

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

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Reports Legman

Ap. 1945

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

OUTGOING SIGNAL

FROM MMIA Date Time
TO 52 BLU 24 1015 B

REF SD 2626

CONFIDENTIAL

FOR MMIA LO (.) YOUR SITREP NO 4 OF
20 CONTRAVENES INSTRUCTIONS IN MMIA SIGNAL INT 191
OF 01 (.) WEEKLY SITREPS ON COMBAT GP ACHIEVEMENTS SHOULD BE
CLASSIFIED SECRET NOT RPT NOT TOP SECRET

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

AUTHENTICATED

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Internal:
File: G/67/3

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

Subject : Sitreps.

G/K 1/3.

LO/G/3.

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52 B.L.U.

To : Land Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Commission,
H.Q. M.M.I.A., Rome.

~~HP~~ G.O.C.
C of S (K)
G(T) W.H.
A WP

Herewith, in duplicate, Sitrep No.4 covering
period 10 - 20 April 1945, together with a report
concerning a small raid carried out by troops of
the LEGNANO Group on 10 April.

[Signature]
23 Apr
23 A
REP

See F.3

[Signature]
Major,
M.M.I.A. L.O.

20 Apr 45.

MMIA.	G
FILE:	G/67/3
DATE:	23/4

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LIAISON OFFICER'S SITREP No; 4.

LEGNANO COMBAT GROUP.

Period 10 April - 20 April 45 1200 hrs.

Ref. Maps ITALY 1:25,000 Sheets 87-II SE, 88-III SW,
98-I NE, 99-IV NW ; 1:100,000 Sheets 87 and 88.

I propose to alter the form of the Sitrep hitherto submitted, as I consider that a more general account, in narrative form, will be of more interest than a detailed report regarding trivial events such as enemy shelling and minor patrol activity.

The Sitrep will therefore in future consist of a narrative of operational events on a wider outlook, as well as any intelligence reports of an interesting nature.

Major operational events.

The offensive on 5th Army front.

5th Army general plan was to attack with Corps abreast and debouch into the PO valley between the Rivers RENO and PANNARO and capture or isolate BOLOGNA.

The offensive was to start on D Day from West to East, IV Corps on left and II Corps on right.

On the immediate left of LEGNANO Group, 34 American Div was to attack on D+1 with objective P.dei MORI 9133, and continue to Pt.299 (9234).

On receipt of orders from II Corps, LEGNANO Group was to attack and capture Pt.363 (9333).

On the right of LEGNANO Group, 13 Corps of 8 Army was to hold their present line in the initial stages, conforming later to progress made on either flank.

The attack of IV and II Corps was arranged in three phases, GREEN, BROWN and BLACK, representing certain objectives to be reached. In these phases LEGNANO had the following tasks :-

Phase BROWN.

Major operational events.

The offensive on 5th Army front.

5th Army general plan was to attack with Corps abreast and debouch into the PO valley between the Rivers RENO and PANNARO and capture or isolate BOLOGNA.

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The attack of IV and II Corps was arranged in three phases, GREEN, BROWN and BLACK, representing certain objectives to be reached. In these phases LEGNANO had the following tasks :-

Phase BROWN.

Hold present posns firmly.

Assist 34 Div with fire.

Maintain contact with 13 Corps on right.

Protect right of II Corps.

Phase BLACK.

Be prepared to capture high gd 9333 and seize Line X (Pt.363 (9333) - S.CHERICO - Pt.148 (9433) - PERDINI 9433 - Rocky gd West of PIZZANO).

34 Div's tasks in these two phases were :-

Phase BROWN.

Capture P.dei MORI 9133 and Pt.356 (9134).

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Phase BLACK.

Capture Pt.299 (9234) and seize Line X (prolongation of LEGNANO Group Line X).

Comd. LEGNANO Group proposed to capture Line X in four phases :-

1. Occupy Pt.363 from the direction of C.CARRARA 9333. Task allotted to the Speciale Regt.
2. Speciale Regt then to occupy S.CHIERICO 9433.
In the meantime 68 Inf Regt to occupy the triangle formed by Pt.265 (946332) - Rocky Gd West of PIZZANO - C.GHILLI 9432 from direction of ORBEGA 9432.
3. Patrols to junction of RIO di IANO and IDICE River and mopping up.
4. Re-organise on Line X.

Extending to the right (on the right of LEGNANO Group) were MACFORCE, FOLGORE, FRIULI and POLCORPS (the latter astride Route 9).

On 15 April the offensive was launched, and by evening 16 April considerable advances had been made both on IV Corps and II Corps fronts against very strong and determined opposition. II Corps signalled that in order to achieve maximum results from blows already struck and to prevent re-grouping and re-organisation of the enemy, the drive was to continue without pause until a break-through had been forced.

In order to create a diversion to give the enemy the impression that strong units would attack along the SILLARO, QUADERNA and IDICE valleys, Corps ordered LEGNANO Group to be prepared to carry out one of the following operations on the night 17/18 April. Deception noises representing Tanks and movement of heavy guns, lorry-borne Infantry, etc, were made in these valleys on nights 15/16 and 16/17 April:-

1. The capture of Line X.
2. A raid in Coy strength.
3. Active patrolling along the whole front, and keeping close contact with the enemy.

Extending to the right (on the right of LEGNANO Group) were MACFORCE, FOLGORE, FRIULI and POLCORPS (the latter astride Route 9).

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1. The capture of Line X.
2. A raid in Coy strength.
3. Active patrolling along the whole front, and keeping close contact with the enemy.

Owing to the progress of 34 Div being slower than expected, No.2 of the above was subsequently ordered. The raid took place against C.MERLA 9332, which turned out to be un-occupied, although heavy fire was directed against the attackers from either flank.

During this period, LEGNANO Group was made responsible for all demolitions in the IDICE valley in the event of a strong enemy counter-attack.

In the event of a sudden withdrawal on the part of the enemy, LEGNANO was to shuttle forward two Bns at a time, using its own available transport.

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On 17 April it appeared probable that the enemy would carry out an orderly withdrawal to the North, fighting rearguard actions, and orders were given to follow close on his heels and conform to progress of Allied units on the flanks.

Patrol activity was increased in order to prevent the enemy slipping away unseen.

Cmd. LEGNANO gave orders that as soon as the enemy started disengaging, the forward Bns were to advance to Pt. 459 (9633) - PIZZANO spur 9532 and 9432 - Pt. 363. IX Assault Bn to halt on M. ARMATO 9533 and Goito Bn on POGGIO SCANNO 9434. An organized attack was to be delivered from this line.

On 18 April II Corps signalled that the enemy appeared to be cracking on our front. All units were to attack with full power by day and night without pause. Patrols were to be intensified and close contact maintained.

During the night 18/19 April enemy mortared our positions about M. FANO 9532 and ORBEGA 9432 and heavy MG fire was opened from C. CARRARA 9333. LEGNANO patrols reached CASELLA 9633 and a point East of Pt. 459 (9633), drawing heavy LMG fire. Patrols to Pt. 376 were fired on from there and from P. di VIGNALE 9632. Casa MERLA was found to be still unoccupied.

On 19 April Corps signalled that there were strong indications of an enemy withdrawal to the GENGHIS KHAN line, and that all Divs were to drive forward during the night and following day.

In view of slackening enemy resistance, both the Speciale and 68th Inf Regts had already pushed forward. Casa del FIUME 9433 and house at 941332 were occupied by 2040 hrs; S. CHIERICO was at this time still occupied by the enemy.

LEGNANO had 2 killed and 30 wounded during the day, and by midnight had taken 47 prisoners, including a Captain and two Warrant Officers.

By morning on 20 April, enemy resistance had considerably slackened. Piemonte Bn occupied all the high ground in square 9333 by 0430 hrs, and halted there. The Goito Bn then leapfrogged through and occupied POGGIO SCANNO 9435 and Casa MADDONINA 9335.

IX Assault Bn reached C. del MOLINO and C. CRETOLA 9235. Aquila Bn, which had by 0530 hrs occupied

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During the night 18/19 April enemy mortared our positions about M.PANO 9532 and ORBEGA 9432 and heavy MG fire was opened from C.CARRARA 9333. LEGNANO patrols reached CASELLA 9633 and a point East of Pt.459 (9633), drawing heavy LMG fire. Patrols to Pt.376 were fired on from there and from P. di VIGNALE 9632. Casa MERLA was found to be still unoccupied.

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IX Assault Bn reached C.del MOLINO and C.CRETOLA 9235. Aquila Bn, which had by 0530 hrs occupied S.CHIERICO and CASELLA 9433 without encountering resistance, continued along the IDICE valley and occupied FORNACE MOLINELLO 9534. On the right, 2nd Bn 68th reached FORN. del COBBO 9535 and 1st Bn 68th reached FUMARINA 9733.

Contact with 34 Div on the left was established in vicinity of M. Ca. del ALBERO 8937.

Prisoners stated that they had been ordered to hold their positions at all costs.

To 1200 hrs 20 Apr 45.

M. S. 9479
Major,
M.M.I.A. L.O.

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Patrol activity was increased in order to prevent the enemy slipping away unseen.

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By morning on 20 April, enemy resistance had considerably slackened. Piemonte Bn occupied all the high ground in square 9333 by 0430 hrs, and halted there. The Goito Bn then leapfrogged through and occupied POGGIO SCANNO 9435 and Casa MADDONINA 9335.

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power by day and night without pause. Patrols were to be intensified and close contact maintained.

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IX Assault Bn reached C. del MOLINO and C. CRETOLA 9235. Aquila Bn, which had by 0530 hrs occupied S. CHIERICO and CASELLA 9433 without encountering resistance, continued along the IDICE valley and occupied FORNACE MOLINELLO 9534. On the right, 2nd Bn 68th reached FORN. del GOBBO 9535 and 1st Bn 68th reached FUMARINA 9733.

Contact with 34 Div on the left was established in vicinity of M. Ca. del ALBERO 8937.

Prisoners stated that they had been ordered to hold their positions at all costs.

To 1200 hrs 20 Apr 45.

Major,
M.M.I.A. L.O.

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HQ 68 Inf Regt - Legnano.

Report on the action at Pt 459 and PARROCCIA DI VIGNALE on 10 Apr 45.1. Objective 10 (110 Coy Arditi).

At 0600 hrs the flank pl under 2/Lt PASCARELLA reached isolated house on lower slopes of PARROCCIA DI VIGNALE un-noticed, and finding it empty pushed them in spite of serious losses.

At 0620 hrs the frontal pl under 2/Lt MANENTI (who was later killed) moved towards the upper houses and reached this objective after suffering casualties from enemy mines. At the same time a patrol of 10 men under 2/Lt FAVALE descended along the spur from the EAST on to PARROCCIA cemetery, where it threw grenades into an enemy covered position and then pushed on towards PARROCCIA where it came under MG fire whilst crossing a minefield. In accordance with orders however, it continued towards the upper houses at PARROCCIA DI VIGNALE.

Meanwhile, at 0645 hrs, a strong German counter attack (str about 100 men according to Lt GAGLIARDI, OC 110 Coy) was launched from the re-entrant immediately N of the cemetery. Lt GAGLIARDI, with two Brens on the slopes NE of CASETTA DI VIGNALE, held this counter attack and 3 enemy were seen to be killed and 2 wounded. Beretta MG fire from PASCARELLA and MANENTI's pls then caused the enemy to withdraw. At this moment 2/Lt MANENTI went to assist Arditi DELANA who was seriously wounded, but was himself killed by MG fire. His batman, in an attempt to recover his body, was wounded.

At 0650 hrs at the request of Lt GAGLIARDI, a thick smoke screen was put down in the PARROCCIA DI VIGNALE area, and 2/Lt PASCARELLA's pl withdrew under cover of the smoke and fire from the other pl, which then also withdrew. German stretcher-bearers came fwd three times to collect dead and wounded.

2/Lts PORTES and PERUCCA (MOs of the IX Assault Bn) went fwd towards PARROCCIA, crossing the minefields preceded by parties of men with mine detectors. They brought back 3 wounded and 4 dead, leaving a fifth body in an intensely mined area, access to which was too dangerous. At the same time German str-bearers together with the German Lt command the post, made contact with 2/Lt PERUCCA (who speaks German) and told him that they had had many casualties, and that one of our Arditi who had had his foot blown off by a mine had been evacuated by them. The German Lt who was evacuated and dirty, and appeared to be depressed, declared that he ~~was~~ looked fwd to the end of this useless slaughter.

110 Coy's casualties in this action amounted to 6 killed and 26 wounded (incl the man evacuated by the enemy).

Subsequent to this action, the Germans abandoned the PARROCCIA area after mining it heavily, and now keep a strong counter-attack force (est at possibly a pl in view of the presence of a German Lt on the spot) in the re-entrant immediately N of the cemetery where they previously had their reserves.

The behaviour of 110 Coy was excellent, particularly as regards the manner in which they overcame the minefields in spite of serious losses.

2. Objective 23 (123 Coy Arditi).

The summit of Pt 459 was reached at 0635 hrs after an arty and mortar shoot coordinated in conjunction with the mort of the inf.

Meanwhile, at 0645 hrs, a strong German counter attack (str about 100 men according to Lt GAGLIARDI, OC 110 Coy) was launched from the re-entrant immediately N of the cemetery. Lt GAGLIARDI, with two Brens on the slopes NE of CASETTA DI VIGNALE, held this counter attack and 3 enemy were seen to be killed and 2 wounded. Beretta MG fire from PASCARELLA and MARUZZI's pls then caused the enemy to withdraw. At this moment 2/Lt MAIENTI went to assist Arditi DELIANA who was seriously wounded, but was himself killed by MG fire. His batman, in an attempt to recover his body, was wounded.

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110 Coy's casualties in this action amounted to 6 killed and 26 wounded (incl the men evac by the enemy).

Subsequent to this action, the Germans abandoned the PARROCHIA area after mining it heavily, and now keep a strong counter-attack force (est at possibly a pl in view of the presence of a German Lt on the spot) in the re-entrant immediately N of the cemetery where they previously had their reserves.

The behaviour of 110 Coy was excellent, particularly as regards the manner in which they overcame the minefields in spite of serious losses.

2. Objective 23 (123 Coy Arditi).

The summit of Pt 459 was reached at 0635 hrs after an arty and mortar shoot coordinated in conjunction with the movt of the inf. Four manned posts were found on the crest, these were attacked with hand grenades. A few yards behind the crest the reverse slopes are honey-combed with covered comm trenches and numerous shelters dug into the side of the mtn.

2/Lts PALMA and SCHIAVONI mopped up the reverse slopes whilst the Arditi crushed resistance on the crest, under hvy MG fire from the slopes N of Pt 459 and particularly from the FUMARINA spur. Offra and men completed the mopping up vigorously, blocking the Germans at the entrances of their shelters with bursts of LMG fire. The Germans refused to surrender and the Arditi then threw hand grenades and finished off the more stubborn with their daggers.

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Amongst others, Sgt PIEROZZI of the 123 Coy, who already holds one silver medal and two bronze medals for valour, was seen to kill four Germans with his dagger.

On the lower slopes SW of Pt 459 a concrete construction, still intact, was evacuated by the enemy under conc fire from one of our tks on the C.DEI GUSI spur. The fire of the tks from C.MAZZOLINA on to the posns on the crest and to block the enemy garrison on the SE slopes of Pt 459 (est 10 men), was also very effective. These men, who were threatened by being cut off from the rear, were attempting to get into a dominating posn on top of the crest.

The fire of I Bty 11 Arty Regt prevented the approach of enemy reinforcements from C.FUMARINA and caused about 10 enemy casualties.

At approx 0700 hrs the 123 Arditi Coy broke off the action and withdrew from Pt 459 with one prisoner and a MG. Pt 459 evidently constitutes a strong-point in the enemy's main line of resistance, and is strengthened by minefields to the front and on its flanks.

The garrison of the posn at the time of the attack may be est at about a coy on low establishment, probably stretched between this pt and C.BROGLIO.

The losses of 123 Coy were comparatively light, ie. 1 missing probably killed (Arditi POCIOLO), and 9 wounded; giving proof of the vigour with which the coy surprised the enemy whilst the were still being subjected to the neutralising fire of the arty, which crushed their resistance.

Enemy losses on Pt 459 totalled about 25.

OUR LOSSES.

IX Reparto d'Assalto:

Killed
Missing
Wounded

Officers.

1
2

ORs

5
1
33 (probably killed)
(1 OR in en hands)

I Bn:

Killed
Wounded

1
1

Total - Regt :

Killed 7
Missing 1
Wounded 36

Our Coy surprised the enemy whilst the were still being subjected to the neutralising fire of the arty, which crushed their resistance.
Enemy losses on Pt 459 totalled about 25.

IX Reparto d'Assalto:

Killed
Missing
Wounded

I Bn:

Killed
Wounded

Total - Regt :

Killed 7
Missing 1
Wounded 36

OUR LOSSES:

<u>Officers.</u>	<u>ORs</u>
1	5
2	1
	33 (probably killed) (1 OR in en hands)
	1
	1

PAGE/NS
18 Apr 45.

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

Subject : Reports.

LO/G/3

52 B.L.U.

To / Land Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Commission,
H.Q. M.M.I.A., Rome.

INT/105
F. 8

15/4

Ref your INT/183 of 21 March 45.

Herewith SITREP No.3.

MMIA-'G'
FILE: 9/13
DATE: R 15/4

Wm. E. E. E.

Major,
M.M.I.A. L.O.

13 Apr 45.

16 A
REP

7468

LIAISON OFFICER'S SITREP No. 3.

SECRET.

LEGNANO COMBAT GROUP.

Period 31 March - 9 Apr 1945.

Ref Maps ITALY 1:25,000 Sheets 87-II S.E.
88-III S.W.
98-I N.E.
99-IV N.W.

310800 to 010800 Apr 45.

1. 68 Inf Regt.

Ambush patrols did not contact enemy. Enemy mortars and shells on 960312, C.A.L VENTO 9631, CASTELVECCHIO 9631, C.d.I VIGNALE 9632, 955324, 956312 and 950325.

2. Speciale Inf Regt.

15 105-mm shells on area 922316, of which 9 failed to explode, 3 were incendiary, and 3 contained propaganda leaflets written in English.

Enemy fire on 935325 was neutralised by own mortars.

Enemy engaged 936326, 945321 and 942321 with mortar fire.

3. 11 Arty Regt.

Engaged targets on road along IDICE valley and at S.CHIERICO.
3 Bty engaged suspected patrol at 941328 at 0435 hrs.

010800 to 020800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

(a) Piemonte Bn. American 4" Mortars engaged enemy IMG posns 933332 which were harassing own posn at 933227. Later wounded were seen being evacuated.

(b) L'Aquila Bn. At 2230 hrs a patrol from the Bn was trapped in a minefield at 939327, one mine exploding. A fire fight ensued with enemy PDL's and one man was killed and one wounded.

At 2245 hrs enemy MG's active along whole Bn front, and parachute flares were used.

(c) Goito Bn. The Bn area was shelled during the night.

2. 68 Inf Regt.

Quiet except for light enemy shelling and mortaring.

3. 11 Arty Regt.

From 2015 to 0300 hrs fired 720 rds HE.

placed, 3 were immediately written in English.

Enemy fire on 935325 was neutralised by own mortars.

Enemy engaged 936326, 945321 and 942321 with mortar fire.

3. 11 Arty Regt.

Engaged targets on road along IDICE valley and at S.CHIERICO.

3 Bty engaged suspected patrol at 941328 at 0435 hrs.

010800 to 020800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

(a) Piemonte Bn. American 4" Mortars engaged enemy IMG posns 933332 which were harassing own posn at 933227. Later wounded were seen being evacuated.

(b) L'Aquila Bn. At 2230 hrs a patrol from the Bn was trapped in a minefield at 939327, one mine exploding. A fire fight ensued with enemy FDL's and one man was killed and one wounded.

At 2245 hrs enemy MG's active along whole Bn front, and parachute flares were used.

(c) Goito Bn. The Bn area was shelled during the night.

2. 68 Inf Regt.

Quiet except for light enemy shelling and mortaring.

3. 11 Arty Regt.

From 2015 to 0300 hrs fired 720 rds HE.

020800 to 030800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

(a) Piemonte Bn. Considerable enemy movement seen at 924336 at 1415 hrs. At 2145 hrs enemy concentrated intense IMG fire on to 924325+ and 930326 ; own arty replied on 933333 and 931331.

An enemy patrol was dispersed at 922318 at 2215 hrs.

(b) L'Aquila Bn. Light enemy shelling and mortaring. One man killed and two wounded by mortar bomb.

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SECRET.

(2)

2. 68 Inf Regt.
Active enemy mortaring and shelling.
3. 11 Arty Regt.
Fired 406 rds during the day.

030800 to 040800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.
At 0500 hrs an enemy patrol was repulsed with LMG fire in area 937327.
Between 0500-0600 hrs intense enemy mortar fire on 937325, 933326 and C.COLLINA 9232.
2. 68 Inf Regt.
No enemy patrols approached our lines but considerable arty and mortar fire landed in the sector.
3. 11 Arty Regt.
Fired harassing fire plan during the night and engaged targets at request of Inf. Total rds fired 586.
Cas. During the 24 hrs were 2 OR's k. and 9 OR's w.

040800 to 050800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.
Quiet day. Limited enemy shelling and mortaring ; no patrols.
2. 68 Inf Regt.
Patrols did not contact enemy. Enemy shelling light.

050800 to 060800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.
An enemy patrol of 5 men approached our posns at C.di RAZZONE 9332 and was dispersed, withdrawing along IDICE valley at 2245 hrs. At 0325 hrs enemy shelled and mortared C.di RAZZONE and 25 mins later both sides exchanged heavy LMG fire in this area.
2. 68 Inf Regt.
Enemy fire very active. An ambush patrol at 966328 met enemy trying to approach our lines and dispersed them with grenades. At 0650 hrs a German deserter of Polish origin surrendered at 960325. He stated he belonged to 577 Gren Regt of 305 Div and had been employed on patrols and tele interception of lines. He located HQ 577 Regt at 966328.

and mortar fire landed in the sector.

3. 11 Arty Regt.

Fired harassing fire plan during the night and engaged targets at request of Inf. Total rds fired 586.

Cas. During the 24 hrs were 2 OR's k. and 9 OR's w.

040800 to 050800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

Quiet day. Limited enemy shelling and mortaring; no patrols.

2. 68 Inf Regt.

Patrols did not contact enemy. Enemy shelling light.

050800 to 060800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

An enemy patrol of 5 men approached our posns at C.di RAZZONE 9332 and was dispersed, withdrawing along IDICE valley at 2245 hrs. At 0325 hrs enemy shelled and mortared C.di RAZZONE and 25 mins later both sides exchanged heavy LMG fire in this area.

2. 68 Inf Regt.

Enemy fire very active. An ambush patrol at 966328 met enemy trying to approach our lines and dispersed them with grenades. At 0650 hrs a German deserter of Polish origin surrendered at 960325. He stated he belonged to 577 Gren Regt of 305 Div and had been employed on patrols and tele interception of lines.

He located HQ 577 Regt at SPICCHI ROSSI 9635, 1st Bn 577 Regt in area 945336 and 1st Coy of 1st Bn at C.MAZZONI 9533.

060800 to 070800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

(a) Piemonte Bn. At 0830 hrs an enemy smoke screen in area S.CHIERICO extending to Pt;363 (935335) and Torrente ZENA 930335.

Enemy MG located at 932331 was engaged with 10 rds HE by American Bty.

(b) L'Aquila Bn. Coy reliefs between 2100-2400 hrs. **7466**

(c) Goito Bn. Patrols located two enemy LMG's at 932332 and 938329.

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(3)

2. 68 Inf Regt.
At 1745 hrs an American Tank in action at 964314 was engaged by 88-mm arty. Throughout day enemy arty and mortar fire was active and on the increase. 3 men wounded.
3. 11 Arty Regt.
Fired 575 rds on various targets during day and night.
4. 51 Engr Bn.
Engaged on maintenance and improvement of roads.
070800 to 080800 Apr 45.
1. 11 Arty Regt.
Carried out known fire plan between 2345-2355 hrs and 0001-0010 hrs on targets astride the IDICE valley.
2. Inf.
No special event of any importance reported. Enemy arty fire and mortars active. Nebelwerfer at 92353280 engaged by arty.
080800 to 090800 Apr 45.
1. 11 Arty Regt.
Took part in fire plan between 2200-2235 hrs.
2. Speciale Inf Regt.
(a) Piemonte Bn. At 0730 hrs enemy fired 80 shells in area 928327. Active exchange of fire during the day.
(b) L'Aquila Bn. Quiet. Enemy patrols at 937324 and 938323 were dispersed by LMG fire.
(c) Goito Bn. Continued active patrolling. One patrol was fired on by enemy but extricated itself with aid of fire from the Piemonte Bn.
3. 68 Inf Regt.
(a) 1st Bn. Enemy patrol of about 10 men engaged by own patrol at 966327 and withdrew. Enemy mortaring active, 3 men w;
(b) 2nd Bn. No contact by patrols. Enemy mortars active.
4. A Coy 752 Tank Bn (att)
Engaged enemy posns at Pt.363 (935335), C.PIA3TRA 938346, SCANNO 942350, 933335, 938347, Pt.261 (944366), 945358, 954368 and 949369, expending 305 rds.
5. 805 Tank Destroyer Bn.
Fired 265 rds at located enemy posns. Hits observed.
6. 11 Arty Regt.

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No special event of any importance reported. Enemy arty fire and mortars active. Nebelwerfer at 92353280 engaged by arty.

080800 to 090800 Apr 45.

1. 11 Arty Regt.

Took part in fire plan between 2200-2235 hrs.

2. Speciale Inf Regt.

- (a) Piemonte Bn. At 0730 hrs enemy fired 80 shells in area 928327. Active exchange of fire during the day.
- (b) L'Aquila Bn. Quiet. Enemy patrols at 937324 and 938323 were dispersed by IMG fire.
- (c) Goito Bn. Continued active patrolling. One patrol was fired on by enemy but extricated itself with aid of fire from the Piemonte Bn.

3. 68 Inf Regt.

- (a) 1st Bn. Enemy patrol of about 10 men engaged by own patrol at 966327 and withdrew. Enemy mortaring active, 3 men w;
- (b) 2nd Bn. No contact by patrols. Enemy mortars active.

4. A Coy 752 Tank Bn (att)

Engaged enemy posns at Pt.363 (935335), C.PIASTRA 938346, SCANNO 942350, 933335, 938347, Pt.261 (944366), 945358, 954368 and 949369, expending 305 rds.

5. 805 Tank Destroyer Bn.

Fired 265 rds at located enemy posns. Hits observed.

6. 11 Arty Regt.

From 2220-2235 hrs took part in known fire plan and fired 720 rds HE. During the course of the day fired a further 289 rds on other targets.

Wm. F. ...
M.M.I.A. ^{Ma} 27.65

LIAISON OFFICER'S SITREP No. 3.

SECRET.

LEGNAHO COMBAT GROUP.

Period 31 March - 9 Apr 1945.

Ref Maps ITALY 1:25,000 Sheets 87-II S.E.
88-III S.W.
98-I N.E.
99-IV N.W.

310800 to 010800 Apr 45.

1. 68 Inf Regt.

Ambush patrols did not contact enemy. Enemy mortars and shells on 960312, C.AL VENTO 9631, CASTELVECCHIO 9631, C.di VIGNALE 9632, 955324, 956312 and 950325.

2. Speciale Inf Regt.

15 105-mm shells on area 922316, of which 9 failed to explode, 3 were incendiary, and 3 contained propaganda leaflets written in English.

Enemy fire on 935325 was neutralised by own mortars.

Enemy engaged 936326, 945321 and 942321 with mortar fire.

3. 11 Arty Regt.

Engaged targets on road along IDICE valley and at S.CHIERICO.
3 Bty engaged suspected patrol at 941328 at 0435 hrs.

010800 to 020800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

(a) Piemonte Bn. American 4" Mortars engaged enemy LMG posns 933332 which were harassing own posn at 933227. Later wounded were seen being evacuated.

(b) L'Aquila Bn. At 2230 hrs a patrol from the Bn was trapped in a minefield at 939327, one mine exploding. A fire fight ensued with enemy PDL's and one man was killed and one wounded.

At 2245 hrs enemy MG's active along whole Bn front, and parachute flares were used.

(c) Goito Bn. The Bn area was shelled during the night.

2. 68 Inf Regt.

Quiet except for light enemy shelling and mortaring.

3. 11 Arty Regt.

From 2015 to 0300 hrs fired 720 rds HE.

Written in English.

Enemy fire on 935325 was neutralised by own mortars.
Enemy engaged 936326, 945321 and 942321 with mortar fire.

3. 11 Arty Regt.

Engaged targets on road along IDICE valley and at S. CHIERICO.
3 Bty engaged suspected patrol at 941328 at 0435 hrs.

010800 to 020800 Apr 42.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

(a) Piemonte Bn. American 4" Mortars engaged enemy LMG posns 933332 which were harassing own posn at 933227. Later wounded were seen being evacuated.

(b) L'Aquila Bn. At 2230 hrs a patrol from the Bn was trapped in a minefield at 939327, one mine exploding. A fire fight ensued with enemy FDL's and one man was killed and one wounded.

At 2245 hrs enemy MG's active along whole Bn front, and parachute flares were used.

(c) Goito Bn. The Bn area was shelled during the night.

2. 68 Inf Regt.

Quiet except for light enemy shelling and mortaring.

3. 11 Arty Regt.

From 2015 to 0300 hrs fired 720 rds HE.

020800 to 030800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

(a) Piemonte Bn. Considerable enemy movement seen at 924336 at 1415 hrs. At 2145 hrs enemy concentrated intense LMG fire on to 924325+ and 930326; own arty replied on 933333 and 931331.

An enemy patrol was dispersed at 922318 at 2215 hrs.
(b) L'Aquila Bn. Light enemy shelling and mortaring. 6 men killed and two wounded by mortar bomb.

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2. 68 Inf Regt.
Active enemy mortaring and shelling.
3. 11 Arty Regt.
Fired 406 rds during the day.

030800 to 040800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.
At 0500 hrs an enemy patrol was repulsed with LMG fire in area 937327.
Between 0500-0600 hrs intense enemy mortar fire on 937325, 933326 and C.COLLINA 9232.
2. 68 Inf Regt.
No enemy patrols approached our lines but considerable arty and mortar fire landed in the sector.
3. 11 Arty Regt.
Fired harassing fire plan during the night and engaged targets at request of Inf. Total rds fired 586.
Cas. During the 24 hrs were 2 OR's k. and 9 OR's w.

040800 to 050800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.
Quiet day. Limited enemy shelling and mortaring ; no patrols.
2. 68 Inf Regt.
Patrols did not contact enemy. Enemy shelling light.

050800 to 060800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.
An enemy patrol of 5 men approached our posns at C.di RAZZONE 9332 and was dispersed, withdrawing along IDICE valley at 2245 hrs. At 0325 hrs enemy shelled and mortared C.di RAZZONE and 25 mins later both sides exchanged heavy LMG fire in this area.
2. 68 Inf Regt.
Enemy fire very active. An ambush patrol at 966328 met enemy trying to approach our lines and dispersed them with grenades. At 0650 hrs a German deserter of Polish origin surrendered at 960325. He stated he belonged to 577 Gren Regt of 305 Div and had been employed on patrols and tele interception of lines. He located HQ 577 Regt at SPICCHI ROSSI 9635, 1st Bn 577 Regt

Fired harassing fire plan during the night and engaged targets at request of Inf. Total rds fired 586.

Gas. During the 24 hrs were 2 OR's k. and 9 OR's w.

040800 to 050800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

Quiet day. Limited enemy shelling and mortaring ; no patrols.

2. 68 Inf Regt.

Patrols did not contact enemy. Enemy shelling light.

050800 to 060800 Apr 45.

1. Speciale Inf Regt.

An enemy patrol of 5 men approached our posns at C.di RAZZONE 9332 and was dispersed, withdrawing along IDICE valley at 2245 hrs. At 0325 hrs enemy shelled and mortared C.di RAZZONE and 25 mins later both sides exchanged heavy LMG fire in this area.

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Enemy MG located at 932331 was engaged with 10 rds HE by American Bty.

(b) L'Aquila Bn. Coy reliefs between 2100-2400 hrs.

(c) Goito Bn. Patrols located two enemy LMG's at 932332 and 938329.

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2. 68 Inf Regt.

At 1745 hrs an American Tank in action at 964314 was engaged by 88-mm arty. Throughout day enemy arty and mortar fire was active and on the increase. 3 men wounded.

3. 11 Arty Regt.

Fired 575 rds on various targets during day and night.

4. 51 Engr Bn.

Engaged on maintenance and improvement of roads.

070800 to 080800 Apr 45.

1. 11 Arty Regt.

Carried out known fire plan between 2345-2355 hrs and 0001-0010 hrs on targets astride the LDICE valley.

2. Inf.

No special event of any importance reported. Enemy arty fire and mortars active. Nebelwerfer at 92353280 engaged by arty.

080800 to 090800 Apr 45.

1. 11 Arty Regt.

Took part in fire plan between 2200-2235 hrs.

2. Speciale Inf Regt.

- (a) Piemonte Bn. At 0730 hrs enemy fired 80 shells in area 928327. Active exchange of fire during the day.
- (b) L'Aquila Bn. Quiet. Enemy patrols at 937324 and 938323 were dispersed by LMG fire.
- (c) Goito Bn. Continued active patrolling. One patrol was fired on by enemy but extricated itself with aid of fire from the Piemonte Bn.

3. 68 Inf Regt.

- (a) 1st Bn. Enemy patrol of about 10 men engaged by own patrol at 965327 and withdrew. Enemy mortaring active, 3 men w;
- (b) 2nd Bn. No contact by patrols. Enemy mortars active.

4. A Coy 752 Tank Bn (att)

Engaged enemy posns at Pt.363 (935335), C.PIASTRA 938346, SCANNO 942350, 933335, 938347, Pt.261 (944366), 945358, 954368 and 949369, expending 305 rds.

5. 805 Tank Destroyer Bn.

Fired 265 rds at located enemy posns. Hits observed.

6. 11 Arty Regt.

and mortars active. Nebelwerfer at 92353280 engaged by arty.

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4. A Coy 752 Tank Bn (att)

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5. 805 Tank Destroyer Bn.

Fired 265 rds at located enemy posns. Hits observed.

6. 11 Arty Regt.

From 2220-2235 hrs took part in known fire plan and fired 720 rds HE. During the course of the day fired a further 289 rds on other targets.

7162

M. M. I. A.

Major,
M.M.I.A. I.O.

1642