. Conferences: Routine.
- d. Inspections: 5th Pack Mule Co and 519 Guard Bn, reports forwarded under separate cover.

2. Mistakes or Events:

a. Italian Vehicles: Further in reference your signal ST/1004 of 19 January 1945. Have asked AMG Florence to deliver the 32 vehicles which were listed by Cersetti. Lt Col. Mickey is investigating and has promised me a decision in a few days. The Cersetti officers are also checking on these vehicles to be sure that they are what they say they are and that they are not removed. Col. Mickey states these vehicles were repaired by the civilians who obtained them from the Germans and used one half military parts and one half civilian parts but the Cersetti say they are all strictly military, whereas the next forty vehicles which they are also listing are half and half and a decision will have to be made as to whether there are more military or more civilian. My opinion is, that although the vehicles are half and half, the Italian Army should take possession of them and the Army settle with the civilians for the repair of the vehicles.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S-Itis are concerned, the clothing for the 512 Guard Bn has arrived, with the exception of 400 blankets which are enroute from Naples.

c. Italian Ration Situation: Satisfactory as to Italian Military personnel. Patriot Centers are drawing their first rations and appear satisfied since they have drawn all the Allied components, part of the Italian items, and have received the cash for the local purchase items. Arrangements were made with Italian officers at each center to purchase certain items locally.

d. Replacements: No change since last report.

- b. Arrivals and Departures: Gen. Browning, Capt. Chayter, Major Rex Pinkley and Col. Noakes from MIA HQ.
- c. Conferences: Routine.
- d. Inspections: 5th Pack Mule Co and 519 Guard Bn, reports forwarded under separate cover.

2. Mistakes or Events:

a. Italian Vehicles: Further in reference your signal ST/1004 of 19 January 1945. Have asked AMG Florence to deliver the 32 vehicles which were listed by Cerseti. Lt Col. Mickey is investigating and has promised me a decision in a few days. The Cerseti officers are also checking on these vehicles to be sure that they are what they say they are and that they are not removed. Col. Mickey states these vehicles were repaired by the civilians who obtained them from the Germans and used one half military parts and one half civilian parts but the Cerseti say they are all strictly military, whereas the next forty vehicles which they are also listing are half and half and a decision will have to be made as to whether there are more military or more civilian. My opinion is, that although the vehicles are half and half, the Italian Army should take possession of them and the Army settle with the civilians for the repair of the vehicles.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S-Itis are concerned, the clothing for the 512 Guard Bn has arrived, with the exception of 400 blankets which are enroute from Naples.

c. Italian Ration Situation: Satisfactory as to Italian Military personnel. Patriot Centers are drawing their first rations and appear satisfied since they have drawn all the Allied components, part of the Italian items, and have received the cash for the local purchase items. Arrangements were made with Italian officers at each center to purchase certain items locally.

d. Replacements: No change since last report.

e. Italian Patriot Enrollment: No change.

f. Dossier of Italian Officers: Reference your TS/1/123 of 1 January 1945. Expect to have it completed within a period of another 15 days.

3. General Interest: Nothing.

Distribution:

Addressee: 2 copies
File

R. C. Van Kirk
R.C. VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MIA) L.O.,
5th Army.

5584

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad
25 January 1945

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log #29.

To : Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C. (MMIA)
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities based upon my own observations and opinions and not those of the 5th Army Commander, for the week ending 20 January 1945:

a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures: Lt. Col. B.L. Percival.

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: None.

2. Mistakes or Events:

a. Italian Vehicles:

(1) Reference your signal ST/1004 of 19 January 1945. After a personal visit, the AMG Vehicle Registration Officer in Florence agreed to let Capt. D'Alessandro of the Cerseti detachment and 2 EM come into his office and go through his records. The check is now being made and as soon as I have a report on what they have found, will furnish you a copy and take steps to recover the vehicles being improperly held. Am advised orally, they have to date located 32 vehicles they are sure of and approximately forty (40) they are not certain of but expect to investigate further.

(2) Italian Materiel and Property: Attached is a report of Cerseti detachment to date.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S. It is concerned, but the clothing for the 512 Guard Bn has not yet arrived from Naples although it has been on the road since the 20th of this month.

c. Italian Ration Situation: Have received your instructions AQ/68 of 21 January 1945 on Patriot rations and am in touch with AMG Patriot Center Florence, Capt. Lambert. Reference sub-paragraph d, paragraph 2 your communication. Query: Wouldn't it be better if the vouchers were signed by an Italian officer as well as an Allied Officer if these rations are to be charged to the Italian Government? Italian officers are available for this duty.

d. Replacements: Fifth Army has received 5374 replacements to date. 3543 were assigned as replacements. 2229 assigned to other units and 100

a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures: Lt. Col. B.L. Percival.

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: None.

2. Mistakes or Events:

a. Italian Vehicles:

(1) Reference your signal ST/100L of 19 January 1945. After a personal visit, the AMG Vehicle Registration Officer in Florence agreed to let Capt. D'Alessandro of the Cerseti detachment and 2 EM come into his office and go through his records. The check is now being made and as soon as I have a report on what they have found, will furnish you a copy and take steps to re-cover the vehicles being improperly held. Am advised orally, they have to date located 32 vehicles they are sure of and approximately forty (40) they are not certain of but expect to investigate further.

(2) Italian Materiel and Property: Attached is a report of Cerseti detachment to date.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S. It is are concerned, but the clothing for the 512 Guard Bn has not yet arrived from Naples although it has been on the road since the 20th of this month.

c. Italian Ration Situation: Have received your instructions AQ/68 of 21 January 1945 on Patriot rations and am in touch with AMG Patriot Center Florence, Capt. Lambert. Reference sub-paragraph d, paragraph 2 your communication. Query: Wouldn't it be better if the vouchers were signed by an Italian officer as well as an Allied Officer if these rations are to be charged to the Italian Government? Italian officers are available for this duty.

d. Replacements: Fifth Army has received 5874 replacements to date. 3543 were assigned as muleteers, 2229 assigned to other duties and 102 were unsatisfactory and returned or sent to a hospital. For breakdown, see attached report.

e. Italian Patriot Enrollment: No change.

f. Dossier of Italian Officers: Reference your TS/1/123 of 1 January 1945. Expect to have it completed within a period of 15 days.

3. General Interest: Nothing.

Distribution:
Addressee: 2 copies
File

R.C. Van Kirk
R.C. VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,
5th Army
3383

Translation

HEADQUARTERS
210th INFANTRY DIVISION

File ref. no. 2/222

Subject: Replacements muleteers arrived at Florence on 21 January 1945

To : ITALIAN LIAISON OFFICE - FIFTH ARMY (ACTION)
DELEGATION "T" OF S.M.R.E. (INFO)

1. Total replacements arrived on January 21st from Reggio Calabria Staging Area.

594 men had to move,
594 moved,
527 arrived.

10 men were hospitalised during journey,
50 men went absent during journey,
7 men went absent at Florence.

2. Replacements' age.

1 man is 1915 and 1917 classes inclusive,
balance (526 men) are 1918 class and younger.

3. Replacements' fitness.

361 men are fit muleteers,
151 men are unfit muleteers but fit for military duty,
15 men are unfit for military duty (evacuated to hospital for check).
None is trained muleteer.

4. Clothing.

Replacements have been issued clothing and equipment according to the Italian Army clothing scale (shelter cloth, raincoat, suit HBT, leggings, 1 comforter, gloves inclusive) except the cap, field (replaced by fatigue hats), canteen & cup.
23 men are lacking the haversack.

5. Rations

Journey : 9 days.
6 days rations issued to every man.
3 warm meals provided during journey.

Inconveniences : travel rations have been considered by replacements as insufficient in regard to the conditions of weather and the duration of journey.

6. Conclusion.

Replacements allotted to 20th Pack Mule Group 361
Replacements allotted to other US-ITI units 151

10 men were hospitalized during journey,
50 men went absent during journey,
7 men went absent at Florence.

2. Replacements' age.

1 man is 1915 and 1917 classes inclusive,
balance (526 men) are 1918 class and younger.

3. Replacements' fitness.

361 men are fit muleteers,
151 men are unfit muleteers but fit for military duty,
15 men are unfit for military duty (evacuated to hospital
for check).
None is trained muleteer.

4. Clothing.

Replacements have been issued clothing and equipment according
to the Italian Army clothing scale (shelter cloth, raincoat,
suit HBT, leggings, 1 comforter, gloves inclusive) except the
cap, field (replaced by fatigue hats), canteen & cup.
23 men are lacking the haversack.

5. Rations

Journey : 9 days.
6 days rations issued to every man.
3 warm meals provided during journey.

Inconveniences : travel rations have been considered by
replacements as insufficient in regard to the conditions of
weather and the duration of journey.

6. Conclusion.

Replacements allotted to 20th Pack Mule Group	361
Replacements allotted to other US-ITI units	151
Replacements at hospital for medical inspection	15

(Sgd) GIUSEPPE CORTESE,
Brigadier General,
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

PCV/jad
14 January 1945

Subject: Weekly Liaison Logs 27 and 28.

To : Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C. (LMIA)
A.P.O. 394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with 8/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities based upon my own observations and opinions and not those of the 5th Army Commander, for the weeks ending 13 January 1945:

a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Reports. *R.D.*

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) Major Rex Pinkley, Major W.A. Heggie and Capt. Ray Selby.

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: None.

2. Mistakes or Events: a. Italian Vehicles: The Cerseti detachment asked the Vehicle Registration Officer in Florence to let them see his records of vehicle registration in this area but he has refused. I have requested 0-4, 1944, Fifth Army to direct him to either let Cerseti make a list of vehicles or furnish him a list of all vehicles registered so that the list may be checked for Italian Military vehicles. Will let you know results and action taken. If unsatisfactory, will request your aid. *My final*

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S. It is are concerned.

c. Italian Ration Situation: No change.

d. Replacements: Fifth Army has received 5347 replacements to date. 3182 were fit for muleteer duties, 2078 were fit for other duties and 87 were entirely unsatisfactory and returned or sent to a hospital. For breakdown of muleteers, see attached report.

e. Italian Patriots: No change.

3. General Interest: Nothing.

19/11 F.C. Canthak

No. 785020

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) Major Rex Pinkley, Major W.A. Heggie and Capt. Ray Selby.

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: None.

2. Mistakes or Events: a. Italian Vehicles: The Cersetti detachment asked the Vehicle Registration Officer in Florence to let them see his records of vehicle registration in this area but he has refused. I have requested G-4, Fifth Army to direct him to either let Cersetti make a list of vehicles or furnish him a list of all vehicles registered so that the list may be checked for Italian Military vehicles. Will let you know results and action taken. If unsatisfactory, will request your aid.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S.-
It is concerned.

c. Italian Ration Situation: No change.

d. Replacements: Fifth Army has received 5347 replacements to date. 3182 were fit for muleteer duties, 2078 were fit for other duties and 87 were entirely unsatisfactory and returned or sent to a hospital. For breakdown of muleteers, see attached report.

e. Italian Patriots: No change.

3. General Interest: Nothing.

Distribution:
Addressee: 2 copies
File

F. C. Van Kirk
R. C. VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MIA) L.O.,
5th Army.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad
14 January 1945

Subject: Weekly Liaison logs 27 and 28.

To : Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C. (MFA)
A.P.O. 394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities based upon my own observations and opinions and not those of the 5th Army Commander, for the weeks ending 13 January 1945:

a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) Major Rex Pinkley, Major W.A. Heggie and Capt. Ray Selby.

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: None.

2. Mistakes or Events: a. Italian Vehicles: The Cersetti detachment asked the Vehicle Registration Officer in Florence to let them see his records of vehicle registration in this area but he has refused. I have requested G-4, Fifth Army to direct him to either let Cersetti make a list of vehicles or furnish him a list of all vehicles registered so that the list may be checked for Italian Military vehicles. Will let you know results and action taken. If unsatisfactory, will request your aid.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S. It is are concerned.

c. Italian Ration Situation: No change.

d. Replacements: Fifth Army has received 5347 replacements to date. 3182 were fit for muleteer duties, 2078 were fit for other duties and 87 were entirely unsatisfactory and returned or sent to a hospital. For breakdown of muleteers, see attached report.

e. Italian Patriots: No change.

3. General Interest: Nothing.

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) Major Rex Finkley, Major W.A. Heggie and Capt. Ray Selby.

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: None.

2. Mistakes or Events: a. Italian Vehicles: The Cerseti detachment asked the Vehicle Registration Officer in Florence to let them see his records of vehicle registration in this area but he has refused. I have requested G-4, Fifth Army to direct him to either let Cerseti make a list of vehicles or furnish him a list of all vehicles registered so that the list may be checked for Italian Military vehicles. Will let you know results and action taken. If unsatisfactory, will request your aid.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S. It is are concerned.

c. Italian Ration Situation: No change.

d. Replacements: Fifth Army has received 5347 replacements to date. 3182 were fit for muleteer duties, 2078 were fit for other duties and 87 were entirely unsatisfactory and returned or sent to a hospital. For breakdown of muleteers, see attached report.

e. Italian Patriots: No change.

3. General Interest: Nothing.

Distribution:
Addressee: 2 copies
File

F.C.
F.C. VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MIA) L.O.,
5th Army.

5381

INTEROFFICE REFERENCE SHEET - FIFTH ARMY

OFFICE G-4 Rear FILE NO. _____ SUSPEND DATE _____

Subject: Replacements Muleteers

Int. No.	From	To	Date	
1	G-4 Rear Italian Liaison	Sr MMIA L.O.	Jan 14 1945	1. Total replacements arrived for U.S.- ITI & BR - ITI through 8 January 1945 are : 5326. 2. Of these 3182 were fit muleteers and have been allotted as follows : 20th Pack Mule Gp. (US-ITI): 2302 21th Pack Mule Gp. (BR-ITI): 880 3. Balance of 2144 is as follows : 98 unfit for military duty, 2046 allotted to other units, that is: US-ITI units : 1335 BR-ITI units : 711 <i>Franco Magrini</i> FRANCO MAGRINI, 2nd Lt, Infantry, Ass. Ital. Liaison Off., G-4 Fifth Army.
2	Sr MMIA LO	LFSCAC (MMIA)	14 Jan 1945	1. Further in reference to your telephone inquiry of even date. 2. For your information. <i>R.C. Van Kirk</i> R.C. VAN KIRK, Major, Infantry, Sr. (MMIA) L.O., 5th Army 5580

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad
4 January 1945

Subject: Weekly Liaison Logs 25 and 26.

To : Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C. (MMFA)
A.P.O. 394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities based upon my own observations and opinions and not those of the 5th Army Commander, for the weeks ending 30 December 1944:

a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures: None

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: 4th Balloon Co, Leghorn. Report going forward under separate cover.

2. Mistakes or Events: a. Italian Vehicles: Have had a conference with Delegation T and will have another with Lt. Col. Di Ripa of the original CERSETI detachment as soon as he returns from Rome. Have received copies of your signals pertaining to vehicles but the only vehicles delivered to date are the 8 which AMG Florence saw fit to release. Will furnish a more detailed report as soon as more information is available, but will not let the matter lie dormant.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S.-It is are concerned.

c. Italian Ration Situation: No change. 5th Army Italian troops are on increased ration scale. Have requested Army CM for information concerning Italian rations issued for period from the 16th to 26th of October 1944, and also Italian L.O. in that section but have not received such information. Italian troops will be appreciative of the 2 day travel ration allowance for men on leave.

d. Replacements: Fifth Army has received 4424 replacements to date. 2584 were fit for muleteer duties, 1764 were fit for other duties and 76 were entirely unsatisfactory and returned or sent to a hospital. These figures include the men I took off Elba, a detailed account of which is attached as Appendix "A".

e. Italian Patriots: No change.

3. General Interest: Nothing.

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures: None

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: 4th Balloon Co, Leghorn. Report going forward under separate cover.

2. Mistakes or Events: a. Italian Vehicles: Have had a conference with Delegation T and will have another with Lt. Col. Di Ripa of the original CERSETI detachment as soon as he returns from Rome. Have received copies of your signals pertaining to vehicles but the only vehicles delivered to date are the 8 which AMG Florence saw fit to release. Will furnish a more detailed report as soon as more information is available, but will not let the matter lie dormant.

b. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S.-It is are concerned.

c. Italian Ration Situation: No change. 5th Army Italian troops are on increased ration scale. Have requested Army CM for information concerning Italian rations issued for period from the 16th to 26th of October 1944, and also Italian L.O. in that section but have not received such information. Italian troops will be appreciative of the 2 day travel ration allowance for men on leave.

d. Replacements: Fifth Army has received 4424 replacements to date. 2584 were fit for muleteer duties, 1764 were fit for other duties and 76 were entirely unsatisfactory and returned or sent to a hospital. These figures include the men I took off Elba, a detailed account of which is attached as Appendix "A".

e. Italian Patriots: No change.

3. General Interest: Nothing.

Distribution:

Addressee: 2 copies

FES for Major Smith, Sr (MIA) L.O.

Sr. (MIA) LC 8th Army

File

R.C. Van Kirk
R.C. VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MIA) L.O.,
5th Army

Good report on Elba (K) 5379

Copy

CERSETI
DETACHMENT N* 6

Copy

S.N. 169

P.K. 181
Dec 22 - 44

Subject: Representation of trained military personnel fit for any military duty, of 1914 - 24 classes, from Elba Island.

To : CERSETI HQ - Rome (action)
Delegation "T" - S.M.R.E.
210th Div HQ
"Piombino Presidio" HQ

1. On the 21st of Dec the operations concerning the representation and incorporation of the men referred to in the subject can be considered as finished and on the same day movements to units and evacuation to Military Hospital have come to an end. From today on only a few men are expected to come from Elba.
2. Delay in above said operations have been caused by:
 - lack of transportation from Elba to Piombino,
 - bad weather and sea conditions

In fact, 5th Army MMIA LC, Maj Van Kirk, who joined at Elba Maj Giannella of your HQ on the purpose of enlisting the men of the island, after having set the 17th of Nov as the date of the call, was obliged by the very bad sea conditions and by lack of transportation to postpone it to Nov 27, and then to Dec 1 and subsequently to Dec 8 and 9.

625 men came at Piombino on the 9th at 1900 hrs with a cargo and 52 on the 10th with another ship. Therefore the total figure is 689 (see enclosed schedule)

3. The operations of incorporation and examination of the behavior of personnel, of screening of NCOs, registration, medical inspection, began on the 11th and were regularly carried out. Enlisted men who have been considered fit for any duty have been sent to 210th Div HQ in Florence. Those considered in need of medical care or not fit for all military duties have been evacuated to "Virgilio" Military Hospital in Rome for hospitalization or further examination. Figures of different groups are shown on enclosed schedule.

4. It is believed that almost all the men called have answered the call. Enlistment lists of concerned "Comuni" are being checked to find out number of men who failed to present themselves.

5. During their stay at Piombino the men have been located in good premises and slept on straw. Open air kitchens have worked efficiently and food has been ample and agreeable. Food supply has come from:

- 5th Army Venturina dump, for basic items;
- 210th Div Subsistence point for additional items
- local purchase for part of the wine

6. Guard and escort has been done by

- 4 officers and 8 NCOs from 210th Div
- 2 Brigadier and 18 Carabinieri assigned by Leghorn Carabinieri Group

7. Movements of men from Piombino to Florence and Rome has been by rail
8. Behavior and morale of men has been really good in every respect. They have shown they were aware of the responsibility of the moment and have never in any way shown they were discontented.

- lack of transportation from Elba to Piombino,

- bad weather and sea conditions

In fact, 5th Army MMIA LO, Maj Van Kirk, who joined at Elba Maj Giannella of your HQ on the purpose of enlisting the men of the island, after having set the 17th of Nov as the date of the call, was obliged by the very bad sea conditions and by lack of transportation to postpone it to Nov 27, and then to Dec 1 and subsequently to Dec 8 and 9.

625 men came at Piombino on the 9th at 1900 hrs with a cargo and 52 on the 10th with another ship. Therefore the total figure is 689 (see enclosed schedule)

3. The operations of incorporation and examination of the behavior of personnel, of screening of NCOs, registration, medical inspection, began on the 11th and were regularly carried out. Enlisted men who have been considered fit for any duty have been sent to 210th Div HQ in Florence. Those considered in need of medical care or not fit for all military duties have been evacuated to "Virgilio" Military Hospital in Rome for hospitalization or further examination. Figures of different groups are shown on enclosed schedule.

4. It is believed that almost all the men called have answered the call. Enlistment lists of concerned "Comuni" are being checked to find out number of men who failed to present themselves.

5. During their stay at Piombino the men have been located in good premises and slept on straw. Open air kitchens have worked efficiently and food has been ample and agreeable. Food supply has come from:

5th Army Venturina dump, for basic items;

210th Div Subsistence point for additional items
local purchase for part of the wine

6. Guard and escort has been done by

4 officers and 8 NCOs from 210th Div

2 Brigadier and 18 Carabinieri assigned by Leghorn Carabinieri Group

7. Movements of men from Piombino to Florence and Rome has been by rail

8. Behavior and morale of men has been really good in every respect. They have shown they were aware of the responsibility of the moment and have never in any way shown they were discontented.

Assistance given by our detachment has made to all of them a very good impression, especially as food is concerned, that was found good and sufficient. Maj Van Kirk who was present at a meals distribution has confirmed his complete approval for its quantity and quality.

5578

9. The Detachment remains at Piombino while waiting for return of the men from Rome's hospital. These (up to now 127 have not yet come back) will come back after having been examined and our Detachment will give them proper documents and take care of them on their stay at Piombino, which may sometimes be longer than one day, owing to sea conditions.

Edoardo GACHET,
Lt Colonel
Detachment C.O.

COPY

FIGURES SHOWING SITUATION OF ELBA DRAFT
(attached to CERSETI N°6 ltr 169, dtd Dec 22)
Men of 1914 - 24 classes.

COPY

Ref: War Ministry circ 9684 dtd Nov 14 - 44

	NCOs	ORs	Pvts	Total
Assigned to 210th Div	26	92	247	365
Hospitalized (1)	4	30	160	194 (2)
Discharged	5	14	38	57
Leave (3)	10	13	23	46
Volunteers	1	2	16	19
AWOLs		1		1
Assigned to CERSETI HQ	5		2	7
Total	51	152	486	689

(1) Of which 1 OR and 6 Pvts in need of medical care.

(2) Up to today 181 are back from Hospital and have been sent home discharged or on permanent leave or on convalescent leave.

(3) Of which 4 NCOs on permanent leave (W.Ministry circ 10528) and 1 assigned to Nucleo Presidiale (Distretto) of Grosseto; 2 ORs and 2 Pvts on permanent leave (W.M. circ 9720); 1 NCO and 4 Pvts on 60 days leave (W.M. circ 350/II); 1 OR and 1 Pvt on 90 days leave (Comando Supremo Main HQs circ 10393); 3 Ncos, 4 ORs and 6 Pvts on 30 Days leave (W.M. circ 400/II); 1 NCO, 1 OR and 2 Pvts on University leave until Dec 31 - 44; 3 ORs and 5 Pvts on leave until Dec 31 - 44 (P. Safety agents); 2 ORs and 3 Pvts on leave for other reasons.
4 NCOs and 20 Pvts shall be sent to 210th Div HQ at the end of their leaves.

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

CENTRO RACCOLTA (RICORDAMENTO SETTORE TRAM. MICO)
DISTACAMENTO N° 6

N° 176 di prot.

Posta Militare ISI, li 24 dicembre 1944

O G G E T T O: Relazione richiamati classi 1914 = 1924.-

AL SIG. MAGGIORE VAN KERK = U.S.A.
M.M.I.A. 5 ARMATA

~~~~~  
Seguito richiesta telefonica trasmetto copia della  
relazione presentata ai Comandi Superiori in merito al richia-  
mo alle armi delle classi 1914 = 1924 nell'Isola d'Elba, con  
allegata dettagliata dimostrazione della ripartizione del per-  
sonale.-



COMANDANTE DEL DISTACAMENTO  
Col. Edoardo Gechet

*Gechet*

5576



CENTRO RACCOLTA E RIORDINAMENTO SETTORI IRRADIATO  
STACCATO N° 6

N° 169 di prot.

Posta Militare 181, li 22 dicembre 1944

OGGETTO: Rappresentazione militari istruiti idonei ad incondizionato servizio delle classi 1914 - 1924, comunque residenti all'Isola d'Elba.

AL COMANDO C.E.R. SE. II.

R O M A

e, per conoscenza:

AL COMANDO DELEGAZIONE "T" DELLO S.M.R.E.

P.M. 151

AL COMANDO 210<sup>a</sup> DIVISIONE FANTERIA

P.M. 179

AL COMANDO PRESIDIO

PIOMBINO

\*\*\*\*\*

1 - Con il giorno 21 dicembre le operazioni relative alla rappresentazione ed incorporamento dei richiamati in oggetto si possono considerare ultimate e gli avviamenti al Corpo od all'ospedale Militare si sono conclusi nella giornata stessa. Da oggi l'affluenza degli stessi dell'Isola è limitata solo più a casi sporadici.

2 - Le operazioni di richiamo hanno subito notevole ritardo per cause varie ed essenzialmente:

- per la mancanza di mezzi di trasporto - marittimi dall'Isola a Piombino;

- per le cattive condizioni del mare.

Infatti il rappresentante della M.M.I.A. presso la 5<sup>a</sup> Armata, Maggiore Van Kerk - affiancatosi nell'Isola d'Elba al Maggiore GIANNELLA di codesto Comando per le operazioni di richiamo dell'Isola stessa - dopo aver indetto il richiamo per il giorno 17 novembre lo ha rinviato successivamente al giorno 27, poi al 1° dicembre quindi all'8 dicembre per mancanza di mezzi marittimi per il trasporto e poi al 9 per le proibitive condizioni del mare nel canale di Piombino.

I militari affluirono a Piombino verso le ore 19 del giorno 9 su di un trasporto unico in n° di 625 ed il mattino del 10 su altro mezzo di trasporto in n° di 52. Pertanto il totale dei richiamati affluiti è di 689 (vedi specchio allegato).

3 - Le operazioni di incorporamento relative all'esame della condotta del personale, alla discriminazione provvisoria del



AL COMANDO DELEGAZIONE "T" DELLO S.M.E.E.  
AL COMANDO 210<sup>a</sup> DIVISIONE FANTERIA  
AL COMANDO PRESIDIO

P.M. 151  
P.M. 179  
PIOMBINO

1 - Con il giorno 21 dicembre le operazioni relative alla ripresentazione ed incorporamento dei richiamati in oggetto si possono considerare ultimate e gli avviamenti al Corpo ed all'ospedale Militare si sono conclusi nella giornata stessa. Da oggi l'affluenza degli stessi dell'Isola è limitata solo più a casi sporadici.

2 - Le operazioni di richiamo hanno subito notevole ritardo per cause varie ed essenzialmente:

- per la mancanza di mezzi di trasporto - marittimi dall'Isola a Piombino;

- per le cattive condizioni del mare.

Infatti il rappresentante della M.M.I.A. presso la 5<sup>a</sup> Armata, Maggiore Van Kerk - affiancato nell'Isola d'Elba al Maggiore GIANNELLA di codesto Comando per le operazioni di richiamo dell'Isola stessa - dopo aver indetto il richiamo per il giorno 17 novembre lo ha rinviato successivamente al giorno 27, poi al 10 dicembre quindi all'8 dicembre per mancanza di mezzi marittimi per il trasporto e poi al 9 per le proibitive condizioni del mare nel canale di Piombino.

I militari affluirono a Piombino verso le ore 19 del giorno 9 su di un trasporto unico in n° di 625 ed il mattino del 10 su altro mezzo di trasporto in n° di 52. Pertanto il totale dei richiamati affluiti è di 689 (vedi specchio allegato).

3 - Le operazioni di incorporamento relative all'esame della condotta del personale, alla discriminazione provvisoria dei sottufficiali, alla registrazione, alla visita medica, iniziate il giorno 11 si sono svolte in modo regolare. I richiamati giudicati idonei incondizionatamente al servizio militare non aventi diritto ad esenzioni, sono stati avviati al Quartiere Generale della 210<sup>a</sup> Divisione Fanteria a Firenze.

570

././././.



I richiami giudicati bisognevoli a cure ospedaliere o non fisicamente idonei al servizio incondizionato sono stati avviati all'Ospedale Militare "Virgilio" di Roma per cura o per definizione della posizione sanitaria. I dati numerici relativi alle varie posizioni dei richiamati risultano dall'allegato specchio.

4 - Vi è ragione di ritenere che la quasi totalità dei richiamati si sia presentata alle armi. E' ancora in corso il lavoro di controllo fra le liste di leva dei comuni interessati ed i richiamati presentatisi.

5 - Durante la permanenza a Piombino tutti i richiamati sono stati accantonati paglia a terra in locali igienicamente sani.

Le cucine impiantate all'aperto hanno funzionato bene ed il rancio è sempre stato abbondante e gradevole. Il rifornimento viveri è avvenuto:

- presso il deposito viveri Americano della 5<sup>a</sup> Armata di Venturina per i componenti principale della regione;
- a cura della Sezione Sussistenza della 210<sup>a</sup> Div. Fant. per i viveri addizionali, ed in parte, per il vino, con l'acquisto dal commercio.

6 - Il servizio di vigilanza e scorta dei richiamati è stato effettuato con:

- 4 ufficiali ed 8 sottufficiali forniti dalla 210<sup>a</sup> Div.
- 2 brigadiere e 18 carabinieri forniti dal Gruppo CC.RR. di Livorno.

7 - Defluenza dei richiamati da Piombino per Firenze e Roma, effettuato per ferrovia.

8 - Contegno dei richiamati e morale veramente esemplare sotto tutti i rapporti: si sono dimostrati consci della responsabilità del momento e non hanno mai, né con atti o con gesti o parole, dimostrato malcontento. L'assistenza fornita dal Distaccamento ha in tutti lasciata ottima impressione, in modo particolare il vettovagliamento è stato giudicato buono e sufficiente.

Il Maggiore Van Kerk, presente ad una distribuzione di rancio, ha confermato la sua completa approvazione per il quantitativo e per il confezionamento.

9 - Il Distaccamento permane nella sede di Piombino in attesa del rientro dall'Ospedale di Roma dei richiamati ivi inviati per gli accertamenti o giudicati non idonei al servizio militare temporaneo o definitivo (a tutt'oggi non rientrati n° 127), onde provvederli dei documenti necessari e curarne il sostentamento ed il vettovagliamento durante la permanenza a Piombino, che talvolta può anche essere superiore alla giornata a causa delle condizioni del tempo che costringe alla



stati accantonati paglia a terra in locali igienicamente sani.

Le cucine impiantate all'aperto hanno funzionato bene ed il rancio è sempre stato abbondante e gradevole. Il rifornimento viveri è avvenuto:

- presso il deposito viveri Americano della 5<sup>a</sup> Armata di Venturina per i componenti principale della razione;
- a cura della Sezione Sussistenza della 210<sup>a</sup> Div. Fant. per i viveri addizionali, ed in parte, per il vino, con l'acquisto dal commercio.

6 - Il servizio di vigilanza e scorta dei richiamati è stato effettuato con:

- 4 ufficiali ed 8 sottufficiali forniti dalla 210<sup>a</sup> Div.
- 2 brigadiere e 18 carabinieri forniti dal Gruppo CC.RR. di Livorno.

7 - Defluenza dei richiamati da Piombino per Firenze e Roma, effettuato per ferrovia.

8 - Contegno dei richiamati e morale veramente esemplare sotto tutti i rapporti: si sono dimostrati consci della responsabilità del momento e non hanno mai, nè con atti o con gesti o parole, dimostrato malcontento. L'assistenza fornita dal Distaccamento ha in tutti lasciata

ottima impressione, in modo particolare il vettovagliamento è stato giudicato buono e sufficiente.

Il Maggiore Van Kerk, presente ad una distribuzione di rancio, ha confermato la sua completa approvazione per il quantitativo e per il confezionamento.

9 - Il Distaccamento perviene nella sede di Piombino in attesa del rientro dell'Ospedale di Roma dei richiamati ivi inviati per gli accertamenti o giudicati non idonei al servizio militare temporaneo o definitivo (a tutt'oggi non rientrati n° 127), onde provvederli dei documenti necessari e curarne il sostentamento ed il vettovagliamento durante la permanenza a Piombino, che talvolta può anche essere superiore alla giornata a causa delle condizioni del mare che non consentono la partenza dei mezzi per l'isola.



IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO  
Gen. Col. Edoardo Gachet

*Gachet* 5:74



Allegato n.1 al foglio n. ~~169~~ **169**

SITUAZIONE NUMERICA DEI MILITARI DELL'ISOLA D'ELBA, DALLA GIUGNO 1944 - 1944; RIFERIMENTO DELLA GIUGNO 1944 N. 9684 DEL 14 NOVEMBRE 1944.

|                                            | Sottuff.11 | Graduati   | Truppa     | Totali     | Note                                              |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| INCORPORATI AL C.O. 210° DIV. FFR.         | 26         | 92         | 247        | 365        |                                                   |
| INVIATI OSPEDALE MILITARE (1)              | 4          | 30         | 160        | 194(1)     |                                                   |
| CONGEDI                                    | 5          | 14         | 38         | 57         |                                                   |
| INFERMI (2)                                | 10         | 13         | 23         | 46         | di cui n. 4 con<br>licenza alla<br>210° Div. FFR. |
| PRESENTI NON AVANTI OBBLI-<br>GHI SERVIZIO | 1          | 2          | 16         | 19         |                                                   |
| ASSENTI ARBITRARI                          | =          | 1          | =          | 1          |                                                   |
| AVVIATI AD COM.CO.R. 30. Ti.               | 5          | =          | 2          | 7          |                                                   |
| <b>t o t a l i</b>                         | <b>51</b>  | <b>152</b> | <b>486</b> | <b>689</b> |                                                   |

- (1) Di cui n. 1 graduato e n. 6 truppa ricoverati per cura.
- (2) Sino ad oggi n. 181 sono rientrati dall'o.n. ed avviati al proprio domicilio e in congedo illimitato o in licenza di convalescenza;
- (3) Di cui n. 4 sottuff. in lic. illim. (c. 10528 M.G.) e n. 1 sottufficiale al nucleo Fren. (Grosseto); di cui n. 2 graduati e n. 2 militari in lic. illim. (c. 9720 M.G.); di cui n. 1 militare in lic. gg. 60 (c. 350/11 M.G.); di cui n. 1 graduato e n. 1 militare in lic. gg. (Com. Supr.); di cui n. 3 sottuff. e n. 3 graduati e n. 6 militari in lic. gg. 30 (c. 400/11 M.G.); di cui n. 1 graduato e n. 2 militari in lic. fine al 31/12/44 (studenti Universitari); di cui n. 5 militari in licenza fine al 31/12/44 (Agenti P.S.); di cui n. 2 graduati e n. 3 militari varie.





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

Allegato n.1 al foglio n. ~~462~~ 461 prot.

RELAZIONE DEI DELEGATI DELLA D'ISOLA, DELLE CLASSI 1914 - 1944; RENDICONTI PER IL PERIODO  
ANNO N. 9684 DEL 14 NOVEMBRE 1944.

|               | Sottuff.11 | Graduati   | Truppa     | Totali     | Note                                                                                      |
|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DIV. VII.     | 26         | 92         | 247        | 365        |                                                                                           |
| 13 (1)        | 4          | 30         | 150        | 184(2)     |                                                                                           |
|               | 5          | 14         | 38         | 57         |                                                                                           |
|               | 10         | 13         | 23         | 46         | di cui n.4 sottuff. e n.20 truppa<br>rientrano alla scadenza lic. q. l.<br>310° Div. ftr. |
| CORRILI-      | 1          | 2          | 16         | 19         |                                                                                           |
|               | "          | 1          | "          | 1          |                                                                                           |
| TI.           | 5          | "          | 2          | 7          |                                                                                           |
| <b>TOTALE</b> | <b>51</b>  | <b>152</b> | <b>483</b> | <b>689</b> |                                                                                           |

di cui n.6 truppa ricevuti per cura  
sono ricevuti dall'O.S. ed avviati al proprio domicilio e in congedo o in licenza  
per causa di convalescenza;  
in lic. illim. (civ. 10328 M.G.) e n. 1 sottufficiale al nucleo Pres. (distretto)  
2 graduati e n. 2 militari in lic. illim. (civ. 9739 M.G.); di cui n.1 sottuff. e n.4  
66 (civ. 150/VI M.G.); di cui n.1 graduato e n. 1 militare in lic. gg. 90 (civ. 10393  
n.3 sottuff. e n. 2 graduati e n.6 militari in lic. gg. 30 (civ. 400/VI M.G.); di cui n.1  
to e n.2 militari in lic. fino al 31/12/44 (studenti Universitari); n.3 graduati e  
senza fine al 31/12/44 (agenti F.S.); di cui n.2 graduati e n.3 militari in licenza





HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jed  
18 December 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Logs; 19 to 24 Inclusive.

To : Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C. (MLTA)  
A.P.O. 394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities based upon my own observations and opinions and not those of the 5th Army Commander, for the weeks ending 16 December 1944:

a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures: I personally have been absent from Fifth Army area for about a month and have missed seeing Lt. Col. Percival and Major Haggie, who I am advised have been in the area. There may have been others that I have not mentioned. Capt. Newton (B) MIA LO with British Increment has reported and is on duty at that headquarters. Lt. Masarella, Italian LO with 5th Army Surgeon has reported and is on duty in the Surgeon's office.

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: None.

2. Mistakes or Events: A Security Report going forward separately.

3. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S.-It is are concerned.

4. Italian Ration Situation: No change since last report. 5th Army Italian troops are on increased ration scale. Have asked Army Quartermaster for the figures requested in your letter of 4 November but am advised that it will take some time to secure figures since the records are not complete for the 10 day period from 16th to 26th of October 1944.

5. Replacements: Fifth Army has received to date 2422 replacements, 740 men were taken off Elba and are being processed at Piombino. About one half of them are being sent up here as able bodied and the other half invalided to a Military hospital in Rome.

6. Italian Patriots: Am investigating this situation and will report subsequently but am advised that only a few replacements are being received through these channels.

7. General Interest: Nothing.



a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures: I personally have been absent from Fifth Army area for about a month and have missed seeing Lt. Col. Percival and Major Heggie, who I am advised have been in the area. There may have been others that I have not mentioned. Capt. Newton (B) MMIA LO with British Increment has reported and is on duty at that headquarters. Lt. Masarella, Italian LO with 5th Army Surgeon has reported and is on duty in the Surgeon's office.

c. Conferences: Routine.

d. Inspections: None.

2. Mistakes or Events: A Security Report going forward separately.

3. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation satisfactory as far as U.S.-Itis are concerned.

4. Italian Ration Situation: No change since last report. 5th Army Italian troops are on increased ration scale. Have asked Army Quartermaster for the figures requested in your letter of 4 November but am advised that it will take some time to secure figures since the records are not complete for the 10 day period from 16th to 26th of October 1944.

5. Replacements: Fifth Army has received to date 2422 replacements. 740 men were taken off Elba and are being processed at Piombino. About one half of them are being sent up here as able bodied and the other half invalided to a Military hospital in Rome.

6. Italian Patriots: Am investigating this situation and will report subsequently but am advised that only a few replacements are being received through these channels.

7. General Interest: Nothing.

Distribution:

Addressee: 2 copies

PBS for Major Smith, Sr. (MMIA) LO

Sr. (MMIA) LO 8th Army

File

5572

*R. C. Van Kirk*

R. C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,  
5th Army

(K)



RESTRICTED.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad  
9 November 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Logs #17 and 18.

To : Headquarters, Land Forces Sub-Commission, A.C. (MMIA)  
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities based upon my own observations and opinions and not those of the 5th Army Commander, for the weeks ending 4 November 1944:

a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) Major T. Rose, G-4 Section, Land Forces Sub-Commission, visited 5th Army area accompanied by Col. Baker, COMZONE MTOUSA, on the Italian Ration question.

c. Conferences:

(1) Routine

d. Inspections:

(1) Inspected the Leghorn hospital situation and made a report to your headquarters under date of 24 October 1944. Since then, the matter has been further complicated by AMG asking to retain the Pisa civilian hospital as a university hospital.

(2) Made an inspection of the Italian Military Vehicle situation in Florence. (See copy of report to G-4, 5th Army attached) Will keep you informed as to outcome.

e. Mistakes or Events:

(1) Security Reports: Received copy of Col. Kerr's report to A.A.I. on the 5th Army CIC report made by an Italian officer of undisclosed identity.

2. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation appears satisfactory as far as U.S.-Itis are concerned. Am having difficulty with casual units now located in 5th Army area.

3. Italian Ration Situation: No change since last report.



a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) Major T. Rose, G-4 Section, Land Forces Sub-Commission, visited 5th Army area accompanied by Col. Baker, COMZONE MTOUSA, on the Italian Ration question.

c. Conferences:

(1) Routine

d. Inspections:

(1) Inspected the Leghorn hospital situation and made a report to your headquarters under date of 24 October 1944. Since then, the matter has been further complicated by AMG asking to retain the Pisa civilian hospital as a university hospital.

(2) Made an inspection of the Italian Military Vehicle situation in Florence. (See copy of report to G-4, 5th Army attached) Will keep you informed as to outcome.

e. Mistakes or Events:

(1) Security Reports: Received copy of Col. Kerr's report to A.A.I. on the 5th Army CIC report made by an Italian officer of undisclosed identity.

2. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation appears satisfactory as far as U.S-Itis are concerned. Am having difficulty with casual units now located in 5th Army area.

3. Italian Ration Situation: No change since last report. 5th Army Italian troops still on combat ration scale.

4. Replacements: Fifth Army now wants replacements badly and needs them. The casualties among the 5th Army Pack Mule outfits have been 50 a day. Am making arrangements for the reception of the 700 from Elba, 500 from Naples and have sent transport for the 80 replacements reported at Viterbo. Fifth Army has requested the formation of 2 new pack mule outfits, which has been approved. These should be formed from experienced officers and men and as soon as the Italian War Ministry has the men available, in accordance with your directive, they can be moved to this area. In the meantime, am submitting a request for such pack mule equipment as may

RESTRICTED



RESTRICTED

available from Italian sources, and 5th Army will then secure the remainder required from other sources.

5. Public Relations: A misunderstanding apparently existed in the granting of 3 passes by your headquarters to Italian war correspondents, Giuseppe Sola, Mario Soldati and Romani Bruno, to visit this area. A.C. originally granted permission to these correspondents to come up here, and the Public Relations Officer for AMG, 5th Army, approved it. As I understand it, your headquarters then issued security passes. When the correspondents got here, Colonel Park, 5th Army Public Relations Officer said "No". He is the only one authorized to approve such requests. At a conference on 7 November 1944 attended by all concerned, Col. Park, the real 5th Army P.R.O., decided that the three correspondents could visit the Italian Pack Mule outfits at the front and the engineer outfits in this area. It. Ackerson, who approved their coming without having authority, was directed to accompany these men and to see that their copy was passed by the censor. Col. Park told me to express his regrets at the misunderstanding. He also stated, the 5th Army AMG P.R.O. will be eliminated and directives put out to that effect, in order to avoid future misunderstandings.

6. General Interest: Nothing.

Distribution:

Addressee: 2 copies  
PBS for Major Smith, Sr. (MMIA) L.O.  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O. 8th Army  
File

*R.C. Van Kirk*  
R.C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,  
5th Army.



having authority, was directed to accompany these men and to see that their copy was passed by the censor. Col. Park told me to express his regrets at the misunderstanding. He also stated, the 5th Army AMG P.R.O. will be eliminated and directives put out to that effect, in order to avoid future misunderstandings.

6. General Interest: Nothing.

Distribution:

Addressee: 2 copies  
PBS for Major Smith, Sr. (MMIA) L.O.  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O. 8th Army  
File

*R.C. Van Kirk*  
R.C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,  
5th Army.

5570

RESTRICTED

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



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

*5 Army  
Liaison Log*  
Military Mission  
Italian Army  
Rome  
25 October 1944

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Major Van Kirk, MMIA LO  
O-4 Section, Rear 5th Army

I note in your Liaison Log of 21 October the list of organizations drawing Italian military rations.

Please let me have the results of your investigation and the strengths of the units concerned.

The report made by 5 Army CIC, which you stated in your report was attached, was not attached. Please send it forward.

CPK/lak

CLAYTON P. KERR  
Colonel, Infantry

5869



HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A.F.O. #464, U. S. Army

C. 121  
25/10 RCV/jad  
21 October 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Logs #11,12,13,14,15 and 16.

To : Headquarters, Military Mission Italian Army.  
A.F.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for the weeks ending 21 October 1944:

a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Reports.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) Have made two trips to Viterbo and Rome in connection with the recall to the Italian Army now being conducted.

(2) Major Heggie, DADMS, visited 5th Army area on the 19th and 20th of October, inspected medical stores and buildings. He is making a separate report on his inspections and conferences.

c. Conferences:

(1) Routine

d. Inspections:

(1) None

e. Mistakes or Events:

(1) Security Reports: Attached is a copy of report made by 5th Army CIO for an Italian Officer, whose identity this American Major who signed the report, refuses to divulge. It is suggested that it might be well to request that the name of the Italian officer be disclosed, since this report constitutes a criticism of high level policies and certainly isn't based on facts.

2. Uniforms and Equipment: Since the arrival of the last shipment, conditions as far as 5th Army Italian troops is concerned, has improved considerably. More clothing is enroute from Naples and when it arrives, all troops should be equipped according to scale.

3. Italian Ration Situation: The following units not assigned to 210 Division, are drawing Italian Military Rations from the dumps indicated.

A.M.G. 210th Regt.

(Q.5/5)

24th General Hospital

(Q.5/41)

210th Regt Carabinieri

(Q.5/5)

644 Armd. Inf Division

(Q.5/1)

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



b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) Have made two trips to Viterbo and Rome in connection with the recall to the Italian Army now being conducted.

(2) Major Heggie, DADMS, visited 5th Army area on the 19th and 20th of October, inspected medical stores and buildings. He is making a separate report on his inspections and conferences.

c. Conferences:

(1) Routine

d. Inspections:

(1) None

e. Mistakes or Events:

(1) Security Reports: Attached is a copy of report made by 5th Army CIO for an Italian Officer, whose identity this American Major who signed the report, refuses to divulge. It is suggested that it might be well to request that the name of the Italian officer be disclosed, since this report constitutes a criticism of high level policies and certainly isn't based on facts.

2. Uniforms and Equipment: Since the arrival of the last shipment, conditions as far as 5th Army Italian troops is concerned, has improved considerably. More clothing is enroute from Naples and when it arrives, all troops should be equipped according to scale.

3. Italian Ration Situation: The following units not assigned to 210 Division, are drawing Italian Military Rations from the dumps indicated.

|                               |          |                             |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|----------|
| A.M.G. 210th Regt.            | (Q.5/5)  | 24th General Hospital       | (Q.5/41) |
| 210th Regt Carabinieri        | (Q.5/5)  | 644. Armd. Inf Division     | (Q.5/1)  |
| 2675th Regt. AMG. Carabinieri | (Q.5/5)  | 11th Armd. Inf. Bn.         | (Q.5/41) |
| Co.G.                         | (Q.5/5)  | 435 A.A.A. Bn.              | (Q.5/5)  |
| Co.I.                         | (Q.5/41) | Co. "C" 101st. M.P. Bn.     | (Q.5/5)  |
| Co.H.                         | (Q.5/5)  | VIII Center                 | (Q.5/37) |
| Co.R.                         | (Q.5/41) | 135th Med. Comp. Plat.      | (Q.5/41) |
| A.M.G. Carabinieri            | (Q.5/41) | A.R.C. Rest Center          | (Q.5/41) |
| II Corps AMG. Carabinieri     | (Q.5/41) | 329th Sign. Opn. Co.        | (Q.5/41) |
| Carabinieri                   | (Q.5/5)  | 6730th Co. Adv. Det.        | (Q.5/41) |
| Lucca                         | (Q.5/5)  | Comp. "A" 719 By. Opn. Bn.  | (Q.5/5)  |
| Pisa                          | (Q.5/5)  | 23rd Ital. 719 By. Opn. Bn. | (Q.5/5)  |
| Viareggio                     | (Q.5/5)  |                             |          |

Am unable to identify most of them on the Italian Order of Battle. Am asking 5th Army to notify them to come in and show cause if possible, as to why they are drawing Italian Military Rations.



4. Replacements: Fifth Army still doesn't want any replacements up here with only a blanket and a mess kit until it can completely clothe and equip them.

5. General Interest: Nothing.

*R.C. Van Kirk*  
R.C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
Sr. (MIA) L.O.,  
5th Army

DISTRIBUTION:

Addressee: 2 copies  
PBS for Major Smith, Sr. (MIA) L.O. - 1  
Sr. (MIA) L.O. 8th Army - 1  
File - 1

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



DISTRIBUTION:

Addressee: 2 copies  
PES for Major Smith, Sr. (MIA) L.O.- 1  
Sr. (MIA) L.O. 8th Army - 1  
File - 1

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

5267



HEADQUARTERS FIFTE ARMY  
A.P.O. #464, U. S. ARMY

RCV7jad  
23 September 1944  
Ref.No.27/2

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log #11

To : Headquarters, Military Mission Italian Army.  
A.P.O. #394, U. S. ARMY.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 16 September 1944:

a. Movements of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Report.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) None

c. Conferences:

(1) Routine

d. Inspections:

(1) None

e. Mistakes or Events:

(1) Security Reports: Will forward another, the last of this month.

(2) Uniforms and Equipment: General Tate has approved the establishment of a mobile depot in this area. I will increase the size of the present 210 Division Clothing Depot to meet necessary requirements. Will go over the accounting system to be employed, with Colonel Shipley next weekend when I expect to be at MMIA HQ.

(3) Engineer Replacement: Was advised by Major Phillips that 180 engineer replacements were available. I requested 5th Army transportation to send 6 trucks to Rome to transport these men to Eng. Dump 234, north of Florence. The request was complied with and when they got there, there were only 30 replacements to be transported in the six trucks, the other 150 having departed and were either AWOL or had deserted. 5th Army Transportation has complained about this waste of transportation at this critical time. Suggest that the Italian War Ministry be instructed to deal with such offenders.



a. Movements of Italian Units:

- (1) See Weekly Status Report.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

- (1) None

c. Conferences:

- (1) Routine

d. Inspections:

- (1) None

e. Mistakes or Events:

- (1)
- Security Reports:
- Will forward another, the last of this month.

(2) Uniforms and Equipment: General Tate has approved the establishment of a mobile depot in this area. I will increase the size of the present 210 Division Clothing Depot to meet necessary requirements. Will go over the accounting system to be employed, with Colonel Shipley next weekend when I expect to be at MMIA HQ.

(3) Engineer Replacement: Was advised by Major Phillips that 180 engineer replacements were available. I requested 5th Army transportation to send 6 trucks to Rome to transport these men to Eng. Dump 234, north of Florence. The request was complied with and when they got there, there were only 30 replacements to be transported in the six trucks, the other 150 having departed and were either AWOL or had deserted. 5th Army Transportation has complained about this waste of transportation at this critical time. Suggest that the Italian War Ministry be instructed to deal with such offenders in a severe manner. Allied soldiers may suffer the death penalty if they desert the service in time of war. SIC

(4) Topographical Experts: Fifth Army Engineer called me again today with reference to these men. **5366**

(5) Italian Ration Situation: Have received Col. Kerr's request as to August rations issued in this area. Have requested the necessary information from the Army QM and 210 Division and as soon as received will consolidate it and forward on.



6. Captured Italian Material Commission: Have forwarded interim reports direct to your HQ.

7. Italian Patriots: Screening agency is now in area. They were inquiring of me as to rations but I called their attention to AAI Adm. Inst. No. 58 and Col. Kerr's letter of 12 September 1944 on the subject.

8. General Interest: 5 Army HQ has moved and I am having considerable difficulty in getting through to you on the telephone.

*R.C. Van Kirk*  
R.C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
Sr. (MIA) L.O.,  
5th Army.

Dist:

Addressee: 2 copies  
PBS for Major Smith, Sr. (MIA) L.O. - 1  
Sr. (MIA) L.O. 8th Army - 1  
File-1



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

Dist:  
Addressee: 2 copies  
PBS for Major Smith, Sr. (MMIA) L.O. - 1  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O. 8th Army - 1  
File-1

*R.C. Van Kirk*  
R.C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,  
5th Army.

5565



CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A.P.O. #464 U. S. ARMY

RCV7jad  
16 September 1944  
Ref.No.27/1

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log #10

To : Headquarters Army Sub Commission (MMIA)  
A.P.O. #394, U. S. ARMY.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 9 September 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Report.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) None

c. Conferences:

(1) Routine

d. Inspections:

(1) I inspected the 70 muleteers replacements on the 11th of September 1944 at Ponteginori, which were returned to Rome because of physical defects. I forwarded to headquarters a separate report.

e. Mistakes or Events:

(1) Security Reports: Will forward another, the last of this month.

(2) Uniforms and Equipment: Have submitted Colonel Shipley's proposal relative to a mobile depot in this area to the Army Quartermaster and G-4. The Quartermaster has approved but General Tate has not yet indicated his approval or disapproval.

(3) Engineer Replacements: As soon as the 200 replacements arrive at the 210th Division Staging Area, Via Nomentana, S. Agnese, Caserma 8 Rgt Genio, Roma, will someone please notify me so I may arrange transportation?

(4) Topographical Experts: Fifth Army Engineer is anxious to have the same available as soon as possible.

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



following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 9 September 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Report.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) None

c. Conferences:

(1) Routine

d. Inspections:

(1) I inspected the 70 muleteers replacements on the 11th of September 1944 at Ponteginori, which were returned to Rome because of physical defects. I forwarded to headquarters a separate report.

e. Mistakes or Events:

(1) Security Reports: Will forward another, the last of this month.

(2) Uniforms and Equipment: Have submitted Colonel Shipley's proposal relative to a mobile depot in this area to the Army Quartermaster and G-4. The Quartermaster has approved but General Tate has not yet indicated his approval or disapproval.

(3) Engineer Replacements: As soon as the 200 replacements arrive at the 210th Division Staging Area, Via Nomentana, S. Agnese, Caserma 8 Rgt Genio, Roma, will someone please notify me so I may arrange transportation?

(4) Topographical Experts: Fifth Army Engineer is anxious to get the men requested, if found available, as soon as possible.

(5) Italian Ration Situation: Have forwarded the information requested by Major Rose to Headquarters MMIA. <sup>5.64</sup>

(6) Captured Italian Material Commission:

(a) Forwarded under separate cover General Cortese's reply to Major Krisl's report on Lt. Col. Di Meana's misuse of WD Transportation.



CONFIDENTIAL

(b) So Far as I know, the commission has been functioning properly but have had a slight disturbance from the A.C.C. War Materials Commission which has sent an American Captain by the name of Fender up into this area to investigate and locate Italian material belonging to the Italian Army. Had several reports on his feeble efforts in this area but he scrupulously avoided me although he was actually here in G-4 area a time or two. I finally located the Captain in Florence and he told me that his commanding officer, a Colonel Campbell (B) had told him to stay away from MMIA. It developed that he had previously visited with Major Butterworth on this topic and subsequently reported to Col. Campbell, who said, "To hell with MMIA", so he was just following instructions in ignoring me. Of course, I am not seriously offended over this apparent slight nor do I think MMIA should be. An investigation might develop that the Captain's trip up here was only a junketing excursion which the War Materials Commission didn't choose to label as such. Suggest that when Col. Pidsley has some spare time, that he favor Col. Campbell with a telephone call.

(7) General Baradi: Acting upon Col. Kerr's suggestion that the General's visit in this area be reported on, I immediately notified the Army G-4 that General Baradi was up here without permission, who communicated it to the Chief of Staff. It seems that Capt. Medici, Italian L.O. had previously call General Gruenther's aide about Gen. Baradi being here to discuss the enrollment of partisans in the Italian Army. Medici stated that General Gruenther's aide had called AAI, discussed General Baradi's visit and then approved it. It is my opinion that all concerned have now been notified, that Gen. Baradi was up here without proper authority having been granted and that his request will not be granted if this should occur again.

(8) General Interest: Nothing.

Dist:

Addressee: 2 copies  
PBS for Major Smith, Sr. (MMIA) L.O.-1  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O. 8th Army-1

*R.C. Van Kirk*  
R.C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.  
5th Army.



Col. Campbell with a telephone call.

(7) General Baradi: Acting upon Col. Kerr's suggestion that the General's visit in this area be reported on, I immediately notified the Army G-4 that General Baradi was up here without permission, who communicated it to the Chief of Staff. It seems that Capt. Medici, Italian L.O. had previously call General Gruenther's aide about Gen. Baradi being here to discuss the enrollment of partisans in the Italian Army. Medici stated that General Gruenther's aide had called AAI, discussed General Baradi's visit and then approved it. It is my opinion that all concerned have now been notified, that Gen. Baradi was up here without proper authority having been granted and that his request will not be granted if this should occur again.

(8) General Interest: Nothing.

Dist:

Addressee: 2 copies  
PBS for Major Smith, Sr. (MMIA) L.O.-1  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O. 8th Army-1

*R.C. Van Kirk*  
R.C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.  
5th Army.

5563

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



**SECRET**

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A.P.O. #464 U. S. ARMY

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

RCV/jad  
7 September 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log #9

To : Headquarters Army Sub-Commission (M.M.I.A.)  
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 2 September 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Report.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) None

c. Conferences:

(1) Routine

d. Inspections:

(1) None

e. Mistakes or Events:

(1) Security Reports: Will forward another one the last of this month.

(2) Uniforms and Equipment: Have submitted Colonel Shipley's proposal relative to a mobile depot in this area to G-4 and the Army Quartermaster. As soon as I know their reaction, will advise him.

(3) Engineer Replacements: Still have not found out where the 200 are to be delivered on the 10th of September. Prefer that they be made available to us at the 210th Division Staging Area, Caserma 8 Rgt Genio, Via Romentana S. Agnese.

(4) Topographical Experts: Fifth Army Engineer is anxious to get the men requested as soon as possible, if found to be available.

2200



2 September 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units:

(1) See Weekly Status Report.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

(1) None

c. Conferences:

(1) Routine

d. Inspections:

(1) None

e. Mistakes or Events:

(1) Security Reports: Will forward another one the last of this month.

(2) Uniforms and Equipment: Have submitted Colonel Shipley's proposal relative to a mobile depot in this area to G-4 and the Army Quartermaster. As soon as I know their reaction, will advise him.

(3) Engineer Replacements: Still have not found out where the 200 are to be delivered on the 10th of September. Prefer that they be made available to us at the 210th Division Staging Area, Caserma 8 Rgt Genio, Via Romentana S. Agnese.

(4) Topographical Experts: Fifth Army Engineer is anxious to get the men requested as soon as possible, if found to be available.

5562

(5) Italian Ration Situation: Normal. Am attempting to obtain the information requested by Major Rose and as soon as obtained will forward to him.

(6) Captured Italian Materiel Commission: Am inclosing report by Lt.Col. Di Meana and another by Major Krisl which are self explanatory. The Colonel and the Captain have not been seen since they took off in Krisl's car apparently to search for food for their families. Will ask the Colonel for an explanation as soon as he returns and when obtained will forward it on to you. He did, however, send back Major Krisl's car with his British driver, late the night of September 5th. Suggest that this incident be reported to SMRE.

SECRET



SECRET

(7) General Interest: After spending the weekend in Rome and at Headquarters, I returned September 4th to Headquarters 5th Army, in it's new area, with the clerk and driver assigned to me.

*R. C. Van Kirk*  
R. C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Inf.  
M.M.I.A. L.O.  
5th Army

Incls: 2

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

5-61



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

5-61

-2-

SECRET



Hq. 5th Army (rear) GEMS  
APO 464, U.S. Army

6 Sept. 1944

Subject: Disobedience and conversion of military vehicle for private purposes by Italian officers.

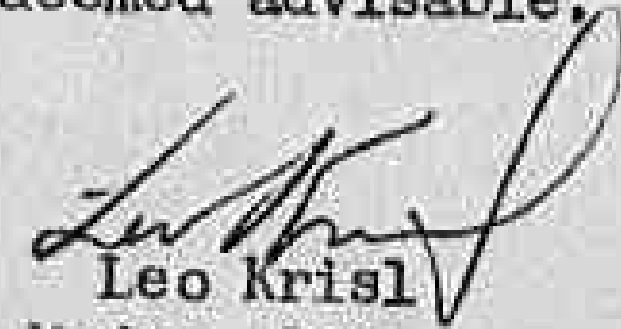
TO: MMIA Liaison Officer, Hq 5th Army, APO 464 U.S. Army.  
Att: Maj. R. C. Van Kirk.

1. This office which is concerned with the collection of captured German material, had made an arrangement with Italian officers of the CERSETI whereby transportation would be furnished to the above officers for the purpose of visiting villages in the area of 5th army. They would ascertain whether there were any Italian or German war materials in the area and collect such small arms as they could carry both Italian and German.

2. On 5 Sept. 1944 Italian Lt. De Martini called this office with a request from Capt. D'Alessandro for the use of the transportation to go to Florence where he would stay for several days ascertaining what material could be located there. He was told that the transportation would not be available for this purpose as Florence was first a restricted area and secondly it was undesirable to attempt collections in an operational area so close to the front lines. It was stated however, that he might be given the transportation for the purpose of canvassing inhabited areas in the area generally south of the 5th Army CP. Lt. De Martini stated that that was agreeable and would the transportation please be sent to pick up the Capt. This was done.

3. The driver picked up Lt. Col. Di Meana and Captain D'Alessandro who directed him into an area generally east of the CP. After stops in a couple of villages another halt was made at the home of a civilian. The driver was given a lunch in the house and when he returned to his light truck he found that it had been loaded with articles of food and wine. He was then directed by various roads until he suddenly found himself in the city of Florence. The greater part of the food was unloaded there and the driver was then told to return to camp while the officers remained in Florence. He was told to deliver the remainder of the food to a Lt. at the army Hq. presumably for transport to a family in Rome.

4. Request such action be taken as is deemed advisable.

  
Leo Krisl  
Major, Ord.  
GEMS

5560

Inc II



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

INTEROFFICE REFERENCE SHEET - FIFTH ARMY  
OFFICE \_\_\_\_\_ FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ SUSPEND \_\_\_\_\_  
Subject: *Italian Military Material Commission*

| Ind No.  | From        | To                   | Date           |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------|-------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>1</i> | <i>IMMC</i> | <i>MMIA<br/>L.D.</i> | <i>Aug, 31</i> | <i>for info.<br/>1/ letter to SMRE<br/>2/ list of Material collected<br/>in Cecina dump -</i><br> |

Sign each indorsement with last name in full. Draw line at end of your action. Use entire width of sheet for large indorsements. If additional sheets are needed use this form, numbering all pages, use only one side. Keep attached to this correspondence to be filed therewith.

5559



28 Agosto 1944

N° 211 di prot.

Oggetto : Ricupero materiali bellici italiani

ALLO STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO - UFFICIO OPERAZIONI

P.M. 151

ALLO STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO - UFFICIO SERVIZI

P.M. 151

tramite e per conoscenza :

AL COMANDO CE.R.SE TI.

R O M A

Con riferimento alle precedenti comunicazioni scritte ed a seguito di quanto e' stato rappresentato anche verbalmente da un ufficiale di questo Distaccamento all'Ufficio operazioni e all'Ufficio servizi il giorno 26 c.m., informo che il lavoro da svolgere e' , nelle sue grandi linee , il seguente :

- 1) - ricognizione di una vasta zona ad Est del meridiano di Bagni di Casciana e fra i paralleli di Orbetello e di Livorno.  
- raccolta delle armi recuperate dall'Arma dei CC.RR., e giacenti presso le molte stazioni che esistono nel settore della 5ª Armata : loro sistemazione nei tre magazzini di Cecina , Piombino e Orbetello.  
- raccolta del rimanente materiale sparso ovunque.
- 2) - Il lavoro e' notevole ove si consideri , ad esempio , che solo a Piombino e' accantonata un migliaio di armi portatili e che a Orbetello devono essere sistemate una quindicina di bocche da fuoco efficienti : cio' che richiederebbe l'impiego contemporaneo di almeno due automezzi e due nuclei di personale in settori molto lontani l'uno dall'altro.  
Per contro i mezzi a disposizione sono del tutto insufficienti , come ho reso noto a codesto Stato Maggiore giorni or sono . Non solo, ma, al momento attuale si deve ancora, per assoluta deficienza di uomini e mezzi, iniziare la raccolta del munizionamento, che rappresenta un valore ingente, sia per la parte di esso ancora impiegabile, sia per la parte da utilizzare come metallo pregiato ( rame- ottone - zinco ). Le segnalazioni relative al rintraccio di munizioni sono molte, i quantitativi trovati nel corso delle ricognizioni sono notevoli, tali sin d'ora da costituire un problema di non facile soluzione per la sua vastita', in confronto dei mezzi che potranno esservi impiegati.
- 3) - L'assegnazione al distaccamento di mezzi adeguati si rende sempre piu' necessaria ed urgente: il loro impiego darebbe subito ottimi risultati, pur limitandosi alla zona occupata dalla 5ª Armata. Qualora il distacco, rafforzato in uomini e mezzi almeno nella misura richiesta, potesse agire all'immediato seguito dalle truppe operanti, si potrebbero raggiungere risultati insperati. Tale previsione e' giustificata dal fatto che il distaccamento, giunto in zona il 18 c.m., valendosi di

5558



- 2 -

ricognizioni fatte in precedenza da un ufficiale, ha recuperato oltre trenta bocche da fuoco e notevoli quantita' di altro materiale.

- 4) - Rimango in attesa delle decisioni che codesto S.M. deve prendere in merito alle questioni essenziali rappresentate con il foglio n° 205, in data 24 agosto 1944 e cioè la trasformazione della struttura del distaccamento, per mettere quest'ultimo nelle condizioni di svolgere un lavoro piu' razionale, piu' vasto e piu' completo dell'attuale, specie se il nuovo organico da stabilire consentirà al distaccamento stesso di affrontare e risolvere la grossa questione della raccolta e conservazione del munizionamento.





CENTRO COLTA RIORDINAMENTO SECCORE I (C) CO

Distaccamento N 7

29 Agosto 1944

N° 212 di prot.

Oggetto : Trasmissione elenchi materiale

AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA - DIREZIONE GENERALE DI ARTIGLIERIA -  
AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA - DIREZIONE GENERALE DEL GENIO -  
AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA - DIREZIONE SERVIZI AUTOMOBILISTICO -  
AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA - S.M.R.E. - UFFICIO SERVIZI -

P.M. 151

Con riferimento al foglio N° 5435 , in data 26 luglio 1944 , della  
S.M.-Ufficio ordinamento e mobilitazione , ed a seguito della comunicazione fatta  
da questo Distaccamento, con f.n° 205 in data 24 Agosto, allo stesso S.M., si tras-  
mettono gli elenchi dei materiali recuperati e conservati nel magazzino di Cecina.

Si fa riserva di inviare al più presto gli elenchi relativi agli  
altri magazzini in via di organizzazione nel settore dell' armata .-



IL TEN. COL. COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

G. RIPA

*G. RIPA*

Copy

TO:

MMIA - L.O

APC 464

5556



Elenco del materiale recuperato esistente nel magazzino di Casina

SERVIZIO DI ARTIGLIERIA

1) Artiglierie

N° 4 pezzi da 149/35  
 " 1 " " 149/19  
 " 3 " " 105/28  
 " 1 " " 105/29  
 " 3 " " 75/27  
 " 1 " " 75/17  
 " 2 " " 75/13  
 " 1 cassone porta-munizioni da '75 (senza ruote)

I pezzi sono tutti sprovvisti dei congegni di puntamento, alcuni degli otturatori, altri di una ruota, (l'altra bruciata), altri degli scudi e di altre parti accessorie. Allo stato attuale sono tutti inefficienti.

2) Armi automatiche

N° 1 mitragliera da 20 m/m (senza congegno di puntamento e parti accessorie - allo stato attuale inefficiente)  
 " 1 " Isotta Fraschini (senza affusto e parti accessorie - allo stato attuale inefficiente)  
 " 1 canna " " inefficiente)  
 " 3 mitragliatrici Breda 37 (di cui una senza canna - allo stato attuale inefficienti)  
 " 1 fucile mitragliatore Breda 30  
 " 1 " " jugoslavo preda bellica  
 " 1 blocco otturatore per mitragliera da 20 m/m

3) Armi portatili

N° 14 fucili a moschetti (mod. 91 e 38 di cui 2 inefficienti)  
 " 4 canne di " " "  
 " 2 pistole Very  
 " sciabole da cavalleria

4) Materiale vario d'artiglieria

N° 1 trepiede di legno per telemetro  
 " 1 carretta da Btg. (in consegna al Comune di Bibbona per il servizio di aliment.)

SERVIZIO DEL GENIO

N° 2 tubi di canapa  
 " 2 " " aspirazione  
 " 1 copertone di tela  
 " 1 pompa a mano con tubi di gomma  
 " 5 pennellesse  
 " 9 serrature  
 " 7 pennelli del n° 8  
 " 2 " " " 6  
 " 1 " " " 10  
 " 5 " " " 2  
 " 10 batterie catodiche da 4,5 Volt ( 1 cassa )  
 " 2 latte di vernice  
 " 2 ruote goniate per motocompressore  
 " 1 trepiede piega tubi  
 " 8 fioretti di varie lunghezze avariati  
 " 60 mazette da pietrisco  
 " 130 Rosette per fioretti  
 " 35 gravine  
 " 3 fucine da campo  
 " 2 forchettoni per ghiaia



(  
N° 2 pinze tagliafili  
" 6 tenaglie per fucina fuori uso  
" 2 trivelle  
" 4 pali a leva  
" 10 badili  
" 4 mazette diverse  
" 2 incedini piccole  
" 3 livelle di faggio f.u.  
" 1 ventilatore per galleria f.u.  
" 10 lanterne da campo f.u.  
" 3 lampade a carburo f.u.  
" 11 asce  
" 10 carrucole varie f.u.  
" 1 cofano contenente 2 esploditori O.G.M. f.u.  
" 1 " con pompa fuori uso  
" 1 " " apparecchi per ascoltazione sotterranea f.u.

SERVIZIO AUTOMOBILISTICO

1) Automobili

N° 1 autovettura FIAT Balilla - senza ruote - f.u.  
" 1 " Bianchi - sgommata - allo stato attuale inefficiente  
" 1 auto-blinda SPA 40 - sgommata - con un solo motore efficiente - senza torretta  
e senza armamento  
" 1 autocarro FIAT 621 - in consegna al Comune di Cecina per il servizio  
alimentazione  
" 2 ruote complete per autocarro

QUADRUPEDI

N° 1 cavallo baio (in consegna al Comune di Bibbona per il servizio alimentazione).



HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

9-10-44  
1-6  
1-AC2  
9

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| M.M.I.A.  | 9       |
| FILE REF  | 8191    |
| Date Recd | 8/19/44 |

RCV/jeh  
30 August 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log #8.

To: General Officer Commanding, Army Sub-Commission,  
A. P. O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with G/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 19 August 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units.

(1) See weekly status report.

b. Arrivals and Departures.

(1) None.

c. Conferences.

(1) Routine.

d. Inspections.

(1) Inspected our new pack mule companies at Ponteginore 0360225. Reports forwarded under separate cover.

e. Mistakes or Events.

(1) Security Reports: Going forward separately.

(2) Transportation for Italian Units: Have signaled to you amount of Italian Transport with 210th Division.

2. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation normal.

3. Italian Officers and Soldiers on Leave: No new developments.

4. Replacements: 451 replacements have arrived to date and 590 promised within a few days, 450 are in Naples and 140 in Rome.

5. Identification cards for Italian Officers and Enlisted Men have been received and are being distributed.

6. General Interest: Expect to report to M.M.I.A. Headquarters this week-end.

*R. C. Van Kirk*  
R. C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
MMIA, LO, 5th Army

5553



HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/fnt  
26 August 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log #67

To: General Officer Commanding, Army Sub-Commission,  
A. P. O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with G/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 19 August 1944:

- a. Movement of Italian Units.
  - (1) See weekly status report.
- b. Arrivals & Departures.
  - (1) None
- c. Conferences.
  - (1) Routine
- d. Inspections.
  - (1) None
- e. Mistakes or Events.
  - (1) Security reports: No change.
  - (2) Transportation for Italian Units still deficient.

2. Italian Ration situation: 29 Quintels of Olive oil have arrived and more on the way from Naples. The Italian ration front is a quiet sector now. Don't intend to disturb the situation unless compelled to do so for I believe in letting sleeping dogs lie.

3. Captured Italian Materiel Commission has arrived in strength and with transportation. It is the busiest organization I have ever seen. They have established a dump near Cecina and are moving every thing possible in there. Fifth Army is turning some captured German equipment over to them. Am inclosing a status report made to me, by the mission. I didn't have it translated because there is only one Italian interpreter here now and he is very busy with other matters. I appreciate also that Major Dobbs can read it as well when it is written in Italian as English. Needn't add that my knowledge of Italian is very meager but at that I know generally what is in it.



4. Uniforms and Equipment: Situation normal.

5. Italian Officers and Soldiers on leave. Fifth Army has had under consideration for some time, the establishment of a definite policy. It may now require modification since the arrival of the AAI letter, subject CIL. Leave, 3074/A (O) of the 21st August 1944.

6. Replacements and 4 new pack mule companies. Replacements aren't arriving as fast as promised. Total received to date 275. Am advised that the new pack mule companies have arrived in area. No report as to their condition as yet. I will make a personal inspection in a few days and report.

7. 211th Veterinary Hospital alias 1st Veterinary Hospital. The French took it away and as yet I don't know where it is. If anyone sees them, please hold, call an M.P., and call me, for they have been reported all the way from Naples to Fifth Army Area.

8. General Interest: Nothing unusual.

*R. C. Van Kirk*  
R. C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
M.M.I.A. - L.O.  
Fifth Army

1 Incl.

Incl; #1 Status Materiel Report.

DISTRIBUTION:

Addressee - 2 copies

PES for Major Smith, MMIA, LO-1

MMIA, LO, 3th Army Rear - 1



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

INTEROFFICE REFERENCE SHEET - FIFTH ARMY  
OFFICE IMMC FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ SUSPEND DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Recovered Italian Material and week's program.

| Ind No. | From         | To           | Date            |
|---------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1       | IMMC<br>C.O. | MMIA<br>L.O. | August<br>23-44 |

We forward :

- 1) List of Italian material which has been brought in the Italian Army's Salvage Dump, located on the Cecina - Cecina Marina road ( Q 16 21, Sheet 13 , Italy's Map 1:200000 )
- 2) Work's program for this week (21 - 27 August 44)

Further report will be forwarded.

G. R. di Meana  
Commanding Lt Col.  
CERSETI - IMMC.

2 MMIA MMIA  
LO May 1945

Forward to C. V. K. M. M. M.

Sign each indorsement with last name in full. Draw line at end of your action. Use entire width of sheet for large indorsements. If additional sheets are needed use this form, numbering all pages, use only one side. Keep attached to this correspondence to be filed therewith.

5550



RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jeh  
22 August 1944

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| M.M.A.    | 6.      |
| FILE REF  | 121     |
| Date Recd | 25/8/44 |

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log No. 6 - 15 August 1944.

To: General Officer Commanding Army Sub-Commission,  
A. P. O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with G/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 12 August 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units.

(1) See Weekly Status Report.

b. Arrivals and Departures.

(1) None.

c. Conferences.

(1) Routine.

d. Inspections.

(1) None.

e. Mistakes or Events.

(1) Security reports on Italian units have not been received from G-2 Counter-Intelligence Section. Will GS 111 please send me another copy of the instructions on this subject. I gave my copy to the G-2 officer three months ago to assist him in drafting his instructions to Fifth Army units, but I have seen no instructions and my copy has not been returned to me.

(2) Transportation for Italian units still deficient. Haven't received the 25 trucks promised by Colonel Kerr. When I called the Naples MMIA LO about them I was told they had been sent out on a detail but would be back in Naples and that I would be notified so I could send drivers. As yet no trucks.

RESTRICTED



RESTRICTED

- (3) Italian ration situation is definitely improving. Will someone please obtain for me the exact ration scale on which the Italian troops with 8th Army have been since the 1st of August. G-4 wants this information in connection with ration policy here in Fifth Army. It is to be understood of course that Fifth Army went on single ration basis the 1st of August.
- (4) Captured Italian Materiel Commission is apparently stymied because of a lack of transportation. Even Major Lee Krisl's transportation. C.E.M.S. has broken down, hence no action.
- (5) Uniforms And Equipment.  
Requisitions for uniforms and equipment for Italian troops in Fifth Army should be placed on an operational priority.
- (6) Italian Officers and Soldiers on leave in 8th Army Area, have requested the Commanding General 210th Division to take disciplinary action if necessary to stop this unauthorized issuance of passes or leaves. For example, the Commanding Officer 67th Infantry Regiment issued a pass to an Italian Soldier to go to Florence, which at that time had not been taken by the 8th Army, and to stay until he found his parents. All done of course, without Fifth Army knowing anything about it. Colonel Moriarty, in a note to me about this incident said the MP's in 8th Army were "browed off". I agreed with the colonel and the MP's and passed it to the Commanding General of the 210th Division for action since instructions against such leaves had been previously issued.
- (7) 1800 replacements. Not moving in as rapidly as promised, the most we have received in one day is about 40. Total received to date is 230.
- (8) General interest: Nothing unusual.

*R. C. Van Klee*  
R. C. VAN KLEE,  
Major, Infantry,  
MMA - IO,  
Fifth Army.

DISTRIBUTION:

Addressee - 2 copies  
FAS for Smith, MMA-IO - 1  
Col Moriarty MMA-IO 8th Army Rear - 1

RESTRICTED



HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/trh  
9 August 1944

MAJ G  
FILE REF  
Date Recd

G/21  
1518144  
7

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log No. 5.

To: General Officer Commanding Army Sub-Comm.,  
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with G/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 5 August 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units.

(1) See Weekly Status Report.

b. Arrivals and Departures.

(1) None.

c. Conferences.

(1) Routine.

d. Inspections.

(1) Inspected 1022 QM Truck Company. Report being forwarded separately.

e. Mistakes or Events.

(1) Security reports on Italian units have not been received from G-2 Counter-Intelligence Section.

(2) Transportation of Italian units still deficient but condition is improving. In addition to the two or three American vehicles already loaned the 210th Division by Fifth Army, three German vehicles have just been allotted them. When the 25 Italian vehicles arrive from Naples situation will be almost under control, unless new demands are made.

(3) Italian ration situation is definitely improving but, of course, the Italians complain about the quantity, not the quality.

(4) Captured Italian Materiel Commission Detail not complete. The only officer present is Capt. Alessandro Alessandre (Italian) who works with Major Leo Krisl, C.E.M.S.



- (5) Uniforms and Equipment. With the shipment of clothing, shoes and equipment which has just arrived and the clothing promised, situation should be very satisfactory with the exception of organizational housekeeping equipment such as tents and ranges for cooking. Since the Italians have no stoves, open fires in operational areas are not tactically sound and very impractical. Arrangements should be made to make this kind of equipment available to the Italians.
- (6) 1800 replacements. Fifth Army Transportation has promised to have 4 Trucks, 2-1/2 ton at Caserma 8th Reg Genio, Via Nomentana S. Agnese, Roma, the 9th of this month and daily thereafter until all the replacements have been moved to this area.
- (7) EM personnel for MMIA L.O., Fifth Army. Note that the T/O for the American side has been approved by AAI. I can still use a good typist and driver up here. My typing is "niente" and my Italian driver is not as good as I am. Essential equipment to be sent with EM is a typewriter, 2 tables, 3 chairs, field desk and 3 cots, besides personal equipment. I left my cot with Colonel Offenhauser in Naples; could use it if somebody were coming this way and could bring it to me.
- (8) Insignia and identification for Italian Army personnel. Attention is directed to Section IV, Circular No. 90, NS NATOUSA. Fifth Army has directed that all Italian personnel comply with this directive, see enclosed letter. As I recall, MMIA approved some such form for SMRE several months ago. Will the proper staff section send me a copy of the approved form and SMRE's instructions to the Italian army on the subject? The Italian officers here in 210 Division don't seem to have heard of it.
- (9) General Interest. My telephone number is Lightning Rear 54. A visit from a MMIA representative or representatives would be appreciated. Can't give you my exact address but start North and an officer's military instinct will get him to the G-4 Section, Fifth Army Rear, my assigned location.

*Rolla C. Van Kirk*  
ROLLA C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
MMIA - L. O.,  
Fifth Army

DISTRIBUTION:

Addressee 2 copies.

FBS for Offenhauser, MMIA L.O. - 1

5546



RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

DNB/rjm  
4 August 1944

AG 344-AM

Subject: Insignia and Identification for Military Personnel of Allied or Co-belligerent Nations serving with United States Armed Forces.

To: See Distribution.

1. Attention is directed to Section IV, Circular No. 90, Headquarters, NATOUSA, c.s., copy inclosed.

2. ID AGO Forms referred to in paragraph 2b, Section IV, reference circular, provide the following information:

a. A statement that (name rank ASN) is a member of the Army of (Country)

b. Signature of the bearer and signature of recognized military or State Department officer of the nation concerned.

c. Fingerprints of bearer.

3. It is requested that a report be rendered to this Headquarters certifying that all personnel of the category described in paragraph 1, Section IV, of reference circular, have proper documents of identity and that instructions have been given that these documents will be carried at all times.

4. Particular attention is invited to paragraph 2c, Section IV, of reference circular, and to the instructions contained therein. These instructions however, do not apply to the wearing of Fifth Army or corresponding shoulder patch by personnel authorized by the proper headquarters to wear it.

By command of Lieutenant General CLARK:

*B. W. Samuel*  
B. W. SAMUEL,  
Major, A. C. D.,  
Asst. Adjutant General.

1 Incl:  
Copy, Cir 90, Hq NATOUSA, cs.

DISTRIBUTION:

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| FEC Rear Echelon              | - 2 |
| French Military Mission       | - 2 |
| OC 21 Beach Group             | - 2 |
| A Branch, Br. Increment       | - 2 |
| MMIA (Maj Van Kirk)           | - 2 |
| CG, 210th Inf Div (Italian)   | - 2 |
| Brazilian Expeditionary Force | - 2 |
| AG Records                    | - 2 |
| G-1                           | - 2 |

RESTRICTED

5545



|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| M.M.A.    | 9/21    |
| FILE REF  |         |
| Date Recd | 7/18/44 |

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/fnt  
2 August 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log No. 5

To: General Officer Commanding, Army Sub-Comm. A.P.O. #394,  
U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with G/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 22 July 1944.

a. Movement of Italian Units.

See Weekly Status Report of Italian units forwarded weekly under separate cover. Situation has been so mobile that practically all units move weekly.

b. Arrivals and Departures.

None.

c. Conferences.

(1) With Prince Umberto, Hq 110th Division and Italian LQs.

(2) With G-4 & QM all of Fifth Army and Major George Sauers of A.C.C.

d. Inspections.

None.

e. Mistakes or events.

(1) Security reports on Italian units have not been received from G-2 Counter-Intelligence Section

(2) Transportation for the Italians is still deficient.

(3) Italian Rations: No complaints received within the past week, except on cigarettes and olive oil from the Italian components. The single ration goes into effect tomorrow as directed by your Headquarters.

(4) Captured Italian Materiel. The complete detail has not yet arrived, with the exception of Capt. Alessandro d'Alessandri, who is still working with Major Leo Kriska of the Captured Enemy Materiel Section.



(5) Uniforms and Equipment: Situation is improving.

*The  
arranged  
the GI*  
(6) Replacements as directed by Colonel Kerry have made arrangements for a Reception Center at Caserma 8 Reg. Genio, Via Nomentana S. Agnese, Roma and as soon as a substantial number have been equipped and are ready to move to this area and I am notified, I'll call Fifth Army transportation, which will move them to Hq. 210th Division.

(7) General Interest. It is my opinion that Fifth Army is making more and more use of the Italian troops in this area.

*Rolla C. Van Kirk*  
ROLLA C. VAN KIRK  
Major, Infantry  
MMIA - LO  
Fifth Army

DISTRIBUTION:

Addressee 2 Copies.

PBS for Offenhauer, MMIA-LO



|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| MM.A.     | 4/21     |
| FILE REF. |          |
| Date Recd | 31 7 /44 |

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/fnt  
27 July 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log No. 54

To: General Officer Commanding, Army Sub-Comm., A.P.O. 394,  
U. S. Army.

1. Inconformity with G/21 directive of 27 January 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 22 July 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units.

See Weekly Status Report of Italian units forwarded weekly under separate cover. Situation has been so mobile that practically all units move weekly.

b. Arrivals and Departures.

(1) 1022d QM Truck Co. of approximately 230 officers and men arrived at Piombino.

(2) Approximately 250 muleteer replacements have been received but exact details not yet reported.

c. Conferences.

(1) With Hq 110th Division and Italian LO's.

(2) With 9-1-9-2-9-3-9-4 Engr. RM AMG, all of Fifth Army.

d. Inspections.

None.

e. Mistakes or events.

(1) Strength of Italian units. Totals as reported by Italian Strength returns and by the Americans are beginning to agree reasonably well. The men in hospital, on leave, and AWOL are excessive and as a result most units are only about 50% effective.

(2) Security reports on Italian units have not been received from G-2 Counter-Intelligence Section, although requested over a month ago. They have promised them within a few days. My impression, judging from strength returns and incidents of breaches of discipline; for example, when discussing the excessive leaves granted, Capt. Medici told me that if leaves were not granted that the men would desert. My answer to that was that in our army if our men deserted in time of war they could be shot.

28191074?



(3) Transportation for the Italians is still deficient, but the 25 trucks promised by Col. Kerr will help considerably as soon as received.

(4) Italian Rations: no complaints received within the past week, so assume everything is under control. Have just finished drafting an Administrative Instruction on Italian supply and rations to the Fifth Army units, setting up the new single ration scale effective August 1, 1944.

(5) Captured Italian Materiel. The 3 officers and 5 men for this detail have not yet arrived, with the exception of Capt. Alessandro d' Alessandri, who has been working with Major Leo Krisla of the Captured Enemy Materiel Section. Great quantities of Italian ammunition have been located, guns and other materiel. The Captain is reporting direct to his Headquarters and I inclose copies of his reports to me. I have prepared "Keep Out" signs in accordance with an AAI directive. These signs will be posted in addition to guards where possible.

(6) Uniforms and Equipment. Situation appears to have taken a definite turn for the better and I am advised that such equipment is en route to this area.

(7) Breach of Discipline. General Sullivan, Army Quartermaster, caught 2 Italian soldiers throwing bread off a truck a few days ago. I indorsed the file of correspondence pertaining thereto to the CG, 210th Division for his action, and before I could get this report typed and within two hours' time the general indorsed it back to me indicating that he had sentenced the 2 Italian soldiers to 7 days' pay and confinement. He gave the Lieutenant, who was in charge of the truck and who knew nothing of the incident until afterwards, four days' restriction without pay. It would appear that General Cortese administered justice in this case with such speed that no one could criticize him for failure to act promptly.

(8) Replacements and new units requested by Fifth Army are urgently needed, in my opinion, and operationally necessary.

(9) General Interest: Am still firmly convinced that Italian units can and are making a distinct contribution to the war effort, provided they are properly controlled and frequently inspected. Am inclosing copy of recent Administrative Directive which I assisted in drafting and believe will improve the kind of service we are getting from the Italians here in Fifth Army.

*Rolla C. Van Kirk*  
ROLLA C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
M.V.I.A. - L.O.  
Fifth Army.

7 Incls:

- Incl 1 - German Ammo Dumps Report. 29-July  
2 - Material found and inspected 22-24 July  
3 - Material found and inspected 20 July 1944  
4 - Location of Italian Mil Equip. 15 July 1944  
5 - Salvaged Material, 21 July 1944  
6 - Material inspection, 20 July 1944  
7 - Administrative Directive #44

cc: PES for Offenbauer,  
MEMA-LO.  
Addressee

5541<sup>2</sup>



|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| M.M.I.A.  | G/21    |
| FILE REF. | 1       |
| Date Recd | 28/7/44 |

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/mjs  
17 July 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Report No. 3.

To: General Officer Commanding Army Sub-Commission, A.P.O. #394,  
U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with G/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 15 July 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units:

See Weekly Status Report of Italian troops being forwarded.

This gives present location and by comparison with previous weekly report, the moves can be determined. Situation is so mobile that a majority of units move weekly or at least every two weeks.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

Am advised that 1022 QM Truck Company has arrived at Piombino from Naples and reported to the Commanding Officer, Quartermaster Battalion of this Army.

c. Conferences:

- (1) With MMIA Headquarters.
- (2) With Hq 110th Division and Italian L.O.'s.
- (3) With G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, Engineer, AMB, Quartermaster, Transportation, all of Fifth Army.

d. Inspections:

None.

e. Mistakes or Events:

- (1) Strength of Italian units. Totals as reported by Italian strength returns and by the Americans are beginning to agree reasonably well. The AWOL's and men on leave in many units are still excessive, totaling approximately 20% of strength.

- (2) Security reports, on Italian troops requested by year 5-40 Headquarters have not been made but are now being collected and will be consolidated and forwarded as soon as received from G-2 Counter-Intelligence Section.



- (3) Transportation for Italians is still deficient. Am having submitted requisition in accordance with your suggestion for Italian military transport which may become available for issue.
- (4) Italian Rations. Conditions appear to have improved as a result of conferences, telephone calls and signals.
- (5) Uniforms and Equipment. The Army Commander has directed that the Italian soldiers in Fifth Army be equipped with Class B Herringbone Twill uniforms and their shoes, which have been worn out, be exchanged for salvaged shoes.
- (6) Italian Military Equipment. The advanced detachment consisting of one Italian officer from the Section directed by AAI to move into this area for the purpose of collecting Italian military materiel has reported to this Headquarters and is working with the CEM Section. Reports will be forwarded as soon as completed and will be forthcoming regularly in the future.

2. General Interest: Items under this category were reported on personally while I was at Headquarters.

*Rolla C. Van Kirk*  
ROLLA C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
MMIA, L. O.,  
Fifth Army.

cc: FES for Offenhauer, MMIA IO  
Addressee - 2.

5539

1938



HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/mjs  
10 July 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Report No. 2.

To: General Officer Commanding Army Sub-Commission, A.P.O. #394,  
U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending 8 July 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units:

See Weekly Status Report of Italian troops being forwarded.

This gives present location and by comparison with previous weekly report, the moves can be determined. Situation is so mobile that a majority of units move weekly or at least every two weeks.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

None.

c. Conferences:

- (1) With Hq 110th Division, Major Nini and Italian L.O's.
- (2) With Lt. Col. Hampton Noakes and Majors Pinkley, Dobbs, MMIA officers.
- (3) With G-2, G-4, Engineer, AMG, Quartermaster, Transportation, all of Fifth Army.

d. Inspections:

Was up to Piombino with one of the G-4 officers, 7 July, and made an inspection of the 67th Regiment less 2 companies. A report on this inspection will go forward separately.

e. Mistakes:

- (1) Strength of Italian units. Totals as reported by Italian strength returns and by the Americans are beginning to agree reasonably well. The AWOL's in many units are still excessive, totaling approximately 15% of strength. 5538
- (2) Security reports, on Italian troops requested by your Headquarters have not been made but are now being collected and will be consolidated and forwarded as soon as received from



G-2 Counter-Intelligence Section.

- (3) Transportation for Italians is still deficient.
- (4) Italian Rations. Considerable difficulty is being experienced in getting the components of the Italian rations to the Italian troops especially at Piombino. Have requested Colonel Offenhauer to assist by getting rations on Liberties bound for Piombino. The Italians should improve their supply system in forward areas.
- (5) Uniforms and Equipment. The Italians still need summer uniforms and organizational equipment.
- (6) Interpreters: As a result of a general canvass, the following are competent:

Italian Liaison Officers with Hq Fifth Army

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| De Medici Tornaquinci Lorenzo | Capt., Cav.      |
| Naldoni Narde                 | Capt., Arty.     |
| Apostoli Amerigo              | Lt., Inf.        |
| Di Palma Castiglione Rinaldo  | Lt., Arty.       |
| De Martino Alfonso            | 2d Lieut., Arty. |

210th Italian Infantry Division:

|                     |              |                           |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Polestra Rocco      | Maj. Surgeon | Hq 210th Div.             |
| Mauri Innocente     | Lt., Inf.    | " " "                     |
| Arnabaldi Luigi     | Capt.        | Hq 67th Inf Regt.         |
| Banci Giovanni      | 2d Lt., Inf. | Hq 548th Inf. Regt.       |
| Silvano Vittorio    | 2d Lt., Inf. | " " " "                   |
| Fracchia Dante      | Lt., Cav.    | Pack Mule Dressing Center |
| Ramandino Francesco | 2d Lt., Cav. | " " " "                   |
| Bruni Vincenzo      | 2d Lt., Cav. | 20th Pack Mule Group      |

- (7) Reference, AAI signal as to dumps, of Italian arms, ammunition and equipment, have sent you a signal on a large warehouse of Italian stores located at Gaita.

2. General Interest: The need for transportation and a typist by me is still urgent.

*Rolla C. Van Kirk*  
 ROLLA C. VAN KIRK,  
 Major, Infantry,  
 MMIA, L. O.  
 Fifth Army.



HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY  
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/fnt  
3 July 1944

Subject: Weekly Liaison Report No. 1.

To : General Officer Commanding Army Sub-Commission,  
A. P. O. #663, U. S. Army.

1. In conformity with C/21 directive of 27 June 1944, the following is a brief resume of liaison activities for week ending, 1 July 1944:

a. Movement of Italian Units:

See Weekly Status Report of Italian troops being forwarded. This gives present location and by comparison with previous weekly report, the moves can be determined. Situation is so mobile that a majority of units move weekly.

b. Arrivals and Departures:

None.

c. Conferences:

(1) With General Cortese, Col. Berni, Noldoni, Major Nini and Italian L. O. officers (Italian).

(2) With Col. Pidsley, Majors Pickley, Dobbs, MMIA officers.

(3) With G-2, G-4, Engineer, AMG, Transportation, all of Fifth Army and Rome Area Command.

d. Inspections:

Have not been able to inspect any units since the first week because no transportation has been available to me.

e. Mistakes:

- (1) Strength of Italian units. Totals as reported by Italian strength returns are excessively larger than actual number present. Fifth Army has been accepting Italians' figures but G-1 has directed that an Allied Officer or NCO actually make a personal weekly check and report. Discrepancies reported to date are considerable. The AWOL's in many units are excessive totaling approximately 15% of strength, all of which I have called to the attention of the 210th Division and am inclosing the Chief of Staff's explanation. I am also inclosing copy of request for replacements and policy.



as to leaves for Italian soldiers. I will make proper application through channels for replacement.

*Note by SORE.*

*This was cancelled  
in my RE6/1 dated  
5 June 44 as FIFTH  
Army had then started  
sending us a copy  
of their "Status of  
Italian Troops".  
RRP  
10/7*

- (2) Reports required by your Headquarters should be consolidated as much as possible. For example, your <sup>Engineer</sup> Officer has been requiring Fifth Army Engineer to make separate reports as to Italian Engineer units assigned to Fifth Army, giving name, strength, working strength, location, type of employment, unit employing italians, discipline and conduct of attached organization, standard of work and morale.
- (3) Security reports on Italian troops have not been made but are now being collected and will be consolidated and forwarded as soon as received.
- (4) Transportation for Italians is deficient, all of their requests however have to be screened by me for they have no conception of economy in the use of transport. From reports it appears that considerable Italian military transport is now in unauthorized hands, such as AMG, French and civilians in Rome Area. Italian officers from S.M.R.E. should be sent to Rome immediately to canvass the Italian Military transport in cooperation with your MMIA representatives and the Rome area command.
- (5) Uniforms and Equipment: The Italians should have summer uniforms and organizational equipment such as tentage and messing equipment. See inclosed complaint of General Cortese. *replied*
- (6) Interpreters: I have requested that the Fifth Army units be screened for English speaking interpreters and as soon as completed will report on number present.
- (7) Reference, AAI signal as to dumps, of Italian arms, ammunition and equipment including military transport, have prepared a directive which has gone out to corps and services:
- (8) Reference your signal as to securing unauthorized replacements by 210th Division, neither this Headquarters nor I had any information concerning such a proposal. I do know, and we have approved, the establishment of a small collecting station in Rome for the purpose of collecting AWOL's, hospital evacuees and stragglers, all actually assigned members of the 210th Division. This may have been what S.M.R.E. thought was <sup>un</sup>authorized, but I don't so consider it.



2. General Interest: This request may not be of general interest but it appears to me to be of extreme importance. I need an American or British (male) typist and a C&R or jeep badly for the number of clerks and transport here are inadequate in number.

*Rolla C. Van Kirk*  
ROLLA C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Infantry,  
MMIA, L. O.  
Fifth Army.

3 Incls?  
#1-Ltr 210th Ital. Inf Div - 30 June  
#2-Ltr " " " " - 21 June  
#3-Ltr " " " " - 1 June



210th ITALIAN INFANTRY DIVISION HQ.  
1st. Section \*Ops., Inf., and Serv.

A.P.O. 179, 30th. June 1944

Serial n\*. 01/3683

Subject: Replacements and means of transportation for soldiers to be sent on leave in liberated countries.

Memorandum

To: Italian Liaison Office with 5th. Army.

\*\*\*\*\*

1\*): The Italian General Staff (S.M.R.E.) has informed us that 3.000 men are available to be assigned as replacements to this Division but the order of movement has to be given by M.M.I.A.

We beg you to call the 5th. Army HQ, interest on the matter in order to send the request.

We also beg you to explain the opportunity not to reduce the number of the replacements in order to be able of meeting the deficiencies that will occur when we will send on leave many soldiers who live in the zones that will be liberated.

Please state to 5th. Army that the issue of these leaves to soldiers living in liberated zones is an absolute necessity, besides being a human duty, in order to prevent that they should arbitrarily escape.

2\*): We also think it our duty to provide these soldiers going on leave in occupied countries with the means of transportation required.

These measures are motivated not only by human feelings and consideration of the soldiers needs (being unconceivable that a soldier should be compelled to cover on foot hundreds of miles to reach his home, after all the sacrifices given for the common cause) but also for the necessity of picking up the soldiers coming back from leave (since it's obvious that the same soldiers who would be very willing to walk hundreds of miles to reach their homes would not be as willing to walk as far to come back and even more perhaps since in the meantime their Units may have moved forward).

We beg you to draw 5th. Army HQ.'s (Maj. Van Kirk) interest on the above mentioned problems in order to obtain the necessary measures which are urgent.

(signed)

The Chief of Staff  
Maj. Biagio Nini  
Biagio Nini

Translated by:

2nd. Lt. Alfonso de Martino.

A. H. de Martino.

Incl H 1

5533

| 1 6 5 2 |