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

ACC

10000 | 120 | 1067
(1 of 2 folders)

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

10000 | 120 | 1067
(1 of 2 folders)

56/29/10 A Training-General 1st copy 1/2

Sept. 1944 - Jan. 1945

1516

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

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Report on 36 Fin Wpn Training - Potential Instructors

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/C/29/10/A
30 January 1945

TO : Col S.C.W.W. REA, British Training Unit

Copy to: D.M.T. (Please confirm that directive on BTU is being issued by you.)

Reference DMT/14A/6/822 of 21 January

1. It is assumed that the necessary action with regard to future courses will be taken by you in accordance with the draft directive for the British Training Unit attached to MMIA S/C/29/44 of 12 Jan and approved for issue by DMT in AHQ AG 091.711/061/GCT-O of 16 Jan (to MMIA only).

for Major General
M.M.I.A.

11517

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

RESTRICTED

Subject :- Pamphlets - Small Arms.
Examination of.

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

S/O/29/10/A
23 Loc.. 44.

To :- M.M.I.A. L.O. 1 District.

Herewith 20 copies of Notes on the Examination of Small Arms as requested by telephone to Major DOBBS, for FRIULI.

More copies are available if required and can be obtained by the Group by indenting to S.M.R.E.

Major General.
M.M.I.A.

1929

SUBJECT: W.E. - E.L.O. (Ground).

299

CONFIDENTIAL

Land Forces Sub Com, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

S/C/29/10/A
23 Dec 44.

15 Army Group for S.C.S. (I)

Copy to : A.F.H.Q. (For Col. MITCHEWS.)

1. Ref your 1073/2/GSI (a) of 15 Dec 44.

Para 1. Noted. Could you send this Directive to A.F.H.Q. with a copy to MMIA when ready.

Para 2. Two things are wanted:

(a) assistance in the training of Group Intelligence Sections in I a duties.

(b) security instructions (written or verbal) to all personnel of Groups on the I b side.

2. Ref your 1492/GSI (x) dated 17 Dec 44.

Para 1. It is agreed that visits of these instructional parties to Groups in turn as follows:

CREMONA
FRIULI
LEGNANO
FOLGORE
MANTOVA.

would be valuable and much appreciated.

Para 2. MMIA does not advocate more British "dilution" of Italian Corbat Groups than is absolutely essential. We are already taking on a great deal which should by rights be done by the Italian Staff and the wasteful and short-term practice of excessive spoon-feeding is not good from their point of view or ours. In the circumstances temporary assistance should meet the needs.

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

Para 2. Two things are wanted:

(a) assistance in the training of Group Intelligence Sections in I a duties.

(b) security instructions (written or verbal) to all personnel of Groups on the I b side.

2. Ref your 1492/GSI (x) dated 17 Dec 44.

Para 1. It is agreed that visits of these instructional parties to Groups in turn as follows:

CREMONA
FRIULI
LEGNANO
FOLGORE
MANTOVA.

would be valuable and much appreciated.

Para 2. MMIA does not advocate more British "dilution" of Italian Combat Groups than is absolutely essential. We are already taking on a great deal which should by rights be done by the Italian Staff and the wasteful and short-term practice of excessive spoon-feeding is not good from their point of view or ours. In the circumstances temporary assistance should meet the needs.

1919

tvs.MP.
5.c.

Major General.
M.M.I.A.

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

SUBJECT:- [redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

H. 15 ARMY GROUP

Tel:- PILOT Adv 2

1492/GSI(z)

17 Dec 44

G(SD & T)

Copy to: Eighth Army (with copy of letter from CC 5 KLU)
AFHQ (for Col. HITCHENS)
MMIA (for Col. KIRKLEY)

Your 1701/23/43/G(SD2) dated 16 Dec 44.

I understand that the letter quoted in your memorandum was addressed to X Corps and I am not clear whether that formation did, in fact, supply the three "I" officers for training purposes. Eighth Army are considering the possibility of forming a small instructional staff to visit Gruppi in turn. If they do, a temporary establishment will be required for them. Alternatively AFHQ is exploring the possibilities of sending an instructional party from their Intelligence Training School round the Gruppi. If they can do this it will be the most satisfactory solution.

Even if the instructional party does visit Gruppi to lay a foundation of "I" consciousness, I think it most improbable that we shall even then obtain much information from the Gruppi in the field unless the request for a GSO III(I) is met in some form. The trouble is the shortage in the theatre of "I" officers of any kind and particularly of the kind required who should for preference understand both Italian and German. I recommend (a) that the KLU War Establishment should be approved or amended to include a G.S.O.III(I) even though we are unlikely to find enough officers to fill more than one or two of the vacancies. In those cases where British officers cannot be found, I recommend (b) that suitable Italian Liaison Officers should be made available by Eighth Army, G.S.(I) (Civil Liaison) to take their place. I understand that there are some such suitable officers although they may need some intelligence instruction before being employed vice British GSO's III. Eighth Army are investigating this.

Will you let me know if recommendation (b) would be satisfactory to No. 5 KLU?

[redacted]

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

Copy to: Eighth Army (with copy of letter from CC 5 HLU)
AFHQ (for Col. [illegible])
MMIA (for Col. [illegible])

Your 1701/23/48/G(SD2) dated 16 Dec 44.

I understand that the letter quoted in your memorandum was addressed to X Corps and I am not clear whether that formation did, in fact, supply the three "I" officers for training purposes. Eighth Army are considering the possibility of forming a small instructional staff to visit Gruppi in turn. If they do, a temporary establishment will be required for them. Alternatively AFHQ is exploring the possibilities of sending an instructional party from their Intelligence Training School round the Gruppi. If they can do this it will be the most satisfactory solution.

Even if the instructional party does visit Gruppi to lay a foundation of "I" consciousness, I think it most improbable that we shall even then obtain much information from the Gruppi in the field unless the request for a G80 III(I) is met in some form. The trouble is the shortage in the theatre of "I" officers of any kind and particularly of the kind required who should for preference understand both Italian and German. I recommend (a) that the HQ War Establishment should be approved or amended to include a G.S.O.III(I) even though we are unlikely to find enough officers to fill more than one or two of the vacancies. In those cases where British officers cannot be found, I recommend (b) that suitable Italian Liaison Officers should be made available by Eighth Army, G.S.(I) (Civil Liaison) to take their place. I understand that there are some such suitable officers although they may need some intelligence instruction before being employed vice British G80's III. Eighth Army are investigating this.

Will you let me know if recommendation (b) would be satisfactory to No. 51 MLO?

[signature]

1918 G80(I)

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

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

FM CINCPAC

TO 56 ARMY FOR DMT GINAP

MNIA

GOK CHIEF PT

CC564 (.) RESTRICTED (.) REF DMT/CS/12/TT1 OF 15 DEC (.)

FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING JLM COURSE TACTICAL SCHOOL ESSENTIAL ONE

ITALIAN INTERPRETER BE DETAILED FOR COURSE (.) REQUIRE SOTO TENENTE

NAVAL TO REPORT NLT 31 DEC (.) CONFIRM ATTENDANCE

GI 221930A

SENTOK SES GM 2561SSA S K

RD MR SES " D LON " 0150 R

IMPORTANT SECRET

8540 6/23

We cannot complete WD

1917 5.725

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

SECRET 297

53 B.L.U.
Ref. G6 - 4
16 Dec 44.

Subj :- Training - Italian Combat Groups.

To :- Land Forces Sub Com A.C. (MMIA)

Copy to :- A/Q

1. Ref your HQ S/G/29/10/A of 9 Dec 44.

2. According to the present programme, and capacity, of this Combat Group for collection and distribution of equipment, which is being pushed forward as fast as personnel and means will allow, I see little chance that the Group will have completed re-eqipment before 15 Jan 45, at the earliest.

3. A move on or about 15 Jan', therefore, would allow the Group little time in which to gain experience and training with their new vehicles and equipment, which time I consider is essential if the training and the move itself are to be carried out efficiently.

4. In this present area the Group has good Training Areas, Ranges and satisfactory accommodation, apart from which there are facilities for the preliminary tactical training among Commanders and Staff Officers which is considered essential before full-scale Higher Training is begun in the new area.

5. Apart from above considerations, there is a large quantity of Italian vehicles, equipment and stores, surplus to G 1098, which will have to be returned after the issue of new equipment has been completed. This, too, will take some time.

6. The earliest possible date for the move will, in my opinion, not be before the end of January 45, although it maybe possible, indeed advisable, to send advance parties a little earlier.

L. H. Morris
Lt. Col.
G.S.

1916

1524

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

296

MMIA

29/10/A. 21/755 A

RAOC Tng Establishment

Ministry of War

Recruited

SS 491

Reference MOVEIT Signal 814/1 dated 19 (.) Is it possible to arrange storeman course for 44 drivers due to arrive at PONTECAGNANO 21 December (.) After completion they should be sent to RTC BRIANO near BRACCIANO

Important

1915

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

295

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Bilingual War Establishments.

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/0/29/10/A
21 December 44

TO : Ministry of War.

1. Please prepare Italian translation of the following War Establishments of Auxiliary units of the Combat Groups, and incorporate in bilingual establishments on the lines of those already prepared for the Combat Group W.E's.

A1/30/1 NA/574/1 to NA/578/1 incl

NA/596/1 NA/597/1 NA/599/1 NA/612/1

2. If any of these W.E's are not held please inform M.M.I.A.

3. You are requested to forward six copies of these bilingual establishments when completed.

WP
for

Major General
M.M.I.A.

1914

11526

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

File
294

1617

MMIA 20 A

~~IMP~~ 56 Area for Day T

56 BLU

83 485 RESTRICTED

Informed by representative of 56 BLU that MANTOVA require courses for Platoon and Infantry Weapons, Carrier Driving and Maintenance, Mine Warfare and Bailey Bridging (.) Understand Lt/Col GIBBON is discussing above with you and assume you will take all necessary action

ROUTINE

DCRE

29/10/A

1913

W Pickles Colonel

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

293

2d 5/6/23/1.0/4

SECRET

SUBJECT: Courses for Italian personnel.

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ CMF

Tel: 11567

copy to: DMT 55/17/Art1
DMT 101/Art2

15 Dec 44

MMIA (5)

copy to: G-3 TTC (AF) AFHQ
HQ CMTC (5)
School of Signals

1. Reference is made to this directorate letter DMT/101 Art2 dated 11 Oct 44, subject Italian Army personnel - British schools. (copy attached for MMIA and School of Signals)

2. In order to provide a nucleus of Italian instructors for the combat group reinforcement pre depot vacancies on courses are allotted as in Appx "A" attached.

3. This action is being taken to deal with the immediate problems of training the existing reinforcements only, and it does not follow that these students will be retained as instructors when the main problem of staffing the TTC and specialist schools has been dealt with.

4. The problem of training instructors for the new and specialist schools will be the subject of a further letter.

5. Nominal rolls should be forwarded to CMTC and School of Signals as soon as possible, with a copy to this directorate.

[illegible]
Brig.,
D.M.T.

Brig Dobbs.

✓ The main point is that Officers - NCOs selected should

HQ GMTC (2)
School of Signals

1. Reference is made to this Directorate letter [illegible] dated 11 Oct 44, subject Italian Army personnel - British schools. (Copy attached for HQ GMTC and School of Signals)

2. In order to provide a nucleus of Italian instructors for the combat group reinforcement [illegible] depot vacancies on courses are allotted as in APPX "A" attached.

3. This action is being taken to deal with the immediate problems of training the existing reinforcements only, and it does not follow that these students will be retained as instructors when the main problem of staffing the GMTC and specialist schools has been dealt with.

4. The problem of training instructors for the GMTC and specialist schools will be the subject of a further letter.

5. Nominal rolls should be forwarded to GMTC and School of Signals as soon as possible, with a copy to this Directorate.

[illegible]
Brig.,
D.M.T.

[illegible]

✓

Mai Dobbs.

The primary requisite is that Officers - NCOs selected should know enough English to learn from the English instructors. I doubt whether we can find enough.

The secondary qualification is that they are basically qualified to make good instructors.

Take up with SMRE and ask them to get 1912 nominations from Piceno - Mantova or anywhere else they can - names to be [illegible] at C.M.T.C. (copies to us) 3 days before each course begin. — numbers of vacancies accepted 8 days before each course begin or sooner if possible.

WP

Copy of WP to come from [illegible] to all these instructors

WP

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

1529

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

	course	course no.	held at	date commencing	date ending	vacancies allotted offrs	vacancies allotted NCOs	qualifications required	s A
1	Tactical for Leaders	11	CMTC BENEVENTO	1 Jan	20 Jan	5	-		
2	3" Mortar	11	CMTC BENEVENTO	1 Jan	20 Jan	1	2	knowledge of weapon	
3	A tk 6 pr (Inf)	12	CMTC BENEVENTO	1 Jan	20 Jan	1	2	knowledge of weapon	
4	Snipers	11	CMTC BENEVENTO	1 Jan	20 Jan	1	-	knowledge of weapon and be a good shot	
5	veh Mechs	6	CMTC BENEVENTO	8 Jan	26 Apr	-	2	must be capable of passing DVR veh test	
6	veh Maint Recvl offrs	10	CMTC BENEVENTO	1 Jan	18 Jan	1	-	capable DVR	
7	DVR Mechs	36)	CMTC BENEVENTO	1 Jan	8 Feb	-	2	must be experienced drivers	
8	DVR Mechs	37)		8 Jan	15 Feb	-	2		
9	DVR Mechs	38)		15 Jan	22 Feb	-	2		
10	DVR Mechs	39)		22 Jan	1 Mar	-	2		
11	DVR Ops R C I	7	School of Signals LAURO	27 Jan	10 Mar	-	2	must be DVR Ops.	

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

ANNEX "A" to P & O No. 4
dated 15 Dec 44

Date commencing	Date ending	Vacancies Allotted Offrs	Vacancies Allotted WOs	Qualifications required	Students Assembly	Students Disposal	Remarks
1 Jan	20 Jan	5	-		31 Dec 44	21 Jan 45	Should be 2 capts and 3 lieuts
1 Jan	20 Jan	1	2	Knowledge of weapon	31 Dec 44	21 Jan 45	Offr should be a capt.
1 Jan	20 Jan	1	2 -	Knowledge of weapon	31 Dec 44	21 Jan 45	Offr should be a capt
1 Jan	20 Jan	1	- -	Knowledge of weapon and be a good shot	31 Dec 44	21 Jan 45	Should be a capt.
8 Jan	26 Apr	-	2 -	Must be capable of passing 2nd Class test	7 Jan 45	27 Apr 45	
1 Jan	18 Jan	1	-	Capable dvr	31 Dec 44	19 Jan 45	Is considered to teach Offr how to supervise maintenance
1 Jan	8 Feb	-	2	Must be experienced drivers	31 Dec 44	2 Feb 45	
8 Jan	15 Feb	-	2		7 Jan 45	19 Feb 45	
15 Jan	22 Feb	-	2		14 Jan 45	25 Feb 45	
22 Jan	1 Mar	-	2		21 Jan 45	2 Mar 45	
27 Jan	10 Mar	-	2	Must be 2nd Class Dvr Opr	28 Jan 45	11 Mar 45	

SUBJECT : Italian Army personnel - British Schools. SECRET.

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
A.F.H.Q., C.M.F.

Tel : 11375

DMT/101/MT.2
Copy to DMT/136/MT.2
DMT/200/MT.2 DMT/61/MT.1.

11 Oct 44

"A" BLU.
"B" BLU.
"C" BLU.
"D" BLU.

Copy to : Mountain School.
M.M.I.A.
HQ AAI.
HQ GHTC (2)
AFHQ for G-3 Trg (Br).
C.E.
C.S.O.
D.S.T.
D.O.S.
D.M.E.
HQ RAC.
Field Arty Sec, AFHQ.
HQ Inf c/o Main HQ AAI, CMF.

---

1. It has been decided that Italian Army personnel may be accepted on British courses provided that :-

(a) British demands allow.

(b) The Italian Army personnel so selected shall have a sufficient knowledge of English to enable them to derive benefit from the course without holding up the course.

2. The Comd of the School concerned will have the power to return any Italian students whose knowledge of English is, in his opinion, insufficient.

3. All demands for vacancies will be forwarded to this Directorate.

4. Five copies of "British Schools and Training Centres, AAI" are enclosed for information.

1979

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

M.M.I.A.
HQ AAI.
HQ CMTC (2)
AFHQ for G-3 Trg (Br).
C.E.
C.S.O.
D.S.T.
D.O.S.
D.M.E.
HQ RAC.
Field Arty Sec, AFHQ.
HQ Inf c/o Main HQ AAI, CMF.

---

1. It has been decided that Italian Army personnel may be accepted on British courses provided that :-

(a) British demands allow.

(b) The Italian Army personnel so selected shall have a sufficient knowledge of English to enable them to derive benefit from the course without holding up the course.

2. The Comd of the School concerned will have the power to return any Italian students whose knowledge of English is, in his opinion, insufficient.

3. All demands for vacancies will be forwarded to this Directorate.

4. Five copies of "British Schools and Training Centres, AAI" are enclosed for information.

1919

Roger Ruckness
Col
for Brig.,
D.M.T.

DRS/hj

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

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

292

29/10/A.

SECRET

SUBJECT: Training.

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ CMF

Tel: 10610

copy to: DMT/AG Asst.
DMT 50/MT1.

17 Dec 42.

CMTC (10)
RACTD and School
RATD and School of Artillery
S/E and RSTD.
R Sigs Depot & School of Sigs.
IRTD
RASCTD
5 Bn GRTD
Depot & Trg Est CMP.
Cdn Base Refft Cp.
NZ Adv Base.
6 SA Armd Div Res Cp
8 Ind Refft Camp
11 Ind Refft Camp
16 Ind Refft Camp
Polish Adv Base.
Greek Mediterranean Base Depot.
CTC
Mountain School
Intelligence Trg Centre.
RAOC Trg Centre.

School of E & ME
Ind Inf Specialist School.
Method of Instruction Team
"Z" Trg Team MA (for Italian forces)
HQ ARC
1 ARB
52 BLU
53 BLU
"E" BLU
54 Trg Incr BLU
55 Trg Incr BLU
"C" Trg Incr BLU
"D" Trg Incr BLU

copy to: C-S Trg (BF) AFHQ
-MMIA-
G (Trg) HQ AAI

1. Emphasis has logically been recently laid in training on problems confronting the Armies when fighting in hilly and mountainous country.

2. As a matter of policy it has been ruled that attention is now to be directed also to the conduct of battle in flat and open ground in exercises and discussions. It is suggested that the valley of the R. PO presents suitable example upon which problems can be based.

1943

RASCTD and School
RATD and School of Artillery
S&E and INTD
A Sigs Depot & School of Sigs.
IRTD
RASCTD
5 Bn (GRTD)
Depot & Trg Est CMP
Cdn Base Rft CP.
NZ Adv Base.
6 SA Armd Div Rcs CP
8 Ind Rft Camp
11 Ind Rft Camp
16 Ind Rft Camp
Polish Adv Base.
Greek Mediterranean Base Depot.
CTC
Mountain School
Intelligence Trg Centre.
RAOC Trg Centre.

Ind Bn Specialist School.
Method of Instruction Team
"Z" Trg Team RA (for Italian forces)
HQ AAC
1 AHR
52 BLU
53 BLU
"D" BLU
54 Trg Incr BLU
55 Trg Incr BLU
"C" Trg Incr BLU
"D" Trg Incr BLU

Copy to: C-in-C Trg (DF) AFHQ
-MMLO-
C (Trg) HQ AAI

1. Emphasis has logically been recently laid in training on problems confronting the Armies when fighting in hilly and mountainous country.

2. As a matter of policy it has been ruled that attention is now to be directed also to the conduct of battle in flat and open ground in exercises and discussions. It is suggested that the valley of the R. PO presents suitable examples upon which problems can be based.

Maple Stuckenbergs Col
for DMT.,
D.M.T.

DMT/TT

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785080

1535

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

990.

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Notes on Rifles - Translation

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. S/C/29/10/A
18 Dec 44

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR
for SMRE - Ufficio Addistramento

1. 1 District have asked that the attached notes on examination of Rifles should be translated for the use of the FRIULI Group.

2. Please arrange to have the translation done as soon as possible, and 25 copies sent to MMIA. MMIA will then forward them direct to 1 District to save time. It is suggested that these copies should be cyclo-styled.

3. If you wish copies to be distributed to other Groups please send them to Group HQs, advising MMIA of number dispatched.

W. Richardson Ewbank
for Major General
M. M. I. A.

1908

11536

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

3343

291

Please confirm

283

25/19

4/Sec.

19/12

LROF V LRAR UN2034

FROM (SD) BLU
TO MMIA 18.1800
QOX GR--- BT

GS515(.)
REF YOUR SS473 OF 15 DEC (.) 200 COPIES PAMPHLET 2" MORTAR NOT YET RECEIVED (.) REMAINDER MENTIONED ARE HELD (.) NO OTHERS REQUIRED (.)
BT

SENT 2246 B.C. (AR)K
RECD 2246 RED AR

1907

11537

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

288
290.

29/10/A.

Translation.

From SHAPE
to HMHQ

Sec WP

Ref no 2235/9/4/11
Date 17 Dec 44

Theft of British training pamphlets already translated.

We inform you that on the 22nd of Nov 44 some training pamphlets which were on board the CREMONA Group. were robbed.

The theft took place as under.

On said day at about 1100 hrs (approx.) FERRENTINO PASQUALE and Driver GASPERINI GIOVANNI of the 51st Engineer Bn of the CREMONA Group went from PIEDIMONTE D'ALIFE HQ of the unit to ALTAVILLA IRPINA HQ of the combat group CREMONA to draw some training Pamphlets. translated from the English.

On withdrawal of said pamphlets they placed them in a Ruck sack which they put in the lorry and covered it with a piece of sheeting which was tied to a side of the car.

When the closed the car Down with the tent flaps.

They arrived at AVELLINO at 1900 hrs and prepared to spend the night. they noticed that the

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

The canvas securing straps were loose and that the Ruck sack had disapeared

The two soldiers have not been able to give any further information to clarify how the theft could have occured.

The following is bein done.

investigation to found out the degree of responsability of the two soldiers

search for the stolen pamphlets.

We will send result of further investigation as soon as received.

SDN71.

List of Pamphlets missing.

Mines and Minefields. 30
Working of W/T. No 19 35
" " " No 22 35
Bailey Bridging 40

R Hampstead

Trentotto p

A

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

8/Sec.
14/12.

P.M.3800, li 17 Dicembre 1944.-

n. 2235/E/4/II di prot.
OGGETTO: Furto di pubblicazioni addestrative Inglesi, tradotte.=

All.1.

Arrivate

ALLA LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. = ROMA =
(M.M.I.A.)
ALLO S.M. GENERALE - S.I.M. - = SEDE =

---=oOo=---

Si comunica che il giorno 22 novembre u.s. veniva perpetrato il furto di alcune pubblicazioni addestrative Inglesi tradotte, in consegna al Gruppo "Cremona".-

La sottrazione è avvenuta nelle seguenti circostanze:

- in detto giorno verso le ore 16 il maresciallo ordinario Ferrentino Pasquale e l'autiere Gasperini Giovanni del 51° battaglione genio del Gruppo Cremona si recavano a mezzo di autocarro, da Piedimonte d'Alife, sede del reparto, a Altavilla Irpina, sede del Comando del Gruppo di Combattimento, per ritirare presso detto Comando di Gruppo alcune pubblicazioni Inglesi tradotte;

- effettuato il prelevamento di esse (specie e numero indicati in allegato) le riponevano in un sacco alpino che depositavano nell'interno dell'autocarro, coprendolo con un tendone che veniva assicurato ad una sponda dell'automezzo stesso.
1905
Chiudevano poi il cassone dell'automezzo con l'apposita tenda;

- giunti ad Avellino alle ore 19, predisponendosi a pernottarvi, si accorgevano che le cinghie di unione della [illegible] e che il sacco alpi-

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

ALLA LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
ALLO S.M. GENERALE - S.I.M. -

= ROMA =
= SEDE =

---=ooo=---

Si comunica che il giorno 22 novembre u.s. veniva perpetrato il furto di alcune pubblicazioni addestrative Inglesi tradotte, in consegna al Gruppo "Cremona".-

La sottrazione è avvenuta nelle seguenti circostanze:

- in detto giorno verso le ore 16 il maresciallo ordinario Ferrentino Pasquale e l'autiere Gasperini Giovanni del 51° battaglione genio del Gruppo Cremona si recavano a mezzo di autocarro, da Piedimonte d'Alife, sede del reparto, a Altavilla Irpina, sede del Comando del Gruppo di Combattimento, per ritirare presso detto Comando di Gruppo alcune pubblicazioni Inglesi tradotte;

- effettuato il prelevamento di esse (specie e numero indicati in allegato) le riponevano in un sacco alpino che depositavano nell'interno dell'autocarro, coprendolo con un tendone che veniva assicurato ad una sponda dell'automezzo stesso.
1905
Chiudevano poi il cassone dell'automezzo con l'apposita tenda;

- giunti ad Avellino alle ore 19, predisponendosi a pernottarvi, si accorgevano che le cinghie di unione della tenda al cassone erano state recise e che il sacco alpino era stato asportato.-

I due militari non hanno peraltro saputo indicare alcun fatto che possa dare indizi per stabilire con maggiore precisione le circostanze del furto.-

Sono attualmente in corso:

- indagini per stabilire eventuali responsabilità dei so

./.

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

praindicati militari;
- ricerche della refurtiva.-
Si fa perciò riserva di precisazioni a indagini esperite.-

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
-A. Santi -

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

Allegato n.1 al foglio
n. 2235/E/4/II in data /12/44.

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO
-Ufficio Addestramento-
^^^^^

ELENCO DELLE PUBBLICAZIONI INGLESI TRADOTTE DI CUI SI DENUNCIA LA SCOMPARSA.-

----------oOo----------

- Mine e Campi Minati	copie	nr.	30
- Impianto radio nr. 19	"	"	35
- Impianto radio nr. 22	"	"	35
- Porte Bailey	"	"	40

IL COLONELLO
CAPO UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO a/n.
(G. FERRARI)
T. C. Ferrari

1904

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

11543

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

OO OO 20/10/A 287

CONFIDENTIAL

Adv Headquarters,
ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY.

Tel: Filpot Adv 78.

1073/2/GSI(a).

15 Dec 44.

Subject: Training of Intelligence Sections.

M.M.I.A.

Ref See 18/12

Reference your S/G/29/10/A of 20 Nov 44.

1. In accordance with a subsequent decision of the conference at HQ AAI, a directive on Intelligence in the Field for the use of the Italian groups is under preparetion and should shortly be ready for issue.

2. On the I(b) side it is agreed that a visit of representatives from this HQ would be useful, and this will be arranged if you will give the necessary details. Is it desired to give instruction to the whole Group HQ, or merely to the Intelligence staff?

C R Allfrey

B.G.S.(I).

I have sent a letter to be dropped on them, with another one on on the 16th 1903

1544

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

286.

Subject:- Driver Training For Italian Military Personnel in Land Area.

Ja/10/A

ST/1094.

16 Dec 44.

Land Forces Sub Comd A.C. (MMIA).,
HQMS.
tels. Rome 48084 dtd 5.6.

To: L.O. Land Forces Sub Comd A.C. (MMIA).,
Z.A. Area.

Copy: AFHQ G3(Org) Br11.
S.M.H.Q.
G(SD) MMIA HQ. Spec. Sec. ←

1. Confirming telephones on 16 Dec 44 Lt.Col. Graham - Major Stainton and Major Bird - Major Papineau.

2. It is understood that Poligano School is NOT to be closed at present and that another course will start shortly.

3. MMIA LO Z.A. Area is therefore requested to arrange for pupils for the next course at Poligano as follows:-

(a) 50 personnel now at Conversano ex elements previously intended for 1008 GP Coy

(b) 30 personnel arrived Conversano ex Teano (Gruppi trainees)

(c) any other Gruppi trainees who may arrive ex Teano

(d) number required to make up course to strength ex Trand Camp.

4. MMIA LO Z.A. Area is further requested to proceed with arrangements for Conversano School in accordance with his LO/11/SD of 12 Dec 44. Vehicles release concerned will be the subject of later communication from this HQ.

5. Output of trained drivers from both foregoing sources will be subject of disposal instructions to be issued by this HQ.

1902
(G. PATTEAU).,
Major R.A.O.,
for Lt. Col.,
ADJT, Land Forces Sub Comd A.C. (MMIA).

OOP/JTS

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

Subject:- Translation - Instruction Booklet.

Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm.,
A.C., (MMIA).,
c/o HQ., I District.
Ref.IO/GI3.

14 December 44.

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

I. DDME, I District has asked me to forward to you a request for handbooks translated into Italian on 2", 3" and 4.2 mortars. Twenty copies of each are needed.

2. A translation of the attached instructions for repair of small arms is also required. One copy would be sufficient but if possible more, say twenty copies would be desirable.

3. These requests are both urgent, the one in Para two being particularly urgent.

J.F.B. Bourne Capt.
MMIA., IO., I District.

Copy to:- DLME I District.

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

284

M M I A

16 /4418

No 10 PUBLICATIONS DEPOT

SS 474

RESTRICTED

Please send R.E. Recce Book and Standing Orders for M.T. Drivers two Copies each.

1900

Important

S/G/29/10/A

1547

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

283

WWTA

50 RLT

1 District rptd WIA 10

SS 473

CONFIDENTIAL

SHRE have sent to FRIULI in last location 250 copies pamphlet 3" mortar 750 copies pamphlet 2" mortar plus 200 copies 2" mortar on 11 December (.) Above is normal method of distribution (.) Please confirm if these are held and if others still required.

1699

IMPORTANT

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

281

Subject :- Training [illegible]

5[illegible] British Liaison Unit

[illegible]

2a/10/A

To :- [illegible] (Through 56 Area)

[illegible] ✓

260

Ref [illegible] of 27 Nov from [illegible] addressed 5[illegible] copy to you, please note that I should like the following Trg pamphlets translated into Italian for use of Gruppi.

[illegible] — Inf Trg Part VIII

[illegible] Mil Engineering Vol. [illegible] Part III
— Bailey Bridge, Normal uses 1943 } being translated
[illegible] Pocket book
Mil Engineering Vol. [illegible] Part I
Demolitions 1943

[illegible] Standing Orders for M.T. Drivers.

[signature]

Lieut Colonel,
General Staff.

Field
11 Dec 44
[illegible]

1898

✓

1549

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

00

280

ADVICE NOTE

2a/10/A

To:- Admiralty (Hydrographic Department)

Your Ref:- 1206/2156

Your indent 2156 dated 7 Dec. 1944

will be completed/not when the (illegible) Publications become available.

NO FURTHER INDENT IS REQUIRED

1897

for Hydrographer

5/12/1944

Date

11550

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

1279

101A.

N M I A

11175 A

PENSOUTH

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SS 462

RESTRICTED

For MMIA LO (.)

Reference your 8545 dated 8 (.) Pleuse despatch all PIGEND Personnel to MARTINA FRANCA.

1895

IMPORTANT

PS/8/14/10/a 278

SUBJECT: News and Views on Training

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ CMF

Tel 11667

DMT/4/Misc

10th Dec 44

8/Sec

11/12

Copies sent to all concerned 12/12

G-3 Trg (Br) AFHQ
CW Section AFHQ
G (Trg)HQ AAI
BGS(Trg) HQ AAI
MGRAC (Trg), c/o HQ AAI
MGRA HQ AAI
Brig Inf,AAI
HQ CMTC CMF
DRTD CMF
PACTD CMF
RATD CMF
School of Arty CMF
Engr Trg Establishment CMF
R. Sigs TD - School CMF
R SCTD CMF
5 Bn GRTD CMF
Depot and Trg Estab CMF
Combined Training Centre, CMF
Aust M.L.O., AFHQ

Ind Inf Specialist School
8 Ind Rft Camp CMF
11 " " " "
16 " " " "
1 (Br) Corps Rft Unit CMF
2 " " " " "
3 " " " " "
4 " " " " "
Cdn Base Rft Gp CMF
NZ Adv Base CMF
Polish Adv Base CMF
6 South African Armd Div Reserve Gp
1 Armd Repl Gp CMF
26 BLU att Polish Adv Base
AMLO CMF (for distribution to BLUs -6 copies)
Indian Army Liaison Mission CMF

1. A good deal of information useful for training from other theatres of war is collected by DMT organization in UK and in this theatre. Some of this is issued in " Current Reports from Overseas ". More is condensed into precis form by DMT War Office (MI) 16 and circulated periodically within that directorate under the title of "Precis of recent information of importance to training", with the object of keeping senior officers in touch with experiences and developments throughout the world and yet obviating the necessity of their having to read through the numerous and lengthy reports from which the information is taken.

1895

2. With the same object in view DMT has decided to issue periodically extracts from these War Office precis as and when received, and possibly later to incorporate training news from other sources.

3. The following are extracts from the first 7 issues of the War Office circular:

Source: British - ETOUSA

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

HQ CMTC CMF
IRTD CMF
RACTD CMF
RAID CMF
School of Arty CMF
Engr Trg Establishment CMF
R. Sigs TD School CMF
RASCTD CMF
5 Bn GRTD CMF
Depot and Trg Estab CMF
Combined Training Centre, CMF
Aust M.L.O., AFHQ

4 " " " " "
Cdn Base Rft Gp CMF
NZ Adv Base CMF
Polish Adv Base CMF
6 South African Armd Div Reserve Gp
1 Armd Repl Gp CMF
26 BLU att Polish Adv Base
MMLI CMF (for distribution to BLUs -6 copies)
Indian Army Liaison Mission CMF

---

1. A good deal of information useful for training from other theatres of war is collected by DMT organisation in UK and in this theatre. Some of this is issued in " Current Reports from Overseas". More is condensed into precis form by DMT War Office (MT) 16 and circulated periodically within that directorate under the title of "Precis of recent information of importance to training", with the object of keeping senior officers in touch with experiences and developments throughout the world and yet obviating the necessity of their having to read through the numerous and lengthy reports from which the information is taken.

1895

2. With the same object in view DMT has decided to issue periodically extracts from these War Office precis as and when received, and possibly later to incorporate training news from other sources.

3. The following are extracts from the first 7 issues of the War Office circular:

Source: British - FRANCE

Flame.

1. From many sources it would appear that the Germans hate flame and will not face it. Recently "Crocodiles" have been used extensively, and with outstanding success during the capture of LE HAVRE.

"Wasps" have also been found valuable, especially in clearing booby trapped woods of snipers and the odd Spandau. So effective has the threat of flame been in certain cases that the Boche has frequently surrendered without waiting to be burned out, with the result that the number of flame casualties in killed and wounded has been comparatively light.

2. Insufficient information is at present available to lay down any tactical doctrine regarding the use of flame throwers, but the following facts appear to be generally accepted:-

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

(a) The difficulty is to get the flame thrower close enough to operate effectively. This is most marked in the case of the "Lifebuoy", because it is cumbersome and difficult for a man to carry, especially when crawling. The range of the "Crocodile" and the fact that the tank is heavily armoured make it the most effective of British flame throwers.

(b) Whatever type of flame thrower is used special steps must be taken to protect it, both by fire and, if necessary, by smoke. A soldier carrying a "Lifebuoy" is certain to be knocked out unless there are sufficient riflemen operating with him, in order to enable him to get forward.

Similar considerations apply to other types of flame throwers.

(c) It is important in attacking buildings to locate the apertures and loopholes through which flame can be directed before bringing the flame thrower into action i e careful dismounted reconnaissance under such circumstances is essential.

Source: USA and British.

Sniping.

1. The sniping which, at the beginning of the NORMANDY campaign, tended to become rather a bogey has now assumed its proper proportion in the minds of the troops engaged. In fact the German so-called snipers were often fanatical youths who were most indifferent shots. The remedy found both by the British and the United States Army lay in:

(a) Taking reasonable precautions, and

(b) In using our own highly trained and skilled snipers to out-snipe the enemy.

Tank and Infantry Co-operation - Result of a Brigade conference

Planning and Reconnaissance.

Preparations and tie up of junior commanders was, almost without exception, very hurried because insufficient time was allowed them before H hour. For an op of any size and detail a minimum of 8 hrs between the times of Divisional "O" Group and H hour is required, and even then it is necessary that "C" Groups be kept as short as possible. It is strongly recommended that whenever possible 24 hours should be allowed for an op entailing a Bde/Regt attack.

1891

Tanks at night.

Rushing forward tanks in the FDLs during the night to sustain the morale of infantry has caused needless tank losses from mortar fire. Tanks are of little use at night and they must be pulled back to rally, re-organize and

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

into action i e careful dismounted reconnaissance under such circumstances ... cases ical.

Source: USA and British.

Sniping.

1. The sniping which, at the beginning of the NORMANDY campaign, tended to become rather a bogey has now assumed its proper proportion inthe minds of the troops engaged. In fact the German so-called snipers were often fanatical youths who were not indifferent shots. The remedy found both by the British and the United States Army lay in:

(a) Taking reasonable precautions, and

(b) In using our own highly trained and skilled snipers to out-snipe the enemy.

Tank and Infantry Co-operation- Result of a Brigade conference

Planning and Reconnaissance.

Preparations and tie up of junior commanders was, almost without exception, very hurried because insufficient time was allowed them before H hour. For an op of any size and detail a minimum of 8 hrs between the times of Divisional "O" Group and H hour is required,-and even then it is necessary that " O" Groups be kept as short as possible. It is strongly recommended that whenever possible 24 hours should be allowed for an op entailing a Bde/Regt attack. 1091

Tanks at night.

Keeping forward tanks in the FDLs during the night to sustain the morale of infantry has caused needless tank losses from mortar fire. Tanks are of little use at night and they must be pulled back to rally, re-organize and maintain if their fighting efficiency is to be kept up over a period.

Rifle Coys.

(a) Platoon and Company headquarters must be made to look like sections when moving. This reduces casualties.

(b) Best shot per section should be nominated as sniper-cum-observer. He must be used for this purpose and not frittered away on other odd tasks.

(c) The 38 Set must be looked upon as a weapon. Definite men must be trained ... be under signal officer and plenty of reserves required. This especially applies to ... rter platoon

(d) Infantry must be prepared to provide carrying parties for PODs and to protect ... protect them.

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

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

-3-

(c) Infantry must help anti-tank guns to get into position - by fire - by smoke - man handling - and helping with digging. Company and platoon commanders must make these plans on the spot to meet the situation at the time.

Air photos

(a) Excellent but not enough and often arrive very late in the day.
(b) Distribution down to company commanders inadequate. Each platoon commander must have one
(c) To be of real value they must be available before planning starts.
(d) Latterly oblique were issued and these were most useful, especially in planning patrols.

Source : United States Army Notes from various Sources.

1. (a) From an infantry platoon leader. "Don't move. The men should be taught to play 'dead' - this means remain perfectly still- if wounded by sniper fire. If they move, the sniper will fire again"

(b) "Follow barrages. There is a tendency, especially among new men, to become over confident when the attack follows a heavy bombardment Many of them think all the Germans in the area will be killed or wounded, and that all they have to do is to take over the ground. In training it should be constantly stressed that air bombardment and artillery barrages do not destroy the enemy but only drive them under ground, and temporarily disorganize them, thereby making them, for a short time, more vulnerable to infantry following close behind the barrage."

2. From a Corps Memorandum.

(a) "Warning to patrols. The Germans will let a patrol get erroneous information in order to waylay the troops who try to use that information. On several occasions they have allowed our small patrols to wander round unmolested, but when a combat patrol came to take over the village it encountered strong resistance."

Source: British
Extracts from a report dealing with certain aspects of the assault landing of a division on D day

---

1. General.

1893

(a) Certain points of interest arise to which are worth recording. This division had taken part in a previous airborne assault and, in spite of warning junior officers and NCOs and men, although warned that this [illegible] reported to

by sniper fire. If they move, the sniper will [illegible] again.

(b) "Follow barrages. There is a tendency, especially among new men, to become over confident when the attack follows a heavy bombardment. Many of them think all the Germans in the area will be killed or wounded, and that all they have to do is to take over the ground. In training it should be constantly stressed that air bombardment and artillery barrages do not destroy the enemy but only drive them under ground, and temporarily disorganise them, thereby making them, for a short time, more vulnerable to infantry following close behind the barrage."

2. From a Corps Memorandum.

(a) "Warning to patrols. The Germans will let a patrol get erroneous information in order to waylay the troops who try to use that information. On several occasions they have allowed our small patrols to wander round unmolested, but when a combat patrol came to take over the village it encountered strong resistance."

Source: British
Extracts from a report dealing with certain aspects of the assault landing of a division on D day

---

1. General.

1893

(a) Certain points of interest come to light which are worth recording. This division had taken part in a previous airborne assault and, in consequence junior officers and NCOs and men, although warned that this assault would be more difficult than the previous one were reported to have been somewhat blase about it. They were perhaps not so susceptive to new ideas and new training as would have been troops who had never taken part in such an assault.

(b) Things in the assault on NORMANDY did not always go according to plan and there was inevitably confusion and inactivity at times on the part of sub-units and individuals. It was suggested that on rehearsals and exercises everything had gone " too much according to plan", and there was a feeling that perhaps the average private soldier did not appreciate what was in front of him because, having done one landing, he thought the second would be "too easy".

(c) Weather conditions were somewhat adverse and this alone brought about unexpected troubles.

(i) The various types of craft did not land in the order they were expected to.

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

(c) (ii) Craft of all types became muddled and congested on the beaches.

(iii) More craft than anticipated became damaged both by weather and obstacles.

(iv) Certain new weapons, vehicles and craft did not quite come up to the expectations of the soldiers.

(d) From the infantry soldiers point of view the biggest surprise and the main obstacle he had to overcome was the weather.

Many men had been seasick or were feeling the effects more than they anticipated, and the weather was much colder than they had anticipated. Though all men had waded ashore through deep water during the training period, they had to 'battle' through a heavy swell over a shore which varied considerably in depth at different places. In consequence a large percentage of the men were exhausted on landing and paused for rather a long time on the beaches thereby incurring unnecessary casualties. There was also perhaps a feeling amongst a large number of the men that having landed they had achieved their object, and there was time for a cigarette (and even a brew up) rather than getting on with the task of knocking out the enemy defences and pushing inland.

(e) Senior officers strongly emphasised that throughout the operation sub-units and individual men of different arms did not work or fight with the co-operation which might have been expected. The following examples are of interest.

(i) Sappers under fire armed with weapons did not try and engage the enemy even though they were not doing a sapper job at the time, they felt it was not their job.

(ii) Infantry though not engaged at the moment, never volunteered to help to fill a crater or help to get a vehicle out of difficulties.

(iii) With exceptions junior officers of various arms failed to realise their responsibilities in this direction.

(iv) In general terms the tasks of the various arms were watertight. This failing was noticed by various commanders, in subsequent ops and was in no way peculiar to the assault phase alone.

(f) Because of the weather vehicles did not land according to schedule. This could not be avoided. Although responsible officers had landed to control movement as soon as the craft touched down, the drivers rushed out regardless of orders from the officers controlling on the beaches, and the vehicles dashed for the exits in spite of the controlling officers who were trying to get the vehicles through in priorities.

(g) The troops were very impressed when told of the arrangements for the preliminary bombardment and for supporting fire, and when they saw and heard the programme started. Morale was raised to a high standard by this knowledge, but when the troops got ashore they expected to see more damage done to the beach defences, though they were gratified with the results further inland.

892

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

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

feeling amongst a large number of the men that [illegible] achieved their object, and there was time for a cigarette (and even a brew up) rather than getting on with the task of knocking out the enemy defences and pushing inland.

(e) Senior officers strongly emphasised that throughout the operation sub-units and individual men of different arms did not work or fight with the co-operation which might have been expected. The following examples are of interest.

(i) Sappers under fire armed with weapons did not try and engage the enemy even though they were not doing a sapper job at the time, they felt it was not their job.

(ii) Infantry though not engaged at the moment, never volunteered to help to fill a crater or help to get a vehicle out of difficulties.

(iii) With exceptions junior officers of various arms failed to realise their responsibilities in this direction.

(iv) In general terms the tasks of the various arms were watertight. This failing was noticed by various commanders, in subsequent ops and was in no way peculiar to the assault phase alone.

(f) Because of the weather vehicles did not land according to schedule. This could not be avoided. Although responsible officers had landed to control movement as soon as the craft touched down, the drivers rushed out regardless of orders from the officers controlling on the beaches, and the vehicles dashed for the exits in spite of the controlling officers who were trying to get the vehicles through in priorities.

(g) The troops were very impressed when told of the arrangements for the preliminary bombardment and for supporting fire, and when they saw and heard the programme started. Morale was raised to a high standard by this knowledge, but when the troops got ashore they expected to see more damage done to the beachdefences, thoughthey were gratified with the results further inland.

(h) Although the average infantryman expected to see more damage on the beaches he was surprised to find the task of dealing with the beach defences was not as stiff as he had anticipated. On the other hand the troops seemed to anticipate that once the beaches had been overcome resistance inland would not be so serious, on the contrary the fighting generally became stiffer as the battle moved towards the hinterland as the soldier did not appreciate that, once landed he would remain in contact with the enemy for a very considerable period.

(j) Casualties that occurred at beach exits were bad , and should have been removed and the dead covered up. These had a bad moral effect on troops who were following up after the beaches had been cleared.

1892

2. Opposition on the Beaches.

(a) Mortars were sited to the flanks of beaches and fired in enfilade causing considerable casualties in the initial stages, and to troops working on the beaches and especially at beach exits.

(b) Defensive fire was principally from mortars though field artillery was also used. The fire, which was most heavy for the first two hours of the assault, died down very quickly and was obviously controlled.

(c) The lack of co-operation and mutual help of various arms on the beaches and afterwards. Individuals and sub-units were content to do their own job only and not lend a helping hand in other directions.

Source: Extract from a report by the 7th Armoured Div 21 Army Group.

AGGRESSIVENESS

There is a marked difference between the aggressive soldier whose first reaction to enemy fire is to find out where it is and what it is, so that he can get at it and destroy it as quickly as possible, and the soldier who adopts a passive attitude, either merely reporting what he sees or hears, and doing no more about it, because from where he is at the moment he cannot do anything about it, and being in no great danger himself doesn't very much care, or again two worse degrees of passivity, the man who restrains from taking aggressive action for fear of provoking reprisals or the man whose reaction is 'best to avoid the danger'. This is often only recognised as disgraceful if a man runs away. A great deal of unnecessary caution is due to the inability to gauge the effectiveness of enemy fire. British training with its emphasis on steel helmets and concealment on all and every occasion, its awful warnings about your fate if you don't do this or you don't do that, is apt to make men worry far too much about their personal safety. A proper appreciation of the chances, the ability to realise whether the fire you see and hear is aimed at you or not, a general contempt for the enemy and above all a determined and aggressive and confident spirit are worth all the camouflaged steel helmets in the world. I have definitely seen the good moral effect of the arrival of an officer of this division in corduroy trousers a beret and a pipe in his mouth among a collection of harassed-looking individuals looking like scarecrows herded together in a ditch. We may have suffered unnecessary casualties as a result of being too careless to take the proper precautions to protect ourselves, we must obviously not overdo it, but if we can show an example of contempt of the enemy indifference to what he may do to us, we shall be making the best contribution from our experience that we possibly could.

- - -

SNIPERS

Source: The CO of a British Infantry Battalion.

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

U.S. Army Military History Institute

beaches [illegible]
do their own job only and not lend a helping hand in other directions.

- - -

Source: Extract from a report by the 7th Armoured Div 21 Army Group.

AGGRESSIVENESS

There is a marked difference between the aggressive soldier whose first reaction to enemy fire is to find out where it is and what it is, so that he can get at it and destroy it as quickly as possible, and the soldier who adopts a passive attitude, either merely reporting what he sees or hears, and doing no more about it, because from where he is at the moment he cannot do anything about it, and being in no great danger himself doesn't very much care, or again two worse degrees of passivity, the man who restrains from taking aggressive action for fear of provoking reprisals or the man whose reaction is 'best to avoid the danger'. This is often only recognised as disgraceful if a man runs away. A great deal of unnecessary caution is due to the inability to gauge the effectiveness of enemy fire. British training with its emphasis on steel helmets and concealment on all and every occasion, its awful warnings about your fate if you don't do this or you don't do that, is apt to make men worry far too much about their personal safety. A proper appreciation of the chances, the ability to realise whether the fire you see and hear is aimed at you or not, a general contempt for the enemy and above all a determined and aggressive and confident spirit are worth all the camouflaged steel helmets in the world. I have definitely seen the good moral effect of the arrival of an officer of this division in corduroy trousers a beret and a pipe in his mouth among a collection of bemused-looking individuals looking like scarecrows herded together in a ditch. We may have suffered unnecessary casualties as a result of being too careless to take the proper precautions to protect ourselves, we must obviously not overdo it, but if we can show an example of contempt of the enemy indifference to what he may do to us, we shall be making the best contribution from our experience that we possibly could.

- - -

Source: The CO of a British Infantry Battalion. SNIPERS

(a) "There is a widespread tendency to exaggerate and over estimate the strength of the enemy resistance. The result is we are all often too cautious".

- - -

Source: United States Army Group report

(b) "A number of men have expressed the wish that they had received training in recognising the sound of German weapons".

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

Source: 21 Army Group Main Headquarters - letter dated 6th September, 1944

BURIAL PARTIES

1. The question of burial parties must be gone into with great care as the present system is not satisfactory. The 2nd Army had to create a section for each Corps to collect and bury bodies in an advanced state of decomposition.

In a war of rapid movement, units are finding it impossible to bury their own dead as they are not long enough in one place to do all this. This obviously has unpleasant results and a bad effect on morale. There must be clear directions regarding burial and reporting of enemy and civilian dead as well asdefinite instructions regarding the recovery of bodies from knocked out tanks. The necessity for arranging for the burial or destruction of dead cattle must also be included.

2. The speedy erection of official cross of a really good pattern is a matter of importance. Isolated graves must be avoided whenever possible The German can teach us a lot in this matter, for he recognises the value this has towards the morale of his own troops. A glance at any German wayside burial plot will bring this out most vividly.

Source: 12 Army Group - Battle Experience No 30 dated 30th August, 1944

HOLDING GROUND

The following is an extract from a battalion commanders report:-

Fully 75% of my casualties since D-day have been incurred while holding ground in static or defensive operations. To avoid these casualties I have used the following methods to good advantage:-

(1) During the day I place my automatic weapons in defilade on the high ground and then keep the rest of the battalion behind the high ground.

(2) At night I establish well manned platoon outposts and have the rest of the platoons back about 400 yards. I permit the outposts to fire. If their fire draws enemy artillery fire the main body of the unit is not subjected to it.

(3) On other nights I have moved my entire battalion a short distance to the flank after dark. The Germans, on several occasions, shelled the vacated area throughout the night while my men slept peacefully in the new area.

NOTE: Similar methods have been used successfully against the Japanese in the Pacific.

SUMMARY OF POINTS DEALING WITH THE INITIAL ASSAULT ON LE HAVRE

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

156

1890

Source: 21 Army Group Main Headquarters - letter dated 6th September, 1944.

BURIAL PARTIES

1. The question of burial parties must be gone into with great care as the present system is not satisfactory. The 2nd Army had to create a section for each Corps to collect and bury bodies in an advanced state of decomposition.

In a war of rapid movement, units are finding it impossible to bury their own dead as they are not long enough in one place to do all this. This obviously has unpleasant results and a bad effect on morale. There must be clear directions regarding burial and reporting of enemy and civilian dead as well asdefinite instrustions regarding the recovery of bodies from knocked out tanks. The necessity for arranging for the burial or destruction of dead cattle must also be included.

2. The speedy erection of official crosses of a really good pattern is a matter of importance. Isolated graves must be avoided whenever possible The German can teach us a lot in this matter, for he recognises the value this has towards the morale of his own troops. A glance at any German wayside burial plot will bring this out most vividly.

Source: 12 Army Group - Battle Experience No 30 dated 30th August, 1944.

HOLDING GROUND

The following is an extract from a battalion commanders report:-

Fully 75% of my casualties since D-day have been incurred while holding ground in static or defensive operations. To avoid these casualties I have used the following methods to good advantage:-

(1) During the day I place my automatic weapons in defilade on the high ground and then keep the rest of the battalion behind the high ground.

(2) At night I establish well manned platoon outposts and have the rest of the platoons back about 400 yards. I permit the outposts to fire. If their fire draws enemy artillery fire the main body of the unit is not subjected to it.

(3) On other nights I have moved my entire battalion a short distance to the flank after dark. The Germans, on several occasions, shelled the vacated area throughout the night while my men slept peacefully in the new area.

NOTE: Similar methods have been used successfully against the Japanese in the Pacific.

SUMMARY OF POINTS DEALING WITH THE INITIAL ASSAULT ON LE HAVRE

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

1890

tanks. The necessity for arranging for the burial or destruction of dead cattle must also be included.

2. The speedy erection of official crosses of a really good pattern is a matter of importance. Isolated graves must be avoided whenever possible The German can teach us a lot in this matter, for he recognises the value this has towards the morale of his own troops. A glance at any German wayside burial plot will bring this out most vividly.

Source: 12 Army Group - Battle Experience No 30
dated 30th August, 1944

HOLDING GROUND

The following is an extract from a battalion commanders report:-

Fully 75% of my casualties since D-day have been incurred while holding ground in static or defensive operations. To avoid these casualties I have used the following methods to good advantage:-

(1) During the day I place my automatic weapons in defilade on the high ground and then keep the rest of the battalion behind the high ground.

(2) At night I establish well manned platoon outposts and have the rest of the platoons back about 400 yards. I permit the outposts to fire. If their fire draws enemy artillery fire the main body of the unit is not subjected to it.

(3) On other nights I have moved my entire battalion a short distance to the flank after dark. The Germans, on several occasions, shelled the vacated area throughout the night while my men slept peacefully in the new area.

NOTE: Similar methods have been used successfully against the Japanese in the Pacific.

SUMMARY OF POINTS DEALING WITH THE INITIAL ASSAULT ON LE HAVRE

1. Preparation

(a) Three full days were available for planning and for tying up between the various arms. The commanders of Crocodiles and Flails maintained that their preparation could not have been properly completed in a shorter period.

(b) RE had to move a large quantity of stores forward and from dumps. They succeeded, but only by a narrow margin. RE should also be allotted dumping areas early during planning.

(c) The AVRE representative stated that two hours were required before H hour at the FUP to brief his men and check all arrangements.

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

(d) Signals require very early information regarding the situation of FUPs in order to avoid the wholesale cutting of lines by AFVs.

2. Air Photographs

Air photographs are invaluable. For the initial break-through, distribution down to troop and equivalent commanders is required.

3. FUPs

(a) It was suggested that brigades or formations controlling an operation should allot areas within the FUP to prevent units overlapping, a state of affairs which would arise if they choose their own areas.

(b) Lines of approach between the minefield and the FUP will be under enemy observation and are therefore, difficult or impossible to mark. Flails must start square against the minefield and at the correct points. The importance of reconnaissance, study of air photographs and good map reading is emphasised. Prospective gaps should be marked by a man sent forward at night prior to the operation.

Source: Interviews with Senior British Staff Officers

COMMENTS ON AIR SUPPORT DURING OPERATIONS IN NORMANDY

1. Ground - Air Recognition is of vital importance. Experience since D day has proved that our methods are fundamentally sound and that where mistakes have been made, these can easily be attributed either to lack of training or to inaccurate application of the various methods. There has been a distinct improvement latterly as people became more experienced and air minded. Green and inexperienced troops are often afraid to mark their own forward positions by ground or air indicators for fear of being spotted by the enemy. One staff officer remarks that on occasions one had practically to force them to put out indicators and then watch to see that they did not take them in as soon as ones back was turned.

Great care must be taken to ensure that nobodyexcept forward troops display yellow ground strips, there has undoubtedly been a tendency for yellow groundstrips to be left on the ground after troops have moved on, When this is done, if aircraft bomb, following such incorrect indications, the troops on the ground complain, quite unjustly.

1889

2. The Use of Emergency and Impromptu Land Markers.

Use has not been made of these to the extent which had been hoped. Ground troops must realize that if they do not display such markings especially in thick country, they are very largely responsible if they are attacked by

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785080

Fields must start square against the minefield and at the correct points. The importance of reconnaissance, study of air photographs and good map reading is emphasised. Prospective gaps should be marked by a man sent forward at night prior to the operation.

Source: Interviews with Senior British Staff Officers

COMMENTS ON AIR SUPPORT DURING OPERATIONS IN NORMANDY

1. Ground - Air Recognition is of vital importance. Experience since D day has proved that our methods are fundamentally sound and that where mistakes have been made, these can easily be attributed either to lack of training or to inaccurate application of the various methods. There has been a distinct improvement latterly as people become more experienced and air minded. Green and inexperienced troops are often afraid to mark their own forward positions by ground or air indicators for fear of being spotted by the enemy. One staff officer remarks that on occasions one had practically to force them to put out indicators and then watch to see that they did not take them in as soon as ones back was turned.

Great care must be taken to ensure that nobodyexcept forward troops display yellow ground strips. there has undoubtedly been a tendency for yellow groundstrips to be left on the ground after troops have moved on, When this is done, if aircraft bomb, following such incorrect indications, the troops on the ground complain, quite unjustly.

1889

2. The Use of Emergency and Impromptu Land Markers.

Use has not been made of these to the extent which had been hoped. Ground troops must realize that if they do not display such markings especially in thick country, they are very largely responsible if they are attacked by friendly planes because, without any such markings, it is difficult for pilots to orientate themselves.

3. There is still a tendency for air attack to be asked for against targets like MG posts and single anti-tank guns, when the battle has become static. This is not only an uneconomical use of aircraft, but such attacks are unlikely to be effective because it is really impossible for a pilot flying at 350 mph to knock out such a small target. Such requests may sometimes be excusable if they are immediately afterwards going to be followed by ground action, but using fighter bombers as a means of keeping the heads of the enemy down is just sheer waste. The unit commanders on the spot must also remember that if they give the air an impossible target, their troops criticise the RAF quite unjustly.

There are plenty of good targets if the ground forces will search for them and take the fullest use of information provided by tactical reconnaissance Six machine guns being moved up in vehicles are a better target than one well dug in.

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

4. The use of Night Marker Shells

Indication of targets by night has been effective and has been commented of very favourably by pilots of Bomber Command. But supplies of these are limited and one cannot afford to shoot them off at every target.

5. Effect on Enemy and On Morale of Bomber Support.

Most formations now really appreciate the tremendous effect of the heavy bomber attack. This may not be immediately apparent but it becomes more evident in retrospect. It cannot be measured in terms of its material effect. The number of dead, etc, in slit trenches is not great, but there is no doubt it causes the breaking of the crust, though the more fanatical Nazis are still able to steel themselves to offer stiff opposition. Against low category troops of the enemy, however, in some cases, it amounts to a walk-over.

The support of heavy bombers raises the morale of our own troops tremendously because they see these heavy bombers sailing in over the target in an apparently endless stream unopposed by anything except flak, dropping their bombs where they like. The bombers take absolutely no notice of the flak and never take evasive action, keeping on a perfectly straight course. It is a very impressive sight, and by the end of a bombing attack the troops morale is completely on the top level. "In my opinion this is the most important morale factor of the whole thing". A heavy bomber attack has a great effect in cutting the enemy communications, both cable and by disrupting much of their wireless, the valves of which suffer.

6. Attack by Rocket Firing Aircraft.

There is no doubt that rocket firing planes can give close support provided the system of ground/air recognition is foolproof. RP shots can knock out a tank. We had a perfect Panther and set it up in the middle of a field and put the odd RP Typhoon against it. The first pilot undershot it slightly, the next shot was very slightly to the side and the third pilot got a near miss and set the Panther on fire, although there was no evidence of a direct hit. The bogie wheels were ablaze and in 30 seconds the whole tank was burning merrily. This was fairly good shooting, the worst shot was not more than about 20 yards away". Most of the tanks abandoned, and the number was very large, were in rearward areas five or ten miles behind the lines. The number of destroyed vehicles in the area Falaise was most impressive - there was no doubt there had been a real inferno there. Every 50 yards there was a burned out vehicle for a long distance. The enemy lost a vast amount of transport.

Source: 12th U.S. Army Group Battle Experience No 42.

Tanks in the advance.

The following notes are excerpts made by

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

1888

the enemy, however, in some cases, it amounts to a walk-over.

The support of heavy bombers raises the morale of our own troops tremendously because they see these heavy bombers sailing in over the target in an apparently endless stream unopposed by anything except flak, dropping their bombs where they like. The bombers take absolutely no notice of the flak and never take evasive action, keeping on a perfectly straight course. It is a very impressive sight, and by the end of a bombing attack the troops morale is completely on the top level. "In my opinion this is the most important morale factor of the whole thing". A heavy bomber attack has a great effect in cutting the enemy communications, both cable and by disrupting much of their wireless, the valves of which suffer.

6. Attack by Rocket Firing Aircraft.

There is no doubt that rocket firing planes can give close support provided the system of ground/air recognition is foolproof. RP shots can knock out a tank. We had a perfect Panther and set it up in the middle of a field and put the odd RP Typhoon against it. The first pilot undershot it slightly, the next shot was very slightly to the side and the third pilot got a near miss and set the Panther on fire, although there was no evidence of a direct hit. The bogie wheels were ablaze and in 30 seconds the whole tank was burning merrily. This was fairly good shooting, the worst shot was not more than about 20 yards away". Most of the tanks abandoned, and the number was very large, were 1088 rearward areas five or ten miles behind the lines. The number of destroyed vehicles in the area Falaise was most impressive - there was no doubt there had been a real inferno there. Every 40 yards there was a burned out vehicle for a long distance. The enemy lost a vast amount of transport.

Source: 12th U.S. Army Group Battle Experience No 12.

Tanks in the advance.

(NOTE: The following notes are comments made by various senior officers of a US armoured div.)

1. Advance Planning.

The greatest trouble I had was in getting commanders to think ahead of what they would do when they ran into trouble. The advanced guard especially must have some plan for immediate action when fired on. (Comment by a General Officer.)

2. Do Something.

Do not stand on the road two or three hours while some one else tries to get into touch with the Senior. Make up your mind and DO SOMETHING. When a column stops find out what is stopping it. (Comment by a General Officer.)

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

3. Use of Artillery.

"Your best weapon against the anti-tank gun is Artillery". "Do not try to attack them directly. Get artillery fire on them and then run your tanks around, come in behind and over-run them. I know it works." (Comment by CO of an armoured column

4. Armour and cities.

"The armour should go round the cities while the Infantry follow and go in and get them. The main thing I want to impress on you is - Keep moving Forwards". (Comments by a General Officer)

Source: Extracts from Military Reports from the United Nations No. 20

ANTI AIRCRAFT GUNS IN A GROUND ROLE

1. Allotments of HAA ammunition in Italy for use in a ground role over a period of 24 hours during battle were recently prescribed as follows: for a corps attack - 200-250 rps, and for a division attack - 100-200 rps. In the long run, these figures prove satisfactory, and guns have not suffered any ill effects from the large quantities of ammunition fired in the ground role. The theory that the firing of large quantities of ammunition at low angles of elevation is necessarily harmful to this type of gun has been proved to be incorrect. If a high rate of fire is maintained for long periods, however, barrels will suffer excessive wear due to overheating.

2. Such air activity as the enemy has been able to muster in Italy has been directed mainly against forward troops, field artillery positions, and particularly bridges during the early stages of a river crossing. Usually it has been possible therefore, to site AA guns sufficiently far forward to enable full use to be made of their long range, and at the same time to have them suitably deployed to counter any threat of hostile air activity to bridges and other VPs (vulnerable points) in the forward areas.

3. This dual role has been found to be particularly important for river crossings. In operations of this nature, it is of critical importance to have the maximum artillery support during the initial stages of the attack, as well as an adequate AA protection of the bridgehead and river crossings during the hours of daylight immediately following the attack. It has therefore been necessary, from the AA point of view, for the guns to occupy positions in the field artillery area, and in some cases forward of this area. From these positions the guns have been employed most usefully during the preliminary artillery programme, and usually have been well sited for their AA

1687

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

Source: Extracts from Military Reports from the United Nations No. 20

ANTI AIRCRAFT GUNS IN A GROUND ROLE

1. Allotments of HAA ammunition in Italy for use in a ground role over a period of 24 hours during battle were recently prescribed as follows: for a corps attack - 200-250 rpg, and for a division attack - 150-200 rpg. In the long run, these figures prove satisfactory, and the guns have not suffered any ill effects from the large quantities of ammunition fired in the ground role. The theory that the firing of large quantities of ammunition at low angles of elevation is necessarily harmful to this type of gun has been proved to be incorrect. If a high rate of fire is maintained for long periods, however, barrels will suffer excessive wear due to overheating.

2. Such air activity as the enemy has been able to muster in Italy has been directed mainly against forward troops, field artillery positions, and particularly bridges during the early stages of a river crossing. Usually it has been possible therefore, to site AA guns sufficiently far forward to enable full use to be made of their long range, and at the same time to have them suitably deployed to counter any threat of hostile air activity to bridges and other VPs (vulnerable points) in the forward areas.

3. This dual role has been found to be particularly important for river crossings. In operations of this nature, it is essential to have the maximum artillery support during the initial stages of the attack, as well as an adequate AA protection of the bridgehead and river crossings during the hours of daylight immediately following the attack. It has therefore been necessary, from the AA point of view, for the guns to occupy positions in the field artillery area, and in some cases forward of this area. From these positions the guns have been employed most usefully during the preliminary artillery programme, and usually have been well sited for their AA role.

Source: U.S. 12 Army Group - Battle Experience. SNIPPETS

Keep Moving

When crossing open terrain under small arms fire, keep moving forward If one hits the ground he becomes a still target for small arms, mortar and artillery fire. This company marched two miles across open ground at La Chapelle firing from an upright position. We kept Jerry down by constant fire and did not have a single casualty". (Men of a company of US infantry div-)

Source: DRAC's Monthly Letter No 18 THE USE OF TANKS DURING THE PURSUIT IN NORTH-WEST EUROPE

We are awaiting with keen interest full and authoritative reports from 21 Army Group on the part played by armour following upon the breakout from Close fighting in the BOCAGE country, where thickness of armour was an all important factor. During the PURSUIT, it is apparent that the CROMWELL had a "Field Day" its superior speed and mobility came into their own and user reports were encouraging.

1887

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

In the American sector, again the key to the success of the whole operation was speed. The advance of the Third US Army EAST across FRANCE to the German frontier was led by an armoured division which was instructed to push on at maximum speed, regardless of the administrative problems and to avoid the enemy wherever possible. For this reason, leading elements moved mostly on side roads and were only forced to deploy when serious opposition was encountered. Enemy concentrations were thus by-passed and were subsequently dealt with by infantry divisions following behind newly assisted by the FFI.

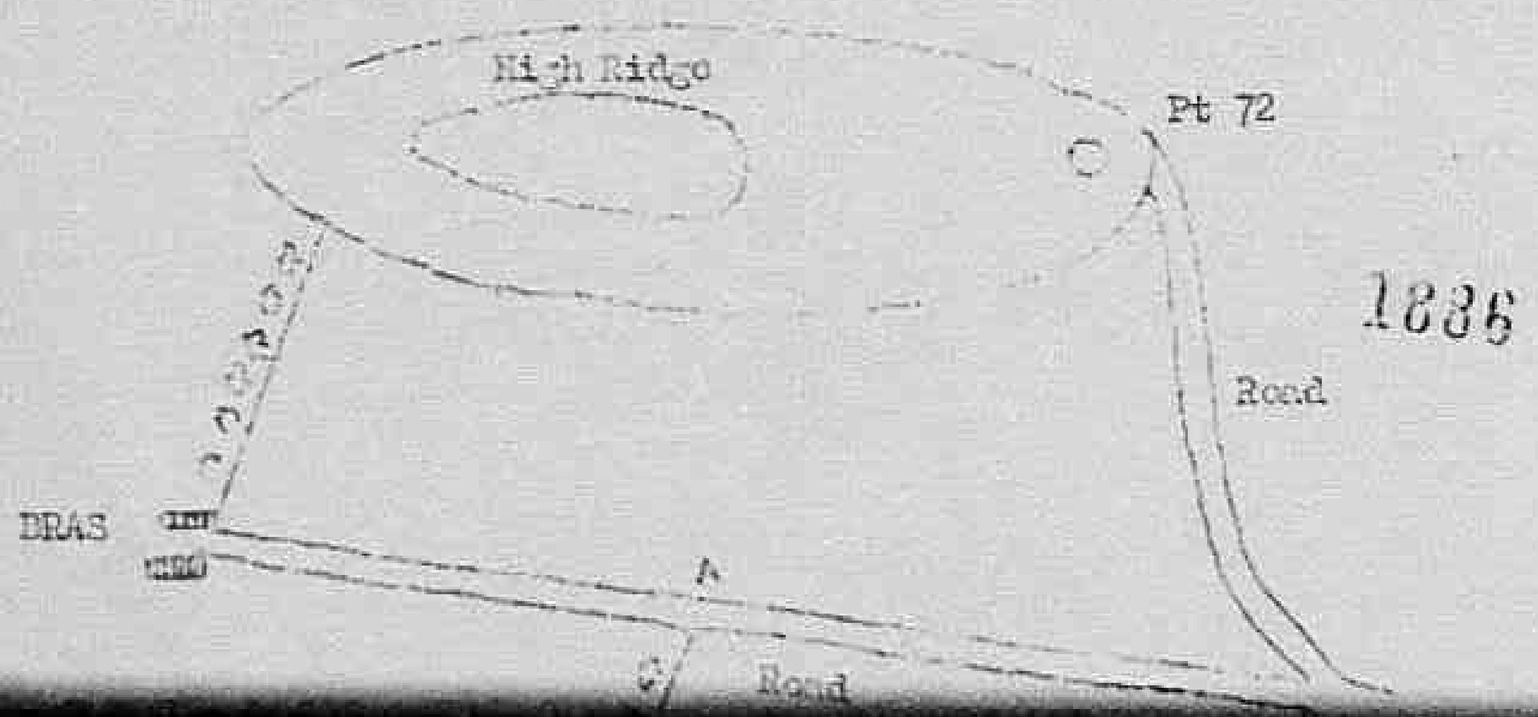
Divisional reconnaissance was carried out by a cavalry screen of armoured cars and light tanks together with a proportion of the eight aircraft which form part of the CRA's command. At least one of these was kept permanently over each combat command and was sent forward to reconnoitre towns and suspicious areas up to 20 miles ahead of the column.

The administrative problems were surmounted largely by unloading all non-essential vehicles in order to increase the number of petrol and ammunition lorries in the division and authorising double loading for the 2½ ton 6 x 6 vehicles. At times the supply transport had to return 200 miles for replenishment and in order to complete the round trip of 400 miles it was found necessary to keep on the move 24 hours a day, first and second drivers taking sleeping and driving in turn. During the period 1st August to 31st August, the armoured division's daily petrol consumption was about 40,000 gallons.

- - -

Source: A wounded field officer of a Cromwell Tank Unit

THE MORAL IS OBVIOUS



1836

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

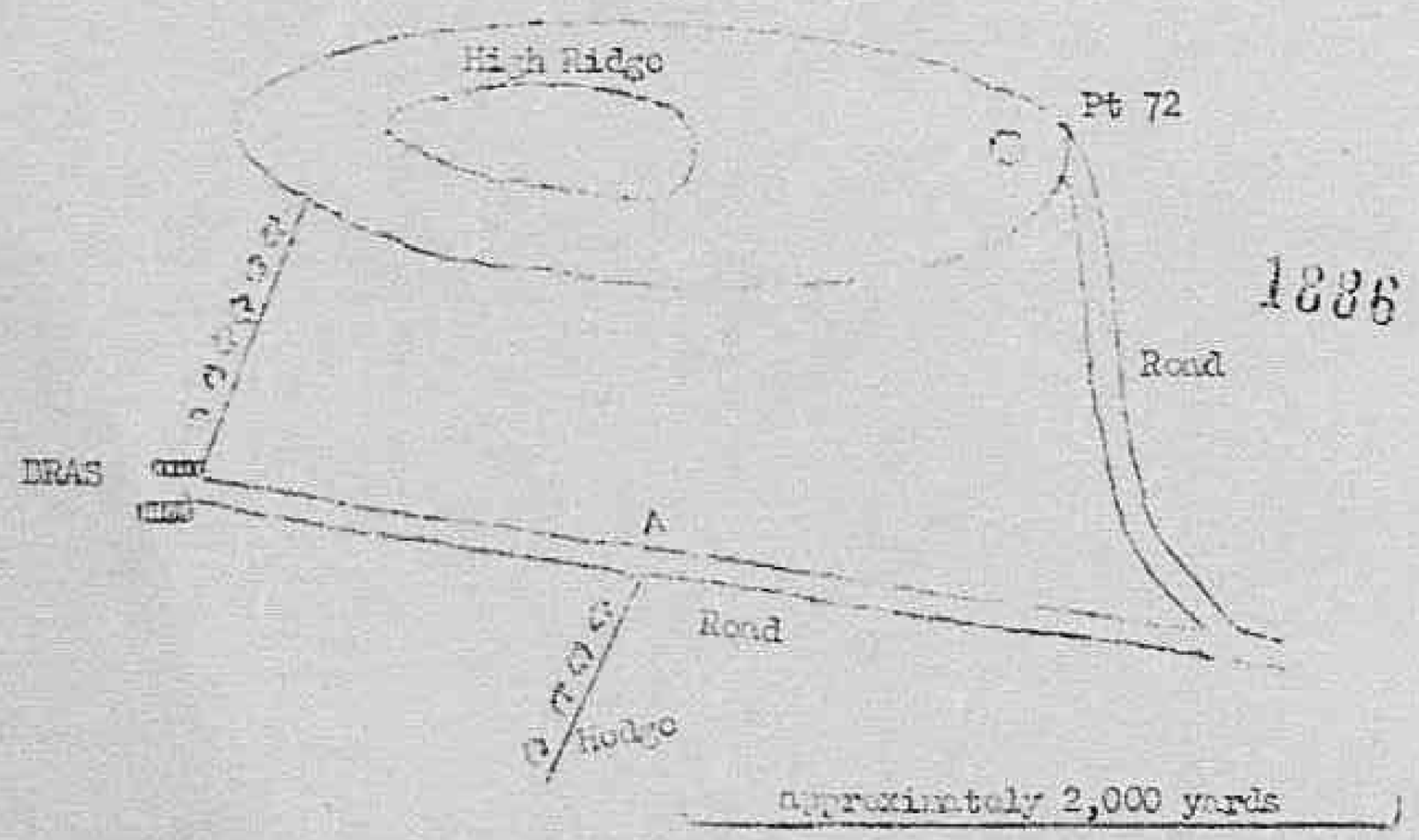
over each combat command and was sent forward to reconnoitre towns and suspicious areas up to 20 miles ahead of the column.

The administrative problems were surmounted largely by unloading all non-essential vehicles in order to increase the number of petrol and ammunition lorries in the division and authorising double loading for the 2½ ton 6 x 6 vehicles. At times the supply transport had to return 200 miles for replenishment and in order to complete the round trip of 400 miles it was found necessary to keep on the move 24 hours a day, first and second drivers taking sleeping and driving in turn. During the period 1st August to 31st August, the armoured division's daily petrol consumption was about 40,000 gallons.

- - -

Source: A wounded field officer of a Cromwell Tank Unit

THE MORAL IS OBVIOUS



"My squadron was advancing two up along the line of the hedge to the road running West from BRAS. The squadron was split evenly each side of the hedge. When we got to the road we noticed an enemy anti-tank gun at 'A', but it was not manned and there was a hay stack burning by it so we took no notice. A moment later we came under heavy fire from the high ridge and after a while withdrew to the East of the hedge. As the last four tanks were crossing over, the anti-tank gun suddenly came to life and got three tanks at 150 yards in about 6 seconds. The fourth tank got the gun. The crew had been hiding in a slit trench. The moral is obvious".

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

1886

Source: Das Britische Kriegsheer. (Extracts from the German official manual on the British army.)

THROUGH GERMAN SPECTACLES

1. The position of the army in England

In peace time the army enjoyed less public consideration than the Navy and Air Force. In spite of its soldierly qualities, it lacked the inner urge given to an army charged by conscription with the task of educating a people in war. After the army had entered the war insufficiently prepared in ideas, in organization and in equipment, and had achieved no success at all up to the North African campaign, the public became very much aware of the army's inferior position. Only since the successful conclusion of the North African campaigns, the landings in Sicily and the Italian mainland, is the army beginning, supported by every active propaganda machine, to catch up with the other Services in public opinion.

2. The British soldier

(a) The British soldier is brave, tough, and not depressed by setbacks. He has the knack of helping himself and thinking out practical simplifications of the tasks given him. He is silent and not susceptible to propaganda, little depressed by privations such as lack of mail, leave and relief. His turnout is generally smart and his discipline good. As against these advantages, he is a little slow-witted and, when unbloodied, careless and sometimes easily worn down.

(b) The NCO, particularly the regular long-service NCO, is for the most part very good, independent and reliable. Casualties, however, have decreased the number of good NCOs as well as of senior regular soldiers.

(c) Officers. Of the officers, the senior regular officers, who have had long experience of soldiering, are the best. The junior officers, both regular and territorial as well as the emergency officers, are very full of theoretical knowledge but in practice generally clumsy. The British army tries to improve them in this respect by sending officers of all arms to courses in which the latest experiences and tactics are taught. The officers corps is not homogeneous and possesses too few men who are properly suited to teaching and training. As the junior officer is not really trained to be independent, and as the whole of individual and a good deal of other training is left, as in peace time, to the NCOs, there is generally a good deal of superficiality.

In battle, British officers in all theatres have shown

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

2335

much aware of the army's inferior position. Only since the successful conclusion of the North African campaigns, the landings in Sicily and the Italian mainland, is the army beginning, supported by avery active propaganda machine, to catch up with the other Services in public opinion.

2. The British soldier

(a) The British soldier is brave, tough, and not depressed by setbacks. He has the knack of helping himself and thinking out practical simplifications of the tasks given him. He is silent and not susceptible to propaganda, little depressed by privations such as lack of mail, leave and relief. His turnout is generally smart and his discipline good. As against these advantages, he is a little slow-witted and, when unblooded, careless and sometimes easily worn down.

(b) The NCO, particularly the regular long-service NCO, is for the most part very good, independent and reliable. Casualties, however, have decreased the number of good NCOs as wellas of senior regular soldiers.

(c) Officers. Of the officers, the senior regular officers, who have had long experience of soldiering, are the best. The junior officers, both regular and territorial as wellas the emergency officers, are very full of theoretical knowledge but in practice generally clumsy. The British army tries to improve them in this respect by sending officers of all arms to courses in which the latest experiencesand tactics are taught. The officers corps is not homogeneous and possesses too few men who are properly suited to teaching and training. As the junior officer is not really trained to be independent, and as the whole of individual and a good deal of other training is left, as in peace time, to the NCOs, there is generally a good deal of superficiality.

In battle, british officers in all theatres have shown themselves brave and self- sacrificing.

(d) The relationship between officers, NCOs and men is good.

3. Command.

The British Command has not yet succeeded in casting off its congenitally schematic methods of working, and the clumsiness thereby entailed. The improvisations demanded of flexible tactical leadership are not readily to be found.

The rising scale of casualties has led the British Command recently to behave more and more cautiously. Thorough planning, detailed and often meticulous preparation for even the smallest actions, superiority in weapons and ammunition, and air superiority in the theatre of operations, are the indispensable prerequisite for British offensives. Favourable situations have not been exploited, since the leadership has not reacted to the new situations quickly enough. This clumsiness continues down the scale of command by reason of themethod of issuing orders, which go into the smallest detail.

1285

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

Preparation of major operations is generally excellently camouflaged. British reconnaissance and intelligence perform their part of the task well.

Co-operation between services, especially the Army and Air Force, has reached a high level.

4. Armament and equipment

The armament and equipment of the British Army is modern, and the quality of weapons and supplies good. There are no longer any noticeable deficiencies in any type of equipment.

Tank formations have got rid of a large number of obsolete tank models and are equipped with a few proved types which are up to modern requirements. The artillery throughout is well equipped with developed and standardized types of weapons.

Source: UK Army Liaison Staff, Australia (AI/SWV/2/6175)

MAN PACK FLAME THROWERS

1. It is the intention of the Australian Army to equip jungle divisions with man pack flame throwers. Though they have not yet been used operationally, equipments have been issued in order that battle drills, suitable organizations etc, may be worked out. The following points indicate the Australian trend of thought:-

(a) Each jungle division should be equipped with 36 man pack flame throwers.
(b) These will be held as and where the situation demands.
(c) Special platoons will be trained in their use. This is because it does not appear practicable to train each platoon to attain a sufficiently high degree of skill and efficiency.

2. The following organization and tactics have been adopted provisionally in one infantry regiment:-

(a) Organization. The platoon commander is responsible for the training and tactical employment of the platoon and is a member of the regimental staff serving as the regimental flame thrower officer. The platoon is divided into sections. 1884

(b) Each flame thrower squad (section) consists of:-

(i) The squad (section) leader, a NCO who both commands the squad (section) and operates the flame thrower.
(ii) Two men with automatic weapons, who are tactically disposed

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

models and are equipped with a few proven types which are up to modern requirements. The artillery throughout is well equipped with developed and standardized types of weapons.

Source: UK Army Liaison Staff, Australia (UA/S&W/2/6175)

MAN PACK FLAME THROWERS

1. It is the intention of the Australian Army to equip jungle divisions with man pack flame throwers. Though they have not yet been used operationally, equipments have been issued in order that battle drills, suitable organizations etc, may be worked out. The following points indicate the Australian trend of thought:-

(a) Each jungle division should be equipped with 36 man pack flame throwers.
(b) These will be held as and where the situation demands.
(c) Special platoons will be trained in their use. This is because it does not appear practicable to train each platoon to attain a sufficiently high degree of skill and efficiency.

2. The following organization and tactics have been adopted provisionally in one infantry regiment:-

(a) Organization. The platoon commander is responsible for the training and tactical employment of the platoon and is a member of the regimental staff serving as the regimental flame thrower officer. The platoon is divided into sections.

1884

(b) Each flame thrower squad (section) consists of:-

(i) The squad (section) leader, an NCO who both commands the squad (section) and operates the flame thrower.
(ii) Two men with automatic weapons, who are tactically disposed so as to keep down the enemy's fire in order that the flame thrower may be able to get close enough to operate.
(iii) Two riflemen, whose functions are to protect the flame thrower, to indicate targets to him, and to lay smoke screens at his discretion.
(iv) A technician who is responsible to the squad (section) leader for maintenance and refuelling of flame throwers. He remains at the refuelling point.

3. Tactics.

(a) The platoon commander with two runners reports to the commander of the unit to which the flame thrower platoon is attached and accompanies him on his reconnaissance. He then selects the refuelling point for the platoon, and attends the giving out of verbal orders by the unit commander. He is consulted as to how flame throwers can best be used and co-ordination is thus obtained between the rifle and flame thrower sub units.

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

(b) While this is going on, the platoon sergeant supervises the unloading of the vehicles and the disposition of equipment at a pre-arranged point. Squad (section) leaders give their men such information as they have, and a last minute check is made of the flame throwers.

(c) A runner from the platoon commander picks up the platoon at the pre-arranged point, and leads it to the refuelling point, which has been selected by the platoon commander. The platoon commander comes to the refuelling point and issues his detailed orders.

(d) Three flame throwers to a rifle platoon are all that can be effectively used.

(e) Flame throwers remain in the rear of the normal infantry after they have deployed. Flame throwers should only be brought into action after targets have been definitely located.

(f) When the position has been captured, a rifle platoon must immediately occupy it in order to prevent the enemy from regaining it.

(g) When a number of enemy pillboxes are located, a flame thrower squad (section) should be detailed for each pillbox. When possible pillboxes should be attacked in enfilade.

(h) After flame has been fired, the equipment is generally the target of intense enemy fire of all kinds. It is, therefore, necessary to withdraw flame throwers as soon as possible after their task has been accomplished.

Source: 12 (US) Army Group Battle Experience No. 58 5th October

OBSERVATIONS OF OFFICERS AND MEN WHO HAVE BEEN FIGHTING IN THE SIEGFRIED LINE SINCE 11 SEPTEMBER

1. The area of the Siegfried line in which these troops were fighting contained many strongholds, some 500 metres apart, woods with thick undergrowth, and streams. Pillboxes were found approximately every 100 yds, both laterally and in depth, being usually self-supporting. These pillboxes were of three types, some with one aperture, some with MG emplacements and two apertures, while others were used as troop shelters.

2. Comments of rifle company commanders

(i) Sighting of enemy pillboxes
They are usually sighted for long range fire. If our troops can get fairly close, there are quite a few dead spaces through which they can filter. Either routes should be viewed the previous

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

1883

(e) Flame throwers remain in the rear of the normal infantry after they have deployed. Flame throwers should only be brought into action after targets have been definitely located.

(f) When the position has been captured, a rifle platoon must immediately occupy it in order to prevent the enemy from regaining it.

(g) When a number of enemy pillboxes are located, a flame thrower squad (section) should be detailed for each pillbox. When possible pillboxes should be attacked in enfilade.

(h) After flame has been fired, the equipment is generally the target of intense enemy fire of all kinds. It is, therefore, necessary to withdraw flame throwers as soon as possible after their task has been accomplished.

Source: 12 (US) Army Group Battle Experience No. 58 5th October

OBSERVATIONS OF OFFICERS AND MEN WHO HAVE BEEN FIGHTING IN THE SIEGFRIED LINE SINCE 11 SEPTEMBER

1. The area of the Siegfried line in which these troops were fighting contained many steep hills, some 500 metres high, woods with thick undergrowth, and streams. Pillboxes were found approximately every 100 yds, both laterally and in depth, being mutually self-supporting. These pillboxes were of three types, some with one aperture, some with MG emplacements and two apertures, while others were used as troop shelters.

2. Comments of rifle company commanders

(a) Sighting of enemy pillboxes

They are usually sighted for long range fire. If our troops can get fairly close, there are quite a few dead spaces through which they can filter. Either routes should be viewed the previous day from a good OP or a thorough map reconnaissance made. It was found best to move across the open country from ridge to ridge during the hour just before day-light. One coy fought the whole of one day and gained only 100 yds because of the extremely accurate mi heavy mortar and machine gun fire. The same coy in the hour before dayli ght the next morning covered 1000 yds without losing a man, and took six pillboxes without the aid of supporting arms

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

(ii) Supporting weapons
Tanks or SP guns are excellent supporting weapons for attack on pillboxes. They must be very closelyfollowed by infantry. The bazooka (equivalent to the PL T) is a good weapon which will sometimes puncture the steel door of a pillbox. The flame thrower is good for a short time and it only takes a short squirt to do the job. Conserve it and use it only when necessary.

3. Tactics

There must be first class team work and it must be remembered that the pillboxes are mutually supporting. Therefore, fire on flanking pillboxes as well as on those to be assaulted is necessary. Smoke can be used before the assault, and will save the lives of your men.

4. In the assault, infantrymen must keep the aperture under fire to ensure its being kept closed, while two flanking groups of three or four men eachtake up positions in the rear of the pillbox to cover the rear entrance. One man should work in close to the pillbox to throw in grenades.

5. If the enemy does not surrender, some men must work to the blind side of the pillbox and blow the embrasure with TNT. "In no circumstances allow anyone to enter the pillbox to take prisoners. Make them come to you". When approaching pillboxes beware of "ointment box"mines, which are verysmallbut very dangerous.
NOTE This mine is a metal box 3 ins in diameter and 1 in thick, and telescopes when stepped on, thus setting off the 3 oz charge.

6. If the above methods fail, tanks can blow a hole in the rear of the pillbox with their guns, or a tank dozer can cover the door and embrasure with earth.

7. Pillboxes should be demolished immediatelyafter they have been taken as theymay be reoccupied. "Six pillboxes on our portion of the line have had to be taken three times". Blowing of the apertures and doors does not make the pillbox untenable, it has to be completelydestroyed right down to the ground. Even though one wall is left standing it leaves a place to fight from. Therefore, someone should follow close behind the assaulting troops, with the equipment to destroy these pillboxes completely. 1882

8. Prepare for counter attacks

After the pillbox is taken, all troops must deploy to the front and flank to guard against counter attack and to be prepared for the deluge of mortar and artillery fire which always follows.

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

that the pillboxes are mutually supporting. Therefore, fire on flanking pillboxes as well as on those to be assaulted is necessary. Smoke can be used before the assault, and will save the lives of your men.

4. In the assault, infantrymen must keep the aperture under fire to ensure its being kept closed, while two flanking groups of three or four men each take up positions in the rear of the pillbox to cover the rear entrance. One man should work in close to the pillbox to throw in grenades.

5. If the enemy does not surrender, some men must work to the blind side of the pillbox and blow the embrasure with TNT. "In no circumstances allow anyone to enter the pillbox to take prisoners. Make them come to you". When approaching pillboxes beware of "ointment box" mines, which are very small but very dangerous.

NOTE This mine is a metal box 3 ins in diameter and 1 in thick, and telescopes when stepped on, thus setting off the 3 oz charge.

6. If the above methods fail, tanks can blow a hole in the rear of the pillbox with their guns, or a tank dozer can cover the door and embrasure with earth.

7. Pillboxes should be demolished immediately after they have been taken as they may be reoccupied. "Six pillboxes on our portion of the line have had to be taken three times". Blowing of the apertures and doors does not make the pillbox untenable, it has to be completely destroyed right down to the ground. Even though one wall is left standing it leaves a place to fight from. Therefore, someone should follow close behind the assaulting troops, with the equipment to destroy these pillboxes completely. 1882

8. Prepare for counter attacks

After the pillbox is taken, all troops must deploy to the front and flank to guard against counter attack and to be prepared for the deluge of mortar and artillery fire which always follows.

9. Attacks should always stop, if possible, at least an hour before darkness, or even earlier, so that a proper defence can be set up. The Boche will push a strong counter attack in just after dark, and if the defence is not organized, our troops will be pushed off their hard won ground. The German counter attacks made during darkness have been preceded by a lot of screaming and talking. While this is nerve racking to troops who are still disorganised, it merely makes them alert if they are experienced and in a strong position.

Source: CMHQ Memoranda North-West Europe Series 9

THE USE OF CROCODILES

1. A Canadian battalion was ordered to capture a certain village early on the 8th August but was defeated with heavy casualties. The attack was renewed in the same afternoon with a battalion which was seriously depleted but to which four troops of CROCODILES had been attached. The result was that the attack was completely successful.

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

2. The method used was that the troops of tanks moved forward down the road each tank being followed very closely by two sections of infantry. When the tanks approached the town, they moved off the main road, one tank in each troop going down a line directly behind the houses and the other two keeping further away to give covering fire. As each tank approached a house it fired in order to knock a hole in it, then it squirted liquid flame in the opening thus created. The leading infantry section directly behind the tank then dashed for the doorway and cleared the house as quickly as possible. Although this sounds very dangerous, it is not so because the fire, once started, is unlikely to cause damage to the attacker. The main thing to beware of is getting in the path of the flame thrower itself, because every thing touched by the liquid fire is ignited.

3. The tank then moved forward down the line to the next house and repeated the performance, the second section of infantry acting in exactly the same way in clearing the house. The two infantry sections thus alternated in entering the buildings set ablaze by the tanks, while other infantry following further in rear occupied buildings already searched. The leading section followed two yards behind the trailer of the crocodile tank, with the other section about 20 yards in rear.

4. During the advance, any likely hedges or ditches were squirted with flame. Fires started in buildings blazed all night and some buildings continued to burn all next day.

5. Much enemy equipment was left behind and the enemy was obviously demoralised by the method of attack, although he had resisted courageously in the morning.

6. Infantry had nothing but the highest praise for the CROCODILES used during the assault. They were impressed greatly by the aggressive and bold attitude displayed by the tank crews who rarely, if ever, hesitated before taking on any job asked of them. The infantry were not disturbed by the problem of having to clear houses ahead, but were very glad to have such effective support even at the cost of a lot of extra work.

7. The enemy positions had been very accurately pin-pointed by air photographs, and the defensive overprints, with one single exception, indicated every position exactly as it was found to be on the ground.

1881

Source: 12 US Army Group Battle Experiences. 56,58,62 &60

SOME MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

1. Reinforcements

[illegible] should NOT be rushed

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

thin, touched by the liquid fire is ignited.

3. The tank then moved forward down the lane to the next house and repeated the performance, the second section of infantry acting in exactly the same way in clearing the house. The two infantry sections thus alternated in entering the buildings set ablaze by the tanks, while other infantry following further in rear occupied buildings already searched. The leading section followed two yards behind the trailer of the crocodile tank, with the other section about 20 yards in rear.

4. During the advance, any likely hedges or ditches were squirted with flame. Fires started in buildings blazed all night and some buildings continued to burn all next day.

5. Much enemy equipment was left behind and the enemy was obviously demoralized by the method of attack, although he had resisted courageously in the morning.

6. Infantry had nothing but the highest praise for the CROCODILES used during the assault. They were impressed greatly by the aggressive and bold attitude displayed by the tank crews who rarely, if ever hesitated before taking on any job asked of them. The infantry were not disturbed by the problem of having to clear houses ablaze, but were very glad to have such effective support even at the cost of a lot of extra sweat.

7. The enemy positions had been very accurately pin-pointed by air photographs, and the defensive overprints, with one single exception, indicated every position exactly as it was found to be on the ground.

1881

Source: 12 US Army Group Battle Experiences. 56,58,62 d60

SOME MISCELLANEOUS QUOTES

1. Reinforcements

"No matter how badly men are needed, reinforcements should NOT be rushed into battle. They should be brought in during a rest period in order that they may get to know their leaders. Once we received reinforcements when we were engaged in heavy fighting. The new men became bewildered, froze into position and suffered heavy casualties."

(An infantry serjeant 4 Oct 44)

2. Detection of pillboxes

Some German pillboxes have been so well camouflaged that detection is most difficult. In a few instances we sprayed suspected areas with MG fire, and located the pillboxes by ricochets. We then used HE shells to clear off the camouflage, and AP shells to penetrate the door."

(Report from an Infantry regiment
9 Oct 44)

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

3. Description of a large German pillbox

"In large pillboxes walls and roofs are 6 to 7 ft thick and roofs are reinforced with 12 inch iron beams. There are usually 4 to 7 rooms with heavy connecting doors. Embrasure plates are 4½ inch steel. We blew one pillbox up from the inside, using 300 lbs of TNT placed in an inner room, and after the explosion a Jerry walked out! "

(Division Engineer, 5 Oct 44)

4. Tank and infantry assault

"Regardless of the initial formation, it is NOT essential that tank and infantry keep their respective positions in an assault. A tank must stop to fire effectively but that is the time for the infantry to press on Infantry may be stopped by machine gun fire, and if the enemy anti-tank defences are ineffective, the tank should press on. Both arms must realise that the fact that one stops is not of necessity a reason for the other stopping."

(Report of a US Corps 8 Oct 44)

Source: A captured German document

GERMAN EXPERIENCES ABOUT FIGHTING IN FORESTS ON AN EASTERN

OUR PLAN FIRST

Training

1. This is primarily a question of character training. Experience has shown that normal training in exploitation of ground, stalking, digging, camouflage, patrolling, picquets, and in-fighting is theoretically excellent but most soldiers have no idea how to adapt these principles in practice to warfare in wooded country.

Lack of visibility and lack of knowledge of the precise whereabouts of our own troops, which are inherent in forest fighting, must not panic officers and NCOs who must be trained to keep a hold on such situations. Personal timidity leads to wrong appreciations and frequently, as a consequence to wrong or negative decisions. Hence one of the main tasks of training will be to counteract such tendencies before the soldier first goes into action since the Russian infantry very frequently fight in woods.

1689

2. All training must strengthen the soldier's nerves. It should include:-

(a) Exhaustive training in in-fighting to eliminate the German soldier's oft-observed distaste for this sort of fighting.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785080

"Regardless of the initial formation, it is NOT essential that tank and infantry keep their respective positions in an assault. A tank must stop to fire effectively but that is the time for the infantry to press on Infantry may be stopped by machine gun fire, and if the enemy anti-tank defences are ineffective, the tank should press on. Both arms must realise that the fact that one stops is not of necessity a reason for the other stopping."

(Report of a US Corps 8 Oct 44)

Source: A captured German document

GERMAN EXPERIENCES ABOUT FIGHTING IN FORESTS ON AN EASTERN EUROPEAN FRONT

Training

1. This is primarily a question of character training. Experience has shown that normal training in exploitation of ground, stalking, digging, camouflage, patrolling, picquets, and in-fighting is theoretically excellent but most soldiers have no idea how to adapt these principles in practice to warfare in wooded country.

Lack of visibility and lack of knowledge of the precise whereabouts of our own troops, which are inherent in forest fighting, must not panic officers and NCOs who must be trained to keep a hold on such situations. Personal timidity leads to wrong appreciations and frequently, as a consequence to wrong or negative decisions. Hence one of the main tasks of training will be to counteract such tendencies before the soldier first goes into action since the Russian infantry very frequently fight in woods.

1880

2. All training must strengthen the soldier's nerves. It should include:-

(a) Exhaustive training in in-fighting to eliminate the German soldier's oft-observed distaste for this sort of fighting.

(b) Training in night operations (including patrols) to develop a faculty for taking quick decisions.

(c) Much more encouragement of those sports that develop mental and physical agility as well as stamina.

3. Fire-discipline is an outstanding necessity in forest-fighting. It must be drummed into the soldier that he is:-

(a) Not to open fire whenever he likes

(b) Not to pump lead haphazard into the trees without seeing a target. This is a habit that often causes incredible confusion.

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

Conduct of the attack

4. The only successful preparation for forest fighting is constant ground reconnaissance detailed by the company commander clockwise from his position. The object of this reconnaissance is to probe for that part of the enemy's position which is most weakly held, so that the full force of the company can be deployed against that point.

5. When the enemy's weakest point has been discovered, the company commander will explain his position and the methods to be employed to his platoon and section commanders. The company will then deploy to attack the position. It may be necessary for movement to be by compass. Whatever happens, movement on foot must not stick closely to the roads because the Russians usually concentrate the main body of their forces astride the road.

6. When the attackers come within sight of the enemy, the advance will become a stalk to within close combat range. Thick woods give such good cover for this kind of stalk that it can be continued under heavy fire. It is essential for the soldier to be trained to keep contact with his neighbours all the time.

7. When the company has got within close combat range of the enemy, the whole company will charge shouting "Hurrah", and using the greatest possible number of hand-grenades and other close combat weapons.

8. During every attack each platoon should detail at least one observer to keep watch on tree-tops. He should be armed with a machine gun to pick off enemy tree-top snipers. Tree-tops should be sprayed; single shots are not much use against tree-top snipers. Forest-fighting is above all a job for riflemen and machine-gunners. The employment of heavy weapons is often out of the question, though mortars are useful in clearings.

EXTRACTS FROM C.W. LIAISON LETTER No 3 and SWV 2 OF REPORTS

Lifebuoys

2. The following is a good example of the use of Lifebuoys in BURMA

"Four operators, each covered by a sten gunner as they advanced into a village over a road bridge, spread out and began to fire the huts. Reaction was immediate; Japs came out of air raid shelters and a few started firing wildly. Several were hit by flame throwers in the open and killed; others were shot both by the sten gunners, and by platoon fire from a hill overlooking the village. The Lifebuoys' operators went on to attack the air raid shelters from ranges of 15 to 20 yards, and several Japs were burnt to death inside. On subsequent examination 16 bodies were found. No casualties were sustained by our own troops, and at the end of the proceedings the villages were ablaze. Throughout the action all four Lifebuoys worked satisfactorily; in one case a hut was set on fire at 70 yards' range by skilful manipulation of the nozzle. These Lifebuoys had been carried filled for a week, and on the day before had been carried on the operators' backs for 5 miles."

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

a scalk to within close combat range. Quick [illegible] give such good cover for this kind of stalk that it can be continued under heavy fire. It is essential for the soldier to be trained to keep contact with his neighbours all the time.

7. When the company has got within close combat range of the enemy, the whole company will charge shouting "Hurrah", and using the greatest possible number of hand-grenades and other close combat weapons.

8. During every attack each platoon should detail at least one observer to keep watch on tree-tops. He should be armed with a machine gun to pick off enemy tree-top snipers. Tree-tops should be sprayed; single shots are not much use against tree-top snipers. Forest-fighting is above all a job for riflemen and machine-gunners. The employment of heavy weapons is often out of the question, though mortars are useful in clearings.

EXTRACTS FROM C.W. LIAISON LETTER No 3 and SWV 2 OP REPORTS

Lifebuoys

2. The following is a good example of the use of Lifebuoys in BURMA

"Four operators, each covered by a sten gunner as they advanced into a village over a road bridge, spread out and began to fire the huts. Reaction was immediate; Japs came out of air raid shelters and a few started firing wildly. Several were hit by flame throwers in the open and killed; others were shot both by the sten gunners, and by platoon fire from a hill overlooking the village. The Lifebuoys' operators went on to attack the air raid shelters from ranges of 15 to 20 yards, and several Japs were burnt to death inside. On subsequent examination 16 bodies were found. No casualties were sustained by our own troops, and at the end of the proceedings the villages were ablaze. Throughout the action all four Lifebuoys worked satisfactorily; in one case a hut was set on fire at 70 yards' range by skilful manipulation of the nozzle. These Lifebuoys had been carried fueled for a week, and on the day before had been carried on the operators' backs for 5 miles."

3. On several other occasions Lifebuoys were used in a demolition role - i.e., to fire crashed gliders, empty bunkers and huts. They were extremely successful in this sort of task since the thickened fuel instantaneously set light to any inflammable material most effectively. The extent to which the fuel creates a fire is shown by the fact that when fired into a Japanese "bunker" it burns away the timbers supporting the roof, with the result that the bunker collapses.

The Wasp

4. The following interesting and daring attack carried out on a fortification at the end of the South pier at the harbour entrance at DOULOGNE demonstrates the moral value of flame. Efforts to neutralise the position by machine gun and artillery fire had been unsuccessful, and the only dry approach to the fortification was a narrow pier of steel and wood approximately 10 foot wide and 5,400 yards long. To make matters more difficult, the pier was under repair at the end close to the fortification and was encumbered by a narrow gauge railway which ran along one side of its structure.

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

It was decided to assault this fortification with a single Wasp, which was to advance covered by fire from tanks and infantry small arms. This plan necessitated the carrier's turning on to the pier, and advancing in order to start flaming. The fire support was to continue until the first spurt of flame, which was to be the signal for a section of infantry to follow up the Wasp and assault the fortification.

The Wasp carrier, skilfully driven, was jockeyed on to the pier, and advanced towards the sea. After travelling for about 100 yards the Wasp opened fire, but its commander saw that the flame was falling very short, so he advanced another 100 yards before flaming again. The third shot failed to ignite and it was then realized that the gas pressure was insufficient to operate the gun (the crew who had taken over the Wasp did not know that it had been used in an earlier action). In spite of the fact that the Wasp was unable to flame, the enemy put out a white flag after the first shot, and the supporting infantry section advanced through the flames of the burning jet, and literally sat on the fortification until the enemy conjured up enough courage to emerge. Our troops suffered no casualties, while over 50 prisoners were taken. When the captured position was examined, it was found to contain both machine guns and a 75 mm gun, both of which were well stocked with ammunition. One of the machine gun positions commanded an uninterrupted view of the entire length of the pier, and 12 feet above its deck.

Not only did the enemy in this position surrender, but the Germans in another position at the eastward end of the pier at the other side of the harbour entrance threw in their hands without even being attacked after they had watched this action.

The Crocodile

5. Crocodiles were employed in the attack on the LE HAVRE defensive position on 11 September. The following instance deals with an attack in an area which included farm buildings, weapon slits and communication trenches, which were sited in woods enclosed by hedgerows and minefields. The surrounding country was open and fairly level.

The attack began at 1230 hrs, a position having been isolated by smoke laid by the crocodiles. Flails preceded a troop of crocodiles, which were supported by a company of infantry,

The Crocodiles started flaming when within 250 yards of the enemy, and continued to flame right up to and along the positions. The centre of the positions was not flamed. The enemy surrendered with the first spurt of flame, and the supporting infantry collected the prisoners,

There were no casualties among the Crocodile crews or the infantry. The enemy also suffered no casualties from flame. They were so demoralized that they showed no desire to continue fighting, but ran to the flanks and surrendered to the infantry in order to avoid being hit by the flame.

1878

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

enemy conjured up enough courage to emerge. Our troops suffered no casualties, while over 50 prisoners were taken. When the captured position was examined, it was found to contain both machine guns and a 75 mm gun, both of which were well stocked with ammunition. One of the machine gun positions commanded an uninterrupted view of the entire length of the pier, and 12 feet above its deck.

Not only did the enemy in this position surrender, but the Germans in another position at the Eastward end of the pier at the other side of the harbour entrance threw in their hands without even being attacked after they had watched this action.

The Crocodile

5. Crocodiles were employed in the attack on the LE HAVRE defensive position on 11 September. The following instance deals with an attack in an area which included farm buildings, weapon slits and communication trenches, which were sited in woods enclosed by hedgerows and minefields. The surrounding country was open and fairly level.

The attack began at 1230 hrs, a position having been isolated by smoke laid by the crocodiles. Flails preceded a troop of crocodiles, which were supported by a company of infantry,

The Crocodiles started flaming when within 250 yards of the enemy, and continued to flame right up to and along the positions. The centre of the positions was not flamed. The enemy surrendered with the first spurt of flame, and the supporting infantry collected the prisoners,

There were no casualties among the Crocodile crews or the infantry. The enemy also suffered no casualties from flame. They were so demoralized that they showed no desire to continue fighting, but ran to the flanks and surrendered to the infantry in order to avoid being hit by the flame.

THE ADVANCE TO BRUSSELS AND BEYOND

(The following notes extracted from various letters from officers of the Guards Armoured Division deal with the period between 28 August and 10 September, when the Guards Armoured Division formed the spearhead of the advance on BRUSSELS and beyond)

1. On 28 August the Division started to move up and travelled non-stop for 36 hours, crossing the SEINE in the small hours of 30 August. They then moved on to the SOMME on the extreme right of the Second Army. The pace was fast and the Germans were withdrawing only an hour or two before the leading Guards units. German horsed transport and piles of litter were left along the sides of the streets. The civilian telephones were found to be most valuable. An officer with a local Maquis leader rang up village in the path of the units advance to find out how the land lay. On the 31 August they moved forward again with the SOMME still their objective.

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

1878

Not far from their halting place a German General was captured. He had been sent to collect the stragglers from the German Seventh Army and organize the SOMME defences, but to his dismay the stragglers themselves didn't appear. In fact, the only one seen by this unit was a German medical orderly, by profession a cellist, who appeared in the battalion's harbour area that evening. He had returned to look for a pair of lost spectacles! It is doubtful if he found them.

2. On 1 September the advance was renewed, over roads almost deserted, and our tanks went as fast as they knew how. By midday they had reached the outskirts of a town in which the Germans were still in residence, apparently quite unaware that things had moved so fast. The next two hours were packed with incident, with enough shouting and flowers for everyone. The recce troop leading, wasted no time. It dealt with a bunch of unsuspecting infantry in the outskirts, moved on into the town and at the first road junction shot up some enemy transport, including a lorry towing an anti-tank gun.

3. A shooting match was started between us and Germans who had run into the houses. A German staff car came rushing up but got no further. Civilians pointed to a house where Germans were hiding, and HE shot encouraged them to hurry out with their hands up. Meanwhile, other squadrons had moved along the streets to the right and left.. The town was captured and the battalion reformed on a hill to the north of it. On the next morning the brigade moved to an airfield not very far away. On arrival, a Frenchman said that the runways had been prepared for cratering but offered to bring from the village the workman who had sunk the charges! This he did and the sappers were able to remove them quickly. This is only one instance of the very helpful co-operation which the population gave at all times. They were almost importunate in their eagerness to describe the many parties of Germans concealed in the neighbourhood. Most of these reports were exaggerated and, as a general rule, the problem of dealing with these scattered forces was left to the FFI.

On the same evening, word came that we were to move next morning. OUR OBJECTIVE WAS BRUSSELS. Clustering round a pinpoint of light in the centre of the great arch of a hanger, while the rain rattled on the outside, we sorted our maps and chalked in the centre lines, each of us knowing that tomorrow would be a day we should long remember. Six maps were to be crossed and a capital reached.

4. The Division was to move on two centre lines, and the advance to BRUSSELS developed from the start into a race between two competing brigade groups.

5. Starting early in the morning, the tanks drove on, most of the time at top speed, halting only occasionally when patches of opposition were met which had to be overcome or by-passed. A squadron had been detached to protect the echelons of soft transport moving behind. Excitement grew as the leading troops neared the city. A point in BRUSSELS had been fixed as the winning post, but soon there were so many other diversions that the result of the race which was won by the right brigade group, was hardly heeded. After very slight opposition, the tanks rumbled in at 18.17 in after dark. We turned on all our headlights and floodlit into brilliant colours [illegible] their flags, their faces, and a profusion of flowers. The

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

3. A shooting match was started between us and Germans who had run into the houses. A German staff car came rushing up but got no further. Civilians pointed to a house where Germans were hiding, and HE shot encouraged them to hurry out with their hands up. Meanwhile, other squadrons had moved along the streets to the right and left.. The town was captured and the battalion reformed on a hill to the North of it. On the next morning the brigade moved to an airfield not very far away. On arrival, a Frenchman said that the runways had been prepared for cratering but offered to bring from the village the workman who had sunk the charges! This he did and the sappers were able to remove them quickly. This is only once instance of the very helpful co-operation which the population gave at all times. They were almost importunate in their eagerness to describe the many parties of Germans concealed in the neighbourhood. Most of these reports were exaggerated and, as a general rule, the problem of dealing with these scattered bdes was left to the FFI.

On the same evening, word came that we were to move next morning. OUR OBJECTIVE WAS BRUSSELS. Clustering round a pinpoint of light in the centre of the great arch of a hanger, while the rain rattled on the outside, we sorted our maps and chalked in the centre lines, each of us knowing that tomorrow would be a day we should long remember. Six maps were to be crossed and a capital reached.

4. The Division was to move on two centre lines, and the advance to BRUSSELS developed from the start into a race between two competing brigade groups.

5. Starting early in the morning, the tanks drove on, most of the time at top speed, halting only occasionally when patches of opposition were met which had to be overcome or by-passed. A squadron had been detached to protect the echelons of soft transport moving behind. Excitement grew as the leading troops neared the city. A point in BRUSSELS had been fixed as the winning post, but soon there were so many other diversions that the result of the race which was won by the right brigade group, was hardly heeded. After very slight opposition, the tanks rumbled in at 1847 in after dark. We turned on all our headlights and floodlit into brilliant colours the madly waving crowds, their flags, their faces, and a profusion of flowers. The tanks were halted by the press of people, who passed up fruit and bottles of wine and beer, and swarmed round to shake us by the hand. Those of us nearer the ground in jeeps and scout cars disappeared amid a tangle of embraces. One officer, wishing at one moment to move on, made efforts to dislodge from his car the mass of people attached to it. With great difficulty he removed them all, save one vastly fat and amberently drunken man, perched on top. Argument availing nothing, he was given a violent push and he rolled off into the street, still singing delightedly and waving his flag.

6. On another historic occasion in BRUSSELS "there was a sound of revelry by night", but then it was on the eve of the great battle; now, for the Belgians, the battle was over.

7. As the tanks nosed their way towards the centre of the town before harbouring for the night, the street still echoed with shouts and the sounds of many feet, while the sky glowed from the burning dome of the Palais de Justice, set on fire by the Germans. It had been a great anniversary of the entry of Great Britain into the war.

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

8. The Guards Armoured Division pushed on from BRUSSELS with patrols dispersed to the four winds, sometimes with patrols 30 miles from their neighbours. Their experiences were fantastic. In one place, cut off entirely from their headquarters, a patrol was directing our artillery on to targets which had been passed to them by isolated paratroops. Another patrol had discovered a ferry in perfect working order, but on the far bank. They were in telephonic communication with the Dutch on the other side who might be persuaded to bring it across. Might they use it ? The answer was "No". They were already far enough afield. Further down the river a steamer flying the German flag and towing four barges was observed. Our troops manoeuvred into a favourable position to engage. Shortly afterwards the signal went back "Steamer damaged, three barges sunk". The following signal was passed in reply to the tank detachment engaged - " Congratulations on brilliant naval action. Splice Mainbrace". They did!

Brig.,
D.M.T.

HBF/ae

1876

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

11591

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

277

20/10/A

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Subject: Range Tables. TEL. NO. FRESDOM 971

AMHQ/6525/C(AG)

HQ. MMIA. 9 Dec. 44

1. Reference this Headquarters letter of even number dated 1 Dec 44, and conversation Col. Piddsly/Maj. Cornford.

2. Arrangements are confirmed whereby the Range Tables in question will be handed to No. 10 Publications Depot and the normal accounting procedure followed.

3. It is understood that instructions will be issued by you and the Italian Combat Groups and RATT (Iti) to indent for these Tables.

R. L. Michaelson

LCC/DL.

R.L. MICHAELSON, Lt. Col.,
for Major General, G-4 (B).

Copy to: AIPSS, AMHQ - Range Tables herewith.

No. 10 Publications Depot.

RATT advised and asked if BLO's also should indent direct

1592

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

277

20/10/A

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

TEL. NO. PRESIDIO 971

AFHQ/6523/4(AR)

9 Dec. 44

Subject: Range Tables.

HQ, MMIA.

1. Reference this Headquarters letter of even number dated 1 Dec 44, and conversation Col. Piddsly/Maj. Cornford.

2. Arrangements are confirmed whereby the Range Tables in question will be handed to No. 10 Publications Depot and the normal accounting procedure followed.

3. It is understood that instructions will be issued by you and the Italian Combat Groups and RATT (Iti) to indent for these Tables.

R. L. Michaelson
Lt Col

LCC/DY.

R.L. MICHAELSON, Lt. Col.,
for Major General, G-4 (B).

Copy to: ADPOS, AFHQ - Range Tables herewith.

No. 10 Publications Depot.

RATT advised and asked if BLO's also should indent direct.

1875

1593

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

COPY

From : PBS SOUTHERN DISTRICT MMIA LO 8 DEC 44.

To : M.M.I.A.

Ref : 8545 CONFIDENTIAL

Subject is destination of PICEMO personnel ex courses at R.A.O.C. training establishment (*) They are being sent to BENEVENTO as no contrary instructions issued (*) Italians say they should go to MARTINA FRANCA (*) What is position QUERY.

L.P. ZAYAZ
Capt., Infantry
M. M. I. A.

Reply
Final

1594

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

Ltgn to 20.
Check these M.
Abc

Ref. No. 8545

8 December 1944

PBS SOUTHERN DISTRICT MMIA LO

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIORITY

M.M.I.A.

CONFIDENTIAL PD SUBJECT IS DESTINATION OF PICENO PERSONNEL EX COURSES AT ROGER ABLE OBOE CHARLIE TRAINING ESTABLISHMENT PD THEY ARE BEING SENT TO BENEVENTO AS NO CONTRARY INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED PD REFERENCE NUMBER EIGHT FIVE FOUR FIVE PAREN TO MMIA FROM PBS SOUTHERN DISTRICT MMIA LIAISON OFFICER PAREN ITALIANS SAY THEY SHOULD GO TO MARTINA FRANCA PD WHAT IS POSITION QUERY

E.P. GAYAZ
Capt., Infantry
M.M.I.A.

11595

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

SECRET: Training

Ref: A/8/A

12/6

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

Tele:- FIREOT 75

2023/G(Trg)

3 Dec 44

DAT

8/Sec

Copy to:- AFHQ (for G 3 Trg)
Navy
Air to Gds
4(Org)
2004/A3

Ref your DAT/49/1Y4 dated 1 Dec 44.

1. It is agreed that a proportion of Exercises at the CMTC should be set in flat country as similar to the Po Valley as can be found.

2. The same principle should be applied to the training of the LEGHORN, PIOMBINO and SANTONA Gps.

for Field-Marshal,
Commander in Chief.

15961

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

Subject:- Training - Italian Combat Groups.

SECRET.

H.Q., ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY.
Tel:- FILEY 324.
3811/5.M.
7 Dec 44.

O(Trg), H.Q., A.A.I.

Copies to:- D.M.S., A.F.H.Q.
H.Q., M.E.T.O.

Reference 2004/42/G TRG of 4 Dec 44.

1. It is considered to be most desirable that instruction be given to personnel of Italian Combat Groups as follows:-

(a) Sanitary and Malaria Control Personnel:-

Courses in Hygiene and Sanitation, Malaria, and Typhus Control.

(b) Regimental Officers (Non-Medical):-

Courses in the General Principles of Hygiene and Sanitation in the Field.

(c) Regimental Medical Officers:-

Courses in Hygiene and Anti-Malaria work.

2. It is suggested that courses for officers be given at the School of Hygiene C.M.T.C. It should be possible to arrange instruction for other ranks locally, personnel of the Hygiene and Anti Malaria Control Platoons being attached to Field Sanitary Sections for this purpose.

yes. - we should no doubt get orders on this
WSP
12 Dec

Seen W.C.H. 14/12/44. Is this in addition to courses already given? I think not!
H.D. Chalke

(H.D.Chalke), Lt.Col., A.D.H.,
for Major-General,
D.M.S., A.A.I.

HDC/FUR.

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

SECRET

213

SUBJECT: Training - Italian Combat Gps

Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/G/29/10/A
9 Dec 44

TO : Ministry of War

Copy to: 50, 51, 52, 53 ELU's
AAI
AFHQ
1 Dist
3 Dist

It is intended that Legnano Group should move to RADDA area (now occupied by Friuli Group), and that Folgore Group should move to ASCOLI area (now occupied by Cremona Group) on or after 15 Jan 1945 for higher training.

W. Darby Colonel

Major General
M.M.I.A.

1879

Sec 297

1598

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

270

SECRET

SUBJECT:- Training - Italian Combat Gps

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

Tele:- FILPOT 75

2004/43/G(Trg)

4 Dec 44

CG FIFTH ARMY (for Brit Incr)
MAIN EIGHTH ARMY
1 District

Copy to:- MMLA
G(SD)
Q
2004/40/G(Trg)

1. It is proposed that the FOLGORE and LEGNANO Gps should be brought fwd to the areas in which CREMONA and FRIULI Gps are now located when these latter Gps are committed to ops.

2. The expected date by which FRIULI Gp will be ready for ops is 15 Jan.

3. Eighth Army are requested to inform this HQ as soon as possible what date it is expected that the CREMONA Gp will move out of the ASCOLI area.

Lieutenant-General,
Chief of General Staff.

Subject - as above

To: Treasury & War — Copies to 50. 51. 52. 63. Blues.
RAI - AFHQ - 1 Div. 3 Dist. 1084

It is intended that Legnano Group should move to RADDA area (now occupied by Friuli Group), and that Folgore Group should move to Ascoli area (now occupied by Cremona Group) on or after 15 Jan 1945 for training.

cancelled

29/10/A 269

SECRET

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

2004/40/G(Trg)

1 Dec 44

MINUTES OF CONFERENCE HELD AT HQ A.A.I 29 NOV 44

TO DISCUSS TNG OF FRIULI GP IN RADIA AREA

Present

Brig G.B.S.HINDLEY — BGS (SD&T) Hq AAI (in the chair)
Maj-Gen C.A.HEYDEMAN — Comd 1 District
Col G.R.B.MUSSON — Col GS, Fifth Army Brit Incr Mission
Col W.PIDSLEY — GSO.I. 50 BLU
Lt-Col A.R.C.SOUTHBY — GSO.I. 1 District
Lt-Col E.B.THORNHILL — GSO.II. 13 Corps
Maj W.H.LEVITA — 55 Area
Maj I.C.HEAVER — GSO.II. Trg Incr 50 BLU
Maj M.M.DAVIE — 56 Div Trg Team
Maj D.A.BRETT — G(SD)(US) HQ AAI
Col W.J.GLASGOW, Jun — GSO.I. SD.1. HQ AAI
Lt-Col K.W.McQUEEN — GSO.I. SD.2. HQ AAI
Lt-Col W.P.CARELESS — G(SD)(US) HQ AAI
Lt-Col W...KERR — GSO.I. RA HQ AAI
Lt-Col A.W.DREW — GSO.I. Infantry
Lt-Col G.S.SUTCLIFFE — Ord, AAI.
Lt-Col J.E.GELARDI — GSO.II. Ops HQ AAI
Maj I.L.YOUNG — GSO.II. SD.1. HQ AAI
Maj P.R.C.MORGAN — D.A.G, HQ AAI
Maj ...G.DAWTREY — D.Q.M.G, HQ AAI
Maj ...W.JOHN — SO.2. RE HQ AAI.
Maj J.FLETCHER — GSO.II.(SD) 'X' Branch, HQ AAI
Maj P.WHITEHEAD — GSO.II.(Trg) 'X' Branch, HQ AAI
Maj K.EVANS — ST, HQ AAI
Maj ...C.B.EITH — Med, HQ AAI
Maj E...PATTERSON — ADMS, HQ AAI
Maj R.P...DONALD — ...P..., HQ AAI
Maj J.SITTERS — GSO.III. SD.1. HQ AAI
Capt D.P...MOOL... — GSO.II. (Trg) HQ AAI (Secretary)
Maj D...GOLDSMITH

1858

PART I

1. The chairman opened the meeting by stating the objects of the conference and by asking the GSO.I. 50 BLU to give an outline of the state of trg of the FRIULI Gp.

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

Col G.R.D.MUSSON	Col GS, Fifth Army Brit Incr
Col W.PEDSLEY	MMLA
Lt-Col A.R.C.SOUTHBY	GSO.I. 50 BLU
Lt-Col E.B.THORNHILL	GSO.I. 1 District
Maj W.H.LEVITT	GSO.II. 13 Corps
Maj I.C.HEAVEN	55 Area
Maj M.M.DAVIE	GSO.II. Trg Incr 50 BLU
Maj D.A.BRETT	56 Div Trg Team
Col W.J.GLASGOW, Jun	G(SD)(US) HQ AAI
Lt-Col R.W.McQUEEN	GSO.I. SD.1. HQ AAI
Lt-Col W.P.CARELESS	GSO.I. SD.2. HQ AAI
Lt-Col W.A.KERR	G(SD)(US) HQ AAI
Lt-Col A.W.DREW	GSO.I. RA HQ AAI
Lt-Col G.S.SUTCLIFFE	GSO.I. Infantry
Lt-Col J.E.GELARDI	Ord, AAI.
Maj I.L.YOUNG	GSO.II. Ops HQ AAI
Maj P.R.C.MORGAN	GSO.II. SD.1. HQ AAI
Maj A.G.D.WTREY	DAG, HQ AAI
Maj A.W.JOHN	DAQMG, HQ AAI
Maj J.FLETCHER	SO.2. RE HQ AAI.
Maj P.MILDRED	GSO.II.(SD) 'A' Branch, HQ AAI
Maj K.BYWATER	GSO.II.(Trg) 'X' Branch, HQ AAI
Maj A.C.B.EYRE	SE, HQ AAI
Maj E.A.PATTERSON	Med, HQ AAI
Maj R.T.A.DONALD	REME, HQ AAI
Maj J.SITTERS	AP., HQ AAI
Capt D.F.A.MCCALL	GSO.III. SD.1. HQ AAI
Maj D.A.GOLDBERG	GSO.II. (Trg) HQ AAI (Secretary)

1858

PART I

1. The chairman opened the meeting by stating the objects of the conference and by asking the GSO.I. 50 BLU to give an outline of the state of trg of the FRIULI Gp.

2. Statement by GSO.I. 50 BLU

GSO.I. BLU explained his terms of ref. Present posn is Individual and sec trg is complete. Pl and Coy exercises have been carried out with fair success. Each bn has carried out two bn exercises. Preliminary org and execution were weak.

Details of state of trg by arms are att at Appx 'A'.

FIFTH ARMY REQUIREMENTS

3. Col GS, Fifth Army Brit Incr outlined Fifth Army requirements as follows:-

(a) / 2

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

(a) The Gp must be capable of taking over a quiet sector of the front and maintaining and supporting itself from within its own resources.

(b) Sp arms and services must be capable of playing their respective parts in supporting and maintaining the Gp.

They must understand how they fit in existing org.

(c) Attention should be paid to Adm trg.

(d) Their operational employment should be planned in the light of org and eqpt of the Gp.

(e) The Rft System should be thoroughly planned and a proportion should be held in the fwd area. The system should be tried out.

4. He stressed that the Gp should not be considered ready for ops until these conditions had been fulfilled.

5. He suggested that engrs and arty, if ready, might be employed in relief of other Allied units before the Gp came fwd. Col PIDSLEY, RAE. considered this most undesirable. The chairman stated that it was the policy that the Gp should be put into the line complete and that its supporting arms should not be detached or removed from it.

13 CORPS REQUIREMENTS

6. GSO.II. 13 Corps stressed the following pts in addition to those mentioned by Col GS, Fifth Army:-

(a) RE

(i) Maint of rds and tracks

(ii) Construction and maint of deep tracks incl the construction of improvised brs.

(iii) Construction of Bailey brs.

(iv) Laying and lifting of mine fds and booby traps.

(b) Inf

(i) Fighting and recce patrols.

(ii) Digging and wiring of def posns.

(iii) Laying and lifting of mines.

(iv) Sub unit adm.

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

...conditions had been fulfilled. ...considered ready for ops until these

5. He suggested that engrs and arty, if ready, might be employed in relief of other Allied units before the Gp came fwd. Col PUDSEY, WAIL considered this most undesirable. The Chairman stated that it was the policy that the Gp should be put into the line complete and that its supporting arms should not be detached or removed from it.

13 CORPS REQUIREMENTS

6. GSO.II. 13 Corps stressed the following pts in addition to those mentioned by Col G, Fifth Army:-

(a) RE

(i) Maint of rds and tracks

(ii) Construction and maint of Jeep tracks incl the construction of improvised brs.

(iii) Construction of Bailey brs.

(iv) Laying and lifting of minefds and booby traps.

(b) Inf

(i) Fighting and recce patrols.

(ii) Digging and wiring of def posns.

(iii) Laying and lifting of mines.

(iv) Sub unit adm.

7. A copy of D&T's Directive to GSO.I. HLU will be sent to Comd 1 District, Fifth Army and 13 Corps. Trg will be carried out in accordance with this Directive and the additional pts raised by Fifth Army and 13 Corps.

Action G(Trg)

TARGET DATE

8. After considering the present state of trg of the Gp as outlined by GSO.I. HLU and the requirements of Fifth Army and 13 Corps it was agreed that the Gp should be ready for employment in a quiet sector of the line on 15 Jan 45.

TRG TO BE CARRIED OUT

9. Specialist Trg

(a) Drivers are now up to strength in numbers but not performance. Trg will continue.

(b) / 5

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

(b) Veh Maint can be brought to a reasonable standard with the assistance of instructors already with Gp.

(c) Tradesmen

REME Adf will lend AL and Armourer Sjt to assist.

Action REME

10. Officer Trg

(a) Junior Ldrs will be trained in bn and fmn exercises.

(b) It is proposed to run an "officers week" (or fortnight) to remedy senior offrs weakness.

11. Staff Trg

(a) Sig exercises will be run but are of limited value for judging procedure owing to Language difficulties.

(b) Staff will be trained in fmn exercises.

12. Mov Ex

A Mov problem will be included in a fmn exercise.

13. Pro

APM offered to assist Provost Trg by attaching APM (Traffic) to BLU for exercises. GSO.I. BLU will inform DPM ... dates required.

Action 50 BLU & DPM

14. Demonstrations

Comd 1 District suggested demonstrations by Unit type vehs of great value. ... will try and arrange from fmn in rea.

Action G(Trg)

GSO.I. Inf agreed to arrange for 5 RNR to give assistance.

Action HQ Inf in conjunction with 50 BLU

ADM TRG

15. Adm org within regts weak but appeared to work. It will be further tested during trg period.

... Comd 1 District offered to assist with cooks trg at 1 District School.

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

(a) Sig exercises will be run [illegible] for judging procedure owing to language difficulties.

(b) Staff will be trained in fmn exercises.

12. Mov Ex

A Mov problem will be included in a fmn exercise.

13. Pro

APM offered to assist Provost Trg by attaching APM (Traffic) to BLU for exercises. GSO.I. BLU will inform APM [illegible] dates required.

Action 50 BLU & DPM

14. Demonstrations

Comd 1 District suggested demonstrations by Unit type were of great value. AAI will try and arrange from fmn in res.

Action G(Trg)

GSO.I. Inf agreed to arrange for 5 RWK to give assistance.

Action HQ Inf in conjunction with 50 BLU

ADM TRG

15. Adm org within regts work but appeared to work. It will be further tested during trg period.

16. Comd 1 District offered to assist with cooks trg at 1 District School.

Action 50 BLU with 1 District

TRG TEAM FROM 56 DIV

17. The Team consists of Lt-Col [illegible], CC 7 GAD [illegible]
two majs
two capts
two subalterns

18. / 4

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

18. The Team will work, under the orders of GSO.I. 50 BLU, in conjunction with Trg Increment. It will be used to assist in coy trg in the early stages and in setting, directing and umpiring fwn exercises later. It will be required until approx 15 Jan 45.

TRG AREA.

19. Trg Area has adequate facilities for fd firing.

20. Col GS Fifth Army offered to assist with Arty Ranges.

Action 50 BLU with Fifth Army

21. Comd 1 District can make additional area available when AA regts move out about 6 Dec.

Action 1 District

22. GSO.I. BLU stated facilities would be much improved if the area enclosed by SAN DONATO in POGGIA 07742 - SAN DONATO in AVANE 09347 - excl MONTEVARCHI were available. Col GS Fifth Army is confirming that the Gp may use this area.

Action Fifth Army and 1 District.

23. GSO.I. BLU stated that roads and brs could be improved sufficiently within Gp's resources with small amount of stores.

Action 50 BLU with 1 District

TRG AMN

24. Requirements are att at Appx 'B'. AA.I are investigating availability and will release as much as possible against these requirements.

Action G(SD2), Q, R.

PROGRESS REPORTS

25. A weekly Trg Progress Report will be sent to:-

HQ ...I
Fifth Army
13 Corps
1 District

Action 50 BLU

26. GSO.I. BLU will produce a complete survey of the state of trg of the Gp on 1 Jan 45 to enable Fifth Army to decide on op role of Gp.

Action 50 BLU

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

SAN DONATO in POGGIO 9774 - SAN DONATO in AVANE 9934? - excl MONTEVARCHI were available. Col GS Fifth Army is confirming that the Gp may use this area.

Action Fifth Army and 1 District.

25. GSO.I. BLU stated that roads and brs could be improved sufficiently within Gp's resources with small amount of stores.

Action 50 BLU with 1 District

TRG AMN

24. Requirements are att at Apnx 'B'. A.I are investigating availability and will release as much as possible against these requirements.

Action G(SD2), Q, A1.

PROGRESS REPORTS

25. A weekly Trg Progress Report will be sent to:-

HQ A.I
Fifth Army
13 Corps
1 District

Action 50 BLU

26. GSO.I. BLU will produce a complete survey of the state of trg of the Gp on 1 Jan 45 to enable Fifth Army to decide on op role of Gp.

Action 50 BLU

OUTLINE TNG PROGRAMME

27. Will be arranged and copies sent to all concerned.

Action 50 BLU with 1 District

ADDITIONAL POINTS

28. Medical

Col PIDSLEY, AML. stated that there was a need for a British medical adviser in each Gp. It had been found impossible to provide this officer owing to the shortage of MOs. A non-medical adm officer RAMC was however being added to the WE. It would be necessary for District or Corps Medical Services to provide advice.

Action 1 District & Fifth Army

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

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

G.S.O. I.

I think we are doing everything necessary regarding para 35. a. b. & c.

9 Dec. WP

1867

29. Tpt

Col GS Fifth Army and GSO.II. 13 Corps drew attention to the small number of 4 x 4 vehs in the Gp. The Chairman pointed out that there was a general shortage of vehs in the theatre. AA&I will review the vehicleage of the Gp but if 4 x 4 vehs are not available this limitation in the use of the Gp must be accepted.

Action G(SD2) and Q(T)

30. Rfts

Col GS Fifth Army stressed the necessity of holding a proportion of rifts in the REGGIO area and suggested that these might be controlled and administered by HQ 231 (Italian) Div. This proposal will be examined.

Action AA&I, G & A

31. GSO.I. SD.1 stated that the authorised holding of rfts for Combat Gps was 10% i.e. that an investigation was now being made on this question. AA&I will inform Fifth Army of the results of this investigation.

Action A & SD.1.

32. Attachments.

Comd 1 Armd Div suggested attachments of offrs from the Gp to fwd units. 13 Corps are unwilling to accept at present but will consider accepting these attachments between 1 - 15 Jan.

Action Fifth Army

33. Leave

(a) GSO.I. 50 BLU stated that it would be advisable to allow personnel whose homes were NORTH of ROME (about 1/3 of the Gp) to have 4 days leave each otherwise there would be very many absentees.

It was agreed that these personnel should be allowed to go in two batches of 50%. The first batch should consist of those who lived SOUTH of FLORENCE.

1255

(b) A Branch AAI will confirm with G(Z)(b) Northernmost line to which Italian personnel may proceed on leave and will inform 1 District and 50 BLU.

Action A.

(c) All personnel proceeding on leave must have leave permit with BLU stamp. 50 BLU will send examples of this permit to 'A' Branch AAI who will distribute to all concerned.

Action 50 BLU and A

34. Use of Wireless for Trg

There will be no restriction on use of wireless for trg.

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

[illegible] stated that the authorised holding of rfts for Combat Gps was 10% but that an investigation was now being made on this question. A.A.I will inform Fifth Army of the results of this investigation.

Action A. & SD.1.

32. Attachments.

Comd 1 Armd Bde suggested attachments of offrs from the Gp to fwd units. 13 Corps are unwilling to accept at present but will consider accepting these attachments between 1 - 15 Jan.

33. Leave

Action Fifth Army

(a) G.S.O.I. 50 BLU stated that it would be advisable to allow personnel whose homes were NORTH of ROME (about 1/3 of the Gp) to have a short days leave since otherwise there would be very many absentees.

It was agreed that these personnel should be allowed to go in two batches of 5%. The first batch should consist of those who lived NORTH of FLORENCE.

1866

(b) A Brnch A.A.I will confirm with G.S.I(b) Northernmost line to which Italian personnel may proceed on leave and will inform I District and 50 BLU.

Action A

(c) All personnel proceeding on leave must have leave permit with BLU Stamp. 50 BLU will send examples of this permit to 'A' Branch A.A.I who will distribute to all concerned.

Action 50 BLU and A

34. Use of Wireless for Trg.

There will be no restriction on use of wireless for trg.

35. Provision of Equipment

(a) G.S.O.I. 50 BLU stated the most serious deficiencies were

Lifter radio	50	cut of	200	on establishment	
Operators WT	170	"	" 480	"	"
Director ops (Rangefinders etc)	30	"	" 100	"	"
Armourers (gunfitters)	50	"	" 100	"	"

(b) / 6

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

(b) Col PIDSLEY, MALA stated that all efforts were being made to comb out tradesmen from static units and non-operational fmns such as S.R&UD. and ACSTA Divisions.

Action MALA

(c) The Chairman stressed that the provision of tradesmen was essential for the operational efficiency of the Gp. It was emphasized that the MALA must make even more strenuous efforts exploring every possible source.

36. Blankets

The possibility of alleviating the blanket shortage was being investigated. A.I would inform BLU of the results as soon as possible.

Action Q(AE)

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

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

11611

SUBJECT:- Training

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ CMF

Ref: 11667

DMT/A9/3T4

1 Dec 44.

HQ.AAI.CMF.

Copies to:-
G-3 Trg (S) AFHQ.
MMIA. CMF.

LEF observers have put forward the suggestion that future training at CERRO, & LUCCA, etc should include a growing proportion of exercises in flat country such as that around CAPUA, CASERTA, & MADDALONI where conditions approximating to those in the Po Valley can be found.

It is requested that you indicate whether you wish this policy to be followed at the Training Centres, and whether you wish it applied to the training of the LUCERO, FOLGORE & MANTOVA groups.

1665

Brig.
D.M.T.

DMT/mt

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

D'A/cf

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

n.1804/E/4/II add.prot. P.M.151, 17 nov.1944

OGGETTO: Specchio distribuzione cartelli didattici.

ALLA M.M.I.A.- Sottocommissione per l'Esercito
(per il magg.DOBBS)

= R O M A

Si trasmette uno specchio di distribuzione di cartelli didattici ai gruppi di combattimento "Friuli" e "Cremona".

IL GEN.ADDETTO
(A.Santi)

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

STATO MAGGIORE R.ESERCI
Ufficio Addestramento

S P E C C H I O INDICANTE LA DATA SOTTO LA QUALE SONO STATI INVIATI I CARTELLI

TITOLO DEL CARTELLO	F R I U L I		
	Numero delle copie	Mezzo con cui è stata effettuata la consegna	Data
Fucile mitragliatore Bren	100	Capitano MAZZI	30.10.
	27	pacco postale raccomandato	1.11.
	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.
Posizione tiro controaereo	100	capitano MAZZI	30.10.
	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.
	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.
Maneggio per mitr.Bren	100	capitano MAZZI	30.10.
	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.
	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.
Avanzata strisciando	100	ten.col.PETRUCCI	12.10.
	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.
	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.
Tiro da una trincea	100	ten.col.PETRUCCI	12.10.
	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.
	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.
Xirino Giusto	250	magg.GIANNUZZI	21.10.

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

STATO MAGGIORE R.ESERCITO
Ufficio Addestramento

ATI INVIATI I CARTELLI DIDATTICI AI GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTO FRIULI E CREMONA

		CREMONA		
stata effet- a	Data	Numero delle copie	Mezzo con cui è stata effettuata la consegna	Data
	30.10.944	100	pacco postale raccomandato	2.11.944
omandato	1.11.944	27	" " "	7.11.944
	8.11.944	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.944
	30.10.944	100	pacco postale raccomandato	2.11.944
omandato	7.11.944	27	" " "	7.11.944
	8.11.944	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.944
	30.10.944	100	pacco postale raccomandato	2.11.944
omandato	7.11.944	27	" " "	7.11.944
	8.11.944	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.944
	12.10.944	100	magg.VITTORI	12.10.944
mandato	7.11.944	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.944
	8.11.944	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.944
	12.10.944	100	magg.VITTORI	12.10.944
mandato	7.11.944	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.944
	8.11.944	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.944
	21.10.944	250	sottoten.AMENDOLARA	21.10.944

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

Fucile mitragliatore Bren	100	Capitano MAZZI	30.10.
	27	pacco postale raccomandato	1.11.
	3	ten.col. VEDOVATO	8.11.
Posizione tiro controaereo	100	capitano MAZZI	30.10.
	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.
	3	ten.col. VEDOVATO	8.11.
Maneggio per mitr. Bren	100	capitano MAZZI	30.10.
	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.
	3	ten.col. VEDOVATO	8.11.
Avanzata strisciando	100	ten.col. PETRUCCI	12.10.
	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.
	3	ten.col. VEDOVATO	8.11.
Tiro da una trincea	100	ten.col. PETRUCCI	12.10.
	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.
	3	ten.col. VEDOVATO	8.11.
Mirino Giusto	250	magg. GIANNUZZI	21.10.

STATO MAGGIORE R.I. Uff. Addestramento

1616

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

	30.10.944	100	pacco postale raccomandato	2.11.944
ndato	1.11.944	27	" " "	7.11.944
	8.11.944	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.944
	30.10.944	100	pacco postale raccomandato	2.11.944
ndato	7.11.944	27	" " "	7.11.944
	8.11.944	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.944
	30.10.944	100	pacco postale raccomandato	2.11.944
ndato	7.11.944	27	" " "	7.11.944
	8.11.944	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.944
	12.10.944	100	magg.VITTORI	12.10.944
ndato	7.11.944	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.944
	8.11.944	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.944
	12.10.944	100	magg.VITTORI	12.10.944
ndato	7.11.944	27	pacco postale raccomandato	7.11.944
	8.11.944	3	ten.col.VEDOVATO	8.11.944
	21.10.944	250	sottoten.AVENDOLARA	21.10.944

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

Ll. S/G/20/10/# 211

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

N.1806/3.1.II/Add. P.M. 151, 15 novembre 1944

OGGETTO: specchio di distribuzione opuscoli d'istruzione tradotti dall'Inglese.

ALLA M.M.I.A.- Sottocommissione per l'Esercito
(Magg. Dobbs)
ROMA

Si trasmette uno specchio di distribuzione -alla data odierna- degli opuscoli d'istruzione tradotti dall'Inglese e dei tabelloni didattici inviati ai Gruppi di Combattimento.-

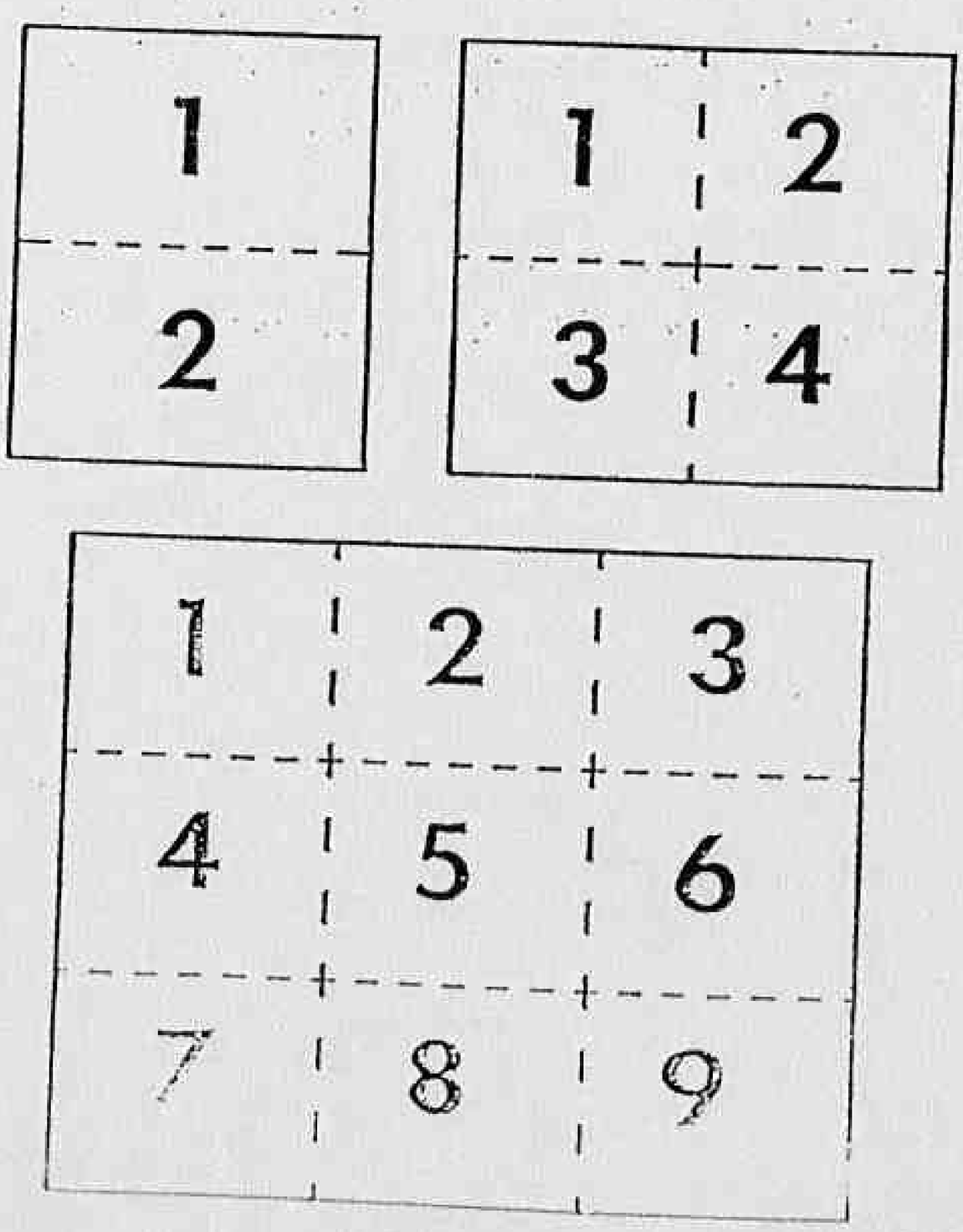
IL GENERALE ADDETTO
- A. Santi -

1853

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

MAPS AND CHARTS TOO LARGE TO FILM
ON ONE EXPOSURE ARE FILMED CLOCKWISE
BEGINNING IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER,
LEFT TO RIGHT, AND TOP TO BOTTOM.

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.



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

STATO MAGGIORE R. E. = UFF. ADDESTRAMENTO = S P E C C H I O = INDICANTE L

TITOLO DELLE PUBBLICAZIONI	FRIULI
Come stanno le vostre batterie	
* Ondametro	200
Apparecchi telefonici F. tipo 1 e tipo	
Lanciabombe anticarro per ftr.n.24	220
Fucili mitragliatori n.1	750
Applicazione del fuoco n.2	810
Mortaio da 51 n.8	800
Moschetto automatico Thompson n.21	750
* Ponte Bailey	750
Mortaio da 3 pollici	5
* Impianto radio n.22	250
* Impianto radio n.19	
* Mine e campi minati	5
Pistola cal.c.5 (poll.0,3°) n.11	10
Baionetta n.12	400
Bombe n.13	400
	160
Preparazione per l'apertura del fuoco vol.III fase.II	31
Impiego dei proietti fumogeni e ai aggressivi chimici pol.III fase.5	31
Taratura dei pezzi vol.III fase.7	31
Concentramento di fuoco osservato pol.III fase.12	31
Norme per l'addestramento dei reggimenti di art.dic.le col nuovi materiali inglesi - circ.2410	45
Tavole di tiro provvisorio da 88/27 = 25 libbre (ciclostile)	15
Servizio al pezzo da 75 e 57 (ciclostile)	14
TAVOLE DIDATTICHE	
Fucile mitragliatore "Bren"	180
Maneggio fucile mitragliatore "Bren"	180
Posizione per tiro contraereo f.m. "Bren"	180
Tiro da una trincea	180
Sfruttamento della piega del terreno - avanzando strisciando	180
"Mirino Giusto"	1000

1620

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

C C H I O = INDICANTE LA DISTRIBUZIONE DEGLI OPUSCOLI TRADOTTI DALL'INGLESE

	DATE A CUI E' STATO DISTRIBUITO					
	GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTO					
	FRIULI	CREMONA	LEGNANO	FOLGORE	MANTOVA	PICENO
.....	200	200	200	200	200	200
.....	220	220	220	220	220	220
.....	750	500	300	300	300	300
.....	810	500	500	300	300	300
.....	800	450	300	300	300	300
.....	750	450	300	300	300	300
.....	750	750	300	300	300	300
.....	5	40				
.....	250	140	29	20	20	20
.....	5					
.....	10					
.....	400	400	400	400	500	400
.....	400	400	400	400	500	400
.....	160	160	160	160	160	160
.....	31	31	31	31	31	31
fasc. 5.....	31	31	31	31	31	31
....	31	31	31	31	31	31
.....	31	31	31	31	31	31
vi materiali						
.....	45	45	45	45	45	45
.....	15	15	15	15	2	15
.....	14	14	14	14		
.....	180	180	127	127	127	127
.....	180	180	127	127	127	127
.....	180	180	127	127	127	127
.....	180	130	127	127	127	127
.....	180	130	127	127	127	127
.....	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000

1621

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

Come stanno le vostre batterie	
* Ondametro	200
Apparecchi telefonici F. tipo 1 e tipo	
Lanciabombe anticarro per ftr.n.24	220
Fucili mitragliatori n.1	750
Applicazione del fuoco n.2	810
Mortaio da 51 n.8	800
Moschetto automatico Thompson n.21	750
* Ponte Bailey	750
Mortaio da 3 pollici	5
* Impianto radio n.22	250
* Impianto radio n.19	
* Mine e campi minati	5
Pistola cal.c.5 (volt.0,38) n.11	10
Baionetta n.12	100
Bombe n.13	100
	150

Preparazione per l'apertura del fuoco vol.III fasc.II	31
Impiego dei proietti fumogeni e ad aggressivi chimici vol.III fasc.5	31
Taratura dei pezzi vol.III fasc.7	31
Concentramento di fuoco osservato vol.III fasc.12	31
Norme per l'addestramento dei reggimenti di art.div.le coi nuovi materiali inglesi - circ.2410	31
Tavole di tiro provvisorio da 88/27 = 25 libbre (ciclostile)	45
Servizio al pezzo da 76 e 57 (ciclostile)	15
	14

TAVOLE DIDATTICHE

Fucile mitragliatore "Bren"	180
Maneggio fucile mitragliatore "Bren"	180
Posizione per tiro contraereo f.m."Bren"	180
Tiro da una trincea	180
Sfruttamento delle pieghe del terreno - avanzando strisciando	180
"Mirino Giusto"	180
	1000

^^^^^^^^^

Per le pubblicazioni contrassegnate con l'asterisco * si è provveduto con l'invio distribuiti agli enti interessati.

1 | 6 2 2

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

.....	200	200	200	200	200	200
.....						
.....	220	220	220	220	220	220
.....	750	500	300	300	300	300
.....	810	500	500	300	300	300
.....	800	450	300	300	300	300
.....	750	450	300	300	300	300
.....	750	750	300	300	300	300
.....	5	40				
.....	250	140	29	20	20	20
.....						
.....	5					
.....	10					
.....	400	400	400	400	500	400
.....	400	400	400	400	500	400
.....	160	160	160	160	160	160
.....	31	31	31	31	31	31
fasc. 5.....	31	31	31	31	31	31
....	31	31	31	31	31	31
.....	31	31	31	31	31	31
ppi materiali						
.....	45	45	45	45	45	45
.....	15	15	15	15	2	15
.....	14	14	14	14		
.....	180	180	127	127	127	127
.....	180	180	127	127	127	127
.....	180	180	127	127	127	127
.....	180	130	127	127	127	127
.....	180	130	127	127	127	127
.....	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000

1862

è provveduto con l'invio di N.200 copie a codesta Missione che li ha direttamente

1623

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

(SI/93/2) 267

MESSAGE FORM

FROM : MGEA

TO : RASCMD
INFO : 54. BLU

03 1625 A. WP

SI/479

SECRET

Your TD/SI/21 dated 02 (.) O.R. to report to 54 BLU SAN GIORGIO for handing over to rear party of FRIULI DIV (.)

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATION

INTERNAL :→ Spec Sec.

1861

1624

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

266

FROM RASCTD 020920

TO MMIA FOR ST

3a/10/A.

TL/TS/21 RESTRICTED

ONE (OR from last driving course will awaiting collection by FRIULI Div (.)

May arrangements be made for his collection

agl

AOS. T

Please take action if not already done

3 Dec.

1669

11625

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

6750

LROF V MEDY SRL336 T LRKB

FROM RASCTD 020920

TO M M I A (FOR ST)

QQX GR21 ST

TL/TS/21 RESTRICTED

ONE O R FROM LAST DRIVING COURSE WILL AWAITING COLLECTION BY FRIULI DIV. MAY ARRANGEMENTS BE MADE FOR HIS COLLECTION

BT THI 1200

- WILL AWAITING - CCT

SENT 1733A SWLW AR TKS

RECD 1733 RED AR TKX

1859

1626

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

265

29/10/A

02 1745 A

MMIA

10 Publications Depot CMF

SS 430

RESTRICTED

Refer your 10 PD/1206 of 29 (.) Publications not received (.)
Please duplicate demand urgently required(.)Our SS 400
also refers.

1858

IMPORTANT

11627

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

LRKB V MEDY SI .57 IMPORTANT
QVR2
TR CEMTRAC 020945A
TO DMT ADNAP
INFO MMIA
QQX GR21 BT
XXXXX
G607. RESTRICTED. REQUESTED ALL STUDENTS FOR ITALIAN COURSE ASEMBLE 16 BRING APPLICABLE SMALL ARMS TRG PAMPHLETS ALREADY TRANSLATED AND WITH MMIA .
BT 0950
SENT 1118A SWLW AR KKKK
RECD 011118 A AA A AR AR

11628

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

File 263

Ja/10.

ESTA

29 A

757

RACC Training Det

54 BW

SS 417

RESTRICTED

Reference your TE/ /63 (.) Please despatch all personnel to

MANTOVA Group at SAN GIORGIO del SANNIO near BENEVENTO (.)

IMPORTANT

1836

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

Land Forces

LREB V MAED NR 115 T HEVT A/MAED
FROM 10 PUBLICATIONS DEPOT CMF 291030
TO M N I A
QQX QR --- DT

10PD/1206 (.) RESTATE RESTRICTED (.)
YOUR SS 600 OF 26 (.) PUBLICATIONS DESPATCHED VIA
APO 26 OCT (.) SHOULD NOW BE TO HAND (.)
DT 291135

REPTN 115 HEVT 10 291030 MNIA 1206 600 26
APO 26 291130
AET...BB...TKS

1855

301833

1630

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

Subject:- Publications.

10 PD/ 3826
24 Nov 1944.

53 B.L.U. C.M.F.

Copy to:- Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C. M.E.I.A.

" " D.M.T. A.F.H.Q.

Ref your G 14 - 4 of 18th Nov., all available Training Films and Manuals in English were despatched to you in response to your G 7 - 1 of 30th Oct. Stocks of all items required are in short supply at present but are all on demand from U.K. or other sources.

The balance of your indent will be met automatically by us when new stocks arrive.

There is no S.A.T. Pamphlet on Rifle No.4 A short pamphlet on this equipment was issued in Mideast but stocks have never been held in this theatre.

Lieut RASO

Commanding No 10 Publications Depot

C.M.F.

1631

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

260

SUBJECT: Training Pamphlets and Manuals

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. S/C/29/10/A
17 Nov 44

TO : 53 BLU (2 copies)

Copy to: C.C. No. 10 Publications Depot
DMT
50, 51, 52, 54 BLUs
MMIA 10 52 BLU

Reference your 314-4 of 16 Nov 1944.

1. Italian translations of Training Pamphlets are distributed by the Italian General Staff through the Combat Group HQ. Indents should therefore be addressed by the Groups, or the Reinforcement Depot, to the Italian General Staff.

2. For your information a complete list of training matters already distributed in this way is attached at Appendix "A".

3. At Appendix "B" is a list of Pamphlets now being printed which will be available very shortly, and of Pamphlets in course of translation.

4. If any BLU or Training Team wants a publication translated which does not appear on attached appendices will they please apply for this to be done through DMT.

W. P. Duly Colonel
Major General
M. M. I. A.

1853

APPENDIX "A" TO [illegible]
S/G/29/10/A of 27 November

TRAINING PAMPHLETS ALREADY DISTRIBUTED

TITLE OF PUBLICATION	DISTRIBUTION AMONG GROUPS FRIULI	CREMONA	LEGNANO	FOLGORE	MANTOVA	PICENO
SIGNALS						
1. Battery Maintenance	200	200	250	250	250	250
2. Wavemeter Class D	35	35	35	35	30	30
3. Tel F Mark 1 and 1*	220	220	220	220	220	220
4. 19 Set	35	35	35	35	30	30
5. 22 Set	35	35	35	35	35	35
ENGINEERS						
6. Bailey Bridge	45	40	40	40	40	40
7. Mines and Minefields	35	35	35	35	35	35
SMALL ARMS						
8. Application of fire n 2	800	450	300	300	300	300
9. Bren L.M.G. n 4	810	500	500	300	300	300
10. 2" Mortar n 8	750	450	300	300	300	300
11. 3" Mortar n 9	250	140	29	20	20	20
12. Pistol 38 n 11	400	400	400	400	500	400
13. Bayonet n 12	450	400	400	400	500	450
14. Grenades n 13	160	160	160	160	160	160
15. Thompson Machine Carbine n 21	750	750	300	300	300	300
16. Piat n 24	750	500	300	300	300	300
ARTILLERY						
17. Rules for the Trg of Div Arty Regts with new British material	45	45	45	45	45	45
18. Preparation for opening fire Vol III n 2	31	31	31	31	31	31
19. Employment of base ejection - smoke and chemical shell Vol III n 5	31	31	31	31	31	31
20. Concentrations and Barrages Vol III n 6	31	31	31	31	31	31
21. Calibration Vol III n 7	31	31	31	31	31	31
22. Concentration of observed fire Vol III n 12	31	31	31	31	31	31
23. Provisional Range [illegible]	15	15	15	15	13	15

1852

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

SMALL ARMS						
8. Application of fire n 2	800	450	300	300	300	500
9. Bren L.M.G. n 4	810	500	500	300	300	500
10. 2" Mortar n 8	750	450	300	300	300	300
11. 3" Mortar n 9	250	140	29	20	20	20
12. Pistol 38 n 11	400	400	400	400	500	400
13. Bayonet n 12	450	400	400	400	500	450
14. Grenades n 13	160	160	160	160	160	160
15. Thompson Machine Carbine n 21	750	750	300	300	300	300
16. Piat n 24	750	500	300	300	300	300
ARTILLERY						
17. Rules for the Trg of Div Arty Regts with new British material	45	45	45	45	45	45
18. Preparation for opening fire Vol III n 2	31	31	31	31	31	31
19. Employment of base ejection - smoke and chemical shell Vol III n 5	31	31	31	31	31	31
20. Concentrations and Barrages Vol III n 6	31	31	31	31	31	31
21. Calibration Vol III n 7	31	31	31	31	31	31
22. Concentration of observed fire Vol III n 12	31	31	31	31	31	31
23. Provisional Range Table 25 pdr (cyclostyled)	15	15	15	15	13	15
24. Gun drill for 25 pdr & 17 pdr (cyclostyled)	14	14	14	14		
M.T.						
26. Inspection care maintenance of vehicles						
27. AF 412 (vehicle log)						
28. AB 400 (Monthly inspection)						
POSTERS						
1. Bren L.M.G.	130	130	127	127	127	127
2. Bren Firing pos. A.A.	130	130	127	127	127	127
3. Bren Firing pos.	130	130	127	127	127	127
4. Bren Firing pos. from trench	130	130	127	127	127	127
5. Bren. Use of cover. Adv. at the crawl	130	130	127	127	127	127
6. Correct Aim	1000	1000	250	250	250	250

DISTRIBUTION FROM BRITISH SOURCES

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

1852

APPENDIX "B" TO MMIA LETTER
S/G/29/10/A of 27 November

MANUALS IN PROCESS OF PRINTING

SIGNALS

1. Working instruction 19 Set part I.
2. Charging Set 550 J.A.F.
3. Switchboards w.c. 10 line and 6 line.
4. 1260 Watt Battery Charging set.
5. 1260 Watt Charging Set.

SMALL ARMS ETC.

6. Rifle
7. Weapon Training part I
8. "Know your Mines"
9. Infantry Training Pamphlet No. VIII

ARTILLERY

10. Maintenance Manual for Ordnance Q.F. 25 pdr Mark II
11. Maintenance Manual for Ordnance Q.F. 6 pdr Mark II
12. Maintenance Manual for Ordnance Q.F. 17 Pdr Mark II
13. Gun Drill for 40 mm A.A. 1942.

MANUALS IN PROCESS OF TRANSLATION

SIGNALS

1. Signal Training 19 Set.
2. Signal Training 11 Set.
3. Lister Charging Sets 4/5kw.

1851

ARTILLERY

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

SMALL ARMS ETC.

6. Rifle

7. Weapon Training part I

8. "Know your Mines"

9. Infantry Training Pamphlet No. VIII

ARTILLERY

10. Maintenance Manual for Ordnance Q.F. 25 pdr Mark II

11. Maintenance Manual for Ordnance Q.F. 6 pdr Mark II

12. Maintenance Manual for Ordnance Q.F. 17 Pdr Mark II

13. Gun Drill for 40 mm A.A. 1942.

MANUALS IN PROCESS OF TRANSLATION

SIGNALS

1. Signal Training 19 Set.

2. Signal Training 11 Set.

3. Lister Charging Sets 4/5kw.

ARTILLERY

4. Handbook for Ordnance Q.F. 40 mm Mark 1

5. Handbook for Ordnance Q.F. 25 mm Mark II

MISC.

6. S&T Range Courses

1851

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

1636

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

MESSAGE FORM

From : MMIA

To : 52 BLU

Date - Time

26 1730 A

Restricted

CB 402

Reference your SX 11 of 22 Nov (.) Thank you for offer to check proofs (.)

Pamphlet now being printed by SMPB who will do all necessary

Precedence ROUTINE

Authenticating Officer

1850

11637

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

MMLA

No. 10 PUBLICATIONS DEPOT

26 1503A 258

3a/10/A

RESTRICTED

SS 400

Further our S/G/29/10 of 23 October 44 (.)

May the publications referred to be forwarded

this HQ (.) Urgently required

1879

IMPORTANT

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

LRF V MEDY V MEJE NR995 IMPORTANT
FROM RAOC TRAINING ETABLISHMENT 231715A

TO MMIA ROME

199

QQX GR22 BT
TE/M/63(.) RESTRICTED(.) REF YOUR
S/G/29/10 OF 10 OCT(.) STORES SECS OF MANTOVA AND PICENO
COMPLETE TRAINING 25 NOV(.) PLEASE GIVE DISPOSAL
INSTRUCTIONS
BT THI 231810A

SENT NR995 PIP 0142 GPB

29/10 S/Sec 24/11

339 40/24

1618

1639

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

PERSONAL AND SECRET

256.

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/G/29/10/A
24 May 44

My dear

I have just received a copy of HARDING's letter to you re LEGNANO and FULGORE Combat Groups.

All these troubles and deficiencies are well known to MMIA and your appropriate sections in AFHQ, with whom we have worked in very close touch and who are doing their darndest to put things right.

Actually, the situation regarding LEGNANO and FULGORE is nothing like as bad as was the case with FRIULI and CREMONA at their corresponding stage of development.

The matter of the roads and bridges in LEGNANO area has been strongly represented to 3 District, whose responsibility it is to take action.

The ration complaint has been a hardy animal for long past.! The ration is as decided by COS, after considering all our representations and world wide factors.

The whole of the rest of the business boils down to a matter of provision by AFHQ of equipment which is, as you know, very short and which your staff, as I say, are doing their best to provide as soon as possible.

1647

Yours

Lt Gen Sir James Cassell, KCB., DSO., MC.
Chief of Staff
Allied Force Headquarters

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

Advanced Headquarters,
Allied Armies in Italy.

22nd November, 1944.

Major-General L. Browning, OBE, MC
Military Mission to the
Italian Army.

With the compliments of

Lieut-General Sir John Harding.

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

COS/492

PERSONAL and SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
Allied Armies in Italy, C.M.F.

From:
Lieut-General Sir John Harding,
KCB, CBE, DSO, MC

22nd November, 1944.

1. I am sending you personally a copy of a report which my G3C.II(Training) made as a result of his recent visit to the FOIGORE Group. As you will see, it discloses a lamentable state of affairs and the C-in-C would be most grateful if you would do anything in your power to improve matters in regard to this Group and LEGNANO, which we have reason to believe is in much the same state.

2. We were hoping to have both these Groups for an operational role in the second half of January, but it seems from the report that unless drastic and urgent action is taken it is most unlikely that they will be ready then. Will you please do all you can to speed up their equipment and training. The C-in-C is anxious to go and inspect them in the near future, and I would like to be able to tell him before he goes that their training and equipment is proceeding satisfactorily.

1616

3. I am sending a copy of this letter and the report to Browning.

Lieut-General Sir James Gammell, KCB, DSO, MC
Chief of Staff,
Allied Force Headquarters.

1342

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

SECRET

SUBJECT:- Report of Visit to Italian Combat Gps

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

Tele:- FILPOT 75

2004/39/G(Tr[illegible])

21 Nov 44

G(Ops)	Ist
G(SD.1.)	RE
G(SD.2.)	X
A	ST
Q	Med
Q(AE)	REME

Copy to:- Maj to CGS
Maj to CAO

1. Att is report on visit by GSO.2. Tr. to FOLGORE Gp 14/15 Nov 44.

2. Branches concerned are requested to take action with the appropriate branches at AFHQ where required.

L Brigadier,
General Staff,
SD & T.

18:5

SECRET

REPORT ON VISIT BY GSO.2, TRG HQ AAI TO 53 BLU ATT FOLGORE GP 14/15 NOV 44.

1. Comms

(a) Apart from one WT link to MAIA there are no comms with the outer world.

Action X

(b) Roads

(i) The only road open 14 Nov was NE from MADDALONI crossing the VOLTURNO nr AMOROSI by an unfinished railway bridge. This is a perilous crossing even for an experienced dvr and likely to prove fatal to a learner.

(ii) The Bailey eqpt allotted for trg was being erected at PONTE to open the road to BENEVENTO.

(iii) The road to PIEDIMONTE (where LAGNANO are located) is passable to experienced dvrs in fair weather but the ford at CERRETO was quite impassable 15 Nov.

Action Re

2. Personalities

Comd	Gen MORIGI
GSO.I.	Lt-Col BROOKS, RTR
GSO.2.	Maj MARKES, LF.
GSO.2. (Trg Incr)	Maj LYNNE-HARRIS, ESSEX.

EQUIPMENT

3. Trg Scales

1844

The following have now been received from CHROMO. Gp.

Rifles	4500	
TSMG	2500	
LMG	60	
PIAT	24	(of which at least 8 are defective)
6 pr	15	long-barrel (plus 22 short barrel issued while CIL were with Eighth Army)
17 pr	4	No telescopes 41 are held. Telescopes 22 do not fit brackets.
25 pr	8	
40 mm	6	
Mine Detectors	12	

All above are complete trg scale.

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

at PONTE to open the road to BENEVENTO.

(iii) The road to PIEDIMONTE (where LEGNANO are located) is passable to experienced dvrs in fair weather but the ford at CERRETO was quite impassable 15 Nov.

Action Rq

2. Personalities

Comd Gen MORIGI
GSO.I. Lt-Col BROCKS, RTR
GSO.2. Maj MARKES, LF.
GSO.2. (Trg Lnor) Maj LYNCH-HARRIS, ESSEX.

EQUIPMENT

3. Trg Scales

1844

The following have now been received from CREMONA. Gp.

Rifles	4500	
TSMG	2500	
LMG	60	
PIAT	24	(of which at least 8 are defective)
6 pr	15	long-barrel (plus 22 short barrel issued while CIL were with Eighth Army)
17 pr	4	No telescopes 41 are held. Telescopes 22 do not fit brackets.
25 pr	8	
40 mm	6	
Mine Detectors	12	

All above are complete trg scale.

3 in Mortars	None	held against scale of 3	CREMONA have not given up trg scale as they have not received G1098 scale
2 in Mortars	NONE	" " " "15	
Compasses	15	" " " "18	
Binoculars	47	" " " "50	
Directors	3	(of which one is damaged) held against scale of 3 *	
Watches	22	" " " "25	

* SORA of BLU strongly urges that a total of four directors be allotted to allow one per bty.

Action 9(AE)

2 / 4

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

4. G.1098 Eqpt

None received except some signal eqpt. Eqpt promised towards end Dec.

5. Spare Parts

(a) Arty eqpts have practically NO spares or tools.

(b) NO Bren hold-alls have been received. Action Q(.E)

6. Buffer Oil

NOT available. Action Q

7. Clothing

(a) Battle-Dress

Grade III Battle-dress has been received. This is extremely poor, holes repaired with white cotton patches, odd sleeves, cut down trousers and even in one or two cases covered with blood. No doubt the worst was shown but it appears to have been a very bad lot, and has had a lamentable morale effect on the Gp - particularly as FRIULI and CREMONA received new Battle-dress.

Action Q(.E)

(b) Greatcoats

Only 300 yet received Action Q(.E)

(c) Boots

First lot (10,000) received were 75% "re-conditioned". Most of these were unfit for issue having large slashes in the uppers, no heels etc. A further issue has now been obtained allowing one good pair per man. Action Q(.E)

(d) Blankets

One per man has been received.

One Italian Blanket per man is held. Scale for Gps is 2 per man - Force scale 4 per man.

Action Q(.E)

(e) Gas Capes

No Gas capes have been received.
This is serious in view of very wet weather. Action Q(.E)

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

7. Clothing

(a) Battle-Dress

Grade III Battle-dress has been received. This is extremely poor, holes repaired with white cotton patches, odd sleeves, cut down trousers and even in one or two cases covered with blood. No doubt the worst was shown but it appears to have been a very bad lot, and has had a lamentable morale effect on the Gp - particularly as FRIULI and CREMONA received new Battle-dress.

Action Q(AE)

(b) Greatcoats

Only 300 yet received

Action Q(AE)

(c) Boots

First lot (10,000) received were 75% "re-conditioned". Most of these were unfit for issue having large slashes in the uppers, no heels etc. A further issue has now been obtained allowing one good pair per man.

Action Q(AE)

(d) Blankets

One per man has been received.

One Italian Blanket per man is held. Scale for Gps is 2 per man - Force Scale 4 per man.

Action Q(AE)

(e) Gas Capes

No Gas capes have been received.
This is serious in view of very wet weather.

Action Q(AE)

(f) Cookers and Cooking Utensils

No cookers received. Cooking utensils for 1000 men received.

Action Q and Q(AE)

RATIONS

8. Commander has complained rations are inadequate. BLU have asked him to produce evidence and a case for increase. This is understood to have been taken up already as a result of complaints from FRIULI and CREMONA Gps.

Action Q

ACCOMMODATION

9. All under cover so no tentage problems.

3 / .... 10.

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

MEDICAL

10. British MO required for supervision - perhaps one for two BLUs might suffice at present.

BLU considers that drugs appear short but having no medical knowledge cannot confirm this.

Action A

TPT

11. Trg Scale

The following have been received:-

MDs	NONE	against	30
2 btrs	NONE	"	6
15 cwt	4	"	8
15 cwt FFW	3	"	3
15 cwt WT	NONE	"	3
3 tonners	14 (of which six are off the road)	against	8
Carriers			
Universal	15	"	12
Carriers Mortar	NONE	"	6 (three universal presumably in lieu)
Carrier Lloyd	7	"	12
Tractors LL.	3	"	3
Portees A tk	2	"	2 (of which one u/s)
Recce Vehs	NONE	"	2
Tractor FL.	NONE	"	4

12. Load carrying tpt

1843

The Gp brought 52 x 3 tonners from CIL of which 13 are off the road through lack of spares.

Of the 39 in use SF Coy are operating 29. The remaining 10 are doing house-shoping duties in units.

There is difficulty in collecting stores released as owing to bad comms mentioned in para 1, even the journey to NAPLES entails a two day turn round.

13. Other tpt

The Gp has the following vehs (all class V or under) brought from CIL:-

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

MCs	NONE	against	30
2 Strs	NONE	"	6
15 cwt	4	"	8
15 cwt FFW	3	"	3
15 cwt WT	NONE	"	3
3 tonners	14 (of which six are off the road) against 8		
Carriers Universal	15	"	12
Carriers Mortar	NONE	"	6 (three universal presumably in lieu)
Carrier Lloyd	7	"	12
Tractors LL.	3	"	3
Portees A tk	2	"	2 (of which one u/s)
Recce Vehs	NONE	"	2
Tractor F.	NONE	"	4

1843

12. Load carrying tpt

The Gp brought 52 x 3 tonners from CIL of which 13 are off the road through lack of spares.

Of the 39 in use ST Coy are operating 29. The remaining 10 are doing house-keeping duties in units.

There is difficulty in collecting stores released as owing to bad comms mentioned in para 1, even the journey to NAPLES entails a two day turn round.

13. Other tpt

The Gp has the following vehs (all class V or under) brought from CIL:-

6 jeeps	of which	2	are off road
6 PUs	"	4	" " "
8 x 15 cwts	"	5	" " "
18 amks	"	8	" " "

PERSONNEL

14. Personnel are up to strength.

15. Drivers

(a) Deficient 290 dvrs (wheeled)
192 dvrs (tracked)

4 / .... These are

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

These are Italian figures. BLU would add approx 50%.

(b) Endeavours are being made to train as many as possible with very limited amount of tpt available.

(c) A cadre of instructors has nearly finished course which will give 25 track instructors.

(d) Each dvr has now been given a pamphlet (in Italian) describing the task system.

16. Artificers and Tradesmen

Main deficiencies are as follows:-

Motor mechs	35	All on Italian figures.
Wireless ops	225	MELA are trying to
Armourer mechs	46	provide but priority
Radio engrs (instrument mechs?)	15	at present to FRIULI and CARBONA.
Telegraphists	10	
Linesmen	32	
Director ops (arty)	45	

TRAINING

17. Trg Increment

Five out of seven offrs have reported. Remaining two have been nominated.

18. No other Brit instructors are held and are not required until more vehs and weapons are received.

19. Lt. Wksp is supposed to be reporting when C EMME have finished with it. If this is not being released when C EMME moves forward it is considered another should be made available.

action SD.1.

20. UNH Team

AFHQ are providing.

21. INFANTRY

(a) Pl Weapons

31 CMTC-trained instructors are training unit NCOs and some offrs in all pl weapons (less 2 in centre of which

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

Wireless ops	225	)
Armourer mechs	46	)
Radio engrs (instrument mechs?)	15	)
Telegraphists	10	)
Linemen	32	)
Director ops (arty)	45	)

) ... of Italian figures. ... are trying to provide but priority at present to FRIULI and CREMONA.

TRAINING

17. Trg Increment

Five out of seven offrs have reported. Remaining two have been nominated.

18. No other Brit instructors are held and are not required until more vehs and weapons are received.

19. Lab Wksp is supposed to be reporting when CREMONA have finished with it. If this is not being released when CREMONA moves forward it is considered another should be made available.

Action SD.1.

20. UNH Team

AFHQ are providing.

21. INFANTRY

(a) Pl Weapons

31 CMTC-trained instructors are training unit NCOs and some offrs in all pl weapons (less 2 in mortar of which none are held).

(b) Drivers IC and Carriers Dvrs

See 14 (b) and (c) above.

(c) 6 pr

Satisfactory.

(d) 3 in mortar

No trg possible as no mortars yet received.

5 / ..... (c)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785080

(e) Pnrs

Trg held up through lack of mines. Have been used for range-building (now mostly completed) making tgts, and trg stores.

Action RE

(f) Rcvr Sigs

48 sets have now been received. Trg starting forthwith.

(g) Offrs Tactical Trg

Sand table exercises and TEWTS being prepared. Junior Ldrs Course in December at C.TC caters for 25.

(h) Hardening Trg

Held up until now by boots. Route marches, hill-climbing etc now starting. Men seem fit but under-nourished (reported by G.2 Trg Increment).

(j) Snipers

A sniper sec has now been added to WE but no snipers rifles are allowed.

Action G(SD) & Q(AE)

22. Arty

(a) Trg in Brit eqpt proceeding.

1842

(b) Regt signals. Starting now 48 Sets have been received.

(c) MT

Acute lack of dvrs. Trg handicapped by lack of vehs and tools.

23. Engrs

(a) Trg is at present confined to

Mine Warfare
Weapon Trg
A Bailey Bridge has been erected at PONTE.

(b) Difficulties in obtaining eqpt

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

(h) Hardening Trg

Held up until now by boots. Route marches, hill-climbing etc now starting. Men seem fit but under-nourished (reported by G.2 Trg Increment).

(j) Snipers

A sniper sec has now been added to WE but no snipers rifles are allowed.

Action G(SD) & Q(AE)

22. Arty

(a) Trg in Brit eqpt proceeding.

1842

(b) Rcpt signals. Starting now 48 Sets have been received.

(c) MT

Acute lack of dvrs. Trg handicapped by lack of vehs and tools.

23. Engrs

(a) Trg is at present confined to

Mine Warfare
Weapon Trg
A Bailey Bridge has been erected at PONTE.

(b) Difficulties in obtaining eqpt

(i) Mines (as mentioned above) Action RE

(ii) No G.1098 is released. Certain items are essential for Engr trg. Action RE with Q(AE)

(c) The following additional difficulties were mentioned:-

(i) Accn shortage makes indoor instruction difficult.

(ii) Outdoor trg in bad weather severely handicapped by lack of Gas capes or greatcoats. Stores for drying are lacking. Action Q(AE)

6 / .... (iii)

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

(iii) Owing to bad state of rds and brs sappers have been constantly employed on maint and repairs. This in itself is good trg but has again been handicapped by lack of stores.

24. Signals

(a) Regt and Arty Sigs

48 Sets are being issued to enable trg to commence under offrs supervision. A full course for regt signallers commences at Italian Signals School NOCERA 18 Nov. Line laying apparatus has not yet been drawn from Depot nor have No 11 Sets. The drawing of eqpt has been delayed by lack of tpt.

(b) Signals Coy

Main items of eqpt have been drawn and instruction has begun in No 19 sets, UC 10, and Fullerphone. Trg DRs is impossible owing to lack of MCs. A full course of instruction for Signal Coy personnel commences NOCERA. 18 Nov.

(c) RLW Rear Link

Eight of sec have so far arrived.

No 9 Sets NOT yet available.

Personnel at present employed on collection of stores.

25. ST

Appears to be working well.

26. Ord

Personnel being used in ADOS Dump. Trg in stores recognition.

27. REME

Relics of Wksp from CIL being re-org. No eqpt for trg.

Action REME and Q(AE)

28. Medical

No comments as no medical adviser available - see para 9 above.

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

(c) Main Sig

Main items of eqpt have been drawn and instruction has begun in No 19 sets, UC 10, and Fullerphone. Trg DRs is impossible owing to lack of MCs. A full course of instruction for Signal Coy personnel commences NOCER. 18 Nov.

(c) RLU Rear Link

Eight of sec have so far arrived.

No 9 Sets NOT yet available.

Personnel at present employed on collection of stores.

25. ST

Appears to be working well.

26. Ord

Personnel being used in ADOS Dump. Trg in stores recognition.

27. REME

Relics of Wksp from CIL being re-org. No eqpt for trg.

Action REME and Q(AE)

28. Medical

No comments as no medical adviser available - see para 9 above.

MORALE

29. All ranks are very keen. Morale lowered by bad battle-dress and boots but raised when good eqpt received. A better ration would undoubtedly raise morale.

BATTLE EXPERIENCE

30. A high percentage served with CIL. The Cond is the same.

LEAVE

31. Large proportion of Gp have had leave.

7 / .... 32.

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

1655

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

GENERAL

32. Although it was not possible to visit LOSINO Gp it is understood that their gen condition is similar to that of FOGGIA Gp. They are however suffering the additional handicap of having a large proportion of personnel NOT in covered accn and have therefore a serious tentage problem. They have represented this to AFHQ.

Action 9

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

SECRET

Subject:- Training of Engineer Reinforcements for Combat Groups

Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MMIA)
30/29/10
25 Nov 44.

Ministry of War

Reference 30/29/10 of 6 Nov 44.

The training of reinforcements for Combat Groups over and above the 10% now allotted to units is still under consideration.

The formation of an Engineer Training School at X Reggimento del Genio is indefinitely postponed and the equipment demanded in your 1586/A22 of 16 Nov will not therefore be issued.

Particulars of the new arrangements for training reinforcements will be forwarded in due course.

1810

R B Copland
Maj
2
Maj Gen
Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MMIA)

cmh

Copy - RE 18/1

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

FROM: 50 P/J
TO: [illegible] A

[illegible] 29/10/A 6/25

AG 399 23/1 221700

Ref. your unnumbered message dated 22 November -
In view of the fact engineer training seriously impeded by late issue of equipment also tardy adoption (?) of workable organisation and that all other arms are now retaining training increments for further period in location consider essential retain QMSI GOODYER O
Please issue instructions for custody of training materials left in situ and authorize move of QMSI GOODYER with FRIULI group

IMPORTANT

1839
TH 222220

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

Subject :- Trg Pamphlets(Manuals.

To :- Land Forces Sub Comds A.C.
M.M.I.A.
- - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Copy to :- D.M.T.
C.O., No. 10 Publications Depot, C.M.F.
(Ref your 10 Pl/3826 of 6 Nov. 44. Please report situation re Trg Pamphlets and Manuals In English).
D Trg Team (Inf)
- - - - - - - - - -

S.L.U.
Rec. 21½ - 11
18 Nov. 44.

1. Copy is attached (M.M.I.A. and D.M.T. only) of this H.Q. G7 - 1 of 30 Oct. 44.

2. No. 10 Publications Depot C.M.F. replied in their above quoted letter that "S.A.T. Pamphlets are not printed in Italian ....., suggested you approach D.M.T., A.F.H.Q. who in turn should communicate with A.D.P.S.S., A.F.H.Q."

3. Will you please inform this H.Q. as to the source of supply of those publications and through what channels they may be quickest obtained.

Letter sent

Major,
GII,

for Lt. Col,
G.S.

1838

Subject :- Training Pam[illegible]s and Manuals.

55 B.L.U.
Ref. Q7 - 1
30 Oct. 44.

To :- O.C.,
No. 10 Publications Depot,
C.M.F.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

1. The under-mentioned list of Training Pamphlets and Manuals are very urgently required for training purposes of an Italian Combat Group.

Small Arms Training Pamphlets.	No. of copies (English)	No. of copies (Italian)
Rifle No. 4	12	500 250
Bren L.M.G.	"	" 350
Piat	"	" 350
2" Mortar	"	" 350
3" "	"	" 350
Grenades	"	" 350
T.M.C.	"	" 31
No. 48 W/T Set	"	" 350
Carriers	"	"
6 Pdr A.Tk Gun	"	"

Manuals.

Maintenance Manual	25 Pdr	1	Nil
" "	17 "	1	"
" "	40 mm Bofors	1	"
Handbook	25 Pdr	1	"
"	17 "	1	"
"	40 mm	1	"
Rangetables	25 Pdr	1	"
Smoke & C.W. Rangetables		1	"
Insp. Maint. Care of Army vehicles		1	"
Manual of Survey		1	"

1637

2. In addition to the above may one copy of 'Classied List and Alphabetical Index of Army Forms and Books' be supplied to this H.Q.

G.88

Lt. Col.
G.S.

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

Manuals.

Maintenance Manual	25 Pdr	1	Nil
" "	17 "	1	"
" "	40 mm Bofors	1	"
Handbook	25 Pdr	1	"
"	17 "	1	"
"	40 mm	1	"
Rangetables	25 Pdr	1	"
Smoke & C.W. Rangetables		1	"
Insp. Maint. Care of Army vehicles		1	"
Manual of Survey		1	"

1837

2. In addition to the above may one copy of 'Classied List and Alphabetical Index of Army Forms and Books' be supplied to this H.Q.

6188

Lt. Col.
G.S.

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

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

7/23
252

FROM 52 BLU
TO HQ11A

531

S/Sec.

5X11 24/11 221335-A⊙

RESTRICTED⊙

LEGNANO offn and would like to help you by checking proofs of the printing of procedure notes⊙ Please say if this can be done 1836

TH 1 221415

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

N° 1903/E4/II/Add. di prot. P.M.151,11 20 Novembre 1944

Oggetto:-Manuali in corso di stampa e di traduzione.-

Allegati: 1.-

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (M.M.I.A.)

ROMA

****

Allegato B

ELENCO DEI MANUALI IN CORSO DI STAMPA

1° - Working instruction wireless n°19 parte 1ª

~~2° - Wireless sets 18 MK~~

3° - Charging set 550 J.A.P.

~~4° - Mortar 3 in - 1944~~

5° - Know your mines

~~6° - Wireless set n° 19~~

7° - Rifle

8° - Weapon training P.I. 1835

9° - Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F.25 P.R.Mark II

10°- Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F. 6 P.R.Mark II

11°- Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F.17 P.R. MarkII

12°- Switchboards u.c. 10 line and 6 line

13°- 1260 Watt battery changing set

14°- Changing set 1260 Watt

15° -Gun drill for 40 mm.A.A. 1942

16 - Infantry Training Pamphlet No VIII

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

Oggetto.- Manuali in corso di stampa e di traduzione.- 1944

Allegati: 1.-

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (M.M.I.A.)

ROMA

Allegato B

ELENCO DEI MANUALI IN CORSO DI STAMPA

1° - Working instruction wireless n°19 parte 1ª

~~2° - Wireless sets 18 MK~~

3° - Charging set 550 J.A.P.

~~4° - Mortar 3 in - 1944~~

5° - Know your mines

6° - Wireless set n° 19

7° - Rifle

8° - Weapon training P.I.

9° - Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F.25 P.R.Mark II

10°- Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F. 6 P.R.Mark II

11°- Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F.17 P.R. MarkII

12°- Switchboards u.c. 10 line and 6 line

13°- 1260 Watt battery changing set

14°- Changing set 1260 Watt

15° -Gun drill for 40 mm.A.A. 1942

16 - Infantry training Pamphlet No VIII

ELENCO DEI MANUALI IN CORSO DI TRADUZIONE

1° - SAT rabge courses

2° - Signal training Wireless set n°9

./.

1835

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

3° - Handbook for ordinance Q.F.40 mm.Mark 1

4° - Handbook for ordinance Q.F.25 mm.Mark II

5° - Signal training wireless set n° II

6° - Lister charging sets 4/5 kw.-

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
- A. Santi -

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

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

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESER
Ufficio Addestramento

SPECCHIO INDICANTE LA DISTRIBUZIONE DEGLI OPUSCOLI TRADOTTI DALL'INGLES

TITOLO DELLE PUBBLICAZIONI	FRIULI
Come stanno le vostre batterie	200
Ondametro	35
Apparecchi telefonici F. tipo 1 e tipo 4°	220
Lanciatombe anticarro per ftr. n.24	750
Fucil-p mitragliatore n.4	810
Applicazione del fuoco n.2	800
Mortaio da 51 n.8	750
Moschetto automatico Thompson n.21	750
Ponte Bailey	45
Mortaio da 3 pollici	250
Impianto radio n.22	35
Impianto radio n.19	35
Mine e campi minati	35
Pistola cal. m. 5 (poll. 0,38) n.11	400
Baionetta n.12	400
Bombe n.13	160
Concentramenti e sbarramenti vol.III fasc.6	31
Preparazione per l'apertura del fuoco vol.III fasc.II	31
Impiego dei proietti fumogeni e ad aggressivi chimici vol.III fasc.5	31
Taratura dei pezzi vol.III fasc.7	31
Concentramento di fuoco osservato vol.III fasc.12	31
Norme per l'addestramento dei rgt.di art.div.le coi nuovi materiali inglesi - circ.2410 1831	
Tavole di tiro provvisorio da 88/27 - 25 ottobre (ciclostile)	45
Servizio al pezzo da 76 e 57 (ciclostile)	15
	14

TAVOLE DIDATTICHE

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

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
Ufficio Addestramento

APPENDIX
"A"
(in English)

DOTTRINE ADOTTATE DALL'INGLESE

	ENTE A CUI E' STATO DISTRIBUITO					
	GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTO					
	FRIULI	CREMONA	LEGNANO	FOLGORE	MANTOVA	PICENO
	200	200	250	250	250	250
	35	35	35	35	30	30
	220	220	220	220	220	220
	750	500	300	300	300	300
	810	500	500	300	300	300
	800	450	300	300	300	300
	750	450	300	300	300	300
	750	750	300	300	300	300
	45	40	40	40	40	40
	250	140	29	20	20	20
	35	35	35	35	30	30
	35	35	35	35	35	30
	35	35	35	35	35	35
	400	400	400	400	500	400
	400	400	400	400	500	400
	160	160	160	160	160	160
	31	31	31	31	31	31
	31	31	31	31	31	31
Sc. 5	31	31	31	31	31	31
	31	31	31	31	31	31
	31	31	31	31	31	31
Zolle						
	45	45	45	45	45	45
	15	15	15	15	13	15
	14	14	14	14		

11667

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

Come stanno le vostre batterie	200
Ondometro	35
Apparecchi telefonici F.tipo 1 e tipo 1*	220
Lanciabombe anticarro per ftr.n.24	750
Fucile mitragliatore n.4	810
Applicazione del fuoco n.2	800
Mortaio da 51 n.8	750
Moschetto automatico Thompson n.21	750
Ponte Bailey	45
Mortaio da 3 pollici	250
Impianto radio n.22	35
Impianto radio n.19	35
Mine e campi minati	35
Pistola cal.m.5(poll.0,38) n.11	400
Baionetta n.12	400
Bombe n.13	160
Concentramenti e sbarramenti vol.III fasc.6	31
Preparazione per l'apertura del fuoco vol.III fasc.II	31
Impiego dei proiettifumogeni e ad aggressivi chimici vol.III fasc.5	31
Taratura dei pezzi vol.III fasc.7	31
Concentramento di fuoco osservato vol.III fasc.12	31
Norme per l'addestramento dei rgt.di art.div.le coi nuovi materiali inglesi - circ.2410	31
Tavole di tiro provvisorio da 88/27 - 25 libbre (ciclostile)	45
Servizio al pezzo da 76 e 57 (ciclostile)	15
	14

1831

TAVOLE DIDATTICHE

Fucile mitragliatore Bren	130
Maneggio fucile mitragliatore Bren	130
Posizione per tiro contraereo f.m.Bren	130
Tiro da una trincea	130
Sfruttamento della piega del terreno - avanzando strisciando	130
Mirino Giusto	1000

STATO MAGGIORE R.E. UFF. MOBILITAZIONE

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

. . . . .	200	200	250	250	250	250
. . . . .	35	35	35	35	30	30
. . . . .	220	220	220	220	220	220
. . . . .	750	500	300	300	300	300
. . . . .	810	500	500	300	300	300
. . . . .	800	450	300	300	300	300
. . . . .	750	450	300	300	300	300
. . . . .	750	750	300	300	300	300
. . . . .	45	40	40	40	40	40
. . . . .	250	140	29	20	20	20
. . . . .	35	35	35	35	30	30
. . . . .	35	35	35	35	35	30
. . . . .	35	35	35	35	35	35
. . . . .	35	35	35	35	35	35
. . . . .	400	400	400	400	500	400
. . . . .	400	400	400	400	500	400
. . . . .	160	160	160	160	160	160
. . . . .	31	31	31	31	31	31
. . . . .	31	31	31	31	31	31
csc.5 . . .	31	31	31	31	31	31
. . . . .	31	31	31	31	31	31
. . . . .	31	31	31	31	31	31
Z11 . . .						
. . . . .	45	45	45	45	45	45
. . . . .	15	15	15	15	13	15
. . . . .	14	14	14	14		
. . . . .	130	130	127	127	127	127
. . . . .	130	130	127	127	127	127
. . . . .	130	130	127	127	127	127
. . . . .	130	130	127	127	127	127
. . . . .	130	130	127	127	127	127
. . . . .	130	130	127	127	127	127
. . . . .	1000	1000	250	250	250	250

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

SECRET

250

24 Nov 44.

10 A

5 Sec

22/11

1. In view of the circumstances in the present programme of issue of the entitlement scales of equipment to "LANCER" and "PACKER" combat groups this Headquarters has asked G-3 (Org) (A) AFHQ if a revised scale of equipment can be issued immediately for the use of the MEDUSA combat group. It has been suggested, subject to availability, that this equipment should be issued as part of the S.1093 entitlement scales. You will be informed as soon as a decision has been reached.

2. No action on what is to be issued for the use of the "MEDUSA" combat group but pending their arrival in theatre you should issue to them the equipment laid down for either "LANCER" or "PACKER" groups will be issued to them in theatre as soon as these groups receive their own entitlement scales.

3. It is impossible to issue pending scales to "MEDUSA" group to will be suggested to AFHQ that the available specialist personnel of "LANCER" groups are sent to "MEDUSA" group for handling until pending scales can be issued to them.

4. The question of signal equipment will be investigated as soon as a decision is reached as in para 1 above.

1833

1/Sec

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

SUBJECT: Training of Intelligence Sections.

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.E.I.A.)
S/0/29/10/A
20 Nov 44

TO : AAI for G2(1)

Copy to: 52 BLU
53 BLU (your C 2-10 of 13 Nov refers)

Reference visit of Col. PIDSLEY to Brig. HIRSCH.

1. Will you please say if arrangements can be made for Intelligence personnel to visit LEGHARN and FOLGORE Groups to give instruction in Field Intelligence and Security Duties.

2. In this connection it is understood that at the 35th meeting of the AAI M.E. Committee approval was given to the formation in the Infantry Bn of an "I" Section consisting of a Serjt, Corporal and 8 men.

1832

W. Pidsley. Colonel
Major General
M.E.I.A.

S/C/25/10/1

218

15 Nov 44
T/1

To:- Land Forces Sub Comm, AC

and for infm:- DMT, CMF
53 BLU, Trg

From:- MMIA IC, FOIGORS

Subject - INFANTRY TRAINING PAMPHLET VIII

1. I attach translation of second half of above MTP, together with reproduction of figures of original pamphlet and Italian text.

2. First half of translation was handed to Col Pidsley on his recent visit.

3. May we be advised when publication may be expected.

4. Delay in forwarding you second half of translation was due to the fact that the translation produced by LEGNANO necessiiated more work than was expected.

T. A. Philip
Capt. 1831

Parere G. tol FERRARI

Sì No

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

11672

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

247.

SECRET EYES ONLY

SUBJECT: Training of Reinforcements for Combat Groups

Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. 3/G/29/10/A
18 Nov 44

To : AMG (for CS Org)

Copy to: AAI.
IMT
S District
Major Gen. RCM
RA Tr Team

1. Now that the first two Italian Combat Groups are well on the way to going into action, the second two are reorganised and have begun training, and the third two appear to be reasonably assured, it is time to consider in detail and on an adequate scale the provision, administration, and training of sufficient reinforcements to keep the Groups up to strength.

2. For this purpose a meeting, attended by representatives of IMT, AAI, and AMG was held here today and the recommendations shown in the attached schedule were made.

3. I agree with these recommendations and consider that if the Italian Combat Force is to be properly maintained it is necessary that you should afford them early and generous consideration. If you consider any further information necessary from this Mission I am ready to send an officer to you at any time.

L.M. Langley 18/11/44
Major General
M.M.I.A.

Lt. Col.
Gone abroad on duty

Meeting held at MMIA 17 November 1944 to discuss training of Combat Groups and Reinforcements

Present: Col Pidsley MMIA
Col Thicknesse DMRT
Major Findlater MT
Lt Col Dahn RA Training Team
Major Goldberg G II Training AAI
Major Delardi MMIA LO attached to Italian Reinforcements Depot
Lt Col Ingledew GI (Ops and SD) MMIA , and other MMIA officers

The following recommendations are made :-

1. REINFORCEMENTS

The authorised holding of reinforcements, 10%, is not adequate to meet probable casualties in view of number of "paper bodies" to be held in strength of rft pool and time necessary to train "at initio" in rft depot. It should be raised to 15%. This would mean either transferring 5,000 men from the strength of Italian British Service troops or by counting the 4th Ind to the Combat Force as British Service Units and using their 5,000 in the Combat ceiling for rfts.

2. REINFORCEMENT DEPOT

(a) The Depot (now at TARANTO) should move North by the time the fourth Group moves, and be set up in a position from which it could reinforce Groups easily and quickly.

(b) Responsibility for training rfts should be fixed between MMIA and AAI (preferably being an AAI responsibility)

(c) Responsibility on the "A" side could be entirely Italian. Each Group would demand reinforcements directly on the Depot.

(d) The training of the different arms should be undertaken as shown below.

3. INFANTRY

Training should be carried out at the Depot by a permanent staff of Italian instructors. These would make use of B.A.T. Directives. The B.A.T. would attach officers for liaison and advice from the present training increments.

4. ARTILLERY

(a) Training of reinforcements should be carried out in an Artillery wing of the Reinforcement Depot.

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

1. REINFORCEMENTS

The authorised holding of reinforcements, 10%, is not adequate to meet probable casualties in view of number of "paper bodies" to be held in strength of rft pool and time necessary to train "at initio" in rft depot. It should be raised to 15%. This would mean either transferring 3,000 men from the strength of Italian British Service Troops or by counting the 40th Bgd to the Combat Force as British Service Units and using their 3,000 in the Combat ceiling for rfts.

2. REINFORCEMENT DEPOT

(a) The Depot (now at CHIETI) should move North by the time the 1st Bde Group moves, and be set up in a position from which it could reinforce Groups easily and quickly.

(b) Responsibility for training rfts should be fixed between AFHQ and AAI (preferably being an AFHQ responsibility)

(c) Responsibility on the "A" side could be entirely Italian. Each Group would demand reinforcements directly on the Depot.

(d) The training of the different arms should be undertaken as shown below.

3. INFANTRY

Training should be carried out at the Depot by a permanent staff of Italian instructors. These could make use of B.A.F. Directives. The B.A.F. would attach officers for liaison and advice from the present training increments.

4. ARTILLERY

(a) Training of reinforcements should be carried out in an Artillery wing of the Reinforcements Depot.

(b) Responsibility for instruction should be in Italian hands, under a permanent Italian staff.

(c) Equipment should include a number of vehicles to move guns.

(d) The Wing would deal only with technical Artillery training for officers and men. Specialist training would be carried out by other branches.

(e) In view of the large amount of equipment required for the above and the lack of training equipment in the country, it is suggested, as an alternative, that reinforcements might be attached for training to regiments on the line

5. ENGINEERS

(a) This is a very big matter. The problem is shown in Appendix "A".

1824

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

(b) It is urged that a practical solution be adopted as proposed in HQ/1091 attached at Appendix "B". We can think of no other practical solution.

6. ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, AND ARMOURERS

(a) The problem (shown in Appx "C") should be discussed fully with E&M Branch AFHQ on the basis of AAI's 2097/15/1/A(G) to G-1(S) AFHQ.

(b) The Italians should be requested to start elementary mechanical training in their own establishments now to prepare men for more advanced courses.

7. ENGINEERS

(a) Basic Training (Small Arms etc.) should be carried out at the Reinforcement Depot.

(b) Trade Training should be unnecessary if recruits are properly "Personnel Selected".

(c) Until all groups are trained reinforcements can be trained by attaching personnel to other groups in training. Thereafter the training equipment allotted for the groups should be used to establish an Engineer Wing at the Reinforcement Depot.

8. SIGNALS

A Signals Wing should be established at the Reinforcements Depot. It is required to train a very large number of Signal Specialists (See Appx "B") the only limiting factor being the amount of equipment that can be released.

9. ORDNANCE

1828

These should be included in the Reinforcement Depot and given basic training and ~~one~~ Ordnance instruction. They could receive more specialist training on posting to a unit.

10. PUBLICATIONS

MAI. will act as the channel for any publications which the DMT or AAI require to have published and distributed to Groups.

11. TRAINING TEAMS

A training Increment should be formed now for MANTOVA. The Training Increments should go into forward areas with AAI's, and may be kept if found useful and the Officers are not required elsewhere.

12. PACING

As soon as a decision to equip this Div as a Combat Group is reached, a demand for training equipment should be made, as has already been done for MANTOVA.

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

(c) Until all groups are trained reinforcements can be trained by attaching personnel to other groups in training. Thereafter the training equipment allotted for the groups should be used to establish an Engineer Wing at the Reinforcement Depot.

8. SIGNALS

A Signals Wing should be established at the Reinforcements Depot. It is required to train a very large number of Signal Specialists (See Appx "B") the only limiting factor being the amount of equipment that can be released.

9. ORDNANCE

1828

These should be included in the Reinforcement Depot and given basic training and Ordnance instruction. They could receive more specialist training on posting to a unit.

10. PUBLICATIONS

MELA will act as the channel for any publications which the MMT or AAI require to have published and distributed to Groups.

11. TRAINING TEAMS

A training Increment should be formed now for MARICOPA. The Training Increments should go into forward areas with MMT's, and may be kept if found useful and the Officers are not required elsewhere.

12. PILGRIM

As soon as a decision to equip this Div as a Combat Group is reached, a demand for training equipment should be made, as has already been done for MARICOPA.

13. LOCATIONS

To put paras 1 to 9 into effect, a good area and kind of "Italian Aldershot" with accomodation for the Depot and Echo is mentioned, is required preferably between FLORENCE and ROME

W Pidsley
Lieut MMTA

18 Nov 44

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

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

Reg Docs

246

Provision of Drivers for Combat Groups.

1. Information.

Present resources are inadequate for the provision and training of drivers for the Italian Combat Force.

2. Requirements as on 1 May 1945.

	Total No of Drivers	Minimum Number required by mid-January
To complete FOLGORE and LEGNANO	700	700
To complete MANTOVA	1000	
To complete PICENO	1000	
3 G T Companies for Tail (260 each Coy)	780	520
HQ M.A.C. and 2 platoons	150	100
Miscellaneous tail units	20	20
Reinforcements (5% of total strength of drivers in Combat Force)	500	500
Wastage for casualties, desertion, sick, etc	500	
T O T A L	4,650	1,840

The above assumes that all 3 G T Companies for the "tail" will have to be formed, but it is anticipated that at any rate the first will be formed from existing units.

3. The Problem.

Present facilities are limited to the Groups themselves and the school at POLIGNANO which should turn out 140 drivers a month, all earmarked already for British services. It will be seen from para 2 that it is required to produce for the Groups some 2,000 drivers by mid-January and a further 2,000 at least by May 1st 1945.

1627

4. Recommendations.

(a) Make up FOLGORE and LEGNANO deficiencies by training within the Groups plus the allotment of drivers earmarked for FRIULI and CREMONA but surplus to their final requirements.

(b) Establish a Driving School to train 2,000 drivers (600 per month) between now and May 1st 1945, aiming at training 1200 by mid-January. AMGOT is requested to consider this question and work out a detailed scheme.

(c) Establish a Drivers Wing at the Reinforcements Depot which could produce 300 trained drivers a month to make up wastage.

(d) This would leave about 450 drivers still to be found. 250 may be recommended by the G T Company to be allotted on the first third of the tail. Training of drivers within units could make up for the remaining 200 who could be counted against the estimated wastage.

Reinforcements (5% of total strength of drivers in Combat Force)	500	500
Wastage for casualties, desertion, sick, etc	500	
T O T A L	4,650	1,840

The above assumes that all 3 G T Companies for the "tail" will have to be formed, but it is anticipated that at any rate the first will be formed from existing units.

3. The Problem.

Present facilities are limited to the Groups themselves and the school at POLIGNANO which should turn out 140 drivers a month, all earmarked already for British services. It will be seen from para 2 that it is required to produce for the Groups some 2,000 drivers by mid-January and a further 2,000 at least by May 1st 1945.

1827

4. Recommendations.

(a) Make up POLCOMB and LECHANO deficiencies by training within the Groups plus the allotment of drivers earmarked for FRIULI and CREMONA but surplus to their final requirements.

(b) Establish a Driving School to train 2,000 drivers (600 per month) between now and May 1st 1945, aiming at training 1200 by mid-January. AMGOT is requested to examine this question and work out a detailed scheme.

(c) Establish a Drivers Wing at the R inforcements Depot which would produce 100 trained drivers a month to make up wastage.

(d) This would leave about 450 drivers still to be found. 250 may be represented by the G T Company to be allotted to the first third of the tail. Training of drivers within units could make up for the remaining 200 who could be counted against the estimated wastage.

5. CONFERENCE

The above to be discussed at Training Conference 1000 hrs 17 Nov.

DISTRIBUTION:
G
A/G
S & T
Spare - 10

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785080

1

11679

- 1 -

APPX B
MI/1/91

PLANNING

Object:- To train 600 drivers a month.

Factors

(a) Length of course — 30 days

1 Day assembling
4 Days Sundays
24 Days working
1 Day dispersing
30

1825

(b) Working days 8½ of 8 hours each

8 - 12 A.M.
1 - 5 P.M.

(c) 300 Maintenance in A.M. — 300 Driving in P.M.
300 Driving in A.M. — 300 Maintenance in P.M.

(d) 4 Students per driving instructional vehicle

∴ 75 instructional vehicles + 5 spare vehicles = 80 vehicles

AND 75 Driver instructors.

(e) Divide 300 maintenance instruction students into

150 doing maintenance on vehicles

150 doing diagramatic and lecture instruction.

(f) 10 students per vehicle

∴ 15 maintenance instruction vehicles (could be trucks)

2151 AND 15 maintenance instructors.

(g) 30 students per class

∴ 5 maintenance class instructors.

(b) Working days 2½ of 8 hours each

8 - 12 A.M.
1 - 5 P.M.

(c) 300 Maintenance in A.M. 300 Driving in P.M.
300 Driving in A.M. 300 Maintenance in P.M.

(d) 4 Students per driving instructional vehicle

∴ 75 instructional vehicles + 5 spare vehicles = 80 vehicles

AND 75 Driver instructors.

(e) Divide 300 maintenance instruction students into

150 doing maintenance on vehicles

150 doing diagrammatic and lecture instruction.

(f) 10 students per vehicle

∴ 15 maintenance instruction vehicles (could be crocks)

AND 15 maintenance instructors.

(g) 30 students per class

∴ 5 maintenance class instructors.

Summary.

95 vehicles required.
75 Driver instructors.
20 Maintenance instructors.
to which must be added HQ and administrative staff for the school e.g.

Commandant	Lt. Col.	1
Admin Officer	Captain	1
Company Officers	Captains or Lieuts	4 (4 Coys of 150 students each).
C.S.M. (Maroochydore)		1
C.Q.M.S. (Nuriare)		1
Privates for duty car-		
Batman		4
Cooks		12 (1 for Officers Mess)
Clerks		6 (2 for HQ 1 for each Company)
Police		6
Mechanics		4
General Dutyman		20
Total all ranks		60

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

The foregoing theoretical plan can be practically implemented by securing the allocation of an existing Italian G.T. Company complete, to act as a Driving School.

a. Advantages are that HQ, Administrative Staff, driver instructors and vehicles already exist on a properly formed basis, therefore the turnover to driver training can be expected very rapidly.
b. The G.T. Coy would need to be given additional scales, but this should not present any difficulty. (Civilians could be used.)
c. The accommodation problem is more acute. It can be solved by turning instructional vehicles into caravans at night each housing four students. This is not an entirely satisfactory solution, but tentage and covered accommodation for the numbers involved will be most difficult to find. Extra blankets and possibly straw for the vehicle floors should be considered.

Assuming the above, the plan can now be modified as follows:

Based on an availability of 100 vehicles at 4 students per vehicle, the G.T. Coy can accept 400 students for instruction at a time.
If we abandon instruction in theory and concentrate solely upon teaching driving and the daily maintenance tasks, we can turn out 400 drivers a fortnight, stepping up the output from 600 a month to 800, and gaining an additional advantage in "feeding in" drivers to the groups at shorter intervals.

The general scheme would therefore be:-

a. To allot 4 students to each vehicle, with its driver as instructor, to form a student team which will drive and live in the vehicle the whole time.
b. Driving circuits will be laid down and patrolled for supervision.
c. Students will leave at 0800 hrs daily, taking a midday road ration with them and will return to the Company at 1800 hrs.
d. This will give at least 7 hours actual driving, allowing 1 hour for a midday rest and meal halt, or 12 hours for each student.
e. Assuming 12 working days in two weeks course each student will receive 24 hours driving instruction.
f. From 1600 hrs to 1700 hrs students will carry out the daily maintenance task on the vehicles, under supervision of the driver and Section NCOs. More than one task can be done each day in order to speed the turnround and practise all students in all the tasks.
g. This will give each student 12 hours practical maintenance instruction and should teach the 16 task system satisfactorily.
h. With fixed training circuits, students should be encouraged to start out before 0800 hrs daily, in order to increase the number of driving hours.

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

Appendix "C"

Provision and Training of Mechanics and Armourers for Combat Groups

1. REQUIREMENTS.

		Motor Mechanics (170 per Group)	Armourer Mechanics (100 per Group)	
(a)	FRIULI	50	40	
	CREMONA	10	25	
	1/3 tail	25	--	
	1/3 reinforcements	20	10	assuming 5% hold-up
	TOTAL	105	75	
(b)	LEGNANO	100	60	
	FOLGORE	50	40	
	1/3 tail	25	--	
	1/3 reinforcements	20	10	
	TOTAL	195	110	
(c)	MANTOVA	100	50	
	PICENO	120	50	
	1/3 tail	25	--	
	1/3 reinforcements	20	10	
	TOTAL	265	60	
(d)	Wastage up to 1 May 1945	60	30	estimated at 5% of total or 1% per month.
	G R A N D T O T A L	625.	275.	

2. PRESENT PROGRAMME.

Allows for no basic mechanical training. Courses arranged for MANTOVA and PICENO (50 mechanics each 12 ABW) are for mechanics already included in the Groups, who would be able to train a certain number on return to their units.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) A full statement to ETE Br AFHQ.

(b) Step up training of mechanics at ABW's to at least 100 per month.

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

	1/3 tail	25	--
	1/3 reinforcements	20	10 reducing 5% holding
	TOTAL	105	75
(b)	LECHANG	100	60
	FOLGORE	50	40
	1/3 tail	25	--
	1/3 reinforcements	20	10
	TOTAL	195	110
(c)	MANTOVA	100	50
	PICENO	120	50
	1/3 tail	25	--
	1/3 reinforcements	20	10
	TOTAL	265	60
(d)	Wastage up to 1 May 1945	60	30 estimated at 5% of total or 1% per month.
	G R A N D T O T A L	625	275

2. PRESENT PROGRAMME.

Allows for no basic mechanical training. Courses arranged for MANTOVA and PICENO (50 mechanics each 12 ABW) are for mechanics already included in the Groups, who would be able to train a certain number on return to their units.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) A full statement to ELE Br AFHQ.

(b) Step up training of mechanics at ABW's to at least 100 per month.

(c) Get the Ministry of War to start Basic Mechanical Training in Italian or Civilian workshops now for men who would go to ABW after six weeks or two months.

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

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

CO

215

Circulate.

G. (SO)
SO(RE) para 3.
SO(Sigs) para 4.
A.Q. para 5.

a action to Spec. Sec for FOLGORE file

W.P.

14 Nov. 1822

TRAINING NOTES IN POLCORE DIV

7 Nov 44.

1. INFANTRY

Training generally is confined to divisional and unit training cadres for officers and NCOs. Sufficient instructors in the various subjects are so being trained to make a proper start on individual training within units. In more detail the position is :-

(a) PI Weapons

There were 31 CMTC-trained instructors in the div. These are training unit NCOs (plus some officers) in all pl weapons less the 2" mortars, which will not be available until the CREMONA div receives its G 1098 allottment.

(b) Carriers Universal and Loyd

A div cadre of 25 officers and NCOs is in progress to train unit instrs. This is being conducted by Major FAIRBAIRN through an interpreter, no qualified instructor having been available in the div.

(c) D and M

Only seven training vehs (British) available. Of these, 3 plus one Italian veh are being used for the instr of 200 drivers in the NZ6&50 Regt. With the remainder, only a very limited amount of instruction can be carried out in the div.

(d) 6pr A.Tk Gun

Training has been proceeding satisfactorily with the 22 guns available (short-barreled). A further 15 long-barreled have been received today. The NZ6&50 Regt carried out a shoot this morning at stationary serpens, with good results.

(e) 3" Mortars

Not yet received. Position as for 2" mortars.

(f) Pioneers

Training to start as soon as an adequate quantity of mines have been found. Most of them are being used for range-building (now mostly finished), making targets, training-sticks, aiming discs and general improvisation.

(g) Regimental Sigs

Held up hitherto by lack of training stores. No.48 W/T sets now received, and training to start forthwith.

(h) Officers Tactical Trg

Some lectures already given and sand-table Exercises and TEWTs being prepared.

(i) Hardening Training

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

in the div.

(c) D and M

Only seven training vehs (British) available. Of these, 3 plus one Italian veh are being used for the instr of 200 drivers in the NEMBO Regt. With the remainder, only a very limited amount of instruction can be carried out in the div.

(d) 6pr A.Tk Gun

Training has been proceeding satisfactorily with the 22 guns available (short-barreled). A further 15 long-barreled have been received today. The NEMBO Regt carried out a shoot this morning at stationary serpens, with good results.

(e) 3" Morters

Not yet received. Position as for 2" mortars.

(f) Pioneers

Training to start as soon as an adequate quantity of mines have been found. Most of them are being used for range-building (now mostly finished), making targets, training-sticks, aiming discs and general improvisation.

(g) Regimental Sigs

Held up hitherto by lack of training stores. No.48 W/T sets now received, and training to start forthwith.

(h) Officers Tactical Trg

Some lectures already given and sand-table Exercises and TEWTs being prepared.

(i) Hardening Training

The lamentable state of footgear precludes any serious attempt at this. The men generally seem fit, however, though under-nourished

2. ARTILLERY

(a) Training Equipment

8	25prs
4	17prs
6	40mm Bofors
4	Arty Bdrs
2	u/s Directors

(b) Gunnery

Directors are needed urgently, otherwise O.K.

(c) Signals

8 No.48 sets to be drawn tomorrow. Trg so far handicapped by lack of equipment. Should start in earnest next week.

...../(d)

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

(d) M.T.

By far the most serious problem. No training vehs held. Acute lack of trained drivers, e.g., No.3 Bty at present has only five men who can drive. If they get 39 vehs suddenly thrown at them, there is bound to be trouble. Driving instr has been handicapped by lack of petrol, but is going ahead. What is needed is petrol, training vehs, and TOOLS.

(e) S.A. Trg

At present must take second place to other trg and will be dealt with by qualified Inf Instructors.

3. R.E. TRAINING

(a) Training is at present confined to

Mine Warfare
Weapon Training

(b) Difficulties experienced in obtaining equipment are as follows :-
(i) Mines are difficult to obtain.
(ii) No tpt has been available to collect the Bailey bridge.
(iii) No G 1098 stores are being released and certain ones are essential to sapper training.

1829

(c) Other difficulties are as follows :-
(i) Accommodation is insufficient for indoor instruction.
(ii) Outdoor trg in bad weather is practically impossible owing to the fact that the men have no waterproofs or gascapes and have not yet received their battledress to give them a change of clothing. In addition no drying accommodation is available and it is impossible to improvise stoves etc., as no accommodation stoves have been released.
(iii) Owing to the extremely bad state of the roads and bridges the sappers have been constantly employed on maintenance and repair. This work would in itself be fairly good training if sufficient stores were available to do the jobs properly but it has been almost impossible to get any.

4. SIGNALS TRAINING

(a) Regtl and Arty Sigs

The complete entitlement of No.46 sets has been drawn and it is proposed to issue them in order that trg may begin under officers' supervision. A full course of instruction for regimental signallers is due to begin at the Italian Signal School, NOCERA, on 18 Nov. Line laying apparatus has not yet been drawn from Depot nor have No.11 sets. The drawing of equipment has been greatly delayed by shortage of tpt.

(b) Signals Coy

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785080

(b) Difficulties experienced in obtaining equipment are as follows :-
(i) Mines are difficult to obtain.
(ii) No tpt has been available to collect the Bailey bridge.
(iii) No G 1098 stores are being released and certain ones are essential to sapper training.

1829

(c) Other difficulties are as follows :-
(i) Accommodation is insufficient for indoor instruction.
(ii) Outdoor trg in bad weather is practically impossible owing to the fact that the men have no waterproofs or gascapes and have not yet received their battledress to give them a change of clothing. In addition no drying accommodation is available and it is impossible to improvise stoves etc., as no accommodation stoves have been released.
(iii) Owing to the extremely bad state of the roads and bridges the sappers have been constantly employed on maintenance and repair. This work would in itself be fairly good training if sufficient stores were available to do the jobs properly but it has been almost impossible to get any.

4. SIGNALS TRAINING

(a) Regtl and Arty Sigs

The complete entitlement of No.48 sets has been drawn and it is proposed to issue them in order that trg may begin under officers' supervision. A full course of instruction for regimental signallers is due to begin at the Italian Signal School, NOCERA, on 18 Nov. Line laying apparatus has not yet been drawn from Depot nor have No.11 sets. The drawing of equipment has been greatly delayed by shortage of tpt.

(b) Signals Coy

The main items of equipment have been drawn and instruction has begun in No.19 set, U.C.10, and Fullerphone. Trg of D.R.s and Drivers is rendered impossible by lack of tpt. A full course of instruction for Signals Coy personnel begins at NOCERA on 18 Nov.

(c) BLU Rear Link

Eight of section have arrived so far. The two No.9 W/T sets are not yet available at Depot and I understand that there may be a long delay before they are ready. I intend to set the section to Horse training as soon as possible, but at present they are employed in collection of Sigs and Ord stores. Owing to absence of Ord storemen 50% of personnel are at present employed in collecting Ordnance stores. This has rendered Signals training impossible.

...../5. General

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

5. GENERAL

In general, one may fairly say that the material to work on is excellent, as would be expected in a Group composed largely of parachute tps and marines. The men are keen to learn and to get into the line. (Most of them have been in it before). Lack of clothing (boots in particular) and training stores are the main difficulties. The ration, further, does not appear adequate to keep men properly fit, and will be less adequate when the trg becomes more strenuous. Recreational facilities are non-existent and should be provided.

If these difficulties are removed, there is no reason why excellent results should not be achieved.

E.Holmes

Major,

G.S.O.2, Training Increment.

EH.

1819

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785080

11690

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

53 B.L.U.
Ref. G2 - 10.
13 Nov. 44.

Subject :- Intelligence and Security Trg.

to :- M.M.I.A. ✓
- - - - -
D Trg Team
M.M.I.A. L.O.
D.M.T.
- - - - - - -

1. On recent visit by Col. FIDSLEY to this H.Q. it was stated that A.A.I. (D.D.M.I., Brig. HINDS) had promised to send Int. Corps personnel to this Gp to assist in Trg the newly formed Int. Secs.

2. Info is now requested as to how soon this Int. Trg. Team will be available as Trg of new personnel in this Gp should start at once if they are to function efficiently by "target date".

Major,
GII.

Lt. Col.
G.S.

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

243

Subject:- Training of Reinforcement Units for Combat Groups

Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MTOA)
G/C/29/1 D/A ✓
16 Nov 44

~~Ministry of War~~
~~Corps~~ 52 MLU
53 MLU
54 MLU
Reinforcement Depot (TEANO)

1. In order to provide trained Engineer units for the Combat Groups, prior to the opening of an Engineer Wing at the Reinforcement Depot, you are authorised to hold 10% Units with all Engineer Units in the LIRENZO, POLOGNE, BATTOVA and ~~Teano~~ Groups.

2. On completion of their training these reinforcements will be sent to Reinforcements Depot.

W Priday Lieut 1817
+ Maj Gen
Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MTOA)

mh

M.M.A. FILIERE Declassified

202

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

n° 1719 A/18 prot. ADD. P.M. 151, 13 Novembre 1944.

OGGETTO: Formazione istruttori di fanteria per gruppi di combattimento MANTOVA e PICENO.

Formation of infantry instructors for Combat Groups MANTOVA and PICENO

ALLA M.M.I.A.

Roma

Seguito foglio 1400/A/18 ADD. del 27 ottobre scorso di questo S.M. e riferimento alla richiesta verbale del Maggiore Dobbs di codesta Missione, in data 10 corrente.

Si segnala il fabbisogno armi e munizioni per i corsi in oggetto che si svolgeranno nella sede di comando del gruppo combattimento "MANTOVA" all'atto del suo arrivo nel Beneventano:

- Fucili..... 160
- Fucili mitragliatori Bren..... 11
- Moschetti automatici Thompson... 11
- Mortai da 2 pollici..... 11
- Lanciabombe Piat..... 6
- Mortai da 3 pollici..... 5
- Munizioni:

  Cartucce per fucile e fuc.mtr. Mark VII-0,303 - 35.000
  Idem, traccianti..... - 2.000
  Idem, da esercitazione..... - 800
  Granate da 2 pollici, bomba alto esplosivo ... 300

1816

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

combattimento MANTOVA e PICENO.

ALLA M.M.I.A.

R o m a

Seguito foglio 1400/A/16 ADD. del 27 ottobre scorso di questo S.M. e riferimento alla richiesta verbale del Maggiore Doobs di codesta Missione, in data 10 corrente.

Si segnala il fabbisogno armi e munizioni per i corsi in oggetto che si svolgeranno nella sede di comando del gruppo combattimento "MANTOVA" all'atto del suo arrivo nel Beneventano:

- Fucili.....160
- Fucili mitragliatori Bren..... 11
- Moschetti automatici Thompson... 11
- Mortai da 2 pollici..... 11
- Lanciabombe Piat..... 6
- Mortai da 3 pollici..... 5
- Munizioni:

Cartucce per fucile e fuc.mtr. Mark VII-0,303 - 35.000
Idem, traccianti..... - 2.000
Idem, da esercitazione..... - 800
Mortaio da 2 pollici: bombe alto esplosivo... - 320
bombe fumogene..... - 300
bombe illuminanti..... - 6
bombe da segnalazione.. - 6
bombe inerti..... - 22

./.

1816

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

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

- Per mortaio da 3 pollici:

  Bombe ad alto esplosivo.....320
  Bombe fumogene.....320
  Bombe inerti:.....6

- Cartucce per moschetto autom. Thompson.....7500

- Lanciabombe Piat:

  bombe ad alto esplosivo..... 225
  bombe "strat" (tiro di poligono)..... 60
  bombe da addestramento..... 11
  bombe inerti..... 11
  cartucce..... 440

- Bombe a mano attive:

  modello 36 : 350 = modello 69 350
  modello 75 : 20 = modello 77 220

- Bombe a mano inerti: per ciascun tipo 33

- Bombe a mano da addestramento, per ciascun tipo 160

- Artifizi:

  miccia lenta.....1 scatola (10 yards)
  miccia detonante.....1 scatola (10 yards)
  detonatori..... 240
  cariche di fulmicotone secco..... 240
  cariche di fulmicotone umido..... 240
  candele fumogene..... 40

- Cavalletti di puntamento..... 11

- Treppiedi per Bren..... 6.

Le richieste di cui sopra sono commisurate al numero degli allievi che frequenteranno i corsi (60 ufficiali, 100 sottuff.e graduati).

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

Bombe ad alto esplosivo.....320
Bombe fumogene.....320
Bombe inerti:.....6

- Cartucce per moschetto autom. Thompson.....7500
- Lanciabombe Piat:

bombe ad alto esplosivo..... 225
bombe "strat" (tiro di poligono)..... 60
bombe da addestramento!... 11
bombe inerti..... 11
cartucce..... 440

- Bombe a mano attive:

modello 35 : 350 = modello 69 350
modello 75 : 20 = modello 77 220

- Bombe a mano inerti: per ciascun tipo 33
- Bombe a mano da addestramento, per ciascun tipo 160
- Artifizi:

miccia lenta.....1 scatola (10 yards)
miccia detonante.....1 scatola (10 yards)
detonatori..... 240
cariche di fulmicotone secco..... 240
cariche di fulmicotone umido..... 240
candele fumogene..... 40

- Cavalletti di puntamento..... 11
- Treppiedi per Bren..... 6.

Le richieste di cui sopra sono commisurate al numero degli allievi che frequenteranno i corsi (60 ufficiali, 100 sottuff.e graduati).

Se il gr.comb.FRIULI, partendo, lascerà in posto le armi di addestramento che ha ricevuto, non occorrerà effettuare alcuna assegnazione di armi.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(A. Santi).

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

ARMS PROPOSALS FOR TRAINING SCALES OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION FOR CREATING OF CADRES OF MANOA AND PICENO GROUPS

(Scale of Arms asked for by DMT in letter DMT/434/MT.2 of 12 Nov to Q(AE) is shown in brackets)

This material will be required for use from 4 December.

ARMS

Rifles	160	(70)	PIAT	6	(6)
Bren	11	(12)	3" Mortar	5	(6)
T.S. M.G.	11	(12)			
2" Mortar	11	(3)			

AMMUNITION

.303 MK VII SAA	33.000
.303 Tracer S.A	2000
.303 Practice Only	800

2" Mortar

H.E. Bombs	320
Smoke Bombs	300
Para Flare	6
Signal Flare	6
Inert Bombs	22

3" Mortar

H.E. Bombs	320
Smoke Bombs	320
Inert Bombs	6

.45 T.S. M.G. Ammo. Rds. 7500

PIAT.	H.E. Bombs	225	56
	Practice shot	60	75
	Training Bombs	11	69
	Inert Bombs	11	77
	Pelastite Cartridges		

Grenades

	350
	20
	350
	220

1815

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

.303 MK VII SAA	33.000
.303 Tracer SAA	2000
.303 Practice Only	800

2" Mortar

H.E. Bombs	320
Smoke Bombs	300
Para Flare	6
Signal Flare	6
Inert Bombs	22

3" Mortar

H.E. Bombs	320
Smoke Bombs	320
Inert Bombs	6

1815

.45 T.S. M.G. Ammo. Rds. 7500

PIAT.

H.E. Bombs	225	36	
Practice shot	60	75	
Training Bombs	11	69	
Inert Bombs	11	77	
Balestite Cartridges	440		

Grenades

	350
	20
	350
	220
Dummy Grenades	33 of each type

Training Hand Grenade each type 160

Demolitions

Safety Fuse	1 box	10 yrds
Cordex	1 box	10 yrds
Detonators	240	
Dry gun cotton primers	240	
Wet gun cotton charges	240	
Smoke generators	11	

Aiming Rest	11
Bren Tripod	6

The above request has been calculated on the number of students to be dealt with (60 officers and 100 N.C.O's)

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

1698

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

SMRE proposals for Training Orders of Arms and Ammunition
for training of cadres of Mortars and Recoil Guns (Blacks)

(details of Arms asked for by DMT in letter DMT/184/107 2 of 12 Nov 45 QMG 1)/1
as shown in brackets

This material will be required for use from 1st December

ARMS

11699

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

MINISTERO
DELLE
CORPORAZIONI

GABINETTO

N.

Risposta alla lettera

del

Div. *Sez.* *N.*

OGGETTO

Allegati

Riprodurre il

Indirizzo:

Minutato da

Copiato da

TIP. CAMPANARI - ROMA

Roma,

29/10
241

Translation.

From SMRE

to MMIA.

Ref nro 1719 A/10

Date. 13 Nov 44

Infantry instructors formation for MANTOVA and PICENO

266

Further to letter 1400/A/10 dated 27 oct 44 from this SMRE and referring to the verbal request by Major DOBBS of MMIA on the 10th. 11. 44.

we communicate the needs of arms and ammo for the A/m course which will take place at the MANTOVA HQ when they arrive at BENEVENTANO:

Rifles.	160	(70)	PIAT.	6	(6)
Bren	11	(12)	3" mortar	5	(6)
T.S.M.G	11	(12)			
2" Mortar	11	(3)			

AMMUNITION

.303. MK VII SAA.	55.000	
.303. TRACER. SAA.	2000	1813
.303 practice only. SAA.	800	

2" Mortar		3" mortar
H.E. Bombs.	320	H E Bombs. 320
smoke bombs.	300	smoke bombs. 320

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

the A/n course which will take place at the MANTOUM HQ when they arrive at BENEVENTANO:

Rifles.	160	(70)	PIAT.	6	(6)
Bren	11	(12)	3" mortar	5	(6)
T.S. M. G	11	(12)			
2" Mortar	11	(3)			

AMMUNITION

.303. MK VII	SAA.	35.000
.303. TRACER.	SAA.	2000
.303 practice only.	SAA.	800

1813

2" Mortar		3" mortar	
H.E. Bombs.	320	H E Bombs.	320
smoke bombs	200	smoke bombs.	320
para flare	6	inert bombs	6
signal flare	6		
inert bombs	22		

.45 T.S.M G ammo. RDS. 7500

Grenades.

PIAT.	HE Bombs.	225	36 - 350
	practice shot.	60	75. 20
	training bombs.	11	69 350
	inert Bombs	11	77 220
	bakelite cartridges	440	Dummys grenades. 3 of each type —

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

training Hand grenade each type. 160.
Demolitions
safety fuse. 1 box 10 yrds.
Cordex 1 box 10 yds
Detonators 240
Dry gun cotton pounds. 240
Wet gun cotton charges 240
smoke generators. 11
Aiming Rest 11
Bren tripod 6

The above request have been calculated on the number of students to be dealt with. (60 officers and 100 N.C.O.s.)
hands the should the Trinidi group leave behind in our ~~trade~~ weapons which have been issued for training there will be no need to assign us any weapons.
R Marshall.
SANTI

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

11703

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

29/WO

Translation

From M of W (SMRE.) Ref no 1620/R.D.
to MMIB Date 10 Nov 44

Training of reinforcements for Combat troops

Further to (letter 1097 Dated 12 Oct. from SMRE we apply for the following material for the training of reinforcement for the combat troops.

180	Rifles (10 for each inf platoon.)	
18	Brn. (3 for each inf coy)	
18	T.S.M.G. (" " " " ")	
6	PIAT. (1 for each inf coy.)	
18	2" Mortar (3 " " " ")	
12	3" mortar (2 " " " ")	
12	6 pounders (2 " " " ")	1812
2	25 pounders (for reinforcement any BRTY.)	
1	17 pounder (" " " ")	
1	40 m/m gun (" " " ")	P.T.O

11704

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

6 cars various types armed. } 1 for each M T coy
6 M/C " " " } 1 " " " " "

with the above armament an adequate supply of ammo is needed

We beg you on other hand to assign as much as possible R/T W/T equipment and also any equip. to satisfy the needs of the coy Reinforcement coy.

R Manfredi

SANTI.

To Spec

211

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

nº1620 R/D/prot.ADD. P.M. 151, 1o Novembre 1944.
OGGETTO: Addestramento personale del reggimento complementi per gruppi da combattimento: fabbisogno armi e mezzi.

ALLA M.M.I.A.

Roma

Seguito foglio nº1097 prot.R/D/ADD. in data 13 ottobre u.s. di questo S.M., si richiedono i sottonotati materiali per l'addestramento del personale in forza al reggimento complementi per gruppi di combattimento:

- 180 fucili (10 per ogni plotone di fanteria).
- 18 fucili mitr.Bren (3 per ogni compagnia di fanteria).
- 18 moschetti Thompson (3 per ogni compagnia di fanteria).
- 6 mortai PIAT (1 per ogni compagnia di fanteria).
- 18 mortai da 2 pollici (3 per ogni compagnia fanteria).
- 12 mortai da 3 pollici (2 per ogni compagnia fanteria).
- 12 cannoni da 6 libbre (2 per ogni compagnia fanteria).
- 3 cannoni da 25 libbre (per comp.compl.artiglieria).
- 1 cannone da 17 libbre) " " " "
- 1 cannone da 40 mm.)
- 6 autocarri dei vari tipi in distribuzione) (2 per ogni
- 6 motocicli dei vari tipi in distribuzione) plot.autieri motociclisti).

Con le armi di cui sopra si rende necessaria l'assegnazione di adeguati quantitativi di munizioni.

Si prega inoltre voler assegnare un minimo di materiale radio, telefonico, telegrafico e per artieri per soppertire alle necessità della compagnia complementi genio.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(A. Santi)

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

zi.

ALLA M.M.I.A.

Roma

Seguito foglio n°1097 prot.R/D/ADD. in data 13 ottobre u.s. di questo S.M., si richiedono i sottonotati materiali per l'addestramento del personale in forza al reggimento complementi per gruppi di combattimento:

- 180 fucili (10 per ogni plotone di fanteria).
- 18 fucili mitr.Bren (3 per ogni compagnia di fanteria).
- 18 moschetti Thompson (3 per ogni compagnia di fanteria).
- 6 mortai PIAT (1 per ogni compagnia di fanteria).
- 18 mortai da 2 pollici (3 per ogni compagnia fanteria).
- 12 mortai da 3 pollici (2 per ogni compagnia fanteria).
- 12 cannoni da 6 libbre (2 per ogni compagnia fanteria).
- 3 cannoni da 25 libbre (per comp.compl.artiglieria).
- 1 cannone da 17 libbre) " " " "
- 1 cannone da 40 mm.)
- 6 autocarri dei vari tipi in distribuzione) (2 per ogni
- 6 motocicli dei vari tipi in distribuzione) plot.autieri motociclisti).

Con le armi di cui sopra si rende necessaria l'assegnazione di adeguati quantitativi di munizioni.

Si prega inoltre voler assegnare un minimo di materiale radio, telefonico, telegrafico e per artieri per sopperire alle necessità della compagnia complementi genio.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(A. Santi)

1611

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

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

SUBJECT : 16mm Projectors.

R E S T R I C T E D. 220

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
ARMY H.Q.

Vol : 11656

DT/120/MC.2

12 Nov 44.

C.T.A., A.K.S., A.F.H.Q.

Copy to : U.S.I.A.
26 MBU att HQ Base 2 Polish Corps.
51 MBU
52 MBU
53 MBU

Ref conversation Lt-Col HUNTSON - Dept DOMEI.

1. May 2 - 16mm projectors please be provided from reserve to meet the training requirements of the Polish Army Trg Centre and Italian Groups.

2. The projector for the P.A.T.C. would be required in the NAPLES Area while BENEVENTO would be a suitable centre for the Groups.

3. Will you please inform this Directorate what additional a peratus will be necessary in the way of an amplifier for a commentator for use when films are being shown silent.

1819

T. M. Bishop
Capt R.A

for Brig.,
D.M.T.

TMB/rm

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

ARMY FORM C.2128

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 29/10

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN
	OUT

No. of Groups GR. 259

Office Date Stamp

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO SOBLO

FROM MMIA

Originator's Number 5274 | Date 6 | In Reply to Number

Restricted to instructed Reference accordingly your 2578 of 4 NW 0 SMRE

This Message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means
* (Except)
( ) Wireless

Signature

This Message must be sent IN CIPHER if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands

Signature

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority
Routine

Time of Origin 061145A

T.H.I.

T.O.R. 1809

* (Originator may delete "Except" and insert "Including")

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender

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

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Small) — MESSAGE FORM — Register No. 27/538

Call | Srl. No. | Priority | Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: 5 A Bde | Date-Time of Origin: 04 1530 A

For Action: HMSA

TO (W) For Information (INFO): Str R [illegible]

Message Instructions — GR

Originator's No.: AGS/S (O?)

RESTRICTED Italian Training Officers to view MAI Instructional Film Dirt Bag on authority of attached from BMME for ITALIAN Trainee attached to accompany group to MENDABENE and CASTELLI to accompany group on LIBERTY Ships

This Message may be sent as Written by any means [except] Wireless

If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent in Cipher

Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority: IMMEDIATE

Signed: [illegible]

Time: THE or TOR 0620A | Time cleared | System: I&WB | Op.

Signed

OFFICE DATE STAMP

MMLA — Rec'd

FILE REF — 201/10

Date Rec'd 6/11/1

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

222

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
UFFICIO ORDINAMENTO E MOBILITAZIONE

P.M. 151, 1 novembre 1944

AL MAGGIORE DOBBS - presso M.M.I.A. ROMA

according to your request are sent you copy of the list of awards for

In esito alla sua richiesta, le trasmetto copia del foglio riguardante: Corpi in atto da svolgersi per il gruppo di combattimento "Piceno".-

IL CAPITANO ADDETTO
(C.Dellacorna)
Dellacorna

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

S.A.T.O. MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

nº1464/D/5 prot.ADD. P.M.151, 31 ottobre 1944.

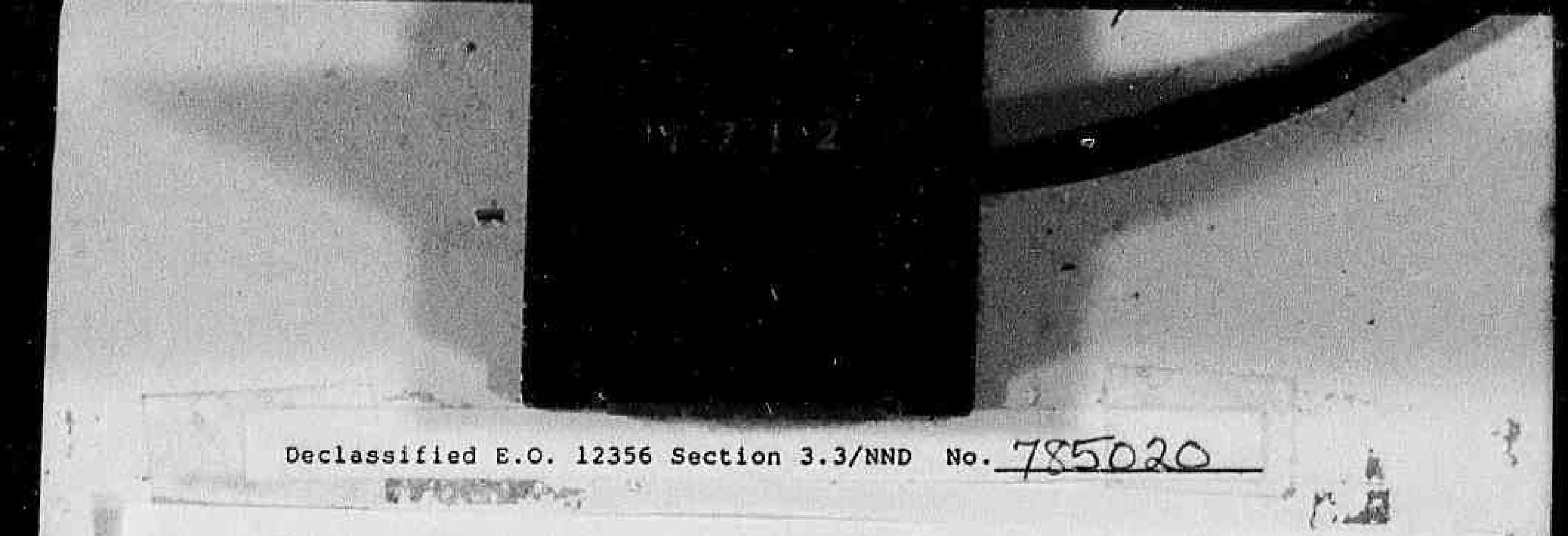
ALLA M.M.I.A.
(rif.S/G/29/10 del 18 corr.)
Roma

OGGETTO: Aggregazione di ufficiali dei gruppi di combattimento alle Formazioni Alleate.

A seguito del foglio 1415/D/5 del 28 corr., si segnala il nominativo dell'ufficiale del genio del gruppo combattimento "Friuli":
Sottotenente BARDUCCI Silvano.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(A.Santi)

1806



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

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

221

STATO MAGGIORE R.ESERCITO
Ufficio Addestramento

P.M.151, 29 ottobre 1944

courses to take place for

CORSI IN ATTO O DA SVOLGERSI PER IL GR.COMB."PICENO"

Promemoria

FANTERIA: Tactical course senior officers
Corso orientativo addestramento tattico per uff.sup.
a Benevento dal 20/11 al 9/12 - 6 ufficiali superiori
Corso sul cannone da 6 libbre 6 PDR course
a Cerreto Sannita dal 21/10 al 12/11 - 4 uff. - 7 sottuff.
Platoon weapons course and 3" mortar course
Corso sulle armi di plotone e sul mortaio da 3 pollici.
a S.Giorgio del Sannio: 30 ufficiali - 50 sottuff.e gr.
Durata 3 settimane - inizio quando il gr.comb. si trasferirà nel Beneventano. to take place when Div moves

ARTIGLIERIA: 17 and 25 PDRS and 40 mm gun course
Corso sui cannoni da 17,25 libbre e da 40 mm.
a Cerreto Sannita dal 21/10 al 12/11 - 12 uff. - 15 sott.gr.
Corso Munizioni: ammo course
a Pontecagnano dal 20/11 al 9/12 - 17 sottuff., 6 truppa.
Corso operai di artiglieria: arty wpns course
a Scafati dal 30/11 al 9/12 - 12 sottuff. e graduati

GENIO: Field maintenance course
Corso manutenzione impianti campali:
a Capua dall'8 al 30/11 - 15 sottufficiali.
Corso collegamenti: signal course
a Nocera Inferiore dal 15/10 (termine da stabilire)
per 16 uff. - 38 sottuff.gr. - 6 truppa.
Corso addestramento armi del genio: training for engr.
a Capua dal 19 al 26/11 - 1 uff. 10 sottuff.gr.sold.
Corso lavori campali del genio: engr field labour course
a Capua dal 19 al 26/11 - 1 uff. 10 sottuff.gr.sold.

CORSI VARI:
Corso magazzinieri: storeman course
a Pontecagnano: per 7 uff. 32 sott.e grad. - 80 soldati
Una metà dal 5/11 al 25/11 - l'altra metà dal 26/11 al -
Corso automobilistico: Driver course
a Molfetta dal 28/10 all'11/11 - 2 uff. e 50 truppa.
Corso CC.RR.: C.M.P. course
a Ottaviano dal 22/10 al 5/11 per 3 uff. e 18 truppa
Corso Sanità: Medical course

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

a S.Giorgio del Sannio: 30 ufficiali - 50 sottuff.e gr.
Durata 3 settimane - inizio quando il gr.comb. si trasferirà nel Beneventano. to take place when 2nd moves

ARTIGLIERIA: to 17 and 25 PDRs and 40 mm Gun course
Corso sui cannoni da 17,25 libbre e da 40 mm.
a Cerreto Sannita dal 21/10 al 12/11 - 12 uff. - 15 sott.gr.
Corso Munizioni: ammo course
a Pontecagnano dal 20/11 al 9/12 - 17 sottuff., 6 truppa.
Corso operai di artiglieria: arty civ course
a Scafati dal 30/11 al 9/12 - 12 sottuff. e graduati

GENIO: Field maintenance course
Corso manutenzione impianti campali:
a Capua dall'8 al 30/11 - 15 sottufficiali.
Corso collegamenti: signal course
a Nocera Inferiore dal 15/10 (termine da stabilire)
per 16 uff. - 38 sottuff.gr. - 6 truppa.
Corso addestramento armi del genio: training for engrs
a Capua dal 19 al 26/11 - 1 uff. 10 sottuff.gr.sold.
Corso lavori campali del genio: engr field labour course
a Capua dal 19 al 26/11 - 1 uff. 10 sottuff.gr.sold.

CORSI VARI:
Corso magazzinieri: storeman course
a Pontecagnano: per 7 uff. 32 sott.e grad. - 80 soldati
Una metà dal 5/11 al 25/11 - l'altra metà dal 26/11 al -
Corso automobilistico: Drivers course
a Molfetta dal 28/10 all'11/11 - 2 uff. e 50 truppa.
Corso CC.RR.: C M P course
a Ottaviano dal 22/10 al 5/11 per 3 uff. e 18 truppa
Corso Sanità: Medical course
a Benevento dal 13 al 18/11 - 1 uff. - 14 sott.gr.sold.
Corso informatori: intelligence course
a Roma: dal 15 al 30/11 - per 5 ufficiali. 1805

- in the Signal course we have included 4 men from Infantry and Arty

N.B. = Nel corso collegamenti sono comprese le aliquote di personale da trarsi dalle armi di fanteria e artiglieria.

Col. Turani

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

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

ARMY FORM C-2125

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 215

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN
	OUT

No. of Groups 1 GR

Office Date Stamp 29/10

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO SO BLU

FROM MMJA

Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
SS 255	2	

Rushed G 247	Reference Standard Reed Form	MF37 Reed 1	1 G 212 Signal	1 Nov Emp message	0 SO BLU Made

This Message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means
(Except)
( ) Wireless
Signature

This Message must be sent IN CIPHER if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands
Signature

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

Time of Origin
T.H.I. 1845 10A
T.O.R.

* Originator may delete "Except" and insert "Including." (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender

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

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions	Register No.
		OP	FILE REF	

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator — Date-Time of Origin — Origin Date Stamp

MAIA to FRIUL

For Action

TO MAIA

(W) For Information (INFO)

Originator's No. — Message Instructions — GB —

FF 27 Your unnumbered Immediate msgs of 20 Oct TOO 1025Z to 50 and 51 Div: NOT received by us. Request C 2467 of 20 Oct was NOT registered by us. Please Trace.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS (EXCEPT) WIRELESS

SIGNED

IF UNABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CLEAR

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS ORDER OF PRIORITY

Immediate

TIME: TOR 1803

Time cleared

PASS B/D30/100 M 1100/9-44

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

ARMY FORM C.2128

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 30

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups OR	Office Date Stamp
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO 50 BLU 51 BLU

FROM MMIA

Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
195	30	

Restricted	Reference	50 BLU	G 247 of	30 Oct	Matter
referred	again	to	AAI	who	considered
attachments	of	quot	importance	Orders	stand
as	in	our	SS 239	of 29 Oct	

This Message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means
* (Priority)
( ) Wireless

Signature

This Message must be sent (a) CIPHER (b liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands

Signature Major

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

IMMEDIATE

Time of Origin 30 1925 A

T.H.I. 30192

T.O.R.

* Only senior may delete "Except" and insert "Inclusive." (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender

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

FROM SO BLU
TO FIMIA

IMMEDIATE

29/10

32/38
1018
343

212.

~~C 24~~

300930

Ref yrs SS 239 of 29 Oct. General (BROWNING in conversation 28 Oct. PIDSLEY SOUTHBY stated any effort would be made to cancel or postpone this attachment till FRIULI group have moved north. Please clarify soonest.

1801
TOT 301624

✓

STATO MAGGIORE R.ESERCITO
Ufficio Addestramento

29 10

n°1424E/4/II/ADD. di prot. P.M. 151, 29 Ottobre 1944
Allegato n.1
O G G E T T O: Manuali in corso di stampa ed in corso di traduzione.

ALLA U.K.I.A. - Sottocommissione per l'Esercito -

R O M A

---=O=---

ELENCO DEI MANUALI IN CORSO DI STAMPA:

1° - Working instruction wierless sets n.19 parte 1°;
2 - Working instruction wierless sets n.18 parte 1° vol.III°;
3 - Fullerphones Mark IV - parphlet n.121-;
4 - Wireless set 18 M.R. I-II-III;
5 - Charging set 550 J.A.P.;
6 - Know your mines;
7 - Rifle;
8 - Weapon training for I;
9 - Wireless set n.19 ;
10 - Maintenance Manual for the ordinance Q.F. 25 P.R. Mark II;
11 - Maintenance Manual for the ordinance Q.F. 6 P.R. Mark II;
12 - Maintenance Manual for the ordinance Q.F. 17 P.R. Mark II.

ELENCO DEI MANUALI IN CORSO DI TRADUZIONE:

1 - Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F. 17 P.R., Mark II on carriage, 17 P.R. Mark I 1942;
2 - Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F. 25 P.R., Mark II on carriage, 25 P.R., Mark I, 1943;
3 - Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F. 6 P.R. 7-cwt Mark II an IV on carriage, 1943;
4 - Switchboards u.c. 10 Line and 6 Line;
5 - 1260 Watt Battery Changing Set;
6 - SAT Range courses;
7 - Charging set 1260 Watt;
8 - Signal training Wireless set N.9;

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

R O M A

---=0=---

ELENCO DEI MANUALI IN CORSO DI STAMPA:

1^ - Working instruction wierless sets n. 19 parte 1^;
2 - Working instruction wierless sets n. 18 parte 1^ vol. III°;
3 - Fullerphones Mark IV - parphlet n. 121-;
4 - Wireless set 18 M.R. I-II-III;
5 - Charging set 550 J.A.P.;
6 - Know your mines;
7 - Rifle;
8 - Weapon training for I;
9 - Wireless set n. 19 ;
10 - Maintenance Manual for the ordinance Q.F. 25 P.R. Mark II;
11 - Maintenance Manual for the ordinance Q.F. 6 P.R. Mark II;
12 - Maintenance Manual for the ordinance Q.F. 17 P.R. Mark II.

ELENCO DEI MANUALI IN CORSO DI TRADUZIONE:

1 - Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F. 17 P.R., Mark II on carriage, 17 P.R. Mark I 1942;
2 - Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F. 25 P.R., Mark II on carriage, 25 P.R., Mark I, 1943;
3 - Maintenance manual for the ordinance Q.F. 6 P.R. 7-cwt Mark II an IV on carriage, 1943;
4 - Switchboards u.c. 10 Line and 6 Line;
5 - 1260 Watt Battery Charging Set;
6 - SAT Range courses;
7 - Charging set 1260 Watt;
8 - Signal training Wireless set N.9;
9 - A.A. vol. IV^ F. 1° A.A. Gunner Pamphlet n. 24 Aim - off 943;

1800

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

10 - Gun Drill for 40 mm. A.A. 1942;
11 - Handbook for ordinance Q.F. 40 mm. Mark 1;
12 - Handbook for ordinance Q.F. 25 P.R. Mark II.

GENERALE ADDETTO
(Santi)

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

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

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

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

S.M.R.E. ( )io Addestramento = SPE( )IO indicante la distribuzione degli o

ENTE A CUI E

Titolo delle Pubblicazioni	S.A.R. il Luogotenente.	M.M.I.d.	R.C.	GENIO		Gruppi di Combattimento						Col. Arcelli	
				Esercito	Direz. Generale	Friuli	Cremona	Legnano	Folgore	Mantova	Piave		
Come stanno le vostre batterie.	2	101	1			200	200	200	200	200	200		
Ordametro	2	101	1										
Apparecchi telefonici F. tipo 1 e tipo	2	1	1			200	200	200	200	200	200		
Lanciabombe anticarro per Frt. n. 24	2	1	1			750	750	300	300	300	300	130	
Fucili mitragliatori N° 4	2	1	1			750	550	500	300	300	300	127	
Applicazione del fuoco N° 2	2	1	1			750	750	300	300	300	300	130	
Mortaio da 51 N° 8	2	1	1			750	750	300	300	300	300	130	
Moschetto automatico Thompson N° 21	2	1	1			750	750	300	300	300	300	129	
Ponte Bailey	2	71	1			5	40						
Mortaio da 3 pollici N° 9	2	1	1			250	250	20	20	20	20	46	
Impianto radio N° 22	2	201	1										
Impianto radio N° 19	2	1	1			5							
Mine e campi minati	2	1	1	20	30	10							
Pistola cal. 9.5. (pollici 0.38) N° 11	2	1	1			400	400	400	400	500	400		
Baionetta N° 12	2	1	1			400	400	400	400	500	400		
Bombe N° 13	2	1	1			160	160	160	160	160	160		

1724

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

[illegible]la distribuzione degli opuscoli pradot[illegible] dall'Inglese. A[illegible]to al foglio n. 1424

[illegible]TE A CUI E' STATO DISTRIBUITO

[illegible]pi di Combattimento: Cremona	Legnano	Folgore	[illegible]	Piceno	Col. Angelini	Col. Ravagli	Col. Pallavicini	Col. Tung	Cap. Alexen	Cap. Wilson	Magg. Philips	Uff. Addestr.	Col. Ferrari	Col. Secco T. Col. Bottazzino	Col. De Renzi 67°Fanteria	Col. Ferrara	Col. Carpitella	T. Col. Tramontana	T. Col. S.M. Vedovato Capo S.M. Friuli	Cap. Philigton	T. Col. Guglielmo Capo S.M. Mantova	
200	200	200	200	200			1	1	200			1	1	3	1			1	1	500		
							1	1	200			1	1	3	1			1	1	55		
00	200	200	200	200			1	1	200			1	1	3	1			1	1	125		
750	300	300	300	300	130	136	1	1	.	1		1	1	4	1		1	1	1		5	
350	500	300	300	300	127	136	1	1		1		1	1	3	1		1	1	1		5	
750	300	300	300	300	130	136	1	1		1		1	1	2	1		1	1	1		5	
750	300	300	300	300	130	136	1	1		1		1	1	3	1		1	1	1		5	
750	300	300	300	300	129	136	1	1		1		1	1	3	1		1	1	1		5	
40							1	1	200			1	1	3				1	1			
50	20	20	20	20	46	162	1	1		1		1	1	3	1			1	1		5	
							1	1	200			1	1	3	1	1		1	1			
							1	1	200			1	1	3	1		1	1	1	130		
							1	1	200		22	1	1	3	1		1	1	1			
00	400	400	500	400			1					1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1			
00	400	400	500	400			1					1	1	3			1	1	1			
60	160	160	160	160			1					1	1	3			1	1	1			

1725

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

Come stanno le vostre batterie.	2	101	1			200	200	200	200	200	200		
Ondametro	2	101	1										
Apparecchi telefonici F. tipo 1 e tipo	2	1	1			200	200	200	200	200	200		
Lanciabombe anticarro per Frt. n. 24	2	1	1			750	750	300	300	300	300	130	1
Fucili mitragliatori N° 4	2	1	1			750	550	500	300	300	300	127	1
Applicazione del fuoco N° 2	2	1	1			750	750	300	300	300	300	130	1
Mortaio da 51 N° 8	2	1	1			750	750	300	300	300	300	130	1
Moschetto automatico Thompson N° 21	2	1	1			750	750	300	300	300	300	129	1
Ponte Bailey	2	71	1			5	40						
Mortaio da 3 pollici N° 9	2	1	1			250	250	20	20	20	20	46	1
Impianto radio N° 22 W/T	2	201	1										
Impianto radio N° 19	2	1	1			5							
Mine e campi minati	2	1	1	20	30	10							
Pistola cal. 9.5. (.011.0.38) N° 11	2	1	1			400	400	400	400	500	400		
Baionetta N° 12	2	1	1			400	400	400	400	500	400		
Bombe N° 13	2	1	1			160	160	160	160	160	160		
TAVOLE DIDATTICHE													
Fucile mitragliatore "Bren"	2	1	1			100	100	100	100	100	100		
Maneggio fucile mitragliatore "Bren"	2	1	1			100	100	100	100	100	100		
Posizione per tiro contraereo fuc. mit. "Bren"	2	1	1			100	100	100	100	100	100		
Tiro da una trincea						100	100	100	100	100	100		
Sfruttamento della piega del terreno - avanzando strisciando -						100	100	100	100	100	100		
"Virino Giusto"						1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000		

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

200	200	200	200	200			1	1	200			1	1	3	1			1	1	500			
							1	1	200			1	1	3	1			1	1	55			
200	200	200	200	200			1	1	200			1	1	3	1			1	1	125			
250	300	300	300	300	130	136	1	1		1		1	1	4	1		1	1	1		5		
250	500	300	300	300	127	136	1	1		1		1	1	3	1		1	1	1		5		
250	300	300	300	300	130	136	1	1		1		1	1	2	1		1	1	1		5		
250	300	300	300	300	130	136	1	1		1		1	1	3	1		1	1	1		5		
250	300	300	300	300	129	136	1	1		1		1	1	3	1		1	1	1		5		
40							1	1	200			1	1	3				1	1				
250	20	20	20	20	46	162	1	1		1		1	1	3	1			1	1		5		
							1	1	200			1	1	3	1	1		1	1				
							1	1	200			1	1	3	1		1	1	1	130			
							1	1	200		22	1	1	3	1		1	1	1				
400	400	400	500	400			1					1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1				
400	400	400	500	400			1					1	1	3			1	1	1				
160	160	160	150	160			1					1	1	3			1	1	1				
100	100	100	100	100			1					1	1				1						
100	100	100	100	100			1					1	1				1						
100	100	100	100	100			1					1	1				1						
100	100	100	100	100			1					1	1				1						
100	100	100	100	100			1					1	1				1						
000	000	000	000	000			1					1	1				1						

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

ARMY FORM C.2128

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 193

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN
	OUT

No. of Groups GR | Office Date Stamp 29/11

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO SO BLU 1 BLU Info Ministry of War

FROM MMIA

Originator's Number ES 239 | Date 29/1530 | In Reply to Number

Confidential Q AAI priority Q Routine

from office of origin CROMER

attachment for SIGNALS

Q 2nd Army

Q Engineer Officer

Q

to May TEACHER Opo 2 Main 8 Army

Gen 55 222 of 24 Oct refers Q Source as 9 Div has not identified in England

This Message may be sent AS WRITTEN or by code (Express) (Cipher)

Signature

This Message must be sent IN CIPHER if liable to misconstruction or to fall into enemy hands

Signature

Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority

IMMEDIATE

Time of Origin 29/1515A

T.H.I. 1798

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender

Translations

29/10.

From :- SIMRE
To :- MMIH

29 Oct

Ref :- 1415 A/D/5.
Date :- 28 Oct 46.

Subject :- Aggregation of Combat Groups officers with Allied Formations.

Ref. S/G/29/10 of 18th inst

For your information, the u/m officers have been designated for aggregation with Allied Formations :-

"Friuli" Combat Group.

HQ. Combat. Group	Maj.	GIANNUZZI Nicola
Infantry Regts	"	CULTRERA Sebastiano
	Capt.	AMODEI Enrico
Art. Regt.	"	CARRARA Adolfo

The name of the officer for the Genio, to follow.

"CREMONA" Combat Group.

HQ Combat Group	Maj.	CARRILLO Vittorio.
Infantry Regts.	Capt.	ARRIVAE Ercole
	"	PUCCI Gaetano.
Art. Regt.	"	VENTURI Francesco
Genio	Ten.	SCINAIA Luigi.

Gen A. SANTI

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

"Friuli" Combat Group.

Hq. Combat. Group —— Maj. GIANNUZZI Nicola
Infantry Regts —— " CULTRERA Sebastiano
Capt. BRIODI Enrico
Art. Regt. —— " CARRARA Idalgo

The name of the officer for the Genio, to follow.

"CREMONA" Combat Group.

Hq Combat. Group — Maj. CARRILLO Vittorio.
Infantry Regts — Capt. ARRIVAC Nicola
" PUCCI Gaetan
Art. Regt. —— " VENTURI Francesco
Genio —— Ten. SCINAIA Luigi

Gen. A. SANTI

Sgt. Febe.

1797

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

264

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

nº 1415 A/D/5 P.M.151, 28 Ottobre 1944.

OGGETTO: Aggregazione di ufficiali dei Gruppi di combattimento alle Formazioni Alleate.

ALLA M. M. I. A.

Roma

(rif. S/G/29/10 del 18 corrente)

Si segnalano, per conoscenza, i nominativi degli ufficiali designati per l'aggregazione alle Formazioni Alleate:

Gruppo combattimento "Friuli":

Comando di gruppo comb.	Maggiore	GIANNUZZI	Nicolò
Reggimenti di fanteria	Maggiore	CULTRERA	Sebastiano
	Capitano	AMODEI	Enrico
Reggimento di artiglier.	Capitano	CARRARA	Ialgo.

Riserva di segnalare il nominativo dell'ufficiale del genio.

Gruppo combattimento "Cremona":

Comando di gruppo comb.	Maggiore	CARRILLO	Vittorio
Reggimenti di fanteria:	Capitano	ARRIVAS	Ercole
	Capitano	PUCCI	Gastone
Reggimento di artiglier.	Capitano	VENTURI	Francesco
Reparti del genio:	Tenente	SCINAIA	Luigi.

1796

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

alle Formazioni Alleate.

ALLA M. M. I. A.

Roma

(rif. S/G/29/10 del 16 corrente)

Si segnalano, per conoscenza, i nominativi degli ufficiali designati per l'aggregazione alle Formazioni Alleate:

Gruppo combattimento "Friuli":

Comando di gruppo comb.	Maggiore	GIANNUZZI	Nicolò
Reggimenti di fanteria	Maggiore	CULTRERA	Sebastiano
	Capitano	AMODEI	Enrico
Reggimento di artiglier.	Capitano	CARRARA	Iacopo.

Riserva di segnalare il nominativo dell'ufficiale del genio.

Gruppo combattimento "Cremona":

Comando di gruppo comb.	Maggiore	CARRILLO	Vittorio
Reggimenti di fanteria:	Capitano	ARRIVAC	Ercole
	Capitano	FUCCI	Gastone
Reggimento di artiglier.	Capitano	VENTURI	Francesco
Reparti del genio:	Tenente	SCINAIA	Luigi.

1796

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(A. Santi)

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

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

CIPHER SECTION 262 4/27

NAVY FORM O 2176 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No.

	Sri. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator	Date-Time of Origin
For Action	
TO (W) For Information (INFO)	

OPNAV DATE STAMP. FILE REF Date Recd

Message Instructions | GR —

Originator's No.

Office will be closed 4 days Nov 5 thru Nov 8

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT BY ANY MEANS	EXCEPT WIRELESS	IF CLASSIFIED TO BE INTERCEPTED FOR THE DESIGNATED INSTITUTIONS FALLS INTO ENEMY HANDS THIS MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER	DEGREE OF PRIORITY
SIGNED		SIGNED	

Time	Person	Op
THI or TOR		
Time cleared	1795	

1733

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

Subject : IS UE OF "B" VEHICLES

263

52 Brit. Liaison Unit
CMF.

25 Oct 44

Q/7/6

HQ MMIA
ROME

232

Ref your S/G/29/10 undated.

1. It would appear that the vehicles referred to in AFHQ letter AFHQ/6510/3/1/Q (AE) of 16 Oct were released to 50 or 51 BLU or both.

2. No such vehicles have been released to 52 BLU as no training Increment is attached to this unit.

3. It is suggested your letter should be addressed to 50 BLU instead of 52 BLU.

Major
DAA&QMG

RWG/AA.

1794

11734

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

Subject :- Iss "B" Vehs

S/G/20/10 261

51 British Liaison Unit

Q 2/1

To :- M.M.I.A.

AFHQ (Q(AE))
B Trg Increment
D.A.D.O.S.

232. B/Secy Q 27/10

Ref your S/G/20/10 dated 22 Oct.

1. This HQ is shortly drawing the four M/Cs released under AFHQ Q(AE) 3598. These will be issued to B Trg Increment.

2. These vehs will be shown on the Monthly Census of War Office Controlled Stores prepared by this unit.

Field
24 Oct 44
RWH/WWH

H.O. Hall

Major,
DAA & QMG.

1735

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

FROM: MMIA

TO : 50 BLU, 51 BLU, 64 GARRISON for
62 BLU, 53 BLU, 54 BLU, 55 BLU

28 A

SS 236

SECRET

Reference 50 BLU A 175 of 24 Oct to MMIA only (.) PAREN HOME AREA _____ PAREN (.) 5% reinforcements training with group will be returned to reinforcement regiment when groups move forward (.) Copies of MMIA S/G/29/10 of 11 Sep to Ministry of War which refers are going sent to all BLU's (.) This instruction was sent to Group under SMRE's 1100 ADD/RD of 11 October

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

1793

WL 9533/63727P 400M (Pads of 100) 5/43 MP 210(23-51) 6736

ARMY FORM C 2135 (Large) MESSAGE FORM

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions	Register No.

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM (A) 51 Div

Originator

Date-Time of Origin. 26/1500A

Office Date Stamp

For Action.

MMIA

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions. GR

237

Originator's No. A2/4 CONFIDENTIAL

Your SS 222 & 224 ⊙

Names of officers concerned are as follows ⊙

Major CARRILLO VITTORIO Dep H.Q. OPS ⊙
Capt. ARENAS ERCOLE 21 Inf. Regt ⊙
Capt. PUCCI GASTONE 22 Inf. Regt. ⊙
Capt. VENTURI FRANCESCO Arty ⊙
Lieut. SCHINAIA LUIGI Engineers ⊙

Names already forwarded SMRE by Div ⊙ Will apl will be able to report 8th Army 3rd Nov ⊙ Request you inform us where and to which office at 8th Army these officers should report ⊙

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

A2/a CONFIDENTIAL

Your SS 222 of 24th ⊙

Names of officers concerned are as follows ⊙

Major CARRILLO VITTORIO Dep HQ. OPS ⊙
Capt. ARRIVAS ERCOLE 21 Inf. Regt ⊙
Capt. PUCCI GASTONE 22 Inf. Regt. ⊙
Capt. VENTURI FRANCESCO Arty ⊙
Lieut. SCHINAIA LUIGI Engineers ⊙

Names already forwarded SMRE by Div ⊙ Will Sqt will be able to report 8th Army 3rd Nov ⊙ Request you inform us where and to which officer at 8th Army these officers should report ⊙ They will be leaving here 8192 Oct on 1st Nov

Ref Hand & Maxwell AAI 27 Oct

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except ✓ WIRELESS.	If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER.	Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority.	Time	System	Op.
Signed.	Signed.	IMMEDIATE	THI or YOR 9 June M		
			Time Cleared		

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785080

Subject :- [illegible]

52 British [illegible] Unit

G 5/6

739.

S/Sec
24/10 29/10.

To :- D.M.T.

55 B.L.U.
HQ M.M.I.A.
D.A.D.O.S.

Ref your DMT/184/MT 2 of 16 Oct please note that it is not possible for this unit to hand over the full list of stores as listed to 55 B.L.U. I enumerate below the vehs and stores it is NOT possible to hand over with an explanation in the case of each item.

A Vehs

Motor Cycles	30	The Gruppo is in possession of only 26 M/Cs, 6 have been drawn out of a total of 369
Lorries 3 Ton 4 x 2 G.S.	8	The Gruppo have only drawn 70 of the 296 allowed on G 1098. All are urgently required to draw stores.
Tractors L.A.A.	3	None drawn as yet
Carriers Universal	18	These are the only Carriers the Gruppo hold. No release of G 1098 yet.
Carriers Tracked Towing	12	
15 Cwt Water G.S.	1	Not in possession
Lorries 3 Ton 4/Wr	2	Gruppo has drawn no portees yet.

B Equipment

Directors No.7	3	The Gruppo is only in possession of 4 of its G 1098 directors.
Binoculars No,2	50	Out of 395 the Gruppo is in possession of only 100
2" Mortar	15	These are the only Mortars in possession of the Gruppo. NO releases of these weapons have been made as yet.
3" Mortar	9	

55 B.L.U. can arrange to collect the balance at their convenience.

I presume I shall have your approval in retaining the items listed above. It is obviously futile to strip this Gruppo of Eqt we have to give to another unit when we are in theres of try. In case of those [illegible]

1791

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

Lorries 5 Ton 4 x 2 G.S.	8	The Gruppe have only drawn 73 of the 295 allowed on G 1098. All are urgently required to draw stores.
Tractors L.A.A.	3	None drawn as yet
Carriers Universal	16	These are the only Carriers the Gruppe hold. No release of G 1098 yet.
Carriers Tracked Towing	12	
15 Cwt Water G.S.	1	Not in possession
Lorries 3 Ton 4/T:	2	Gruppe has drawn no portees yet.

D Equipment

Directors No.7	3	The Gruppe is only in possession of 4 of its G 1098 directors.
Binoculars No.2	50	Out of 295 the Gruppe is in possession of only 100
2" Morter	15	These are the only Morters in possession of the Gruppe. NO releases of these weapons have been made as yet.
3" Morter	9	

55 B.L.U. can arrange to collect the balance at their convenience.

I presume I shall have your approval in retaining the items listed above. It is obviously futile to strip this Gruppe of Eqt required to give to another unit when we are in threes of eqt. In case of those units where this Gruppe has only a few of the G 1098 Scale it appears to be equally futile to hamstring eqt which is proceeding on a reasonably adequate scale here to enable a limited start to be made by another Gruppe.

1731

W. N. Hellcat

Lieut Colonel,
General Staff.

Field
22 Oct 41
Brig/MM

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

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

ARMY FORM (2136 (Small))

MESSAGE FORM

Register No. 1/126

Call	Sel. No.	Precedence	Time of Origin
		OP	

Transmission Instructions

CIPHER SECRET

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: 5G BLN — Date-Time of Origin: 23-1910

For Action

TO MMA

(W) For Information (INFO)

Office Date Stamp: 312

Message Instructions — CR

Originator's No. X174

Letter recd from SMRE UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO Ref 126 D/S of 19 Oct added FRIULI DIV ordering that 5 offrs incl one regt offr should be sent to 8th Army for briefing for 5 days. NO regt offrs can be spared at this period. Platoon officers out with regts doing essential trg. Will request earliest cancellation of this order by SMRE

GPO: W 45-14 (1000 Pads 1 ad Bks Ltd 31734) C

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS { EXCEPT / WIRELESS }

SIGNED

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS Degree of Priority: Immediate

Time	System	Op
THIS TOR 1700 Time cleared		

1741

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

237

SIGNAL FORM

29/10/1

From : HQ IA

Date - Time

To : 50 MIU
51 SIU

24 17/10 A

SS 222

CONFIDENTIAL

REF: 1261/3/5 of 19th Oct requests names of 5 officers each Group for fortnights attachment under AAI arrangements to 3 Army to gain operational experience (.) Signal HQ IA if officers selected can be ready to report 3 Army 3 November cms also their names rank and arms of service (.) For 50 MIU (.) Reference X 174 of 23 Oct (.) Signals Officer should go if you can spare him (.) If you consider training in Group more valuable send officer from Sigs/Engineers Bn HQ

Precedence IMPORTANT

Authenticating Officer

SUBJECT Formation of Units - Trg.

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
CR/1160/G.1(BR)(Ser. 0902)
21 Oct 44.

'D' TRAINING INCREMENT (INFANTRY) TO BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (FOR GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTI).

1. (a) The above mentioned Increment will be formed on W.E. NA/542/1 with effect from 12 Oct 44 under the supervision of HQ No.3 District.
(b) Copies of the new W.E. will be distributed automatically by HQ No.3 District. Additional copies, if required, may be obtained from No.10 Publications Depot. Indents should state that these copies are in addition to those received from HQ No.3 District.
(c) The above alphabetical designation will be used pending the allotment of a Unit number by the War Office.
(d) Serial No. 11932 has been allotted to this Unit.

2. PERSONNEL
Postings will be effected as follows:-
(a) Officers. (i) Staff Officers by Dep. Mil. Sec., AFHQ. } in conjunction with DMT, AFHQ.
(ii) Others by G.1.(B), AFHQ. }
(b) Italian Other Ranks will be provided under arrangements to be made by No.33 Military Mission.

3. CLOTHING, EQUIPMENT & TRANSPORT
Indents for the following will be submitted in accordance with instructions to be issued by HQ No.3 District:-
(a) Replacements of clothing, necessaries and personal equipment to scale.
(b) Unit equipment to scale AF G1098-1000 (less anti-gas stores).
(c) Any other special or technical equipment of Ordnance supply, required additional to A.F. G1098 scale, in accordance with Special Equipment List issued by C(A.E.), AFHQ.
(d) Transport to complete to W.E.

4. STATIONERY
Increment will submit demands based on two months' estimated requirements as indicated below.-
(a) Army Forms, Books and Stationery (Indent form AF L1393) to No.21 Stationery Depot.
(b) Publications (Indent form AF L1394) to No.10 Publications Depot, (Indents to be endorsed "Initial Demand").
(c) Office Machinery (Indent form AF L1392) to ADSS, AFHQ.

5. PAY
Increment will be paid by the formation to which attached.

6. POSTAL
Postal [illegible]

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

2. PERSONNEL

Postings will be effected as follows:-

(a) Officers. (i) Staff Officers by Dep. Mil. Sec., AFHQ. } in conjunction with DMT, AFHQ.
(ii) Others by G.1.(B), AFHQ. }

(b) Italian Other Ranks will be provided under arrangements to be made by No.33 Military Mission.

3. CLOTHING, EQUIPMENT & TRANSPORT

Indents for the following will be submitted in accordance with instructions to be issued by HQ No.3 District:-

(a) Replacements of clothing, necessaries and personal equipment to scale.

(b) Unit equipment to scale AF G1098-1000 (less anti-gas stores).

(c) Any other special or technical equipment of Ordnance supply, required additional to A.F. G1098 scale, in accordance with Special Equipment List issued by D(A.E.), AFHQ.

(d) Transport to complete to W.E.

4. STATIONERY

Increment will submit demands based on two months' estimated requirements as indicated below:-

(a) Army Forms, Books and Stationery (Indent form AF L1393) to No.21 Stationery Depot.

(b) Publications (Indent form AF L1394) to No.10 Publications Depot, (Indents to be endorsed "Initial Demand").

(c) Office Machinery (Indent form AF L1392) to ADPSS, AFHQ.

5. PAY

Increment will be paid by the formation to which attached.

6. POSTAL

Postal address will be:- 'D' Trg Increment (Inf) to British Liaison Unit, CMF.

7. COMPLETION

(a) HQ No.3 District will report to G.1.(B)A.1. Section, AFHQ, copy to DMT, AFHQ, when formation is complete.

(b) If deficiencies of personnel still exist on 11 Nov 44, a statement will be rendered showing such deficiencies by ranks and trades.

8. ACK

[illegible] Colonel
General,
Supreme Allied Commander,
Mediterranean Theatre.

...../DISTRIBUTION

(+ 7/NIL)

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

DISTRIBUTION:-

The Under Secretary of State, The War Office, (S.D.2.)	4	
HQ, AAI	15	
Br. Increment Fifth (US) Army		
HQ Eighth Army	3	
HQ No.1 District	3	
HQ No.2 District	3	
HQ No.3 District	9 *	
GHQ 2nd Echelon	4	
GHQ 2nd Echelon (STATS)	.	
51 B.L.U.		
2 B.L.U.		
3 B.L.U.		
4 B.L.U.		
33 Military Mission	3	
Reinforcements, CMF	3	
No. 9 Publications Depot, RASC		
No.10 Publications Depot, RASC		
No.8 Command Pay Office		
No.21 Stationery Depot		
Signalmaster, C.M.F.R..		

	Dep. Mil. Sec.	
	G.1.(B)..9.	
	G.1.(B)..10.	
+++	G.3(Org.2)(Manpower)	(2)
	G.3(Org.2)(ORBAT)	
	G.3(Trg)	(3)
	G.(Maint)	
	G.(A.E.)	(3)
	S.T.	
	D.M.T.	
	Ord.(Br.)	
	R.E.M.E.	
	P.A.	
	D.P.I.C.	
	A.D.P.S.S.	
	D.D.A.P.S.	
	War Diary	(2)
	File CR/1142/G.1(BR)	

* Incl copy for new unit and distribution as necessary.

+++ WSD/134 of 15 Oct 44 refers.

(+ 7/NIL)

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

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

224

SUBJECT:- Formation of Units - Trg.

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
CR/1160/3.1(BR)(Ser. 0902)
21 Oct 44.

'D' TRAINING INCREMENT (INFANTRY) TO BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
(FOR GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO).

1. (a) The above mentioned Increment will be formed on W.E. Na/542/1 with effect from 12 Oct 44 under the supervision of HQ No.3 District.
(b) Copies of the new W.E. will be distributed automatically by HQ No.3 District. Additional copies, if required, may be obtained from No.10 Publications Depot. Indents should state that these copies are in addition to those received from HQ No.3 District.
(c) The above alphabetical designation will be used pending the allotment of a Unit number by the War Office.
(d) Serial No. 11932 has been allotted to this Unit.

2. PERSONNEL
Postings will be effected as follows:-
(a) Officers. (i) Staff Officers by Dep. Mil. Sec., AFHQ. } in conjunction with DMT, AFHQ.
(ii) Others by G.1.(B), AFHQ. } in conjunction with DMT, AFHQ.
(b) Italian Other Ranks will be provided under arrangements to be made by No.33 Military Mission.

3. CLOTHING, EQUIPMENT & TRANSPORT
Indents for the following will be submitted in accordance with instructions to be issued by HQ No.3 District:-
(a) Replacements of clothing, necessaries and personal equipment to scale.
(b) Unit equipment to scale AF G1098-1000 (less anti-gas stores).
(c) Any other special or technical equipment of Ordnance supply, required additional to A.F. G1098 scale, in accordance with Special Equipment List issued by Q(A.F.), AFHQ.
(d) Transport to complete to W.E.

4. STATIONERY
Increment will submit demands based on two months' estimated requirements as indicated below.-
(a) Army Forms, Books and Stationery (Indent form AF L1393) to No.21 Stationery Depot.
(b) Publications (Indent form AF L1394) to No.10 Publications Depot, (Indents to be endorsed "Initial Demand").
(c) Office Machinery (Indent form AF L1392) to AFSS, AFHQ.

5. PAY
Increment will be paid by the formation to which attached.

1787

a Unit number by the War Office.
(d) Serial No. 11932 has been allotted to this Unit.

2. PERSONNEL

Postings will be effected as follows:-

(a) Officers: (i) Staff Officers by Dep. Mil. Sec., AFHQ. } in conjunction with DMT, AFHQ.
(ii) Others by G.1.(B), AFHQ } in conjunction with DMT, AFHQ.

(b) Italian Other Ranks will be provided under arrangements to be made by No.33 Military Mission.

3. CLOTHING, EQUIPMENT & TRANSPORT

Indents for the following will be submitted in accordance with instructions to be issued by HQ No.3 District:-

(a) Replacements of clothing, necessaries and personal equipment to scale.

(b) Unit equipment to scale AF G1098-1000 (less anti-gas stores).

(c) Any other special or technical equipment of Ordnance supply, required additional to A.F. G1098 scale, in accordance with Special Equipment List issued by G(A.E.), AFHQ.

(d) Transport to complete to W.E.

4. STATIONERY

Increment will submit demands based on two months' estimated requirements as indicated below.-

(a) Army Forms, Books and Stationery (Indent form AF L1393) to No.21 Stationery Depot.

(b) Publications (Indent form AF L1394) to No.10 Publications Depot, (Indents to be endorsed "Initial Demand").

(c) Office Machinery (Indent form AF L1392) to AFSS, AFHQ.

5. PAY

Increment will be paid by the formation to which attached.

1787

6. POSTAL

Postal address will be:- 'D' Trg Increment (Inf) to British Liaison Unit, CMF.

7. COMPLETION

(a) HQ No.3 District will report to G.1.(B)1. Section, AFHQ, copy to DMT, AFHQ, when formation is complete.

(b) If deficiencies of personnel still exist on 11 Nov 44, a statement will be rendered showing such deficiencies by ranks and trades.

8. ACK

[signature]
General,
Supreme Allied Commander,
Mediterranean Theatre.

[signature]
Lt Colonel

...../DISTRIBUTION:

(+ 7/NIL)

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

DISTRIBUTION.-

The Under Secretary of State, The War Office, (S.D.2.)	4	
HQ A.A.I	15	
Br. Increment Fifth (US) Army		
HQ Eighth Army		
HQ No.1 District		
HQ No.2 District		
HQ No.3 District		
GHQ 2nd Echelon		
GHQ 2nd Echelon (SHAEF)		
51 B.L.U.		
2 B.L.U.		
3 B.L.U.		
4 B.L.U.		
33 Military Mission		
Reinforcements, CMF	3	
No. 9 Publications Depot, RASC		
No.10 Publications Depot, RASC		
No.8 Command Pay Office		
No.21 Stationery Depot		
Signalmaster, CAIRO.		

	Dep. Mil. Sec.	
	G.1.(E)A.9.	
	G.1.(E)A.10.	
+++	G.3(Org.2)(Manpower)	(2)
	G.3(Org.2)(ORBAT)	
	G.3(Trg)	(3)
	G.(Maint)	
	G.(A.E.)	(3)
	S.T.	
	D.M.T.	
	Ord.(Br.)	
	R.E.M.E.	
	E.A.	
	D.P.I.C.	
	A.D.P.S.S.	
	D.D.A.P.S.	
	War Diary	
	File GR/1142/G.1(BR)	(2)

* Incl copy for new unit and distribution as necessary.

+++ WSD/134 of 15 Oct 44 refers.

(+ 7/WIL)

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

1748

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

232

SUBJECT: Issue of "B" Vehicles

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
File No. 5/C/29/10
12 Oct 44

TO : 51 52 Mlls

Copy to: AFHQ (Q(AE))

1. Copy of AFHQ/6510/5/1/Q(AE) dated 15 October 1944 is enclosed herewith.

2. Would you please investigate and confirm as requested in para 2.

3. Copy of Q(AE) 3598 was not received in this HQ.

Major General
M. M. I. A.

1786

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

231

SUBJECT: Snipers' Rifles.

MILITARY MISSION
ITALIAN ARMY
ROME
S/S/29/10/1
Ord 44

To : 51 B.L.U.

Copy to: 50 B.L.U., 52 B.L.U., 53 B.L.U.

Reference your G7/8 dated 18th October 1944 the following information is forwarded :-

a) AFHQ have agreed to the release, subject to availability, of 24 Rifles "T" to each Gruppo di Combattimento.

b) 4 Rifles "T" have been released to Friuli Group under 2(AE)28/5 dated 17/10/44, and 3 will be released to Cremona Group shortly.

c) This exhausts present stocks of these rifles and there is no immediate prospect of fresh supplies. In fact, replacements for British Divisions are not immediately expected from U.K.

d) Full scale allocation of these weapons cannot therefore be expected for a while, but releases up to unit Entitlements will be made as and when stocks permit.

Major General

A 1785

11750

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

230.

SUBJECT: Publications.

MILITARY MISSION
ITALIAN ARMY
ROME
S/G/29/10
23 Oct 44

To : No 10 Publication Depot.

Please forward the following publication (6 copies each) required by this H.Q. in connection with the training of Italian Combat Groups.

Small Arms Training Vol V

Textbook of Small Arms

Handbook for Ordnance, M L 3 inch
3" Mortar Mark II 1937

Infantry Training Part IV - The Mortar Platoon

Major General
M M I A

(Request by 2nd Lt F A ERBER, SMRE
for two copies of each refers)

1784

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

CIPHER SECTION

M A. Stsec
FILE REF a 110
Date Recd 22/10

226

ARMY FORM C 2186 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No. 26/228

Call	Stl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNAL'S USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: 51 BLU — Date Time of Origin: 22 0940H

TO: For Action: MMIA — For Information (INFO): Yensan Ltd/Lond. Did not [illegible] any [illegible]

Message Instructions | GR —

— OFFICE DATE STAMP. — Received

Originator's No. C 513

Ref Conversation Command CHEMEN Col P. BLEY(S) Supply training to Thailand and Burma to follow up by talks & papers & that progress be brought to head on 3 MAR in Calcutta at next Japan-Thai talks Jackson

THE MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS (EXCEPT WIRELESS)

IF CAPABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED BY THE ENEMY CANCEL THIS REF. ORDERS OF PRIORITY

WIRELESS BACK MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

Signed

Signed [illegible] Bright

INTERNAL

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR 2340/A		1783
Time cleared		

11752

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

Subject : Training cles. 50 itish Liaison Unit.

Ref. Q/2/16.

Directorate of Military Training.

M.M.I.A. FILE REF 8/Sec 391/10 Date Rec'd 19/10/

17 Oct. 44.

Attached are B.L.R. certificates for the following vehicles released for the training of First Italian Group :-

Lorry 3 Ton 4 x 2 Water.	Dodge.	W.D. No. 5686045.
Tractor L.A.A. 4 x 4 30 Cwt.	Ford.	" " H 4976061.
Lorry 3 Ton 4 x 2 G.S.	Commer.	" " L 622173.
" " " "	Bedford.	" " L 238967.
" " " "	"	" " L 4883318.
Motor Cycle, Solo.	Triumph.	" " C 4852975.
" " "	"	" " C 4853009.
" " "	"	" " C 889966.
" " "	Ariel.	" " C 5169618.
" " "		" " C 4814800.
" " "	B.S.A.	" " C 4701928.

It is suggested that, as and when replacement vehicles are issued, they will be made available to 52 B.L.U. for No. 3 1 C.G..

Maj. RTR.
D.A.A. & Q.M.G.

C.M.F.
FRCV/LGB.

Copy to : M.M.I.A.
52 B.L.U.
H.Q. No. 1 C.G.
O rd.

1945

1782

✓

1753

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

210

Subject:- Issue of 'B' Vehicles.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

TEL NO. FREEDOM 518

AFH/6510/3/1/2(AE)

16 OCT. 44.

17/10 19/10.

M.M.I.A.

1. Under authority 2(AE) 3598, AFHQ, 6 Motor Cycles Solo were issued to "Italian Trng Est" by 36 Veh Coy.

2. It is presumed that these are for the 'A' & 'B' Trng Increments for BLU on MA/5/2/1. Will you please confirm if this is so, and that the vehicles will be reported in the usual monthly census returns by the units concerned.

R. L. Mitchell

R.L. MICHELSON. Lt. Col.
for Major General. G-4. (B)

EMS/JPR

Maj HeadQ 18/10

1781

5-85.

1750

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

From: Sec Def
To: CINCPAC
Info: CINCSWPA
Ref: JCS 1 & 2/D
Date: Oct 13, 1944

Subject: Training of personnel of reinforcement & replacement for combat troops.

Ref: C/S to JCS dated Sept 11, 1944.

For the training requirements of the reinforcement & replacement for combat troops, we have JCS 1 & 2/D to assign, in the amount indicated below, necessary infantry and artillery weapons and ammo. Engineer materials (including explosives) and to apply for each of the means of transport in use at the combat troops.

Opl. (2C). (Gen Staff)

1780

Rec'd. Will file?
Put in training file. Jan 15/10

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

nº1097 prot.R/D ADD. R.M.151, 13 ottobre 1944.

OGGETTO: Addestramento personale del raggimento complementi per gruppi di combattimento.

ALLA M.M.I.A.
Sottocommissione per l'Esercito
R O M A

(rif.G/6/29/IC dell'11 settembre 1944)

Per le necessità addestrative del reggimento complementi per gruppi di combattimento, prego codesta M.M.I.A. perchè voglia compiacersi assegnare, nella misura che riterrà indispensabile, armi e munizioni di fanteria e artiglieria, mezzi del genio (collegamenti e artieri) e un esemplare per ciascuno dei mezzi di trasporto in uso presso i gruppi di combattimento.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(A. Santi)

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

per gruppi di combattimento.

Training of personnel of supplementary units for combat groups

ALLA M.M.I.A.
Sottocommissione per l'Esercito
ROMA

(rif.G/6/29/IO dell'11 settembre 1944)

Per le necessità addestrative del reggimento complementi per gruppi di combattimento, prego codesta M.M.I.A. perchè voglia compiacersi assegnare, nella misura che riterrà indispensabile, armi e munizioni di fanteria e artiglieria, mezzi del genio (collegamenti e artieri) e un esemplare per ciascuno dei mezzi di trasporto in uso presso i gruppi di combattimento.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(A. Santi).

1779

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

1757

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

ACC

10000 1120 1067
(2072 folders)

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

10000/120/1067
(2 of 2 folders)

SG/29/10A

Training-General 1st revision

Sept. 1944 - Jan. 1945

R 17/10

201

SUBJECT:- Training - Italian Combat Gps.

SECRET

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY.

Phone : PILSOT 75.

2004/39/G(Trg).

14 Oct, 44.

8/Sec
29/10.
17 10

Eighth Army.
AMMA.

Copy to: MAT. (3)
MA to OCS.
G(SD4).
RA.
RE.
K.
HQ Inf.

Reference conversations PIDSLEY - McQUEEN and THATCHER - GOLDBERG.

1. It is considered that great value would be obtained from attaching officers from Italian Combat Gps to units engaged in operations.

2. It is suggested that the following should be attached :

2	2 Staff Officers	(one to a Bde and one to a Div HQ).
4	4 Infantrymen	(to Inf Bns).
2	2 Artillerymen	(to Regts RA).
2	1 Engineer	(to Fd Coy).
	1 Signalman	(to Div Sigs).

3. Eighth Army are requested :

(a) To confirm that they are willing to accept these officers for about fourteen days commencing not before 25 Oct 44.

(b) To state to which units or formations officers should report.

4. AMMA are requested :

(a) To earmark officers for these attachments.

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

RA.
TE.
X.
NZ Inf.

Reference conversations PIDSLEY - McQUEEN and TEACHER - GOEBBELS.

1. It is considered that great value would be obtained from attaching officers from Italian Combat Gps to units engaged in operations.

2. It is suggested that the following should be attached :

2 Staff Officers	(one to a Bde and one to a Div HQ).
4 Infantrymen	(to Inf Bns).
2 Artillerymen	(to Regts RA).
1 Engineer	(to Fd Coy).
1 Signalmen	(to Div Sigs).

3. Eighth Army are requested :

(a) To confirm that they are willing to accept these officers for about fourteen days commencing not before 25 Oct 44.

(b) To state to which units or formations officers should report.

4. MMLA are requested :

(a) To earmark officers for those attachments.

(b) To forward details of names, ranks and arms of the service.

5. Officers should if possible have some knowledge of English.

6. Officers for attachment must be self-contained in transport and bedding. 1778

Lieutenant-General,
Chief of General Staff.

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

11762

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

- 5% will be trained at the respective combat groups: they will return to the reinforcement regiment when the single groups enter the line;
- 5% or 6 will be trained by the reinforcement regiment for combat groups.

I have spirit two different phases for the training of each reinforcement consequent to the different environments in which the men must carry out their training, and that is to say:

a) - Training of 5% at the combat groups.

It must be completed following the same regulations prescribed by the S.M.T. Maggiore for all the units (formation of instructors at the units, individual and unit training, specialized training, firing practice).

The training might be conducted inserting the reinforcements into the units and carrying out the same programs foreseen for all. It is necessary, however, to train a large quantity of officers, NCO's and ~~graduates~~ Caporali as instructors, bearing in mind that,

(P.T.O.)

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

when the are sent to the reinforcement regiment they must be employed to train the personnel mentioned in paragraph B).

The combat groups Hqr. will organize the work in such a way that when they enter the line officers, NCO's and Junior NCO's Instructors will be included in the prescribed manner (6 % of the war establishment) among the reinforcement to be left at the reinforcement regiment.

b) Training of 5 % at reinforcement regiment

+ the regiment must make use of:

- the officers, NCO's and Junior NCO instructors who will be left by the combat troops when they enter the line. With said men, appropriate training should be carried out for the formation of new instructors. In the eventuality that reinforcements should arrive at the regiment untrained before the instructors mentioned above have arrived, please report the minimum requirement to the SHAPE which will be sent.

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

at the reinforcement regiment.

b) Training of 1st To at reinforcement regiment

+ the regiment must make use of:

— the officer, NCO's and Junior NCO instructors who will be left by the combat groups when they enter the line. With said men, appropriate training should be carried out for the formation of new instructors. In the eventuality that reinforcements should arrive at the regiment unformed before the instructors mentioned above have arrived, please report the minimum requirement to the SMRE which will be sent.

— training material which will be assigned by TWI & A from which they have been requested.

+ the training activities must be directed:

— to the duties knowledge of materials in issue (weapons, ammunition, packs and motor transport, communication materials, bridge and mine, wire materials

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

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

1776

In the training special care should be taken in.

- Individual training

knowledge of weapons and material -
their technical employment - fire discipline
care of the weapon in assignment -
field craft - estimation of distances
orientation - fire grouping - use of
cover - knowledge of night movements
camouflage - concealment from
aircraft

Firing practice (including firing while
moving at close distance with the Bren gun
and with the Thompson.
Anti-tank fire.

1776

- Specialized training

Duties of tractors, towing, tracked vehicle
motorcycle, tank crewmen and telephone operators
Trainspotting
Knowledge material; antipersonnel and anti tank mines

- Training of units

Concentrate all the activities in the training
to the infantry squad (of various types)
and to of artillery piece.

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

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

Traslate

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO
Ufficio Addestramento
- - - - - - - - -

n° 1100 prot ADD./RD. P.M.151, 11 Ottobre 1944

OGGETTO: Addestramento complementi.

AL COMANDO MILITARE DELLA CAMPANIA	P.M. 100
AL COMANDO MILITARE PUGLIE E LUCANIA	P.M. 67
AL COMANDO MILITARE DELLA CALABRIA	P.M. 111
AL COMANDO GR. COMB. FRIULI	P.M. 70
AL COMANDO GR. COMB. CREMONA	P.M. 61
AL COMANDO GR. COMB. LEGNANO	P.M. 155
AL COMANDO GR. COMB. FOLGORE	P.M. 11
AL COMANDO GR. COMB. MANTOVA	P.M. 104
AL COMANDO GR. COMB. PICENO	P.M. 02
AL COMANDO REGG. COMPLEM. PER GR. COMB.	D'ALIET

e, per conoscenza:

ALLA M.M.I.A.	
- Sottocommissione per l'Esercito	R O M A
ALLO STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO	
- Ufficio Ordinamento e Mobilitazione	S E D E
- Ufficio Operazioni	S E D E
- Ufficio Servizi	S E D E

o

o o

I gruppi di combattimento disporranno, per le loro necessità organiche, di complementi dei vari gradi commisurati al 10% della forza.

Di tale percentuale:

- il 5% sarà addestrato presso i rispettivi gruppi di combattimento; rientreranno al reggimento complementi quando i singoli gruppi entreranno in linea;
- il 5% sarà addestrato dal reggimento complementi per gruppi di combattimento.

Ne conseguono due diversi criteri per l'addestramento di tali complementi, conseguenti al diverso ambiente in cui i militari dovranno esplicare la loro preparazione addestrativa, e precisamente:

1775

a) - Addestramento aliquoto 5% presso i gruppi di comb:

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

AL COMANDO GR. COMB. MANTOVA — P.M. 104
AL COMANDO GR. COMB. PICENO — P.M. 93
AL COMANDO REGG. COMPLEM. PER GR. COMB. — D'ALI[illegible]
e, per conoscenza:
ALLA M.M.I.A.
- Sottocommissione per l'Esercito — R O M A
ALLO STATO MAGGIORE E. ESERCITO
- Ufficio Ordinamento e Mobilitazione — S E D E
- Ufficio Operazioni — S E D E
- Ufficio Servizi — S E D E

c
o c

I gruppi di combattimento disporranno, per le loro necessità ordinarie, di complementi dei vari gradi commisurati al 10% della forza.

Di tale percentuale:
- il 5% sarà addestrato presso i rispettivi gruppi di combattimento; rientreranno al reggimento complementi quando i singoli gruppi entreranno in linea;
- il 5% sarà addestrato dal reggimento complementi per gruppi di combattimento.

Ne conseguono due diversi criteri per l'addestramento di tali complementi, conseguenti al diverso ambiente in cui i militari dovranno esplicare la loro preparazione addestrativa, e precisamente: 1775

a) - Addestramento aliquota 5% presso i gruppi di comb:
dovrà essere compiuto seguendo le stesse norme prescritte da questo S.M. per tutte le unità (formazione di istruttori presso i reparti, addestramento individuale e di reparto, addestramento specializzati, esecuzione dei tiri).

Questo addestramento deve essere condotto immettendo i complementi nei reparti e svolgendo i medesimi programmi previsti per tutti. Occorrerà però addestrare una forte aliquota di ufficiali, sottufficiali e graduati alle mansioni di istruttori, tenuto conto che, all'atto del loro avviamento al reggimento complementi, dovranno essere impiegati per addestrare il personale di cui al paragrafo b).

I comandi gruppi di combattimento debbono orientarsi fin d'ora a predisporre il lavoro in modo che, all'atto della loro entrata in linea, tra i complementi da lasciare al reggimento complementi siano compresi ufficiali, sottufficiali e graduati istruttori nella misura prescritta dall'aliquota stessa (5% degli organici).

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

b) - <u>Addestramento aliquota 5% presso il reggimento complementi</u>

Il reggimento dovrà avvalersi:
- degli ufficiali, sottufficiali e graduati istruttori che gli saranno lasciati dai gruppi di combattimento all'atto della loro entrata in linea. Con tale aliquota si dovranno svolgere apposite istruzioni per la formazione di nuovi istruttori. Nelle eventualità che complementi giungessero al reggimento non istruiti, prima che siano giunti gli istruttori di cui sopra, prego segnalarne il fabbisogno minimo a questo S.M. che provvederà per l'avviamento;
- dei materiali per addestramento che verranno assegnati dalla M.M.I.A. cui sono stati richiesti.

L'attività addestrativa deve essere indirizzata:
- alla conoscenza dei materiali in distribuzione (armi, munizioni, mezzi di traino e di trasporto, mezzi di collegamento, ponti e mine, materiali dei servizi);
- alle istruzioni concernenti tutte le armi, specialità e servizi: fanteria, artiglieria, genio, sanità, compagnie trasporti e rifornimenti, depositi mobili, officine meccaniche.

Pertanto i gruppi di combattimento dovranno versare, all'atto della loro entrata in linea, al reggimento complementi l'aliquota del 5% <u>proporzionata ai gradi e alle varie armi, corpi, servizi.</u>

Nell'addestramento curare in particolare:

-<u>addestramento individuale</u> :
conoscenza armi e materiali- loro impiego tecnico
disciplina del fuoco- cura dell'arma in consegna
sfruttamento del terreno - stima delle distanze
orientamento- localizzazione del fuoco
sfruttamento della sorpresa
conoscenza dei riferi notturni
-mascheramento - occultamento dagli aerei
tiri di esercizio (compresi tiri in movimento col Breda e col "thompson" alle distanze ravvicinate)
addestramento al puntamento e tiro anticarro.

-<u>addestramento specializzati</u>:
autisti di trattori, autocarri, mezzi cingolati, motociclisti marconisti e telefonisti
puntatori e tiratori
materiali da ponte, mine antiuomo e anticarro.

-<u>addestramento di reparto</u>:
concentrare tutta l'attività nell'addestramento alla squadra di fanteria (ai vari tipi) e al pezzo di

1774

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

mento, ponti e mine, materiali dei servizi);
- alle istruzioni concernenti tutte le armi, specialità e servizi: fanteria, artiglieria, genio, sanità, compagnie trasporti e rifornimenti, depositi mobili, officine meccaniche.

Pertanto i gruppi di combattimento dovranno versare, all'atto della loro entrata in linea, al reggimento complementi l'aliquota del 5% proporzionata ai gradi e alle armi, corpi, servizi,

Nell'addestramento curare in particolare:

-addestramento individuale :
conoscenza armi e materiali- loro impiego tecnico
disciplina del fuoco- cura dell'arma in consegna
sfruttamento del terreno - stima delle distanze
orientamento- localizzazione del fuoco
sfruttamento della sorpresa
conoscenza dei rumori notturni
-mascheramento - occultamento dagli aerei
tiri di esercizio (compresi tiri in movimento col Bren e col Thompson alle distanze ravvicinate)
addestramento al puntamento e tiro anticarro.
-addestramento specializzati:
autisti di trattori, autocarri, mezzi cingolati, motocicli marconisti e telefonisti
puntatori e tiratori
materiali da ponte, mine antiuomo e anticarro.
-addestramento di reparto:
concentrare tutta l'attività nell'addestramento alla squadra di fanteria (dei vari tipi) e al pezzo di artiglieria.

Nessun militare dovrà lasciare il reggimento complementi per raggiungere una unità di combattimento in zona di operazioni senza essere stato opportunamente addestrato: responsabile dell'addestramento è il comandante del reggimento complementi.

A cura di questo S.M. sarà provveduto all'invio di un congruo numero di esemplari dei regolamenti inglesi tradotti.

P. C. C.
IL COL.s.S.M.
CAPO UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO
(G.Ferrari)

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
(F.to P. Berardi)

1774

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

SECRET EQUALS US SECRET

109

SUBJECT: Italian Combat Force - Training of Instructors

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R C M E
File No. S/G/22/10
10 Oct 1944

TO : THE MINISTRY OF WAR FOR S.M.R.E.

Copy to: D.M.T. ADNAP
P.M. AAI
CMTC
R.A.T.T.
S.M.E.
Italian School of Signals
R.A.C.C. Training Estab.
No 1 AEW
No 12 AEW
R.A.S.C. D & M School
C.M.P. Training Estab.
E & F BLU

1. The following arrangements have been made for the training of Instructors and specialists of the MANTOVA & PICENO Groups.

2. It is intended that this form of training should follow exactly that for previous Groups and be completed by 11th Nov at the latest, so that a full training programme within units, can begin on that date.

3. (a) INFY

Some instructors in platoon weapons have already been trained at C.M.T.C.; C.M.T.C. have been asked to accept a further 20 officers and 30 NCOs from each group, between 18th Oct and 11th Nov, also 12 officers for the tactical course. You will be informed when these arrangements are confirmed. Meanwhile you should make full use of the instructors already trained, and select further suitable students.

(b) ARTY

1773

A course exactly similar in numbers and weapons to those arranged for the other Combat Groups will be held at the Arty School (in its new location at CERRETO SANNITA), from 21st Oct to 11th Nov.

You will arrange to select and transport suitable personnel, including interpreters.

(c) ENGINEERS

(i) Following courses completed:

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

Italian School of Signals
R.A.C.C. Training Estab.

1. The following arrangements have been made for the training of Instructors and specialists of the MANTOVA & PICENO Groups.

2. It is intended that this form of training should follow exactly that for previous Groups and be completed by 11th Nov at the latest, so that a full training programme within units, can begin on that date.

3. (a) INFY

Some instructors in platoon weapons have already been trained at C.M.T.C.; C.M.T.C. have been asked to accept a further 20 officers and 30 NCOs from each group, between 18th Oct and 11th Nov, also 12 officers for the tactical course. You will be informed when these arrangements are confirmed. Meanwhile you should make full use of the instructors already trained, and select further suitable students.

(b) ARTY

A course exactly similar in numbers and weapons to those arranged for the other Combat Groups will be held at the Arty School (in its new location at CARRETO SANNITA), from 21st Oct to 11th Nov.

1773

You will arrange to select and transport suitable personnel, including interpreters.

(c) ENGINEERS

(i) Following courses completed:

Mine Warfare Course	Offrs 12	ORs	36
Elementary Bailey Br. Course	Offrs 12	ORs	36
First Field Plant Maintenance Course		ORs	15
First Weapon Trg Course	All Ranks		30
First Field Engineering Course	All Ranks		20

(ii) Following Courses arranged:

Second Field Plant Maintenance Course 9th - 30th Nov		ORs	15
Second Weapon Trg Course)	All Ranks		20
Third Weapon Trg Course) Dates	All Ranks		20
Second Field Engineering Course) not	All Ranks		36
Third Field Engineering Course) yet fixed	All Ranks		24

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

(d) SIGNALS

A course is being arranged at the Italian School of Signals (NOCERA Inf), it will commence not later than 15th Oct, exact date is to be communicated.

Four courses will be run concurrently and will be wireless and line instruments for signals, Arty and Inf and a linesman's course. There will be 30 students on each course and the division as between MANTOVA & PICENO Gps and as between Offrs & ORs is left to S.M.R.E.

(e) ORD

Training of Ordnance Field Park and D.A.D.O.S. dump personnel at PONTECAGNANO will be on similar lines to that of the LEGNANO & FOLGORE Groups. ie

		Offrs	ORs
5th - 25th Nov	MANTOVA Gp	4	56
	PICENO Gp	3	56
26th Nov - 17th Dec	MANTOVA Gp	3	56
	PICENO Gp	4	56

Courses for ammunition sorters will be

19th Nov - 3rd Dec	MANTOVA Gp	17
3rd Dec - 17th Dec	PICENO Gp	17

(f) MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

MANTOVA Gp will (subject to confirmation) attend the course at No 1 ABW (VIA DEL SAPIENZA, ROME) from 28th Oct - 11th Nov and PICENO Gp at No 12 ABW (MOLFETTA) during the same period.

Numbers in each case. Offrs. 2 ORs 50

Gun fitters courses as already arranged at school of Mechanical engineering (SOMFATT) ie

MANTOVA Gp 16 Nov to 25 Nov

PICENO Gp 31 Nov to 9 Dec

(g) S & T

The maintenance and convoy course at the R.A.S.C. Training depot (NOLA) will take place as follows:

	Offrs	ORs
MANTOVA Gp from 24 Oct to 30 Oct	6	94

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

5th - 25th Nov	(PICENO Gp	4	56
		3	56
28th Nov - 17th Dec	(MANTOVA Gp	3	56
	(PICENO Gp	4	56

Courses for ammunition sorters will be

19th Nov - 3rd Dec	MANTOVA Gp	17
3rd Dec - 17th Dec	PICENO Gp	17

(f) MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

MANTOVA Gp will (subject to confirmation) attend the course at No 1 AEW (DR. SAPIENZA, ROME) from 28th Oct - 11th Nov and PICENO Gp at No 12 AEW (MOLFETTA) during the same period.

Numbers in each case. Offrs. 2 ORs 50

Gun fitters courses as already arranged at school of Mechanical engineering (SCAFATI) ie

MANTOVA Gp 16 Nov to 28 Nov

PICENO Gp 31 Nov to 9 Dec

(g) S & T

The maintenance and convoy course at the R.A.S.C. Training depot (NOLA) will take place as follows:

	Offrs	ORs
MANTOVA Gp from 24 Oct to 30 Oct	6	24
PICENO Gp from 1st Nov to 7 Nov (Both days inclusive)	6	24

Students assemble P.M. day previous and disperse A.M. day after.

(h) PROVOST (C C R R)

This will take place (subject to confirmation) at the C.M.P. Training Establishment (CTT.VIANO) as follows.

		Offrs	ORs
MANTOVA Gp & PICENO Gp	from 22 Oct to 5 Nov	2	8
		2	8

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

(1) MEDICAL

Will take place at C.M.T.C. (BENEVENTO) as follows.

1 Offr and 14 ORs from each MANTOVA & PICENO Gps from 13 Nov - 18 Nov, both days inclusive. Students should arrive at the School by Noon 12th Nov.

4. Selection of personnel (Students & Interpreters), their equipment and transportation to and from the Schools, is the responsibility of the Italian Military authorities, application for movement by rail being made in the usual way.

5. The provision of administrative personnel at the various courses and the relief of those already at the schools will be arranged by the Italian Military Authorities.

6. Lists of names giving Students' units and groups will be made out in duplicate and handed to the commandants of the schools.

7. Students will be medically examined before going on any course and only those really fit will be sent. All are to be as well and as fully equipped as possible.

8. The importance of the selection of really first class Officers and NCO Students and of maintaining the present high standard in this respect is again emphasised.

Maj Gen
M M I A

Internal Distribution:
Col. Pidsley
S.O.R.E.
S.O.R. Sigs
D.A.D.M.S.
Maj. Head
File 2

1772

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

course and only those really fit will be sent. All are to be as well and as fully equipped as possible.

8. The importance of the selection of really first class Officers and NCO Students and of maintaining the present high standard in this respect is again emphasised.

Maj Gen
M M I A

Internal Distribution:
Col. Pidsley
S.O.R.E.
S.O.R. Sigs
D.A.D.M.S.
Maj. Head
File 2

1772

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785080

SUBJECT : Italian Army personnel - British Schools. SECRET.

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
A.F.H.Q., C.M.F.

Tel : 11375

DMT/101/MT.2
Copy to DMT/136/MT.2
DMT/200/MT.2 DMT/61/ME.1.

11 Oct 44

"A" BLU.
"B" BLU.
"C" BLU.
"D" BLU.

Copy to : [redacted] Mountain School.
M.M.I.A. [redacted]
HQ AAI.
HQ CMTC (2)
AFHQ for G-3 Trg (Br).
G.E.
C.S.O.
D.S.T.
D.O.S.
D.M.E.
HQ RAC.
Field Arty Sec, AFHQ.
HQ Inf c/o Main HQ AAI, CMF.

1. It has been decided that Italian Army personnel may be accepted on British courses provided that :-

(a) British demands allow.

(b) The Italian Army personnel so selected shall have a sufficient knowledge of English to enable them to derive benefit from the course without holding up the course.

1771

2. The Comd of the School concerned will have the power to return any Italian students whose knowledge of English is, in his opinion, insufficient.

3. All demands for vacancies will be forwarded to this Directorate.

4. Five copies of "British Schools and Training Centres, AAI" are enclosed for information.

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

M.M.I.A. [redacted]
HQ AAI.
HQ CMTC (2)
AFHQ for G-3 Trg (Br).
C.E.
C.S.O.
D.S.T.
D.O.S.
D.M.E.
HQ RAC.
Field Arty Sec, AFHQ.
HQ Inf c/o Main HQ AAI, CMTC.

---

1. It has been decided that Italian Army personnel may be accepted on British courses provided that :-

(a) British demands allow.

(b) The Italian Army personnel so selected shall have a sufficient knowledge of English to enable them to derive benefit from the course without holding up the course.

1771

2. The Comd of the School concerned will have the power to return any Italian students whose knowledge of English is, in his opinion, insufficient.

3. All demands for vacancies will be forwarded to this Directorate.

4. Five copies of "British Schools and Training Centres, AAI" are enclosed for information.

Roger Hinkinson
Col
for Brig.,
D.M.T.

DRS/nj

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

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

HQ FOLGORE

11 Oct 44

File
TR

To:- MMIA, Rome

From:- MMIA LO, FOLGORE

Subject - Training Directive

1. Herewith for infm trg directive issued by HQ FOLGORE Gp for trg to begin 15 Oct 44.

T.A. Phillips
actg.

1770

bf.-

COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "FOLGORE"
Ufficio del Capo di S.M. - 1^ Sez. Op. Inf. Serv.

---oOo---

n°302/2/Op. di prot. P.M.146, lì 9 ottobre 1944. =

OGGETTO: Addestramento.-

AL COMANDO RGT. PARACADUTISTI "NEMBO"	P.M.146
AL COMANDO RGT. MARINA "SAN MARCO"	P.M.146
AL COMANDO RGT. ARTIGLIERIA "FOLGORE"	P.M.146
AL COMANDO BTG. MISTO GENIO "FOLGORE"	P.M.146
AL COMANDO DEPOSITO MOBILE ARTIGLIERIA E GENIO	P.M.146
AL COMANDO OFFICINE MECCANICHE "FOLGORE"	P.M.146
AL COMANDO 134^ COMPAGNIA COMPLEMENTO	P.M.146
ALL'UFFICIO SANITA'	S E D E
ALL'UFFICIO COMMISSARIATO	S E D E
AL COMANDO QUARTIERE GENERALE	S E D E
AL COMANDO 314^ E 315^ SEZIONE CC.RR.	P.M.146

e; per notizia

AL COMANDO MILITARE DELLA CAMPANIA	P.M.120
AL B. L. U.	S E D E
AL CAPITANO PHILIPS	S E D E

^ ^ ^ ^ ^

Diramazione estesa ai comandi di compagnia.-

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

1769

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

n°382/2/Op. di prot. P.M.146, lì 9 ottobre 1944. =

OGGETTO: Addestramento.-

AL COMANDO RGT. PARACADUTISTI "NEMBO"	P.M.146
AL COMANDO RGT. MARINA "SAN MARCO"	P.M.146
AL COMANDO RGT. ARTIGLIERIA "FOLGORE"	P.M.146
AL COMANDO BTG. MISTO GENIO "FOLGORE"	P.M.146
AL COMANDO DEPOSITO MOBILE ARTIGLIERIA E GENIO	P.M.146
AL COMANDO OFFICINE MECCANICHE "FOLGORE"	P.M.146
AL COMANDO 184^ COMPAGNIA COMPLEMENTO	P.M.146
ALL'UFFICIO SANITA'	S E D E
ALL'UFFICIO COMMISSARIATO	S E D E
AL COMANDO QUARTIERE GENERALE	S E D E
AL COMANDO 314^ E 315^ SEZIONE CC.RR.	P.M.146

e; per notizia

AL COMANDO MILITARE DELLA CAMPANIA	P.M.120
AL B. L. U.	S E D E
AL CAPISANO PHILIPS	S E D E

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

Diramazione estesa ai comandi di compagnia.-

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

1769

1°) - Trascorso il periodo di riordinamento dei reparti, sulla base dei nuovi organici, si inizia col 15 corrente un ciclo addestrativo.

L'addestramento sarà suddiviso in tre distinti periodi successivi, intesi a :

PRIMO PERIODO

a) - Rinsaldare i vincoli disciplinari, riprendendo alla mano gli uomini e ricostituendo in tutti quell'abito militare indispensabile per la coesione morale e materiale dei reparti.

./.

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

b) - Approfondire e perfezionare l'addestramento individuale che sta alla base di quello di reparto ;

c) - attraverso corsi reggimentali e di battaglione svolti dal personale che ha partecipato ai noti corsi di addestramento, creare la disponibilità degli istruttori occorrenti a diffondere rapidamente la conoscenza tecnica delle nuove armi e dei nuovi mezzi ;

SECONDO PERIODO

d) - Fare acquisire a tutti la perfetta conoscenza tecnica delle nuove armi e dei nuovi mezzi che saranno quanto prima distribuiti (pratica delle armi e dei mezzi, tiri di addestramento) ;

TERZO PERIODO

e) - addestrare i reparti ai procedimenti d'impiego derivanti dalle nuove formazioni organiche e dai nuovi mezzi a disposizione (impiego tattico e tiri di combattimento).

Mentre mi riservo di precisare a suo tempo i termini e le di
[illegible] periodo, traccio qui di

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

dal personale che ha partecipato ai noti corsi di addestramento, creare la disponibilità degli istruttori occorrenti a diffondere rapidamente la conoscenza tecnica delle nuove armi e dei nuovi mezzi ;

SECONDO PERIODO

d) - Fare acquisire a tutti la perfetta conoscenza tecnica delle nuove armi e dei nuovi mezzi che saranno quanto prima distribuiti (pratica delle armi e dei mezzi, tiri di addestramento) ;

TERZO PERIODO

c) - addestrare i reparti ai procedimenti d'impiego derivanti dalle nuove formazioni organiche e dai nuovi mezzi a disposizione (impiego tattico e tiri di combattimento).

Mentre mi riservo di precisare a suo tempo i termini e le direttive per il secondo e per il terzo periodo, traccio qui di seguito i punti essenziali relativi al primo periodo che, presumibilmente, durerà fino alla prima decade di novembre.

1768

2°) - Educazione militare

Intendo ed il mio intendimento ha assoluto e perentorio valore di ordine, che gli uomini riacquistino nel più breve tempo quella forma militare che le operazioni di guerra, il difetto dei mezzi e le condizioni particolari di vita hanno alienato.

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

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

Sia ben chiaro per tutti che prima di essere paracadutisti del "Nembo" o marinai del "San Marco", artiglieri o genieri della "Folgore", occorre essere soldati.

A tale scopo :

- siano riprese le istruzioni sul "Regolamento di disciplina" (e particolarmente : doveri generali del militare, obbedienza, subordinazione), sul "Codice Penale Militare" (con particolare riguardo ai reati di rifiuto d'obbedienza, insubordinazione, diserzione) e sui regolamenti del "Servizio di Presidio" (essenzialmente servizio di guardia) e della "Vita di caserma).

Annettere a tali istruzioni, ma in particolare a quello sul "Regolamento di disciplina " la massima importanza. I Comandanti di reparto, personalmente, commentino e vivifichino le norme sempre attuali che oggi, come e più di prima, costituiscono il fondamento dell'Esercito.

Nulla di arido, teorico od astratto, ma conversazioni intese a convincere ed a educare o meglio rieducare il cuore degli uomini.

I riottosi e gli indisciplinati per abitudine siano o denun-

A tale scopo :

- siano riprese le istruzioni sul "Regolamento di disciplina" (e particolarmente : doveri generali del militare, obbedienza, subordinazione), sul "Codice Penale Militare" (con particolare riguardo ai reati di rifiuto d'obbedienza, insubordinazione, diserzione) e sui regolamenti del "Servizio di Presidio" (essenzialmente servizio di guardia) e della "Vita di caserma).

Annettere a tali istruzioni, ma in particolare a quello sul "Regolamento di disciplina " la massima importanza. I Comandanti di reparto, personalmente, commentino e vivifichino le norme sempre attuali che oggi, come e più di prima, costituiscono il fondamento dell'Esercito.

Nulla di arido, teorico od astratto, ma conversazioni intese a convincere ed a educare o meglio rieducare il cuore degli uomini.

I riottosi e gli indisciplinati per abitudine siano o denunciati o allontanati. Per nessuno l'arditismo deve costituire sinonimo d'indisciplina o peggio di brigantaggio ;

- tutti i giorni 10 minuti di ordine chiuso. Se fatto bene e da istruttori a posto, rende moltissimo : il movimento perfetto, spalla a spalla tra compagni alla voce del superiore cementa i reparti e dà autorità al superiore;
- l'ordine sia ricercato ad ogni costo. La imminente distribuzione di vestiario faciliterà molto il compito. Siano ripristinati i libretti personali sui quali devono essere annotati tutti i capi di corredo in dotazione al soldato

./.

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

punizioni esemplari a chi perde gli oggetti in conseg[illegible]. Non appena distribuito il nuovo vestiario, essere inesorabili verso chi si presenta con l'uniforme in disordine;

- pretendere attraverso riviste ed ispezioni giornaliere la più scrupolosa cura delle armi ;
- mediante la precisa definizione dei compiti e quindi delle responsabilità sia rivalorizzata la gerarchia. Ne avvantaggerà il servizio, ne guadagnerà il prestigio dei capi, specie dei più piccoli.

L'attuazione di quanto sopra più che su un programma a orario è fondata sull'azione costante, senza soluzioni di continuità, appassionata ed intelligente degli ufficiali. E' un'opera essenzialmente di educazione morale e controllo che richiede la presenza attiva degli ufficiali ai loro reparti.

Tale opera è impostata soprattutto sull'esempio.

Con gli uomini della "Folgore", le prediche non contano valgono soltanto i fatti. E a chi non si sente di comandare in tal modo : via libera.

1°) - Addestramento individuale

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

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

- pretendere attraverso riviste ed ispezioni giornaliere la più scrupolosa cura delle armi ;
- mediante la precisa definizione dei compiti e quindi delle responsabilità sia rivalorizzata la gerarchia. Ne avvantaggerà il servizio, ne guadagnerà il prestigio dei capi, specie dei più piccoli.

L'attuazione di quanto sopra più che su un programma a orario é fondata sull'azione costante, senza soluzioni di continuità, appassionata ed intelligente degli ufficiali. E' un'opera essenzialmente di educazione morale e controllo che richiede la presenza attiva degli ufficiali ai loro reparti.

Tale opera é impostata soprattutto sull'esempio.

Con gli uomini della "Folgore", le prediche non contano valgono soltanto i fatti. E a chi non si sente di comandare in tal modo : via libera.

3°) - Addestramento individuale

Sia ricominciato da principio. Costituisce la premessa indispensabile a quello di reparto. Esiste un regolamento tra cui prescrizioni sono troppo chiare per abbisognare di un commento. Richiamo peraltro l'attenzione dei sigg. Comandanti di reggimento e, in particolare, dei comandanti di reparto, sui seguenti punti :

- saluto e modo di presentarsi, sufficienti da soli a designare chi li esegue ;

./. ./.

- lavori del campo di battaglia e particolarmente : buche per tiratore a terra, in ginocchio e in piedi, allacciamenti, trincee, postazioni per mitragliatrice e per fucile mitragliatrore, per cannoni controcarro, impiego di materiale di rafforzamento, posa in opera di reticolati e tutti quegli altri lavori più urgenti e più comuni in operazioni. Sia radicata nella mente di tutti l'assoluta necessità di sapere impiegare gli attrezzi da zappatore e l'importanza dei lavori per il migliore sfruttamento delle armi e per la propria conservazione;
- sfruttamento del terreno ai fini del defilamento alla vista e al tiro ;
- conoscenza della maschera antigas e del suo impiego ;
- tiri individuali col fucile e con la pistola al solo scopo di addestramento dei singoli da vivificare con gare a premio ;
- lanci di bombe a mano con gare di distanza e di precisione ;
- scherma di pugnale cosicché tutti si abituino a sapere impiegare quest'arma diversa nel miglior dei modi e di

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

menti, trincee, postazioni per mitragliatrice e per fucile mitragliatrore, per cannoni controcarro, impiego di materiale di rafforzamento, posa in opera di reticolati e tutti quegli altri lavori più urgenti e più comuni in operazioni. Sia radicata nella mente di tutti l'assoluta necessità di sapere impiegare gli attrezzi da zappatore e l'importanza dei lavori per il migliore sfruttamento delle armi e per la propria conservazione;

- sfruttamento del terreno ai fini del defilamento alla vista e al tiro ;
- conoscenza della maschera antigas e del suo impiego ;
- tiri individuali col fucile e con la pistola al solo scopo di addestramento dei singoli da vivificare con gare a premio ;
- lanci di bombe a mano con gare di distanza e di precisione ;
- scherma di pugnale cosicché tutti si abituino a sapere impiegare quest'arma d'assalto nel migliore dei modi e di non considerarla una specie di ornamento da passeggio ;
- educazione fisica intesa come preparazione all'addestramento tattico sul terreno. Deve essere praticata tutti i giorni con gradualità di programmi, con intensità di sforzo crescente. Sia data la preferenza a :
  - corsa veloce e di fondo ;
  - salto in alto, in lungo e dall'alto ;
  - circuito ;

1765

./. ./.

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

. tiro alla fune ;

. giochi di calcio e di palla a volo,

e sopratutto percorsi di campagna compiuti a massa da tutto il reparto. Siano approntati rudimentali campi sportivi presso ciascun alloggiamento muniti degli attrezzi più essenziali. Autorizzerò tutte le spese che saranno fatte per creare la disponibilità dei mezzi occorrenti.

4°) - Addestramento sulle nuove armi e sui nuovi mezzi

A mano a mano che il personale inviato ai noti corsi di addestramento fa rientro ai reparti, siano subito indetti corsi presso i battaglioni e gruppi per la diffusione delle conoscenze acquisite. Successivamente i corsi potranno essere svolti per compagnia. Quanto prima sarà distribuito un certo numero delle nuove armi e mezzi e così facilitato il compito degli istruttori.
Siano, per intanto, iniziati subito i corsi per l'addestramento dei conduttori di automezzi. Presiederanno a tali corsi ufficiali carristi o automobilisti provetti.
Mi riservo d'impartire particolari direttive sui corsi automobilistici cui annetto la più grande importanza.

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

to il reparto. Siano approntati rudimentali campi sportivi presso ciascun alloggiamento muniti degli attrezzi più essenziali. Autorizzerò tutte le spese che saranno fatte per creare la disponibilità dei mezzi occorrenti.

4°) - Addestramento sulle nuove armi e sui nuovi mezzi

A mano a mano che il personale inviato ai noti corsi di addestramento fa rientro ai reparti, siano subito indetti corsi presso i battaglioni o gruppi per la diffusione delle conoscenze acquisite. Successivamente i corsi potranno essere svolti per compagnia. Quanto prima sarà distribuito un certo numero delle nuove armi e mezzi e così facilitato il compito degli istruttori.
Siano, per intanto, iniziati subito i corsi per l'addestramento dei conduttori di automezzi. Presiederanno a tali corsi ufficiali carristi o automobilisti provetti.
Mi riservo d'impartire particolari direttive sui corsi automobilistici cui annetto la più grande importanza.
Scopo da raggiungere : preparare gli uomini a ricevere le nuove armi e i nuovi mezzi così che quando essi saranno distribuiti possano essere immediatamente impiegati.

5°) - PER CIASCUNA ISTRUZIONE, OCULATA SCELTA DEGLI ISTRUTTORI IN BASE ALLA LORO CAPACITA'.

6°) - In ordine alle direttive da me prescritte ai numeri 3 e 4 i Comandanti di reggimento, battaglione misto genio,

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

compagnie trasporti, officine meccaniche e depositi mobili materiale art. e genio, mi invieranno, a cominciare dal 15 corrente il programma settimanale dettagliato delle istruzioni da compiersi, indicando per ciascun battaglione, gruppo o reparto autonomo ora e località di svolgimento.

IL COMANDANTE DEL GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO
F/to Gen. di brg. G. Morigi

p. c. c.
IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
(Gen. Sel.S.M. G.F.Congini)

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

11795

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

SUBJECT: Training of Italians - Driving and Maintenance

SECRET

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ, CMF

Tel: 16950

DMT/53/MT1

10 Oct 44

'A' Rel, CMF

Copy to: 'B' Rel CMF
HQ MAIA CMF
G-3 Trg (Br) AFHQ
203/MT2

It has been reported to me to-day by the Inspector of ~~Headquarters~~ and q(AT) that

(a) ~~Italian~~ Div is able to draw its vehicles only at 60 per diem owing to shortage of men able to drive them

and

(b) that maintenance is NOT being carried out, purely through lack of knowledge. The Inspector of Mechanical Maintenance informs me that his inspectors are training two men a day in elementary driving.

This is obviously going to be a serious limitation on training and is costing, I am told, 2 vehicles a day "written off".

I shall be visiting you on Tuesday.

Signal any additional help required in the way of driver training capacity and we will endeavour to provide.

I shall be glad of your report as to plan for training the necessary number of drivers.

Noted. I will see D.M.T 140d WP

A.G. Kendrew Brig.

Brig.,
D.M.T.

AGK/ae

File Copy 1/0.

29/10

SUBJECT: Training Italian Divisions

SECRET

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ, CMF

Tel: 11667

[File Copy]

DMT/35/MT1

3 Oct 44

1 to D.C.d P.V
1 to D BLU. given by hand
Distribute enmder

HQ MMLA, CMF

Copy to: "A" MLU) c/o MMLA, who are requested
"B" MLU) to hand copies to officers
"C" MLU) on arrival.
HQ CMTC CMF
184/MT2

Representatives of this Directorate visited "A" and "B" MLU on 2 Oct 44 and the GSO.I of "C" MLU visited this Directorate on 1 Oct 44. The following observations and recommendations are made as a result of these visits:

1. Training Increments (British)

(a) "A" Trg Inc is short of 1 Major Instructor and action is being taken by DMT to find an officer and have him posted.

(b) "B" Trg Inc is short of 3 Major Instructors and action is being taken by DMT to find officers and to have them posted.

(c) It may not be possible to release these Training Increments from the FRIULI and CREMONA Divisions until the end of October. If Training Increments thereafter are required to work with "C" and "D" MLUs, either those already in being will have to be withdrawn to the detriment of the training of the FRIULI and CREMONA Divisions, or it will be necessary to form two further Training Increments.

(d) This Directorate is prepared to try to find the personnel for two further Training Increments if such are considered necessary but the recommendation that such should be formed must be made to AFHQ by you. yes wanted by 12 Oct.

Signed AFHQ

2. Training Instructors (Italian)

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

"C" HLU) on arrival.
HQ CMTC C&F
184/MT2

Representatives of this Directorate visited "A" and "B" HLU on 2 Oct 44 and the GSO.I of "C" HLU visited this Directorate on 1 Oct 44. The following observations and recommendations are made as a result of these visits:

1. Training Increments (British)

(a) "A" Trg Inc is short of 1 Major Instructor and action is being taken by DMT to find an officer and have him posted.

(b) "B" Trg Inc is short of 3 Major Instructors and action is being taken by DMT to find officers and to have them posted.

(c) It may not be possible to release these Training Increments from the FRIULI and CREMONA Divisions until the end of October. If Training Increments therefore are required to work with "C" and "D" HLUs, either those already in being will have to be withdrawn to the detriment of the training of the FRIULI and CREMONA Divisions, or it will be necessary to form two further Training Increments.

(d) This Directorate is prepared to try to find the personnel for two further Training Increments if such are considered necessary but the recommendation that such should be formed must be made to AFHQ by you.

yes wanted by 12 Oct.

Signal AFHQ

2. Training Instructors (Italian)

(a) A number of Italian personnel have been trained as instructors at the CMTC.

(b) It is understood that no further Italians will be so trained and this Directorate accepts that understanding, provided that the Italian personnel so trained are withdrawn from the FRIULI and CREMONA Divisions to train the remaining Italian Divisions as soon as these further Divisions are ready to start training.

1761

ND

(c) But as it appears that the formation of these further Divisions is already starting it is unlikely that these Italian instructors

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

can be released in time as they will be required by the FRIULI and CREMONA Divisions until at least the end of October.

(d) This Directorate does not, however, favour such withdrawals for the following reasons:-

(i) The Italian Officers and NCOs trained at the CMTC are selected personnel.

(ii) Commanding Officers of Battalions will rightly view with disfavour the loss of their best trained NCOs on the eve of their Battalion's entry into battle.

(iii) The loss of these Instructors will be bad for the morale of the Italian Divisions whose personnel will still be relatively unaccustomed to British Weapons.

(e) It is recommended therefore

? (i) that these Italian instructors remain with the Divisions with whom they have been working and go into battle with them, yes

? (ii) that further teams of Italian instructors be formed and sent to the CMTC to be trained, and when trained sent to the Italian Divisions to be formed, Rescue S.M.A.G.

(iii) that an Italian speaking British officer be attached to the CMTC from MMIA or the ELU to supervise and assist in the training of these further teams. Please state your views.

3. Pamphlets

(a) It is understood that the policy is not to translate Training Pamphlets into Italian in order that the Italians may not be confused with British ideas on Training.

(b) It is pointed out, however, that British tactics are based on British Weapons from which the Italians will not derive full benefit unless they know something of the British tactical handling of weapons.

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

on the eve of their Battalion's entry into battle.

(iii) The loss of these Instructors will be bad for the morale of the Italian Divisions whose personnel will still be relatively unaccustomed to British Weapons.

(c) It is recommended therefore

(i) that these Italian instructors remain with the Divisions with whom they have been working and go into battle with them, Yes

(ii) that further teams of Italian instructors be formed and sent to the CMTC to be trained, and when trained sent to the Italian Divisions to be formed, Discuss S.M.O.E.

(iii) that an Italian speaking British officer be attached to the CMTC from MMIA or the BLU to supervise and assist in the training of these further teams. Please state your views.

3. Pamphlets

(a) It is understood that the policy is not to translate Training Pamphlets into Italian in order that the Italians may not be confused with British ideas on Training.

(b) It is pointed out, however, that British tactics are based on British Weapons from which the Italians will not derive full benefit unless they know something of the British tactical handling of weapons.

(c) It is recommended therefore that Inf Trg Pamphlet Part VIII be translated into Italian without delay and given a wide distribution throughout the Divisions. If you agree, action is for you. BF a copy.

4. Company Commanders (Italian) 1769

It is recommended that Coy Commanders of all further Italian Divisions to be trained should do a Platoon Commander's Battle Course. Discuss SMRE.

It would be possible to run a short battle course for these officers lasting a week at the CMTC but should it prove necessary to have a course of longer duration it would be more difficult to run it at CMTC, and it might be necessary to call upon the BLUs to organise it instead. Yes.

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

5. Formation of ELUs

It is strongly recommended that the ELU to be attached to an Italian Division should be formed well in advance of the formation of the Division in order that it may deal with the mass of detailed work involved in organising itself and its programme BEFORE being called upon to supervise training.

Done

6. Equipment

(a) Certain Training Equipment has been issued without its full complement of associate stores. This Directorate is dealing with this question.

(b) It will NOT be possible to release the Training Stores held by the FRIULI and CREMONA Divisions before the end of October.

ok

7. Dissemination of Information

It is requested that this Directorate be furnished with copies of all letters, cables, etc. dealing with the training, formation or movement of the Italian Divisions. We did not receive a copy of your TS/G/29 dated 26 Jul 44. It would make it a good deal easier to plan if we know when formations were to be available for training, etc.

Send to other interested staff.

8. General

The general impression gained on the progress of training was that the Italians were keen to learn but were handicapped by lack of equipment and lack of knowledge of British tactical handling of weapons.

"C" ELU appears to have an easier task in that the Division to which it is attached has had experience in the line armed with a proportion of British weapons.

✓ W.P.2

Issued down above

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

Dissemination of Information

It is requested that this Directorate be furnished with copies of all letters, cables, etc. dealing with the training, formation or movement of the Italian Divisions. We did not receive a copy of your TS/G/29 dated 26 Jul 44. It would make it a good deal easier to plan if we knew when formations were to be available for training, etc.

Send to other relevant staff.

8. General

The general impression gained on the progress of training was that the Italians were keen to learn but were handicapped by lack of equipment and lack of knowledge of British tactical handling of weapons.

"C" ELU appears to have an easier task in that the Division to which it is attached has had experience in the line armed with a proportion of British weapons.

WJP

I read down this far.

Roger Hinchcliffe Col 1759
for Brig.,
D.M.T.

HMF/cc

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

11802

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

69.

29/40.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Q(AE) BRANCH

VEHICLE RELEASE NOTE

Ref VR/ 249

Date 7 Oct 44

To : D.M.T. for "A" and "B" B.L.Us.

Release of the undermentioned vehicles is authorised.

Quantity	Description of Vehicles	Priority of issue.
4	Trucks 15-cwt W/T Cl.1	

Remarks : Re 4 Group.

RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS

1. On receipt of this release authority, the unit or formation will await release instructions from Ord (Br).

2. AFHQ Q(AE) release and Ord (Br) release will both be handed to the Vehicle Park at the time of collection. The Vehicle Company have been instructed that release will not be made unless both copies of release voucher are presented.

DISTRIBUTION :

Ord (Br)
File
MMIA. ✓

ONLan Capt
Brigadier,
Q(AE)

Living Head P 12/10 1758

17/10

11803

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

167.

SUBJECT: Wall Diagrams

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
S/G/29/10
11 Oct 44

DMT

Ref DMT/184/MT2 of 25 Sept.

Enclosed as requested in your above quoted letter are copies of the wall diagrams translated into Italian.

These are now in distribution to the combat groups down to platoon levels.

Maj Gen
M M I A

1757

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

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

n° 995/Add./2/A/IIdi prt. T.M., 21,11 5 ott.944-

O G G E T T O: diagrammi mod. 21.

ALLA M.M.I.A.-Sott.per l'Esercito

ROMA

---°---

Risponde foglio n° S/G/29/10 del 27.9.944.-

Si inviano due copie di ogni modello di diagramma già stampato e in distribuzione ai Gruppi di Combattimento, per conoscenza.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
- A. Gentile -

In reply to your S/G/29/10 dated 27.9.44.
Enclosed please find 2 copies of each pattern of diagram already printed and now in distribution to combat grps.

SECRET EQUALS US SECRET.

160

SUBJECT: Italian Combat Force - Training of Instructers

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
File No. S/G/23/10
10 Oct 1944

TO : THE MINISTRY OF WAR FOR S.M.R.E.

Copy to: D.M.T. AIRNAF
P.M. AAI
CMTC
R.A.T.T.
S.M.E.
Italian School of Signals
R.A.C.C. Training Estab.
No 1 ABW
No 12 ABW
R.A.S.C. D & M School
C.M.P. Training Estab.
E & F BLU

1. The following arrangements have been made for the training of Instructors and specialists of the MANTOVA & PICENO Groups.

2. It is intended that this form of training should follow exactly that for previous Groups and be completed by 11th Nov at the latest, so that a full training programme within units, can begin on that date.

3. (a) INFTY

Some instructors in platoon weapons have already been trained at C.M.T.C.; C.M.T.C. have been asked to accept a further 20 officers and 30 NCOs from each group, between 16th Oct and 11th Nov, also 12 officers for the tactical course. You will be informed when these arrangements are confirmed. Meanwhile you should make full use of the instructors already trained, and select further suitable students.

(b) ARTY

A course exactly similar in numbers and weapons to those arranged for the other Combat Groups will be held at the Arty School (in its new location at CERRETO SANNITA), from 21st Oct to 11th Nov.

You will arrange to select and transport suitable personnel, including interpreters.

(c) ENGINEERS

(i) Following courses completed:

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

of Instructors and specialists of the [redacted] & PICENO Groups.

2. It is intended that this form of training should follow exactly that for previous Groups and be completed by 11th Nov at the latest, so that a full training programme within units, can begin on that date.

3. (a) INFY

Some instructors in platoon weapons have already been trained at C.M.T.C.; C.M.T.C. have been asked to accept a further 20 officers and 30 NCOs from each group, between 18th Oct and 11th Nov, also 12 officers for the tactical course. You will be informed when these arrangements are confirmed. Meanwhile you should make full use of the instructors already trained, and select further suitable students.

(b) ARTY

A course exactly similar in numbers and weapons to those arranged for the other Combat Groups will be held at the Arty School (in its new location at CERRETO SANNITA), from 21st Oct to 11th Nov.

You will arrange to select and transport suitable personnel, including interpreters.

(c) ENGINEERS

(i) Following courses completed:

Mine Warfare Course	Offrs 12	ORs 36
Elementary Bailey Br. Course	Offrs 12	ORs 36
First Field Plant Maintenance Course		ORs 15
First Weapon Trg Course	All Ranks	20
First Field Engineering Course	All Ranks	29

(ii) Following Courses arranged: 1755

Second Field Plant Maintenance Course 9th - 30th Nov		ORs 15
Second Weapon Trg Course)	All Ranks	20
Third Weapon Trg Course) Dates	All Ranks	20
Second Field Engineering Course) not	All Ranks	36
Third Field Engineering Course) yet fixed	All Ranks	24

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

(a) SIGNALS

A course is being arranged at the Italian School of Signals (NOCERA inf), it will commence not later than 15th Oct, exact date is to be communicated.

Four courses will be run concurrently and will be wireless and line instruments for signals, Arty and Inty and a linesman's course. There will be 30 students on each course and the division as between MANTOVA & PICENO gps and as between Offrs & ORs is left to S.A.A.F.I.

(e) ORD

Training of Ordnance Field Park and D.A.D.O.S. dump personnel at PONTECAGNANO will be on similar lines to that of the LEGNANO & FOLGORE groups. ie

		Offrs	ORs
5th - 25th Nov	MANTOVA Gp	4	56
	PICENO Gp	3	56
26th Nov - 17th Dec	MANTOVA Gp	3	56
	PICENO Gp	4	56

Courses for ammunition sorters will be

19th Nov - 3rd Dec	MANTOVA Gp	17
3rd Dec - 17th Dec	PICENO Gp	17

(f) MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

MANTOVA Gp will (subject to confirmation) attend the course at No 1 ARW (TOR. SAPIENZA, ROME) from 26th Oct - 11th Nov and PICENO Gp at No 12 ARW (MOLFETTA) during the same period.

Numbers in each case. Offrs. 2 ORs 50

Gun fitters courses as already arranged at school of Mechanical engineering (SCAFATI) ie

MANTOVA Gp 16 Nov to 28 Nov

PICENO Gp 31 Nov to 9 Dec

(g) S & T

The maintenance and convoy course at the R.A.S.C. Training depot (NOLA) will take place as follows:

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

1 800 7

5th - 25th Nov	(PICENO Gp	4	56
		3	56
26th Nov - 17th Dec	(MANTOVA Gp	3	56
	(PICENO Gp	4	56

Courses for ammunition sorters will be

19th Nov - 3rd Dec	MANTOVA Gp	17
3rd Dec - 17th Dec	PICENO Gp	17

(f) MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

MANTOVA Gp will (subject to confirmation) attend the course at No 1 ABW (UNIV. SAPIENZA, ROME) from 28th Oct - 11th Nov and PICENO Gp at No 13 ABW (MOLFETTA) during the same period.

Numbers in each case. Offrs. 2 ORs 50

Gun fitters courses as already arranged at school of Mechanical engineering (SCAFATI) ie

MANTOVA Gp 15 Nov to 28 Nov

PICENO Gp 31 Nov to 9 Dec

(g) S & T

The maintenance and convoy course at the R.A.S.C. Training depot (NOLA) will take place as follows:

	Offrs	ORs
MANTOVA Gp from 24 Oct to 30 Oct	6	24
PICENO Gp from 1st Nov to 7 Nov (Both days inclusive)	6	24

Students assemble P.M. day previous and disperse A.M. day after.

(h) PROVOST (C C R R)

This will take place (subject to confirmation) at the C.M.P. Training Establishment (OTTAVIANO) as follows.

	Offrs	ORs
MANTOVA Gp) & PICENO Gp) from 22 Oct to 5 Nov	2	8
	2	8

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

(1) MEDICAL

Will take place at C.M.T.C. (BENEVENTO) as follows.

1 Offr and 14 ORs from each MANTOVA & PICENO Gps from 13 Nov - 18 Nov, both days inclusive. Students should arrive at the School by Noon 12th Nov.

4. Selection of personnel (Students & Interpreters), their equipment and transportation to and from the Schools, is the responsibility of the Italian Military authorities, application for movement by rail being made in the usual way.

5. The provision of administrative personnel at the various courses and the relief of those already at the schools will be arranged by the Italian Military Authorities.

6. Lists of names giving Students' units and groups will be made out in duplicate and handed to the commandants of the schools.

7. Students will be medically examined before going on any course and only those really fit will be sent. All are to be as well and as fully equipped as possible.

8. The importance of the selection of really first class Officers and NCO Students and of maintaining the present high standard in this respect is again emphasised.

Maj Gen
M M I

Internal Distribution:
Col. Pidsley
S.O.R.E.
S.C.R. Sigs
D.A.D.M.S.
Maj. Head
File 2

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

course and only those really fit will be sent. All are to be as well and as fully equipped as possible.

8. The importance of the selection of really first class Officers and NCO Students and of maintaining the present high standard in this respect is again emphasised.

Maj Gen
M M I A

Internal Distribution:
Col. Pidsley
S.O.R.E.
S.O.R. Sigs
D.A.D.M.S.
Maj. Head
File 2

1754

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

SECRET EQUALS US SECRET

160A

SUBJECT: Italian Combat Force - Training of Instructors

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R C M E
File No. S/G/29/10
10 Oct 1944

TO : THE MINISTRY OF WAR FOR S.M.R.E.

Copy to: D.M.T. ADRAP
P.M. AAI
CMTC
R.A.T.T.
S.M.E.
Italian School of Signals
R.A.C.C. Training Estab.
No 1 ABW
No 12 ABW
R.A.S.C. D & M School
C.M.P. Training Estab.
E & F BLU

1. The following arrangements have been made for the training of Instructors and specialists of the MANTOVA & PICENO Groups.

2. It is intended that this form of training should follow exactly that for previous Groups and be completed by 11th Nov at the latest, so that a full training programme within units, can begin on that date.

3. (a) INFY

Some instructors in platoon weapons have already been trained at C.M.T.C.; C.M.T.C. have been asked to accept a further 20 officers and 30 NCOs from each group, between 18th Oct and 11th Nov, also 12 officers for the tactical course. You will be informed when these arrangements are confirmed. Meanwhile you should make full use of the instructors already trained, and select further suitable students.

(b) ARTY

A course exactly similar in numbers and weapons to those arranged for the other Combat Groups will be held at the Arty School (in its new location at CERRETO SANNITA), from 21st Oct to 11th Nov.

You will arrange to select and transport suitable personnel, including interpreters.

(c) ENGINEERS

(i) Following courses completed:

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

R.A.C.C. Training Estab.

1. The following arrangements have been made for the training of Instructors and specialists of the MANTOVA & PICENO Groups.

2. It is intended that this form of training should follow exactly that for previous Groups and be completed by 11th Nov at the latest, so that a full training programme within units, can begin on that date.

3. (a) INFY

Some instructors in platoon weapons have already been trained at C.M.T.C.; C.M.T.C. have been asked to accept a further 20 officers and 30 NCOs from each group, between 18th Oct and 11th Nov, also 12 officers for the tactical course. You will be informed when these arrangements are confirmed. Meanwhile you should make full use of the instructors already trained, and select further suitable students.

(b) ARTY

A course exactly similar in numbers and weapons to those arranged for the other Combat Groups will be held at the Arty School (in its new location at CERRETO SANNITA), from 21st Oct to 11th Nov.

You will arrange to select and transport suitable personnel, including interpreters.

(c) ENGINEERS

(i) Following courses completed:

Mine Warfare Course	Offrs	12	ORs	36
Elementary Bailey Br. Course	Offrs	12	ORs	36
First Field Plant Maintenance Course			ORs	15
First Weapon Trg Course	All Ranks			20
First Field Engineering Course	All Ranks			20

(ii) Following Courses arranged:

Second Field Plant Maintenance Course 9th - 30th Nov			ORs	15
Second Weapon Trg Course	All Ranks			20
Third Weapon Trg Course	Dates not yet fixed	All Ranks		20
Second Field Engineering Course		All Ranks		36
Third Field Engineering Course		All Ranks		24

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

(d) SIGNALS

A course is being arranged at the Italian School of Signals (NOCERA inf), it will commence not later than 15th Oct, exact date is to be communicated.

Four courses will be run concurrently and will be wireless and line instruments for signals, Arty and Inty and a linesman's course. There will be 30 students on each course and the division as between MANTOVA & PICENO gps and as between Offrs & ORs is left to S.M.R.E.

(e) ORD

Training of Ordnance Field Park and D.A.D.O.S. dump personnel at PONTECAGNANO will be on similar lines to that of the LEGNANO & FOLGORE groups. ie

		Offrs	ORs
5th - 25th Nov	(MANTOVA Gp	4	56
	(PICENO Gp	3	56
26th Nov - 17th Dec	(MANTOVA Gp	3	56
	(PICENO Gp	4	56

Courses for ammunition sorters will be

19th Nov - 3rd Dec	MANTOVA Gp	17
3rd Dec - 17th Dec	PICENO Gp	17

(f) MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

MANTOVA Gp will (subject to confirmation) attend the course at No 1 AEW (GOR. SAPIENZA, ROME) from 28th Oct - 11th Nov and PICENO Gp at No 12 AEW (MOLFETTA) during the same period.

Numbers in each case. Offrs. 2 ORs 50

Gun fitters courses as already arranged at school of Mechanical engineering (SCAFATI) ie

MANTOVA Gp 16 Nov to 28 Nov

PICENO Gp 31 Nov to 9 Dec

(g) S & T

The maintenance and convoy course at the R.A.S.C. Training depot (NOLA) will take place as follows:

	Offrs	ORs
MANTOVA Gp from 24 Oct to 30 Oct	6	24

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

			3	56
26th Nov - 17th Dec	(MANTOVA Gp		3	56
	(PICENO Gp		4	56

Courses for ammunition sorters will be

19th Nov - 3rd Dec	MANTOVA Gp		17
3rd Dec - 17th Dec	PICENO Gp		17

(f) MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

MANTOVA Gp will (subject to confirmation) attend the course at No 1 ABW (MOR. SAPIENZA, ROME) from 28th Oct - 11th Nov and PICENO Gp at No 12 ABW (MOLFETTA) during the same period.

Numbers in each case. Offrs. 2 ORs 50

Gun fitters courses as already arranged at school of Mechanical engineering (SCAFATI) ie

MANTOVA Gp 16 Nov to 28 Nov

PICENO Gp 31 Nov to 9 Dec

(g) S & T

The maintenance and convoy course at the R.A.S.C. Training depot (NOLA) will take place as follows:

	Offrs	ORs
MANTOVA Gp from 24 Oct to 30 Oct	6	24
PICENO Gp from 1st Nov to 7 Nov (Both days inclusive)	6	24

Students assemble P.M. day previous and disperse A.M. day after.

(h) PROVOST (C C R R)

This will take place (subject to confirmation) at the C.M.P. Training Establishment (OTTAVIANO) as follows.

	Offrs	ORs
MANTOVA Gp) &) from 22 Oct to 5 Nov PICENO Gp)	2	8
	2	8

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

(1) MEDICAL

Will take place at C.M.T.C. (BENEVENTO) as follows.

1 Offr and 14 ORs from each MANTOVA & PICENO Gps from 13 Nov - 18 Nov, both days inclusive. Students should arrive at the School by Noon 12th Nov.

4. Selection of personnel (Students & Interpreters), their equipment and transportation to and from the Schools, is the responsibility of the Italian Military authorities, application for movement by rail being made in the usual way.

5. The provision of administrative personnel at the various courses and the relief of those already at the schools will be arranged by the Italian Military Authorities.

6. Lists of names giving Students' units and groups will be made out in duplicate and handed to the commandants of the schools.

7. Students will be medically examined before going on any course and only those really fit will be sent. All are to be as well and as fully equipped as possible.

8. The importance of the selection of really first class Officers and NCO Students and of maintaining the present high standard in this respect is again emphasised.

Maj Gen
M M I A

Internal Distribution:
Col. Pidsley
S.O.R.E.
S.C.R. Sigs
D.A.D.M.S.
Maj. Head
File 2

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

by the Italian Military Authorities.

6. Lists of names giving Students' units and groups will be made out in duplicate and handed to the commandants of the schools.

7. Students will be medically examined before going on any course and only those really fit will be sent. All are to be as well and as fully equipped as possible.

8. The importance of the selection of really first class Officers and NCO Students and of maintaining the present high standard in this respect is again emphasised.

Maj Gen
M M I A

Internal Distribution:
Col. Pidsley
S.O.R.E.
S.C.R. Sigs
D.A.D.M.S.
Maj. Head
File 2

1752

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

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

AD/ RM C2136 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Cat. | Srl. No. 334 | Priority QVR2 | Transmission Instructions | Register No.

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator D.M.T. AFSLAP | Date-Time of Origin 081200 | OFFICE DATE STAMP 55/2

TO AFIE (FOR G-3 Mvg) (BR) For Action / (W) For information (INFO)

Originator's No. [illegible] 614 | Message Instructions QQX | OR 23

INSERTED (.) OVER WORD OR G OUT ADDED TEXT 7 OUT MORE POINT OUT ERR NOT AS SENT OMISSION AND DOUBT AS WAS SENT

BF. In Cvt P.Q 10/10

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS { EXCEPT _____ } WIRELESS

SIGNED [illegible] Maj

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY IMMEDIATE

Time	System	Op.
THI or TOR		
Time cleared		

1751

Col Priddy to see

Translation R10/10 5/6/29/10 156

From SMRE
to MMIA. copy

Ref no 10638/OP
Date 8 oct 44

Quatermasters for PICENO and MANTOVA combat groups.

(1) The PICENO / MANTOVA combat groups will move when ordered by SMRE, to BENEVENTANO for a period of training. They will be located in the area left by the CREMONA and FRIULI groups when their own periods of training expires.

PICENO group will take over the area left by CREMONA HQ situated at ALTAVILLA IRPINA

MANTOVA group will tak over the area left by FRIULI HQ situated at S.GIORGIO DEL SANNIO

(2) So as to facilate the taking over of the area (camp, Ranges) and to arrange with Denmrd of rations etc. we order that PICENO and MANTOVA ... and as soon as it is possible, their Quater

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

when ordered by SMRE, to BENEVENTANO for a period of training. They will be located in the area left by the CREMONA and FRIULI groups when their own periods of training expires.

PICENO group will take over the area left by CREMONA HQ situated at ALTAVILLA IRPINA

MANTOVA group will tak over the area left by FRIULI HQ situated at S.GIORGIO DEL SANNIO

(2) So as to facilate the taking over of the area (camp, Ranges) and to arrange withdrawal of rations etc. we order that PICENO and MANTOVA group send, as soon as it is possible, their Quater masters to this area.

(3) This Personnel beside complying with the above orders will follow thoroughly the instructions given at this time to each units of the CREMONA and FRIULI groups so as to facilitate the training of their own units when they will rejoins them

-we therefor reccomand that the personnel to be

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

sent be carefully selected.

This above does not include actual training orders for which will come directly from the training office of this SMRE.

(4) for each unit there will be the personnel as detailed in the attached list on the basis that this personnel will be included on the Establishment of each group when full establishment is completed

(5) Telegraphic request for transport to be made by Command of each group directly to SMRE transport office those Request must show.

The Railway station the groups desire to send the A/M personnel from.

The date, the personnel will be ready to move

R Mansfield.

SANTI

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

(5) Telegraphic request for transport to be made by Command of each group directly to SHAEF transport office throw Request must show.

The Railway station the groups desire to send the A/n personnel from.

The Date, the personnel will be ready to move

R Mansfield

SANTI

1749

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

S/g.a.

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
- Ufficio Operazioni -

nr. 10638 /Op. di prot. P.M.151, li 8 ottobre 1944

OGGETTO: forieri di alloggiamento per i gruppi di combattimento "Piceno" e "Mantova".-

AL COMANDO MILITARE CAMPANIA	P.M.120
AL COMANDO MILITARE CALABRIA	P.M.114
AL COMANDO MILITARE PUGLIA E LUCANIA	P.M. 67
AL COMANDO DEL GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "PICENO"	P.M. 92
AL COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "MANTOVA"	P.M.104
AL COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "CREMONA"	P.M. 64
AL COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "FRIULI"	P.M. 79

e, per conoscenza:

AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA - Gabinetto - Uff.C.A.	S E D E
ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO - per il colonnello Pidsley -	R O M A
ALLO S.M.R.E. - Ufficio Addestramento -	S E D E
ALLO S.M.R.E. - Ufficio Trasporti -	S E D E

1°)- I gruppi di combattimento "Piceno" e "Mantova" si trasferiranno, quando sarà ordinato da questo S.M.R.E., nel Beneventano per il periodo di addestramento.
Si dislocheranno nelle zone che verranno lasciate libere - ad addestramento ultimato - dai gruppi di combattimento "Cremona" e "Friuli".

Il gruppo di combattimento "Piceno" prenderà il posto del gruppo di combattimento "Cremona" (sede del comando: Altavilla Irpina).

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

AL COMANDO MILITARE PUGLIA E LUCANIA P.M. 67
AL COMANDO DEL GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "PICENO" P.M. 92
AL COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "MANTOVA" P.M.104
AL COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "CREMONA" P.M. 64
AL COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "FRIULI" P.M. 79

e, per conoscenza:

AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA - Gabinetto - Uff.C.A. S E D E
ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO
- per il colonnello Pidsley - R O M A
ALLO S.M.R.E. - Ufficio Addestramento - S E D E
ALLO S.M.R.E. - Ufficio Trasporti - S E D E

****

1°)- I gruppi di combattimento "Piceno" e "Mantova" si trasferiranno, quando sarà ordinato da questo S.M.R.E., nel Beneventano per il periodo di addestramento.
Si dislocheranno nelle zona che verranno lasciate libere - ad addestramento ultimato - dai gruppi di combattimento "Cremona" e "Friuli".

Il gruppo di combattimento "Piceno" prenderà il posto del gruppo di combattimento "Cremona" (sede del comando: Altavilla Irpina).

Il gruppo di combattimento "Mantova" prenderà il posto del gruppo di combattimento "Friuli" (sede del comando: S.Giorgio del Sannio).

1748

./.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785080

2°)-Allo scopo di facilitare la sistemazione nelle zone di che trattasi (accampamenti - poligoni di tiro - prelevamenti ecc.), si dispone che la "Piceno" e la "Mantova" facciano affluire al più presto possibile nella nuova zona i forieri d'alloggiamento.

3°)- Detto personale, oltre al compito specifico per il quale viene comandato, seguirà attentamente lo svolgersi delle istruzioni attualmente in atto presso i singoli reparti dei gruppi di combattimento "Cremona" e "Friuli", allo scopo di facilitare l'addestramento dei propri reparti quando questi affluiranno in zona.

Si raccomanda, pertanto, l'accurata scelta del personale in questione.

Quanto sopra, indipendentemente dai corsi di addestramento per i quali verranno a giorni diramate istruzioni particolari a cura dell'Ufficio Addestramento di questo S.M.R.E.-

4°)- Per ciascun gruppo di combattimento dovrà essere comandato il personale elencato nell'annesso specchio, sulla base delle formazioni che i gruppi stessi dovranno assumere a completamento avvenuto.

5°)- Richiesta di trasporto telegrafica (a cura dei comandi di gruppo di combattimento "Piceno" e "Mantova") diretta a questo S.M.R.E. - Ufficio Trasporti.- Nella suddetta richiesta dovrà essere indicata:

- la stazione ferroviaria presso la quale i gruppi di com-

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

reparti dei gruppi di combattimento "Cremona" e "Friu li", allo scopo di facilitare l'addestramento dei pro pri reparti quando questi affluiranno in zona.

Si raccomanda, pertanto, l'accurata scelta del persona le in questione.

Quanto sopra, indipendentemente dai corsi di addestra- mento per i quali verranno a giorni diramate istruzio- ni particolari a cura dell'Ufficio Addestramento di que sto S.M.R.E.-

4°)- Per ciascun gruppo di combattimento dovrà essere coman dato il personale elencato nell'annesso specchio, sulla base delle formazioni che i gruppi stessi dovranno assu mere a completamento avvenuto.

5°)- Richieste di trasporto telegrafica (a cura dei comandi di gruppo di combattimento "Piceno" e "Mantova") diret ta a questo S.M.R.E. - Ufficio Trasporti.- Nella suddet ta richiesta dovrà essere indicato:

- la stazione ferroviaria presso la quale i gruppi di com battimento "Piceno" e "Mantova" concentreranno il perso nale di che trattasi;
- la data sotto la quale il personale stesso è pronto a muovere.=

1727

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
- Alessandro Santi -

P.C.C.
IL CAPO UFFICIO OPERAZIONI
(Ten.Col.in s.S.M.P.Sampò)

Stato Maggiore Regio Esercito * Ufficio Operazioni *

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

allegato al f° nr. 106384 in data 8-10-44

PERSONALE CHE I GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTO "PICENO" E "MANTOVA" FARANNO AFFLUIRE NELLA NUOVA ZONA

Comando e reparto	aliquota parziale		Totale		Note
	Uff.	Sott.	Uff.	Sott.	
- Comando Gruppo di combattimento	1 (1)	-	1	-	(1)- Sarà l'ufficiale più elevato in grado o più anziano di tutti i forieri di alloggiamento. Seguirà particolarmente la attività del comando ed il funzionamento dei servizi.=
- Quartiere Generale	1	1	1	1	
- Reggimento di ftr. :					
comando di rgt.	1	1	2	2	
btg. di ftr.	1	4	6	24	
cp.mortai da 76	-	1	-	2	
cp.cannoni	-	1	-	2	
- Reggimento di artiglieria :					
comando di rgt.	1	1	1	1	
gruppo di artiglieria	1	2	6	12	
- Btg.misto genio	1	3	1	3	
- Sezione Sanità	2	2	2	2	
- cp.trasporti e rif.	1	2	1	2	
- Deposito mob. art. e genio	1	1	1	1	
- Officine meccaniche	1	1	1	1	
			23	53	

Will be the senior officer he will be responsible to find out the activities of the Command and of all the services.

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

1

Comando e reparto	aliquota parziale		Totale		Note
	Uff.	Sott.	Uff.	Sott.	
- Comando Gruppo di combattimento	1 (1)	-	1	-	(1)- Sarà l'ufficiale più elevato in grado o più anziano di tutti i forieri di alloggiamento. Seguirà particolarmente la attività del comando ed il funzionamento dei servizi.=
- Quartiere Generale	1	1	1	1	
- Reggimento di ftr. :					
comando di rgt.	1	1	2	2	
btg. di ftr.	1	4	6	24	
cp.mortai da 76	-	1	-	2	
cp.cannoni	-	1	-	2	
- Reggimento di artiglieria :					
comando di rgt.	1	1	1	1	
gruppo di artiglieria	1	2	6	12	Will be the senior officer he will be responsible to fund out the activities of the Command and of all the services.
- Btg.misto genio	1	3	1	3	
- Sezione Sanità	2	2	2	2	
- cp.trasporti e rif.	1	2	1	2	
- Deposito mob. art. e genio	1	1	1	1	
- Officine meccaniche	1	1	1	1	
			23	53	

Stato Maggiore Regio Esercito
Ufficio Operazioni

1716

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

1

1828

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

207

SUBJECT: Attachment of Combat Group Officers to Allied Formations

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
File No. S/G/29/10
18 Oct 44

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

1. It is considered that great value would be obtained from attaching Officers from Italian Combat Groups to units engaged in operations.

2. You will please select for this purpose the following Officers from each of the FRIULI and CREMONA Groups, and forward to MMIA details of names, ranks and arm of the service:

1 Staff Officer (to be attached to Brigade or Div HQ)
2 Infantry Officers (to be attached to Infantry Bns)
1 Artillery Officer (to be attached to Artillery Regt)
1 Engineer (A signals Officer to be selected from FRIULI,
a Field Engineer Officer from CREMONA)

3. Officers selected must be able either to understand English or to understand and speak French.

4. It is hoped to arrange these attachments as soon as possible but not before 25 October. Attachments will be for 14 days.

5. Officers for attachment will each be required to report with his own transport, bedding etc.

6. Please treat as urgent.

1715

Major General
M. M. I. A.

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

223

29/10

SUBJECT: Notes on the Training of Italian Divisions.

TOP SECRET

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ, CMF

Tel: 16950

DMT/55/MT1

21 SEP 44

GSO.I, No. HLU,
(att Division).

---

1. You will be receiving instructions for the work of the HLU from MMIA. These notes are issued with his agreement, designed to enable you to advise and help in planning and supervising the training side of your work. It is most important that no time is lost in getting training soundly directed, and going on intensively.

2. The object of training these Italian Divisions is:-

To fit the Italian Combat Groups to take over a defensive sector on the Italian Front at the earliest possible date, and to make them capable of carrying out an active defence, and after experience in that role of participating in attacks in conjunction with allied troops.

3. During the period of re-equipping and reorganising, divisional and regimental commanders and their staffs will have much else to do as well as training. They will probably welcome all the assistance you can give in drawing up the training programme and supervising its execution, and in reconnoitring suitable areas for schemes and field firing.

4. Time is very short. In a period of five or six weeks, the following training tasks have to be fully covered before the divisions go into action :-

(a) Learning to handle the new weapons and equipment. Not more than three weeks (and preferably two), can be allotted to this, including field firing.

(b) Sufficient tactical training or re-training to ensure that every unit and sub-unit is fit to take its part together with other arms in the fighting envisaged.

1. You will be receiving instructions for the work of the SLU from AMGIA. These notes are issued with his agreement, designed to enable you to advise and help in planning and supervising the training side of your work. It is most important that no time is lost in getting training soundly directed, and going on intensively.

2. The object of training these Italian Divisions is:-

To fit the Italian Combat Groups to take over a defensive sector on the Italian front at the earliest possible date, and to make them capable of carrying out an active defence, and after experience in that role of participating in attacks in conjunction with allied troops.

3. During the period of re-equipping and reorganising, divisional and regimental commanders and their staffs will have much else to do as well as training. They will probably welcome all the assistance you can give in drawing up the training programme and supervising its execution, and in reconnoitring suitable areas for schemes and field firing.

4. Time is very short. In a period of five or six weeks, the following training tasks have to be fully covered before the divisions go into action :-

(a) Learning to handle the new weapons and equipment. Not more than three weeks (and preferably two), can be allotted to this, including field firing.

(b) Sufficient tactical training or re-training to ensure that every unit and sub-unit is fit to take its part together with other arms in the fighting envisaged.

These two phases of training must go on simultaneously. Officers and intelligent NCOs should not require as many hours to master the new weapons as rank and file. This training of officers and NCOs must start together with (a) in the evenings and in any periods when they can be spared from the weapon training classes. This tactical instruction must at first be limited to what is necessary to ensure that by the first or second week in October, they can take their sub-units out on battle training schemes, using their weapons.

By the time the divisions are moved forward, (in the case of the FRENCH work to third or fourth week in October), this elementary battle training must have progressed far enough to enable regimental groups to carry out field firing exercises by night as well as by day, in co-operation with their own mortars and artillery.

1744

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

5. Tactical Training

(a) Subjects suggested

In the time available, obviously training cannot be given in all tactical operations. Divisional commanders will be well advised to concentrate tactical training on what is required for :-

(i) Moving into by night, and taking over, a sector of a defensive front, and co-ordinating a plan for defence against Germans. If you assist with making a scheme for this, I suggest as a suitable background the defence of a river line in fairly enclosed and not very mountainous country.

(ii) Planning and practice in carrying out immediate counter attacks by a company in local reserve on a prepared plan, with the co-ordinated support of machine guns, mortars and artillery. This should be done by night as well as by day.

(iii) Briefing and carrying out both reconnaissance and fighting patrols. (By night and across a river is the standard to be aimed at).

(iv) Dispositions to cover bridging operations, combined with a bridging exercise by R.E., starting at night and using smoke cover by day.

(v) Moving a regimental group into a bridgehead, and forming up for an attack on covering position through a minefield.

(b) Methods of Training

There is no time for any more lecturing or discussing beyond the bare minimum essential: a few short talks, each followed by a short and model demonstration or exercise followed straight away by doing the task in the country and repeating it until adequately performed. The Italian students at the CMTC on the tactical course said that they found the high proportion of practical work a novelty on officers' courses. They liked it, but appeared to regard it as abnormal to get dirty with the men so often. If training is to start early, it will be well to provide the officers, as well as the men, with denims or working clothing.

6. Points in training needing attention as possibly new to these Divisions

Few of these divisions will have fought against the German Army in Italy. Constant emphasis on German reactions and methods is necessary with the full use of expedients representing enemy fire. The following are points which will probably be new to most of them, and they must understand them if they are to rely on fighting efficiently:

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

(iii) Briefing and carrying out both reconnaissance and fighting patrols. (By night and across a river is the standard to be aimed at).

(iv) Dispositions to cover bridging operations, combined with a bridging exercise by R.E., starting at night and using smoke cover by day.

(v) Moving a regimental group into a bridgehead, and forming up for an attack on covering position through a minefield.

(b) Methods of Training

There is no time for any more lecturing or discussing beyond the bare minimum essential: a few short talks, each followed by a short and model demonstration or exercise followed straight away by doing the task in the country and repeating it until adequately performed. The Italian students at the CMTC on the tactical course said that they found the high proportion of practical work a novelty on officers' courses. They liked it, but appeared to regard it as abnormal to get dirty with the men so often. If training is to start early, it will be well to provide the officers, as well as the men, with denims or working clothing.

6. Points in training needing attention as possibly new to these Divisions

Few of these divisions will have fought against the German Army in Italy. Constant emphasis on German reactions and methods is necessary with the full use of expedients representing enemy fire. The following are points which will probably be new to most of them, and they must understand them if they are to rely on fighting efficiently:

(a) Ubiquitous mines and booby traps and their effect on every tactical operation - training of all arms to neutralise and lift mines when necessary. S.M.E. can probably help with apparatus if one of your officers will visit. The Italian sappers will be too busy with their own training to help much with this.

(b) Enemy mortar fire, and methods of overcoming it.

(c) Central control of artillery with the help of the Air O.P.

(d) The recent German tendency to use night for counter attack; and to counter attack with smaller groups as a result of our air and artillery superiority.

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

(e) Enemy demolitions and their influence on movement.

(f) The problem of getting anti-tank defence forward co-ordinated early.

A.G. Kenchington

ACK/ac

Brig.,
D.M.T.

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

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

Brig.,
D.M.T.

1212

- 3 -

AGT/ao

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

ARMY FORM C-212S

MESSAGE FORM

CLASSIFIED

Serial No. 227

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups	Office Date Stamp
	OUT 29/10.	GR.	~~229~~

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

8/Sec

TO MMIA

FROM SO BLG | Originator's Number Q 161 | Date 29/10 | In Reply to Number

Restricted @ Please expedite translations of special equipment lists @ Checking and distribution of stores being seriously held up by lack of translations

Dep Director Ports 29/10

1483a GHQP 7-43

This Message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means + (Except) ( ) Wireless

Signature

This Message must be sent IN CIPHER if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands

Signature 785 Jr

Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority: Immediate

Time of Origin 29/10.

T.H.I. 211421 Z

T.O.R.

+ Originator may delete "Except" and insert "Including." (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender

1836

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

Ric 706

MESSAGE FORM.

From : MMLA

To (For action) : Ministry of War

To (For info) : DMT ADNAP, 50, 51, 54, 55 BIU's.

Date - Time

18 10 47 A

29/10.

SS 192

RESTRICTED

Instructors from MANTOVA and PIOMBO now with FRIULI and CREMONA will join their own groups on their arrival in ~~THEIR~~ concentration area and not before (.)

Paren ROME Area _____ Paren

Precedence ROUTINE

Authenticating Officer

1740

1837