

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

ACC

10000 | 120 | 1018

G/3

JUL

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

10000 | 120 | 1018

6/31/19 Liaison Log (20. 54 Area)
July 1945

Tel : BARI 11458

Subject : Report

SECRET

1 COPY ONLY. RECEIVED 16

Liaison Officer
Land Forces Sub Comm AC.
(MMIA) c/o 54 Area

Ref : LO/I/SD
10 July 45

To : HQ. MMIA

Ref your G/31 of 4 June 45.

G Points

1. Few of those listed appears applicable to my Area.

With regard to NO 16 morale here as elsewhere is NOT particularly high. If HR-ITI and US-ITI are better than ITI-ITI's it probably results from the slightly better material conditions. The Italian soldier is however sensible that he enjoys a relatively assured supply of the necessities of life which is more than can be said of his civilian brothers.

2. A Points.

- a. Obviously dedirable but
- b. No special observations.
- c.
- d. Highly desirable.

My general view is that the present Italian Officer possesses all the faults and few of the virtues usually associated with regular Army Officers.

Obviously there are too many "dead beats" at the top. The obvious remedies are :- low retiring age strictly enforced, bold selective promotion, encouragement for the new young officer willing to assume responsibility, penalisation of inaction rather than mistaken action, more promotion from the ranks, removal of disabilities on reservist officers, widening the field of selection by removing what I suspect to be the hidden sanctions which restricts the Officer Corps to Catholic Monarchists.

My ability to produce more definite and therefore useful information on these points would be greater if you could supply me with copies of the official Italian regulations governing them.

I would then be able to study how they work out in practice and ask more pertinent questions of the officers with whom I come into

10-54-1

it probably results from the fact that the Italian soldier is however sensible that he enjoys a relatively assured supply of the necessities of life which is more than can be said of his civilian brothers.

2. A Points.

- a. } Obviously desirable but
- b. } No special observations.
- c. }
- d. Highly desirable.

My general view is that the present Italian Officer possesses all the faults and few of the virtues usually associated with regular Army Officers.

Obviously there are too many "dead beats" at the top. The obvious remedies are :- low retiring age strictly enforced, bold selective promotion, encouragement for the new young officer willing to assume responsibility, penalisation of inaction rather than mistaken action, more promotion from the ranks, removal of disabilities on reservist officers, widening the field of selection by removing what I suspect to be the hidden sanction which restricts the Officer Corps to Catholic Monarchists.

My ability to produce more definite and therefore useful information on these points would be greater if you could supply me with copies of the official Italian regulations governing them.

I would then be able to study how they work out in practice and ask more pertinent questions of the officers with whom I come into contact.

Unless accurate translation can be guaranteed, I would prefer untranslated copies.

3. Q Points

- a. TPT. see ST/41 dated 20 June

b. RATIONS

- (i) Satisfactory
- (ii) Satisfactory
- (iii) Soap and Cigarettes

MINIA...
FILE: 9/31/10
DATE: 12/17

D/Comm. instructed to have sufficient supplies available for maintenance of cooperator units, now being returned to Italian Army and confirms that this will be done.

6893

130430

0 3 4 2

3. 2 Points

(iv) W. e. f. period 6-13 July, Italian Navy at TARANTO will be maintained by weekly pack ex 28 BSD., BRINDISI. Adjustment of surpluses held by them ~~and~~ will be made in subsequent packs, when accurate figures have been ascertained.

c. ORD

(1) No Points

(ii) Dye plant has nearly finished the dyeing of clothing for US-ITI and ITI-ITI troops, and will then be closed down for lack of coal. UNRRA has been authorized to use the Dye Plant for clothing for Jugoslavs.

They are ~~now~~ attempting to obtain coal from AFHQ for this purpose.

(iii) All ITI-ITI repair plants are operating at a reduced rate due to the non availability of clothing from US ~~and~~ or UK sources. By the end of July they will be operating a maximum of 25% of full capacity.

✓ (iv) Boot program operating at 100%.

d. ACCN

(i) Not known

(ii) Not known

C. Pratt *G. P. Pratt* Maj
Senior MIA LO
Eastern Italy

They are now attempting to obtain coal from AFHQ for this purpose.

- (iii) All ITI-ITI repair plants are operating at a reduced rate due to the non availability of clothing from US ~~and~~ or UK sources. By the end of July they will be operating at a maximum of 25% of full capacity.

✓ (iv) Boot program operating at 100%.

d. ACCN

(i) Not known

(ii) Not known

Cipriotti *de Holt* Maj
Senior MMIA LO
Eastern Italy

6889

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

10 5 4 4