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

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10000/120/1075

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

10000 | 120 | 1075

56/29/12 LIAISON-UNIT

1st cover

Opened Aug. 7, 1944. Closed Dec. 1, 1944
Aug - Dec 1944

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

SUBJECT: Interpreters

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

File No. S/C/29/12

1 Dec. 44

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

1. It is understood that Major D'INCISA DI CAMERANA formerly interpreter for 7 Artillery Regt CREMONA Group has now been posted to 3 District.

2. O.C. 51 BLU has asked particularly that this Officer should remain attached to the CREMONA Group, and MMIA agrees provided a British Officer can be posted to take his place with 3 District.

3. He would be held surplus to establishment in the same way as officers at present with FAIOLI. Our S/C/29/12 of 13 November refers.

a field map
Major General
M. M. I. A.

enclosed 3/2 in folio
84 3/12
2936

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

MESSAGE FORM

From : LNTA
To (For action) : CENTRAC
To (For info) : DMT ADNAP
52 BLU
53 BLU

Date - Time

30 / 230 A

SS 424

RESTRICTED

Reference your GS 605 of 29 November (.) Your G 583 of 22 Nov not
received (*) Contents learnt through DMT (*) Arrangements made for
10 interpreters to arrive 8 December (*) Trying to arrange for two
advisers to report 2 December (*) Confirmation later

IMMEDIATE to ~~CENTRAC~~ CENTRAC

ROUTINE to others.

Authenticated

[Signature]
for Col. P. B. B. Add

2935

1002

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

S/sec 29/12 101
307

Subject :- Interpreters

To :-
HQ
MMLA

31 British Liaison Unit

A 1/8

Chief of Staff
Gruppo Cremona

116

Ref your S/C/29/12 of 13 Nov addressed to S M R E please note that Gruppo CREMONA has attached - surplus to W E - one Major D'INCISA DI CAMERANA. This officer who functions as interpreter to the 7 Arty Regt has now been posted to 3 District by S M R E.

I should be grateful if you would request S M R E to cancel this last posting in view of the serious interpreter situation in this Gruppo of which you are - I believe - aware.

BW. Wellart

Field
27 Nov 44
BWVC/RGT

Lt Col
General Staff

2934

0003

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

144

MBIA

29/12

27

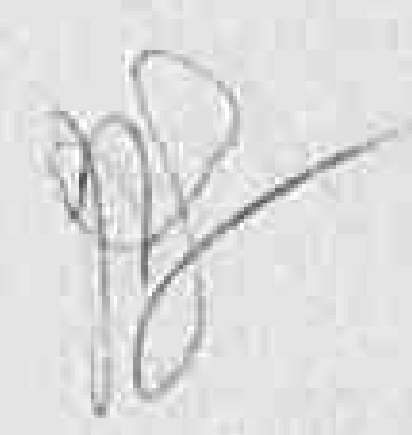
175

A

AFHQ

02E

RA TRAINING
TEAM (ITALIAN FORCES)



AQ 2279

RESTRICTED

MAY 02E BE GIVEN AUTHORITY TO ATTACH A BQMS (RA) TO 52 BIU (.)
BQMS IS REQUIRED FOR STORES (.) BQMS NOW WITH 50 BLU IS NOT YET
AVAILABLE

2833

Important

Spec. Sec.

March 1958

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

Signal ATRQ That this has

our equipment WP

25/11 D

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

REMETel: AFREXOM 503MS A/1/1702/223 Nov 44Subject:- ELU (for Gruppo di Combattimenti)
Proposed Amendments to WE NA/503/2To:- G-3 Org 3 (5 copies)

It is requested that the following amendments to WE NA/503/2 which have been formulated in conjunction with MEIA, may be considered by the WE Committee AFHQ as soon as possible.

1.

The Proposal

- (a) British Liaison Unit (for Gruppo di Combattimenti) NA/503/2
- (b) Amendment
- (c) Not applicable.

2.

The Effect of the Proposal

- (a) and (b) (1) Increase in 4 CRs as follows

Add Veh Mech Sgt	...	1
" Fitter Cpl	...	1
" Tel Mech Cpl	...	1

(41) Increases in 'pt

Add motor cycles ... 3

(c) Six

(d) Overall increase in personnel and vehicles.
(e) Ceiling cover from the credit balance shown against the REME Section of FAU 57 Para 17 and the motor cycles from existing theatre stocks.

(f) All

(g) Not applicable

3.

Reasons for the Proposal

- (a) For purposes of try in maint, repair, and recovery of equipment personnel have been found on a temporary basis by using one HA. When available to each Gruppo in turn.

2932

The Proposal

- (a) British Liaison Unit (for Gruppo di Compittamenti) NA/504/1
- (b) Amendment
- (c) Not applicable.

The Effect of the Proposal

- (a) and (b) (1) Increases in CRs as follows:

Add Van Mech Lt 1
" Fitter Cpl 1
" Tel Mech Pl 1

(11) Increases in CRs

Add motor cycles 3

(c) Six

(d) Overall increase in personnel and vehicles.
(e) Ceiling cover from the credit balance shown against the RMS Section of PPO 57 Part 17 and the motor cycles from existing theatre stocks.

(f) All

(g) Not applicable
(h)

Reasons for the Proposal

2932

(a) For purposes of trg in maint, repair and recovery of equipment personnel have been found on a temporary basis by using the HLL. When available to each Gruppo in turn, these arrangements are to cover for a very limited trg period and must of necessity be of a temporary nature.

(b) It has now become apparent that assistance of a permanent nature, and on a much smaller scale, will be required in addition to the facilities outlined at para 3(a) above. The purpose of this proposal is to provide such assistance from the very limited resources available, and this assistance must of necessity be on a minor scale. It is intended that the three CRs which it is proposed to add should assist the HLL by (a) assisting Italian personnel to obtain essential requirements which involve dealings with supporting units, e.g., third line traps, third line rec units, and CRs, none of which are Italian units.
(b) assisting Italian units in tech and org when matters, and rec problems of like nature.

In this connection it is stressed that when the facilities described at para 3(a) are withdrawn, the Italians will still be very far from fully trained either in the general technique of repair and rec, or in the peculiarities of Br equipment.

(c) It is considered that the provision of these three CRs per BIN should achieve considerable results in minimising damage to eqpt (which has achieved alarming dimensions at this stage) and facilitating the execution of repairs and rec by the Italian repair and rec units. It is hoped by these means to diminish the very considerable loads upon the supporting Br third line repair and rec units which are to be expected.

(d) The three motor cycles are to enable the CRs now requested to visit Wkps and LADs to discharge their duties.

(e) It is further considered that developments should be very closely watched with a view to determining whether, if more Br translation becomes available subsequently, increase to a total of approx 9 CRs per BIN can be made, so as to achieve an effective degree of guidance and control in the use and maint of the very considerable amount of valuable eqpt involved.

K.A.McK.

K.A.McK. ARTHURS, Lt-Col. ADMS,
For Major-General,
Director of Mechanical Engineering.

Copies to:- G-3 Org 2 (Mainpower)
G-3 Org 4
G(AS)
WMA (concluding conversation Col RIDLEY - Lt-Col ARTHURS)
(2 copies)

11007

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

Tel No. VALJEAN.42.

A.F.S.

~~Gen. Commanding,~~
~~8th Field Regiment R.A.~~
~~C.M.F.~~

02E/R1/F1/70/476.
23rd November, 1944.

SUBJECT:- Interpreters.

No. 14576166. Gnr DEMARCO. G.C.

g/sec

29/12

27/11

Please post the above named to 50th British Liaison Unit, C.M.F.,
forthwith and forward the necessary casualty on A.F.W. 3011A as soon as possible,
quoting this letter as authority.

R. Plumley

Brigadier,
D.A.G.,
G.H.Q., 2nd Echelon.

C.M.F.
JAB.

Copy to:- ~~ATTN: G-1 (DR).~~
~~ATTN: G-2 (DR).~~
M.M.I.A.
50th B.L.U.
~~HQ (R) G2H.~~

2931

1003

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

SUBJECT: Scale of Transport MU

TO : 51 MU
Copy to: 50 MU
52 MU
53 MU
54 MU

124
LAND FORCES HQ-COM, A.S.
(M.A.I.A.)
File No. 5/3/29/1A
26 Nov 44

Reference our 5/3/44 of 19 Nov and your 4/2/1 of 15 November, the following extracts from the minutes of meetings of the A.I. War Establishment Committee give the details of the increase in vehicles on the original A.S. of the MU, 21 MA/508/1:

Stat Meeting

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>War Establishment</u>
352	
<u>Amendment to</u>	
<u>BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (FOR</u>	
<u>REPUBLIC OF CHINA, TAIPEI)</u>	
<u>WAR OFFICE</u>	
	(MA/508/1)

The following revised scale of transport was approved
w.e.f. 19 Oct 44.

Motor cycles, Solo	2
Cars, 2 seater, 4 x 2	3
Cars, 2 cut, 4 x 4	3
Car, 4 seater, 4 x 4	1
Trucks, 15 cut, 4 x 2, G.S.	2
Lorries, 5 ton, 4 x 2, G.S.	2
Trailer, 2 wheeled, 150 gallon	1

For Rear Link Signals

Truck, 15 cut, 4 x 2, G.S.	1
Trucks, 15 cut, 4 x 2, Wireless House	1

2930

Reference our C/O/25/17 of 17 Nov and your A2/1 of 13 November, the following extracts from the minutes of meeting of the War Establishments Committee give the details of the increase in vehicles on the original S.S. of the HUF, as NA/508/1:

Slat Meeting

Serial No. War Establishment
 205 Amendment to
 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (VOR)
 GROUP OF COMBATANTS
 (NA/508/1)

The following revised scale of transport was approved
 w.e.f. 15 Oct 44.

Motor cycles, Solo 2
 Cars, 2 Seater, 4 x 2 3
 Cars, 2 Seater, 4 x 4 3
 Car, 4 Seater, 4 x 4 1
 Trucks, 15 cwt, 4 x 2, G.S. 2
 Lorries, 5 ton, 4 x 2, G.S. 3
 Trailer, 2 wheeled, 160 gallon 1
 For Rear Link Signals
 Truck, 15 cwt, 4 x 2, G.S. 1
 Truck, 15 cwt, Wireless House 2
 Lorry, 5 ton, 4 x 2, G.S. 1

File: 1701/25/48/5(S.D.F.)

Slat Meeting

Serial No. War Establishment
 276 Amendment to
 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (VOR)
 GROUP OF COMBATANTS
 (NA/508/1)

The addition of two lorries, 5 ton, 4 x 2, G.S.
 was approved w.e.f. 9 Nov 44.

File: 1701/25/48/5(S.D.F.)

for Major General
 H. M. T. O.

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

Subject :- Interpreters.

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

B/C/29/12.✓
26 Nov., 44.

To :- 50 BLU
51 BLU.

The following is an extract from CR/2284/G.1(Br) (AFHQ) of
20th. Nov to GHQ 2nd. Echelon.

"2. No posting orders have apparently been issued for :-

14576266 Gnr D MARCO G. R.A.
2351793 Sgmn HYDE F.A.R.Sigs.

"3 In view of the fact these interpreters are urgently
required by Nos. 50 and 51 BLU's (one each), may posting
orders be issued as soon as possible."

[Signature]
Major General.
M.M.I.A.

2939

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

Subject :- Function of BLUs att to Combat Groups.

51 British Liaison Unit

To :- HQ., MMIA.

A 2

Ref your SS 375 of 21 Nov 44.

Att herewith please find two copies of our A 2 d/a
17 Nov 44 as requested.

Field.
23 Nov 44
WHI/FEM.

R. B. H. H.
Major
DAA & QMG

2928

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject :- Function of ELUs att'd to Combat Groups

To :-

H Q
M M I A

51 British Liaison Unit

A 2

Ref your S/G/29/12 of 13 Nov, herewith my views.

1 Interpreters (a) The W S of Interpreters in the ELU and Gruppo is as follows

B L U		Italian Inherent to ELU		Gruppo
Two British Sergeants		Two Italian Corporals		Two Italian officers (at Gruppo HQ)

(b) The present strength and standard of interpreters

B L U		Italian Inherent		Gruppo
Strength	One British Sgt	One Italian Pte		Two Italian officers
Standard	Fair	Adequate		One good One fair

(c) The method proposed for translation and interpretation of orders was laid down in para 5 of your S/G/29 of Sep 44 as follows :-

- (a) Orders and memoranda are issued in the language of the nation of origin
- (b) Translation into Italian is the responsibility of the Italian recipient
- (c) Translation into English of documents and conversation from Italian Groups to English addressees will be the responsibility of the ELU to whom sufficient interpreters are allotted for the purpose.

(d) The present interpreter situation barely permits of the ELU and Gruppo functioning during this period of try and semi-peace conditions. I consider it ludicrously inadequate for war.

The interpreters within the ELU who are two British Sgts (in fact one Sgt in the case of this ELU) are NOT to my mind suitable for the translation of the Gruppo's orders for operations with a view to their onward transmission to Corps. I do NOT consider it is reasonable to make a HQ responsible for the interpretation of orders involving the main elements of a Div in any an attack.

Italian Increment to ELU		Gruppo
Two British Sergeants	Two Italian Corporals	Two Italian officers (at Gruppo HQ)

(b) The present strength and standard of interpreters

Strength	Italian Increment		Standard
	ELU	Gruppo	
	One British Sgt	One Italian Pte	Two Italian officers
		Adequate	One good One fair

(c) The method proposed for translation and interpretation of orders was laid down in para 5 of your S/C/29 of Sep 44 as follows:-

- (a) Orders and memoranda are issued in the language of the nation of origin.
 (b) Translation into Italian is the responsibility of the Italian recipient.
 (c) Translation into English of documents and conversation from Italian Groups to English addressees will be the responsibility of the ELU to whom sufficient interpreters are allotted for the purpose.

(d) The present interpreter situation barely permits of the ELU and Gruppo functioning during this period of truce and semi-peace conditions. I consider it ludicrously inadequate for war.

The interpreters within the ELU who are two British Sgts (in fact one Sgt in the case of this ELU) are NOT to my mind suitable for the translation of the Gruppo's orders for operations with a view to their onward transmission to Corps. I do NOT consider it reasonable to make a NCO responsible for the interpretation of orders involving the main elements of a Div in any attack.

The Italian Pte soldier who deputises for two corporal interpreters in the Italian Increment att to this ELU speaks fluent Italian. He is quite adequate for passing on routine orders and instructions to drivers etc.

Of the two Italian Officers at Gruppo HQ one - a subaltern - is a very good fluent but at times inaccurate interpreter. The other is a senior officer who is good in conversation but is liable to break down in any complicated interpretation. He would never function in battle. In actual fact all real interpretation is done by the MIL LO and the Italian subaltern. These are doing an hour's work to other every day to perfect their performance. There are no official interpreters outside ELU and Gruppo HQ. In the Regts interpretation is entirely haphazard. The Comd 21 Regt speaks a little English, a subaltern in the 22 Regt is a fair interpreter, the SO II RA speaks to the Comd 7 Arty Regt in French. No interpreters exist in the Services, Engineers or Signals. Liaison between the ELU staff and their opposite numbers in these services are carried on in French and by signs. All this improvised interpretation does in fact produce results at this stage. It will be appreciated that there are no reserves or any allowance for any interpreter to have any sleep or be sick.

(e) I consider a large addition to interpreters will be necessary in action. The following seem to me the minimum :-

Formation	Br Interpreters	Italian Interpreters
B L U	2 officers (2)	2 Officers (2)
Gruppo HQ	-	One officer (2)
Each Inf Bn HQ	One officer (2)	One officer (6)
" " Bn HQ	-	One officer (1)
Arty Bn HQ	One officer (1)	One officer (1)
Engineer Bn HQ	One officer (1)	One officer (2)
Each Coy HQ	-	One officer (1)
S1 (Inf Coy)	-	One officer (1)
Mechanical Engineers	-	One officer (1)
Ordnance & Transport	-	One officer (1)

This makes a total of 6 British Officer interpreters and 17 Italian Officer interpreters. The British might well be Maltese officers of the 2nd Lt or 3rd Lt. The two British Bns at MU HQ might be dispensed with, but I recommend the retention of one for routine work.

(f) The post at Bn HQ is shown in (d) and (e) above. No interpretation facilities exist there at present. There can be no question under our present W 2 of providing any from the resources of the MU or Gruppo.

2 Your T.S/C/29 of Sep 14 lays down the function of the MU as follows:-

(a) A British Liaison Unit (B.L.U.) will be attached to each independent Group Bn. It will be self-contained administratively but will be located at or very close to the Italian H.Q. The O. 4/c will, through his officers of the various arms and services, be responsible that:-

- i. Orders received are properly understood and obeyed.
- ii. Information required by higher authority is properly and accurately supplied, translated and transmitted.
- iii. Training is maintained and improved whenever and wherever possible.
- iv. Administrative services and maintenance duties are efficiently and economically performed.
- v. Circumstances likely to affect detrimentally the fighting or administrative efficiency of the formation, or the morale of the troops, are promptly prevented, rectified and/or reported to the proper authority.

This makes a total of 6 British Officer interpreters and 17 Italian Officer interpreters. The British might well be Maltese officers of the B.M.A. or L.O.M.R. The two British S-7s at ILL HQ might be dispensed with, but I recommend the retention of one for routine work.

(f) The point at Rome is shown in (d) and (e) above. No interpretation facilities exist there at present. There can be no question under our present W.E. of providing any from the resources of the ILL or Gruppo.

2 Your T.S./C/29 of Sep 14 lays down the function of the ILL as follows:-

(a) A British Liaison Unit (B.L.U.) will be attached to each Independent Group H.Q. It will be self-contained administratively but will be located at or very close to the Italian H.Q. The O. i/o will, through his officers of the various arms and services, be responsible that:-

i. Orders received are properly understood and obeyed.

ii. Information required by higher authority is properly and accurately supplied, translated and transmitted.

iii. Training is maintained and improved wherever and whenever possible.

iv. Administrative services and maintenance duties are efficiently and economically performed.

v. Circumstances likely to affect detrimentally the fighting or administrative efficiency of the formation, or the morale of the troops, are promptly prevented, rectified and/or reported to the proper authority.

vi. In battle, communication with flank and rear formations is maintained.

The B.L.U. will in addition be the primary channel of communication between the Italian H.Q. and superior and flank formations on all questions affecting Italian units in their role as a component part of the Allied Forces.

This corresponds in general terms with the draft charter att'd to All Letter 1602/50/57/0(MD) of 10 Nov and I am in general agreement with both. It should be made clear, however, that the ILL can do little else but deal with the most higher formation (presumably a British Corps). Any liaison with flanking Allied units must, in my opinion, be the responsibility of those flanking units who must send liaison parties to the ILL.

/To Sheet 3

In my opinion a certain responsibility must rest on the HJU to report on the performance of the Gruppo to which it is accredited and on the senior commanders of the Gruppo.

It is stressed that the EIU has NO executive role. In practice I visualize officers of the EIU taking a fairly active part in the actual direction of the Group in the early stages. This may apply more especially to the S.O.R.A., S.O.R.E. etc.

Field
44 NOV 44
108/108

Lt Col
General Staff

42
43
44
45

1017

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

MESSAGE FORM

From : MMIA

To : AFHQ

Date - Time

25-07 A

SS 390

Restricted

Ref AFHQ letter ME/A/1/1701/1 dated 18 Nov (.). This has MMIA support

Precedence IMPORTANT

Authenticating
Officer

2925

File
138
29/12

11018

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

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Functions of HJUs attached to Italian Combat Groups.

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
5/6/29/12
24 Nov 14

TO : H.Q. A.A.I.

1. Ref your 1605/30/57/6(SM) of 10 November, reports from 30 and 51 HJUs are attached, on which the following remarks are offered:

a - b. No Remarks.

c. A copy of M.M.I.A. TS/0/29 of 26 Sept is attached for easy reference, it is considered that this still holds good in principle.

d. The present staff of interpreters is inadequate but its inadequacy will tend to decrease as growing pains ease off and officers and men improve their knowledge of each others languages. The claims for additional interpreters (particularly officers) are considered extravagant. An officer is generally too valuable to be employed only as an interpreter or translator and should as a rule hold in addition an executive or liaison appointment or posting.

e. It is therefore recommended that a small pool of interpreters be allowed for each Group (say British - 1 Sgt and 4 Corporals, and Italian - 4 officers and 4 NCO's) in addition to the maximum when possible of bilingual personnel within the ordinary M.E.

f. Even if the language problem can be overcome, it is hoped that such breaking up of orgn will not be made, except as a last resort. The Combat Group is already a comparatively small formation and the detachment of a Regt would, it is considered, create administrative and psychological difficulties resulting in a material and not worthwhile loss of efficiency and morale.

2. It is recommended that the Draft Charter should be based on M.M.I.A.'s original instructions to HJUs and the proposed directive on "Command" attached.

C. A copy of M.M.I.A. TS 8/29 of 26 Sept is attached for easy reference, it is considered that this still holds good in principle.

d. The present staff of interpreters is inadequate but its inadequacy will tend to decrease as growing pains ease off and officers and men improve their knowledge of each others languages. The claims for additional interpreters (particularly officers) are considered extravagant. An officer is generally too valuable to be employed only as an interpreter or translator and should as a rule hold in addition an executive or liaison appointment or posting.

e. It is therefore recommended that a small pool of interpreters be allowed for each Group (say British - 1 Sgt and 4 Corporals, and Italian - 4 officers and 4 NCO's) in addition to the maximum when possible of bilingual personnel within the ordinary M.E.

f. Even if the language problem can be overcome, it is hoped that such breaking up of orgn will not be made, except as a last resort. The Combat Group is already a comparatively small formation and the detachment of a Regt would, it is considered, create administrative and psychological difficulties resulting in a material and not worthwhile loss of efficiency and morale.

2. It is recommended that the Draft Charter should be based on M.M.I.A.'s original instructions to MUs and the proposed directive on "Command" attached.

3. My representative is prepared to discuss this matter with you during his next visit at end Nov, if you so wish.

h-Brown 2924
Major General
M.M.I.A.

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

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

SUBJECT: Function of H.E. att'd to Combat Groups.

50 British Liaison Unit.

Ref G/5/17

19 Nov. 44.

H Q
H.M.L.A.

Ref your S/6/29/12 dated 13 Nov.

(1) Ref para 2 of AAI 1695/50/57/6 (sub1) :

(a) H.E. of Interpreters.

R.L.U.
Italian Increscent to R.L.U.
Two English Sgts.
Two Italian Cpls.

Op. H.Q.
Two Officers.

No other interpreters within H.E. of any unit in Op.

(b) Present strength of interpreters.

R.L.U.	One English Sjt. Slow but accurate. No Italian Cpls. One Italian Officer att'd. Perfect.
Op H.Q.	One officer. Weak. (Two clerks within H.E. speak English.) One very good, one fair.
Regt Inf.	Three officers each. Weak. in Excess of H.E.
Regt Arty.	Four officers. Weak. in Excess of H.E.
S & T Coy.	Three officers. Fair. in Excess of H.E.
Workshops	Two officers. One fair. one useless. in Excess of H.E.

(c) Method laid down in para 5 of your S/6/29 of Sep 44.

(d) Scale of interpreters as authorized by H.E. entirely inadequate.
Italian interpreters actually present approximately right for numbers
but entirely inadequate in performance.

(e) Alternations and additions to H.E. considered necessary.

No other interpreters within W.E. of any unit in Gp.

(b) Present strength of interpreters.

B.L.U.	One English Sjt. Slow but accurate. No Italian Cpls. One Italian Officer att'd. Perfect.
Gp H.Q.	One officer. Weak. (Two clerks within W.E. speak English.) One very good, one fair.
Regt Inf.	Three officers each. Weak. in Excess of W.E.
Regt Arty.	Four officers. Weak. in Excess of W.E.
S & T Coy.	Three officers. Fair. in Excess of W.E.
Workshops	Two officers. One fair. one useless. in Excess of W.E.

(c) Method laid down in para 5 of your S/G/29 of Sep 44.

(d) Scale of interpreters as authorized by W.E. entirely inadequate. Italian interpreters actually present approximately right for numbers but entirely inadequate in performance.

(e) Alterations and additions to W.Es considered necessary. 1923
(1) Italian officers. 19.

B.L.U. Increment	2. One primarily for G. One for primarily, Q.
GP, H.Q.	2. One for Regt HQ. One for each BH.
Inf's Regts (Each)	4. Essential.
Arty Regt	2.
Engr Bn	1.
Tpt Coy	2.
Workshops	1.
O.F.P.	1.
	<u>19</u>

(41) British officers. 5. All to be on strength of B.L.U.

B.L.U.	1.
Inf Regt HQ each	1.
Arty Regt	1.
Eng Bn	<u>1</u>

Sheet 2.

(f) No. At present quite out of question, even with unauthorised Italian officer interpreters now with Gp Standard of Italian interpreters low, and no British interpreters of any sort present or otherwise.

NOTE.

Present W.E. H.L.

The British Spts and two Italian Cpls, even if present, entirely unsuitable for translation etc of orders, R/T verbal and written. Officers are essential for this duty.

MOs as on present W.E. are also essential however for mass of "back work" involved. Number adequate if provided.

2. Ref 1 (a) and (b) of the Draft of suggested functions. I am in complete agreement.

Ref 1 (c) of the Draft.

The R.L.U. can provide liaison between the Italian Gp to which they are att'd and the Allied Corps etc under whose command the Gp find themselves. The R.L.U. can also provide liaison, through its Q and Services Staff Officers with Allied installations such as Ordnance Depots, Supply Depots and Workshops.

I do NOT however consider that the R.L.U. as at present constituted can possibly provide liaison, in the accepted sense with any other Allied formations or units such as flank formations or adjoining units.

This applies particularly to the G side. If liaison of this kind is required it will be necessary to add to the R.L.U. a team of ordinary liaison officers for this purpose, and for this purpose only.

A "cock-shy" for size of this team would be 6 officers, rank to be decided, one for duty with HQ of each flanking formation (Div level) and four for use forward on the lower levels.

Ref 2 of the Draft.

It is agreed that on the G side the R.L.U. has NO executive role. It is however felt that on the Q and services side:

- (1) R.L.U. Staff Officers must for some time to come be allowed modified executive authority within the Gp. Until the Italian staff have learnt a great deal more and had a great deal more practice, chaos (at least in this Group) is otherwise inevitable.
- (11) R.L.U. Staff Officers must have a definitely executive role in all dealing with higher Allied formation and with all Allied installations.

Difficulties of language and slowness of translation, coupled with unwillingness of Italian Officers to accept responsibility and of Allied installations etc to accord it to them, will otherwise produce quite intolerable delay and confusion.

1024

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The B.L.U. can also provide liaison, through its Q and Services Staff Officers with Allied installations such as Ordnance Depots, Supply Depots and Workshops. I do not however consider that the B.L.U. as at present constituted can possibly provide liaison, in the accepted sense with any other Allied formations or units such as flank formations or adjoining units.

This applies particularly to the G side. If liaison of this kind is required it will be necessary to add to the B.L.U. a team of ordinary liaison officers for this purpose, and for this purpose only.

A "cock-shy" for size of this team would be 6 officers, rank to be decided, one for duty with HQ of each flanking formation (Div level) and four for use forward on the lower levels.

Ref 2 of the Draft.

It is agreed that on the G side the B.L.U. has no executive role.

It is however felt that on the Q and services side:

(1) B.L.U. Staff Officers just for some time to come be allowed notified executive authority within the Gp. Until the Italian staff have learnt a great deal more and had a great deal more practice, chaos (at least in this Group) is otherwise inevitable.

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2920

C.M.F.
ARCS/lan.

s/d A.R.C. SOUTHEY, Lt Col.
G.S.

copied. tva. 6. C.

COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Function of ELU and Combat Groups

To :-
HQ
M.M.I.A.
51 British Liaison Unit
A 2

Ref your S/C/28/12 of 13 Nov. herewith my views.

1. Interpreters (a) The N of interpreters in the ELU and Gruppo is as follows

ELU	Italian Increment to ELU	Gruppo
Two British Sergeants	Two Italian Corporals	Two Italian Officers (at Gruppo HQ)

(b) The present strength and standard of interpreters

ELU	Italian Increment	Gruppo
Strength: One British Sgt	One Italian Pte	Two Italian Officers
Standard: Fair	Adequate	One good One fair

(c) The method proposed for translation and interpretation of orders was laid down in para 5 of your S/C/29 of Sep 44 as follows:-

- (a) Orders and memoranda are issued in the language of the nation of origin
- (b) Translation into Italian is the responsibility of the Italian recipient
- (c) Translation into English of documents and conversation from Italian Groups to English addressees will be the responsibility of the ELU to whom sufficient interpreters are allotted for the purpose.

(d) The present interpreter situation barely permits of the ELU and Gruppo functioning during this period of trg and semi-peace conditions. I consider it ludicrously inadequate for war.

The interpreters within the ELU who are two British Sgts (in fact one Sgt in the case of this ELU) are NOT to my mind suitable for the translation of the Gruppo's orders for operations with a view to their onward transmission to Corps. I do NOT consider it is reasonable to make a WO responsible for the interpretation of orders involving the main elements of a Div in say, an attack.

The Italian pte soldier who deputises for two corporal interpreters in the Italian Increment att to this ELU speaks fluent American. He is quite

(b) The present strength and standard of interpreters

ELU	Italian Increment	Gruppo
Strength One British Sgt	One Italian Pte	Two Italian Officers
Standard Pair	Adequate	One good One fair

(c) The method proposed for translation and interpretation of orders was laid down in para 6 of your S/C/29 of Sep 44 as follows:-

- (a) Orders and memoranda are issued in the language of the nation of origin
 (b) Translation into Italian is the responsibility of the Italian recipient
 (c) Translation into English of documents and conversation from Italian Groups to English addressees will be the responsibility of the ELU to whom sufficient interpreters are allotted for the purpose.

(d) The present interpreter situation barely permits of the ELU and Gruppo functioning during this period of truce and semi-peace conditions. I consider it ludicrously inadequate for war.

The interpreters within the ELU who are two British Sgts (in fact one Sgt in the case of this ELU) are NOT to my mind suitable for the translation of the Gruppo's orders for operations with a view to their onward transmission to Corps. I do NOT consider it is reasonable to make a NOC responsible for the interpretation of orders involving the main elements of a Div in any attack.

The Italian pte soldier who deputises for two corporal interpreters in the Italian Increment att to this ELU speaks fluent American. He is quite adequate for passing on routine orders and instructions to drivers etc.

Of the two Italian Officers at Gruppo HQ one - a subaltern - is a very good fluent but at times inaccurate interpreter. The other is a senile officer who is good in conversation but is liable to break down in any complicated interpretation. He would never function in battle. In actual fact all real interpretation is done by the MILA LO and the Italian subaltern. These are doing an hour's work together every day to perfect their performance. There are no official interpreters outside ELU and Gruppo HQ. In the Regts interpretation is entirely haphazard. The Comd 21 Regts speaks a little English, a subaltern in the 22 Regt is a fair interpreter, the SO XI RA speaks to the Comd 7 Arty Regt in French. No interpreters exist in the Services, Engineers or Signals. Liaison between the ELU staff and their opposite numbers in these services are carried on in French and by signs. All this improvised interpretation does in fact produce results at this stage. It will be appreciated that there are no reserves or any allowance for any interpreter to have any sleep or be sick.

(a) I consider a large addition to interpreters will be necessary in action. The following seems to me the minimum:-

Formation	Br Interpreters	Italian Interpreters
B L U	: 2 Officers (2)	: 2 Officers (2)
Gruppen HQ	: 1 Officer (1)	: 1 Officer (1)
Each Inf Regt HQ (2)	: 1 Officer (2)	: 1 Officer (2)
" " Bn HQ (6)	: 1 Officer (6)	: 1 Officer (6)
Arty Regt HQ (1)	: 1 Officer (1)	: 1 Officer (1)
Engineer Bn HQ (1)	: 1 Officer (1)	: 1 Officer (1)
Each " Coy HQ (2)	: 1 Officer (2)	: 1 Officer (2)
Signal Coy (1)	: 1 Officer (1)	: 1 Officer (1)
Mechanical Engineers	: 1 Officer (1)	: 1 Officer (1)
Ordnance & Transport	: 1 Officer (1)	: 1 Officer (1)

This makes a total of 6 British Officer interpreters and 17 Italian Officer interpreters. The British might well be Maltese officers of the R.M.A. or R.O.M.A. The two British Sgts at HLU HQ might be dispensed with, but I recommend the retention of one for routine work.

(f) The pen at Regts is shown in (d) and (e) above. No interpretation facilities exist there at present. There can be no question under our present N 2 of providing any from the resources of the HLU or Gruppe.

2. Year T.S/G/28 of Sep 44 lays down the function of the HLU as follows:-

(a) A British Liaison Unit (B.L.U.) will be attached to each independent Group HQ. It will be self-contained administratively but will be located at or very close to the Italian H.Q. The O. i/e will, through his officers of the various arms and services, be responsible that:-

- i. Orders received are properly understood and obeyed.
- ii. Information required by higher authority is properly and accurately supplied, translated and transmitted.
- iii. Training is maintained and improved whenever and wherever possible.
- iv. Administrative services and maintenance duties are efficiently and economically performed.
- v. Circumstances likely to effect detrimentally the fighting or administrative efficiency of the formation, or the morale of the troops, are promptly prevented, rectified and/or reported to the proper authority.
- vi. In battle, communication with flank and rear formations is maintained.

The B.L.U. will in addition be the primary channel of communication between the Italian H.Q. and subordinate and flank formations on all questions

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The B.L.U. will in addition be the primary channel of communication between the Italian H.Q. and superior and flank formations on all questions affecting Italian units in their role as a component part of the Allied Forces.

This corresponds in general terms with the draft charter add to AAI letter 1605/50/57/5(SB) of 10 Nov and I am in general agreement with both. It should be made clear, however, that the HLU can do little else but deal with the next higher formation (presumably a British Corps). Any liaison with flanking Allied units must, in my opinion, be the responsibility of these flanking units who must send liaison parties to the HLU.

- 3 -

In my opinion a certain responsibility must rest on the MU to report on the performance of the Gruppo to which it is accredited and on the senior commanders of the Gruppo.

It is stressed that the MU has NO executive role. In practice I visualize officers of the MU taking a fairly active part in the actual direction of the Gruppo in the early stages. This may apply more especially to the S.O.S.A., S.O.R.E. etc.

(Sgd)

Lt. Col.
General Staff .

Field
17 Nov 44
DWG/RGT

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

2919

SECRET

ITALIAN COMBAT GROUPS

Instructions to British Officers selected for
Liaison and Training Duties.

Army Sub Commission, MEIA.
H.Q., A.C.C.

ROME.

T.S./G/29
Sep 44.

OBJECT. These instructions are issued for the information and general guidance of British officers attached to fighting units of the Italian Army. They do not attempt to specify duties in detail and must not be allowed to hamper zeal and initiative of individual officers. They may be quoted to Italian Commanders or staff officers as required.

1. INFORMATION.

- (a) British weapons, transport and equipment are being provided for certain units of the Italian Army which are being organised as self-contained Combat Groups (GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTO) of about 9,000 men each.
- (b) The number of groups will depend on the quality of Italian man-power and the quantity of British equipment available in the time at our disposal.
- (c) Certain Italian divisions have been selected each to form the basis of one of these Groups; the concentration reorganisation and re-training of the first two divisions is now taking place.
- (d) British officers are being appointed to each Group for liaison, training and supervisory duties as described in para 4.
- (e) An administrative "tail" to augment Allied L of C and forward maintenance units is being organised separately.

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

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- (e) An administrative "tail" to augment Allied L of C and forward maintenance units is being organised separately.

2918

2. INTENTION.

- (a) It is intended to employ these Groups in action (either separately or together) under Allied Formation Commanders at the earliest possible moment.
- (b) They are to be lightly equipped, without armour, and will be motor borne except for the Infantry rifle coys. They are not intended to undertake major offensive operations unaided.
- (c) Sufficient Italian supporting troops and administrative services are being made available to Allied commanders concerned.

contd sheet 2/..

Sheet 2.

(d) The Italian commanders and staffs are to be responsible for their own internal administration and the tactical handling of units of their groups to the fullest possible extent.

(e) The internal organisation of groups is to be uniform and as simple and so effective as is commensurate with the above conditions.

3. METHOD.

(a) The standard organisation of a Gruppo di Combattimento is given in Appx. "A" and will NOT be altered without A.F.H.Q. approval. The Italian system of command has been retained as far as possible to avoid confusion in technical training. The number of different types of weapons and vehicles has been kept to a minimum to save time in technical training.

(b) The directive issued to the Italian General Staff (S.M.R.E.) is given in Appx. "B"

Copies of further directives will be issued to B.L.U.s.

(c) British liaison and training staffs will be as given in Appx. "C"; they will carry out their various duties in accordance with standard British procedure and the following general instructions: -

(d) Separate instructions will be issued regarding:

- i. Operational channels of communication.
- ii. Training programmes.
- iii. Reinforcement and other personnel questions.
- iv. Maintenance.

4. LIAISON.

(a) A British Liaison Unit (B.L.U.) will be attached to each independent Group H.Q. It will be self-contained administratively but will be located at or very close to the Italian H.Q. The C. i/c will, through his officers of the various arms and services, be responsible that: -

- i. Orders received are properly understood and obeyed.
- ii. Information required by higher authority is properly and accurately supplied, translated and transmitted.
- iii. Training is maintained and improved whenever and wherever possible.
- iv. Administrative services and maintenance duties are

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- vi. In battle, communication with flank and rear formations is maintained.

The B.L.U. will in addition to the primary channel of communication between the Italian H.Q. and superior and flank formations on all questions affecting Italian units in their role as a component part of the Allied Forces.

contd. sheet 3/...

Sheet 3.

- (b) The Military Mission to the Italian Army (M.M.I.A.) is the sole channel of communication between Allied commanders and the Ministry of War and General Staff (S.M.R.E.). The M.M.I.A. representative (I.C.) at each Group HQ will therefore deal (normally through M.M.I.A.) with all questions affecting Italian personnel in their role as an integral part of the Italian Army. He will maintain the closest possible touch with the officers of the B.L.U. to assure that all essential matters are adequately and properly handled without overlapping or waste of time and effort.
- (c) A training staff is provided by the D.M.T. (in addition to B.L.U.s) during initial reorganization and training phases to supplement the training given to Italian instructors in British schools and to supervise and report on the standard of training reached. They will be withdrawn as each Group reaches the stage when it can carry on under B.L.U. supervision.

5. TRANSLATION.

- (a) Orders and memoranda are issued in the language of the nation of origin.
- (b) Translation into Italian is the responsibility of the Italian recipient.
- (c) Translation into English of documents and conversation from Italian Groups to English addresses will be the responsibility of the B.L.U. to whom sufficient interpreters are allotted for the purpose.

6. ADMINISTRATION.

- (a) All British personnel attached to Italian Combat Groups will be under command of the O i/c B.L.U. and will carry out their technical duties according to normal British procedure.
- (b) O i/c B.L.U. (and MMIA L.O.) will submit such routine reports etc as are required from time to time by the authorities mentioned in para 4.
- (c) War Diaries will be kept by each B.L.U. and sent monthly to the HQ of the superior formation to which they are allotted.
- (d) Supplies for British personnel will be drawn on British scales in the normal way from nearest British Depots and will not be a charge on the Italian Army.

1035

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- (d) Supplies for British personnel will be drawn on British scales in the normal way from nearest British Depots and will not be a charge on the Italian Army.

7. CONCLUSION.

This undertaking may have far reaching effects on our relations with ITALY as well as on the course of the War. Its success depends on the zeal efficiency and tact of Allied officers concerned and on the resulting ability and readiness of the Italian troops to co-operate. It must and will succeed.

W. Pickley
for Major General.

Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

twv, WP.
sten, 40.c.

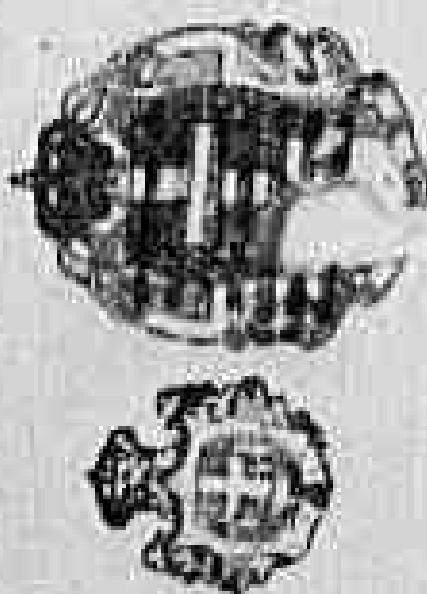
1036

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

BRITISH DIRECTIVE NO 3 (COMMAND)

1. Italian Combat Groups will come under Allied Command, for all purposes except Internal Administration, as soon as their reorganisation is complete. Being organised on a Divisional basis, they will normally be placed (either singly or together) under command of a British Corps in the forward area or of a British District in rear. They may, however, be used as part of any formation or in any way considered advisable by the Allied C. in C.
2. Auxiliary Units of the Combat Force will similarly be placed under orders of appropriate Allied HQ or temporarily attached to Combat Groups if the administrative situation requires it.
3. Internal Administration, which means the control of matters affecting units or personnel in their role as an integral part of the Italian Army, will be the direct responsibility of the Ministry of War; any questions in which the Allies are concerned being dealt with by or through M.M.I.A.
4. A British Liaison Unit (BLU) is appointed to the HQ of each Combat Group to act as the channel of communication in both directions for all matters between the Group Commander and Allied Headquarters. The officer in charge of the BLU will be responsible for passing all orders from appropriate Allied commanders to his Group Commander. Where action required is indicated in general terms only, or by a statement of policy, the O i/c BLU will be responsible for defining or amplifying the general orders so as to ensure attainment of their object. In this respect the O i/c BLU is a Staff Officer of the Allied Commander concerned and orders coming from him will be regarded as having the authority of that Allied Commander.
5. Administrative Services ^{etc} as represented in the BLU by appropriate officers; technical matters pertaining to such services will be dealt with by these officers acting as the channel of communication between Allied and Italian services in these matters.
6. A M.M.I.A. Liaison Officer is attached to each BLU, and is the channel of communication and adviser on all matters of internal administration (as defined in para 2). His decisions will be regarded as having the authority of the Director M.M.I.A.

2916



TM/VG

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

Gabinetto

Prot. N. 304998 / 1/CA Allegati

317.III.25

Regolato al fido

~~Roma~~ P.M. 151, 23 novembre 1944

Dir. Sec. 15

OGGETTO: Interpreti.

Interpreti

29/12 SSec.

Al LA LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION - A.C. - (M.M.I.A.) 24/11

ROMA

24 Nov.

Riferimento lettera S/G/29/12 del 13 corrente.

- 1) I 12 interpreti di cui al N.1 del foglio suddetto, dallo Stato Maggiore sono stati messi a disposizione del nucleo di collegamento per necessità addestrative, su richiesta del nucleo stesso tramite il comando del gruppo combattimento "Priuli".
- 2) Al gruppo di combattimento "Cremona" sono stati assegnati dallo Stato Maggiore solo due ufficiali interpreti.

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO ALLA GUERRA
(Generale G.E.Oxilia)

1. Oxilia

ROMA

24 Nov.
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- 1) I 12 interpreti di cui al N.1 del foglio suddetto, dallo Stato Maggiore sono stati messi a disposizione del nucleo di collegamento per necessità addestrative, su richiesta del nucleo stesso tramite il comando del gruppo combattimento "Friuli".
- 2) Al gruppo di combattimento "Cremona" sono stati assegnati dallo Stato Maggiore solo due ufficiali interpreti.

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO ALLA GUERRA
(Generale G.B.Oxilia)

1. Add. in

2917

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

1039

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

SECRET: - ~~Security~~

100 24 DLS, OAT
Copy to: - H. 241A
H. 3 Dist
H. 94 Sub Area
O 52 DLU

Sec

CONFIDENTIAL

23 Nov 1944
19 Nov 44

Sec

22/11

Ref A/5/12 of 8 Nov 44. Acknowledgment of the data is acknowledged and it is noted that your letter A/4/12 of 4 Nov 44 is cancelled.

The passage contained in the signal message A/263 of 4 Nov 44 added to this Dey "considered unjustified, unreasonable and obstructive in view of probable size and facilities your adm staff" is considered unwarranted.

✓
COP
FOJGZ/LH

W. W. W. W.
Lt col,
Comd.

1040

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

131
AUTHORITY FOR ATTACHMENT.

17 November 44

From: G.H.Q. 2nd Echelon, C.M.F.

To: **50 Br. Liaison Unit.**

SHEET No:

Ref. No: **62E/MP/ATT/ 1651**

PART I.

AUTHORITY IS GRANTED, subject to the under mentioned conditions, for the attachment of personnel shown in Part IV. to:

52 B.L.U.

PART II.

MOVEMENT OF PERSONNEL.

- (a) Movement will be arranged by this H.Q.
- (b) (i) Holding unit will despatch personnel shown in Part IV to on Echelon transport, to await unit collection.
- (ii) Receiving unit will collect personnel from 4 days after receipt of this Advice.

(Delete (a) or (b), whichever is not applicable).

PART III.

CONDITIONS OF ATTACHMENT.

- (a) Termination at 24 hrs notice by this H.Q. at any time.
- (b) Return of personnel under unit arrangements.
- (c) Monthly review.
- (d) Date of Review **17 December 44.**
- (e) Under no circumstances will the u/m personnel be absorbed into W.E. without prior authority from this Headquarters.
- (f) All Casualties in respect of the u/m personnel will be published on appropriate A.F.W.3012. Throughout the period of attachment, personnel will be accounted for in Part 'B' of A.F.W.3009.
- (g) On the termination of this Attachment, personnel will be returned to **G.R.F.D.**

This AUTHORITY will be subject to:
See 12/4

PART IV.

No.	Rank.	Name.	Arm.	A. S. C. Recommendation	Med. Cat.	Age.	State of Despatch.	Arrival.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)

See attached Medical Roll.

This attachment cancels the attachment of these personnel to 50 B.L.U. under authority **62E/MP/ATT/ 1651** Column (b) will be completed by the Holding Unit.
Column (i) will be completed by the Receiving Unit.

Copy to

52 Br. Liaison Unit.

52 (H.Q.)

C. M. F.

10 November

Brigadier, R.

D.A.C.

G.H.Q., 2nd Echelon

PART V. INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF FORM.

SHEET 1. Will be retained by the Receiving Unit.

PART III. CONDITIONS OF ATTACHMENT.

This AUTHORITY will be subject to:-

- (a) Termination at 24 hrs notice by this H.Q. at any time.
- (b) Return of personnel under unit arrangements.
- (c) Monthly review.
- (d) Date of Review **17 December 44.**
- (e) Under no circumstances will the u/n personnel be absorbed into W.E. without prior authority from this Headquarters.
- (f) All Casualties in respect of the u/n personnel will be published on appropriate A.F.W.3012. Throughout the period of attachment, personnel will be accounted for in Part B of A.F.W.3000.
- (g) On the termination of this Attachment, personnel will be returned to **G.R.T.D.** and this H.Q. informed.

PART IV.

No.	Rank.	Name.	Arms.	A. S. C. Recommendation	Med. Cat.	Age.	2. Date of Despatch	3. Date of Arrival.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)

See attached Mardrel Roll.

This attachment cancels the attachment of these personnel to 50 B.L.U. under authority **028.100/100/671** be completed by the Holding Unit.

Column (i) will be completed by the Receiving Unit.

Copy to **M.M.I.A. - Your EPW 8-3 321 dated 13 Nov 44 refers.****52 Dr. Liaison Unit.****B/5 (RAC).****MTS.**

C. M. F.

10 Nov 44
 Brigadier, **SC**
 D.A.G.,
 G.H.Q., 2nd Echelon

PART V. INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF FORM.

- SHEET 1. Will be retained by the Holding Unit.
- SHEET 2. Will be returned to G.H.Q. 2nd Echelon (Manpower Section) showing the date on which personnel are despatched.
- SHEET 3. Will be sent with Personnel to Unit to which attached, and returned to G.H.Q. 2nd Echelon (Manpower Section) showing date on which personnel arrived.
- SHEET 4. File. SHEET 5. S/Capt. (Mov) 02F.

All correspondence relating to this attachment will quote: 02E MPATT/651

11 0 4 2

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 78502002B/HP/ATS/1651.

No. (a)	Rank. (b)	Name. (c)	Art. (d)	A.B.C. Recommendation. (e)	Med. Cat. (f)	Age. (g)	Denp. (h)	Date of Arml. (i)
7640799	Pte.	ISAACS L.A.	RAOC.	Storeman/SA.	A1.			
7648386	"	KEAN P.W.	do.	do.	A1.			
10577323	"	WILLCOX H.L.	do.	do.				
6850021	"	ROSENBER J.F.	do.	Storeman/Armt.	B7.			
3657504	"	BURGESS A.F.	do.	do.	B2.			
2884429	"	REID W.	do.	Storeman/SA.	B7.			
7640517	"	TAYLOR P.D.	do.	Storeman/Eng.	A1.			
4104987	"	TAYLOR P.S.	do.	do.	A1.			

2813

1043

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

Modello TF

5-35 dell'istruzione sul collegamento - Vol. II
(Cim. 709 - ediz. 1940 - XVIII)

(1) Mittente

N. 2927 del Catal.

Indicazioni d'g
o eventuali

15/22
8/Sec
M.
U 4DST. DA COSENZA 254 64 21/11 1940

Indice del collegamento

DA COMANDO GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO MANTOVA RM. 104F

ET PEC CONOSCENZA STAMAGGIORE ORDINAMENTO COMILIT CALABRIA

COMILIT CAMPANIA

10

alle ore

Trasmesso il

10

alle ore

NR. 01/7750/ ALT PRESENTE EST DIRETTO AT M.M.I.A. ET CONOSCENZA
UTAMAGGIORE ORDINAMENTO ET COMILIT CALABRIA ET COMILIT CAMPANIA
RIFERIMENTO TELE SENZA NUMERO DATA 20- CORRENTE DELLA M.M.I.A. ALT
PLOTONE SEGVIZI PER BLU 50 AT COMANDO TENENTE MORINI PARTIRA' 23
CORRENTE ALT MOVIMENTO, MEDIANTE AUTOTRASPORTO ALT COMANDO XRIULI
ET CAPITANO GENTLE 54 AVVERTITI ALT GENERALE BOLOGNA 1930211144.

TVS. MARVIS DSPNR. 2254 AT ORE 0150221154 COV? (

RC RUSSI 360 P

2912

1044

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

SERVIZIO TELEGRAFICO MILITARE

(1)

Consegnato al messaggero
alle ore

Ora di recapito

(1) Telegrammi, fonogrammi, fototelegrammi, fotofonogrammi, marcotelegrammi e loro
marconigrammi.

Primo lembo da piegare



8422

1045

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

file
128

20/12

20 1132A

MIA

50 BLU

SS 362

RESTRICTED

On handover to 54 BLU please give them copies of your
A/D of 17 Oct

✓ 2/11

ROUTINE

2011

[Handwritten signature]

Subject : Function of HI attd to Combat Groups.

H Q
M.M.I.A.

50 British Liaison Unit.

Ref G/5/17.

19 Nov. 44.

Ref your S/G/29/12 dated 13 Nov.

(1) Ref para 2 of A.A.I. 1605/50/57/G (SD1) :

(a) W.E. of Interpreters.

B.L.U.
Italian Increment to B.L.U.
Two English Sgts.
Two Italian Cpls.

Gp H.Q.

Two Officers.

No other interpreters within W.E. of any unit in Gp.

(b) Present strength of interpreters.

B.L.U.

One English Sgt. Slow but accurate.
No Italian Cpls.
One Italian Officer attd. Perfect.

Gp H.Q.

One Officer. Weak.
(Two clerks within
W.E. speak English)
One very good,
one fair.

Regt Inf.

Three Officers each.

Regt Arty.

Four Officers.

S & T Coy.

Three Officers.

Workshops.

Two Officers.

Weak.
In excess of W.E.
Weak.
In excess of W.E.
Fair.
In excess of W.E.
One fair,
One useless.
In excess of W.E.

(c) Method laid down in para 5 of your S/G/29 of Sep 44.

(d) Scale of interpreters as authorised by W.E. entirely inadequate.
Italian interpreters actually present approximately right for numbers
but entirely inadequate in performance.

(e) Alterations and additions to W.Es considered necessary :
(1) Italian Officers.

19.

B.L.U. Increment.
Gp H.Q.

2. One primarily for G. One primarily for Q.
2.

1047

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

(b) Present strength of interpreters.

B.L.U.	One English Sgt. Slow but accurate. No Italian Cpls. One Italian Officer attd. Perfect.
Gp H.Q.	One Officer. Weak. (Two clerks within W.E. speak English) One very good, one fair.
Regt Inf.	Three Officers each. Weak.
Regt Arty.	Four Officers. In excess of W.E. Weak.
S & T Coy.	Three Officers. In excess of W.E. Fair.
Workshops.	Two Officers. In excess of W.E. One fair, One useless. In excess of W.E.

(c) Method laid down in para 5 of your S/G/29 of Sep 44.

(d) Scale of interpreters as authorised by W.E. entirely inadequate. Italian interpreters actually present approximately right for numbers but entirely inadequate in performance.

(e) Alterations and additions to W.Es considered necessary :
(i) Italian Officers. 19.

B.L.U. Increment.	2. One primarily for G. One primarily for Q.
Gp H.Q.	2.
Inf Regt (each).	4. One for Regt HQ. One for each Bn.
Arty Regt.	2.
Engr Bn.	1. Essential.
Tpt Coy.	2.
Workshops.	1.
O.F.P.	1.
	<u>19.</u>

(ii) British Officers.

5. All to be on strength of B.L.U.

B.L.U.	1.
Inf Regt HQ each.	1.
Arty Regt.	1.
Eng Bn.	1.
	<u>5.</u>

2919

./.

SHEET 2.

(7) No. At present quite out of question, even with unauthorised Italian Officer interpreters now with Gp. Standard of Italian interpreters low, and no British interpreters of any sort present or otherwise.

Note.

Present W.E. B.L.U.
Two British Sgts and two Italian Cpls, even if present, entirely unsuitable for translation etc. of orders, R/T verbal and written. Officers are essential for this duty.
NCOs as on present W.E. are also essential however for mass of "hack - work" involved. Number adequate if provided.

(2) Ref 1 (a) and (b) of the Draft of suggested functions.
I am in complete agreement.

Ref 1 (c) of the Draft.
The B.L.U. can provide liaison between the Italian Gp to which they are att'd and the Allied Corps etc under whose com'd the Gp find themselves.
The B.L.U. can also provide liaison, through its Q and Services Staff Officers, with Allied installations such as Ordnance Depots, Supply Depots and Workshops.
I do NOT however consider that the B.L.U. as at present constituted can possibly provide liaison, in the accepted sense with any other Allied formations or units such as flank formations or adjoining units.

This applies particularly to the G side. If liaison of this kind is required it will be necessary to add to the B.L.U. a team of ordinary liaison Officers for this purpose, and for this purpose only.

A "cock-shy" for size of this team would be 6 Officers, rank to be decided, one for duty with HQ of each flanking formation (Div level) and four for use forward on the lower levels.

Ref 2 of the Draft.

It is agreed that on the G side the B.L.U. has NO executive role.

It is however felt that on the Q and services side

(i) B.L.U. Staff Officers must for some time to come be allowed modified executive authority within the Gp. Until the Italian staff have learnt a great deal more and had a great deal more ~~real~~ practice, chaos (at least in this Gp) is otherwise inevitable.

(ii) B.L.U. Staff Officers must have a definitely executive role in all dealing with higher Allied formation and with all Allied installations.

Difficulties of language and slowness of translation, coupled with unwillingness of Italian Officers to accept responsibility and of Allied installations etc to accord it to them, will otherwise produce quite intolerable delay and confusion.

C.M.F.
ARCS/LGB.

W.E. B.L.U.

Lt Col.
G.S.

2909

Subject :- Function of ELUs att'd to Combat Groups

To :-
H Q
M M I A

CONFIDENTIAL

51 British Liaison Unit

A 2

Ref your S/C/24/12 of 13 Nov, herewith my views.

1 Interpreters (a) The V S of Interpreters in the ELU and Gruppo is as follows

B L U		Gruppo	
Two British Sergeants	Italian Inherent to ELU	Two Italian Corporals	Two Italian officers (at Gruppo HQ)

(b) The present strength and standard of interpreters

B L U		Gruppo	
Strength	One British Sgt	One Italian Pte	Two Italian officers
			One good One fair
Standard	Fair	Adequate	

(c) The method proposed for translation and interpretation of orders was laid down in para 5 of your S/C/29 of Sep 44 as follows :-

- (a) Orders and memoranda are issued in the language of the nation of origin in translation into Italian is the responsibility of the Italian recipient
(b) Translation into English of documents and conversation from Italian Groups to English addressees will be the responsibility of the ELU to whom sufficient interpreters are allotted for the purpose.

(d) The present interpreter situation barely permits of the ELU and Gruppo functioning during this period of truce and semi-peace conditions. I consider it ludicrously inadequate for war.

The interpreters within the ELU who are two British Sgts (in fact one Sgt in the case of this ELU) are NOT to my mind suitable for the translation of the Gruppo's orders for operations with a view to their onward transmission to Corps. I do NOT consider it is reasonable to make a NCO responsible for the interpretation of orders involving the main elements of a Div in any an attack.

The Italian...

(at Gruppo HQ)

(b) The present strength and standard of interpreters

E I U		Italian Increment		Gruppo
Strength	One British Sgt	One Italian Pte	Two Italian officers	
Standard	Fair	Adequate	One good One fair	

(c) The method proposed for translation and interpretation of orders was laid down in para 5 of your S/G/29 of Sep 44 as follows :-

- (a) Orders and memoranda are issued in the language of the nation of origin
- (b) Translation into Italian is the responsibility of the Italian recipient
- (c) Translation into English of documents and conversation from Italian Groups to English addressees will be the responsibility of the EIU to whom sufficient interpreters are allotted for the purpose.

(d) The present interpreter situation barely permits of the EIU and Gruppo functioning during this period of try and semi-peace conditions. I consider it ludicrously inadequate for war.

The interpreters within the EIU who are two British Sgts (in fact one Sgt in the case of this EIU) are NOT to my mind suitable for the translation of the Gruppo's orders for operations with a view to their onward transmission to Corps. I do NOT consider it is reasonable to make a NCO responsible for the interpretation of orders involving the main elements of a Div in any an attack.

The Italian Pte soldier who deputises for two colonial interpreters in the Italian Increment att to this EIU speaks fluent Italian. He is quite adequate for passing on routine orders and instructions to drivers etc.

Of the two Italian Officers at Gruppo HQ one - a subaltern - is a very good fluent but at times inaccurate interpreter. The other is a senior officer who is good in conversation but is liable to break down in any complicated interpretation. He would never function in battle. In actual fact all real interpretation is done by the EIU IO and the Italian subaltern. These are doing an hour's work together every day to perfect their performance. There are no official interpreters outside EIU and Gruppo HQ. In the Corps interpretation is entirely haphazard. The Cord 21 locs speaks a little English, a subaltern in the 22 Regt is a fair interpreter, the SO II ad speaks to the Cord 7 arty Regt in French. No interpreters exist in the Services, Engineers or Signals. Liaison between the EIU staff and their opposite numbers in these services are carried on in French and by signs. All this improvised interpretation does in fact produce results at this stage. It will be appreciated that there are no reserves or any allowance for any interpreter to have any sleep or be sick.

15 Dec 44

(e) I consider a large addition to interpreters will be necessary in action. The following seems to me the minimum :-

Formation	Br Interpreters	Italian interpreters
B L U	2 officers (2)	2 Officers (2)
Gruppo HQ	-	One officer (2)
Each Inf Bn HQ	One officer (2)	One officer (6)
" " Bn HQ	-	One officer (1)
Arty Bn HQ	One officer (1)	One officer (1)
Engineer Bn HQ	One officer (1)	One officer (2)
Each " Coy HQ	-	One officer (1)
Sf Cpl Coy	-	One officer (1)
Mechanical Engineers	-	One officer (1)
Ordnance & Transport	-	One officer (1)

This makes a total of 6 British Officer interpreters and 17 Italian Officer interpreters. The British might well be Maltese officers of the R.M.A or K.O.M.R. The two British Spts at HJ HQ might be dispensed with, but I recommend the retention of one for routine work.

(f) The post at Rosta is shown in (d) and (e) above. No interpretation facilities exist there at present. There can be no question under our present W E of providing any from the resources of the HJ or Gruppo.

2 Your T.S/Q/29 of Sep 44 lays down the function of the HJ as follows :-

(a) A British Liaison Unit (B.L.U.) will be attached to each independent Group H.Q. It will be self-contained administratively but will be located at or very close to the Italian H.Q. The O. i/o will, through his officers of the various arms and services, be responsible that :-

- i. Orders received are properly understood and obeyed.
- ii. Information required by higher authority is properly and accurately supplied, translated and transmitted.
- iii. Training is maintained and improved whenever and wherever possible.
- iv. Administrative services and maintenance duties are efficiently and occasionally performed.
- v. Circumstances likely to affect detrimentally the fighting or administrative efficiency of the formation, or the morale of the troops, are promptly prevented, rectified and/or reported to the proper authority.

total of 6 British Officer interpreters and 17 Italian Officer interpreters. The British might well be Maltese officers of the R.A.M. or R.O.M.R. The two British Spts at MU HQ might be dispensed with, but I recommend the retention of one for routine work.

(c) The point at Romita is shown in (d) and (e) above. No interpretation facilities exist there at present. There can be NO question under our present W 3 of providing any from the resources of the MU or Gruppo.

2 Your T.S./Q/29 of Sep 44 lays down the function of the MU as follows:-

(a) A British Liaison Unit (B.L.U.) will be attached to each independent Group H.Q. It will be self-contained administratively but will be located at or very close to the Italian H.Q. The O. i/o will, through his officers of the various arms and services, be responsible that:-

- i. Orders received are properly understood and obeyed.
- ii. Information required by higher authority is properly and accurately supplied, translated and transmitted.
- iii. Training is maintained and improved whenever and wherever possible.
- iv. Administrative services and maintenance duties are efficiently and economically performed.
- v. Circumstances likely to affect detrimentally the fighting or administrative efficiency of the formation, or the morale of the troops, are promptly prevented, rectified and/or reported to the proper authority.
- vi. In battle, communication with flank and rear formations is maintained.

The B.L.U. will in addition be the primary channel of communication between the Italian H.Q. and superior and flank formations on all questions affecting Italian units in their role as a component part of the Allied Forces.

This corresponds in general terms with the draft charter att'd to ALI letter 1605/54/57/6(SD) of 10 Nov and I am in general agreement with both. It should be made clear, however, that the MU can do little else but deal with the next Higher Formation (presumably a British Corps). Any liaison with flanking Allied units must, in my opinion, be the responsibility of those flanking units who must send liaison parties to the MU.

/To Sheet 3

1-053

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

- 3 -

In my opinion a certain responsibility must rest on the ELJ to report on the performance of the Grupo to which it is accredited and on the senior commanders of the Grupo.

It is stressed that the ELJ has NO executive role. In practice I visualize officers of the ELJ taking a fairly active part in the control direction of the Grupo in the early stages. This may apply more especially to the S.O.R.A., S.O.R.S., etc.

Field
17 Nov 44
JMMQ/RCZ

W. H. Miller

Lt Col
General Staff

2807

1054

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

WHA

SO 12 10 4

HQ MANTOVA SP

50 BLU FOR GENTLE 54 BLU

P. 20 K

SD 1822

RESTRICTED

Arrange for BLU service platform to report to Capt
GENTLE 54 BLU at PALAZZO DISCO in SAN GIORGIO on
24 NOV

2906

40

spec sec
NOV

MANTOVA

11 0 5 5
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject : W.E. B.L.U.

50 British Liaison Unit. 124

8/Sec Ref A/2/11.

M.M.I.A.

18 Nov. 44.

Ref 51 B.L.U. letter A/2/1 dated 14 Nov. 44. 201a 29/12

I am in complete agreement with the above quoted letter. J.D.

At present it appears likely that this unit will move with some 100 British personnel, attached in excess of W.E., and a Camp Comdt is more than ever, therefore, essential.

✓
C.M.F.
ARCS/LCB.

Argentine
Lt Col.
G.S.

2905

1056

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

File 123

SUBJECT: Italian Increment to British Liaison Unit

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. W/O/29/12
19 Nov 44

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR
50, 51, 52, 53, 54 RUs

1. Following the approval of an increase of vehicles for the RU, approval has also been given for adding 7 drivers to the establishment of the Italian Increment of the RU, Establishment No. HA/508/1.
2. Please amend this Establishment, and post extra drivers to Italian increments accordingly.
3. This establishment is now given the number XII/508/1.

[Signature]
Major General
M. M. I. A.

2904

4057

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

Subject :- BLU W.E.

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

S/C/29/12.
19 Nov., 44.

To :- 50, 51, 52, 53, ~~64 and 55~~ BLUs.

AFTQ

The following is an extract from WEC minutes of meeting No 126 :-

Addition to minutes of meeting No 126.

1341
(A)

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (MA/508/1)

The War Office have approved the establishment MA/508/1, including the O.S.C. I - I, w.e.f. 25 Aug 44.

Subject to review 25 Feb 45.

Authority:- War Office cable 88693 SD 30 dated 27 Oct 44.

(File 758/Org-3)

Major General
M.M.I.A.

29

13

1058

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

file

N M I A

29/12

19 1730A

AAI

51 BLU

SS 359

RESTRICTED

Recommendations in 51 BLU A2/1 of 14 NOV for addition of
Camp Commandant is supported.

IMPORTANT

2902

✓

10/16/12

Subject :- WE B L U

54 British Liaison Unit

To

:- HQ MCA

HQ AMT
50 RMU
52 RMU
53 RMU
54 RMU
55 RMU

A 2/1

29/12

W.D. Mr. G/S

18/11

1. Since the formation of this BU I have had an opportunity to assess the need for a Camp Government, by experience both with and without an officer functioning in this capacity.

2. (a) Despite the small size of the unit as depicted in the War Establishment it has become apparent that on one account and another we can expect for a great deal of the time to have with us a number of British personnel in excess of 100. (b) During the trc period it has been the Trc Team, the Wkaps, ord stores. (c) In action we can expect the old liaison officer and his div and/or wireless operators and probably others att for a special operation.

3. Quite apart from this, small though the normal HQ is, there is a good deal of administration which an Admin Sgt cannot reasonably be called upon to undertake. At the same time, with only one officer in each branch or service (apart from G), it is not practicable to make one of them responsible for the Admin of the HQ without detracting from his efficiency in his own branch of the staff.

4. I am convinced that all my staff officers will be fully employed on operations on their particular tasks. The fact that ALL RMU's have in fact officers att for the duties of Camp Govt shows the necessity for such an officer. It merely means accepting a fact instead of shutting the official eye to it.

5. Also I noticed that when my first Camp Govt was posted away recently AMU were quite prepared to and did in fact detail a replacement.

6. I therefore ask the the Establishment for the RMU be increased to include a subaltern for the duties of Camp Govt. There would be 50 reason why this officer should not be of a low medical category or - as I can see it - of his being a junior officer in need of a rest from active operations and changed at intervals.

(c) In action we can expect the odd liaison officer and his car and/or wireless operators and probably others att for a special operation.

3. Quite apart from this, small though the normal HQ is, there is a good deal of administration which an Admin Sgt cannot reasonably be called upon to undertake. At the same time, with only one officer in each branch or service (apart from G), it is not practicable to make one of them responsible for the Admin of the HQ without detracting from his efficiency in his own branch of the staff.
4. I am convinced that all my staff officers will be fully employed on operations on their particular tasks. The fact that ALL Hqs have in fact officers att for the duties of Camp Comdt shows the necessity for such an officer. It merely means accepting a fact instead of shutting the official eye to it.
5. Also I noticed that when my first Camp Comdt was posted away recently AMHQ were quite prepared to and did in fact detail a replacement.
6. I therefore ask the the Establishment for the Hq to be increased to include a subaltern for the duties of Camp Comdt.
There would be no reason why this officer should not be of a low medical category or - as I can see it - of his being a junior officer in need of a rest from active operations and changed at intervals.

Field.
14 Nov 44
RNL/TEM.

2901

W. Webb

Ident Col.
General Staff

Signal A.M.L. info 51 BLD

Recommendation in 51 BLD A 2/1 g 14 Nov 44
addition, Camp Comdt to a BLD is warranted.

Dr

ARMY FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
G-1(GF)A-10.

Serial 107.

File No. G-1(GF)A-10.

14 Nov 44.

SUBJECT:- REQUEST FOR REINFORCEMENTS - R. SIGNALS.

TO :- G.H.Q., 2nd Echelon, 9/11/44.

COPIES TO:-
A.O., Main AAL.
C.S.O., Main AAL.
Staff Officer, Capt R. Sigs, 53 HLI.
Comdt., R. Sigs Depot & School of Signals.

Staff Capt. G.H.Q.

May the undermentioned reinforcements be

Posted immediately ~~as follows~~

TO:- Italian Rear Line Sigs, No. 53 HLI.

~~THE FOLLOWING REINFORCEMENTS ARE REQUESTED~~
~~FOR THE ITALIAN REAR LINE SIGNALS~~
~~REQUIREMENT OF 15 NOVEMBER 1944~~
~~FOR THE ITALIAN REAR LINE SIGNALS~~

W.O.I.	R.O.M.S.
C.S.L.	C.O.M.S.
P. of S.	S/Sgt.
Sgt.	Clerks
Carpenters	D.Rs.
Cooks	Dvr. Mechs.
Draughtsmen	Dvr. Operators
Dvrs. I.C.	I.M.
E.S.	Line/Mechs
Linenmen	Ops W & L
Loftmen	Ops W & K
Ops K & L	Ops Cipher H.C.
Ops Smbd	Ops Special
Ops Cipher M.C.	Storemen Tech
Ops Sigs	R.F.Rs.
Asst Trades	Pltbr M.V.
Web Mch	

Staff Capt. 023 G.M.T.

May the undermentioned reinforcements be

Posted immediately ~~to the following units~~
~~as follows:~~

TO Italian Rear Link Sigs, No. 53 BLU.

~~Reinforcements to be posted to the following units:~~
~~as follows:~~

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| W.O.I. | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| C.S.M. | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| E. of S. | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Sgt. | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Carpenters | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Cooks | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Draughtsman | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Drs. I.C. | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| E.S. | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Linen | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Loftmen | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Ops A & L | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Ops Bwd | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Ops Cipher M.G. | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Ops Sigs | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Asst Trades | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |
| Veh Mech | ..... | Sgt. M.S. | ..... |

REMARKS:- To be considered ~~as~~ MEDIUM - 100% priority.

~~Reinforcements to be posted to the following units:~~

Completion of demand G-1(B) 52141/ALOC, serial 61, dated 19 Oct 41.

Will report to Capt. J.A. Dixon, at No. 53 BLU.

6/11 May 1941

[Signature]

P.S. RAE, Staff Capt.
for Major General, D.I.G.
G-1 (Pr).

1063

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

SUBJECT: Interpreters

Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/O/29/12
13 Nov 44

TO : Ministry of War

Copy to: 50 BLU
51 BLU

1. It is understood that 12 officers interpreters are held by FRIULI Group surplus to establishment, distributed as follows :

Group H.Q.	1
Each Infantry Regt	2
Artillery Regt	2
Transport Coy	2
Engineer Battalion	1
Mechanical Engineers Work-shops	1
Ordnance Field Park	1

2. The whole question of the interpreter problem is now under consideration by AAI and the BLU's. Pending final arrangements authority is given for the above officers to remain attached to the FRIULI Group.

3. Please advise MMIA if any officers are similarly attached to CREMONA.

WP
+ Major General
M.M.I.A.

2899

1064

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

SUBJECT: Functions of BLU's attached to
Italian Combat Groups

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

3/0/29/1E

13 Nov 44

TO : 50, 51 BLU's

Reference the attached copy of AAI letter 1505/50/57/G(SM)
of 10 Nov, please send to reach this H.Q. by 22 November :

(1) Your interim report on the question of interpretation of
orders as per para 2.

(11) Your recommendations on the functions of the BLU as per
para 3.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

2898

SUBJECT: Italian increment for 54 BLU.

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

S/C/29/12

12 Nov 1944

Ministry of War.

1. The Italian increment for 54 BLU (SANTOVA) will be required in the near future.
2. You are requested to form this unit immediately on establishment MA/509/1, as for previous Groups.
3. It is suggested that this unit might be formed from personnel of the ex-2nd Bn 119 Regt, now at AFRAGOLA, and the reinforcements being posted to it. The increment would then be in a position to join the BLU before the Group moves up from CALABRIA.
4. Please inform this H.Q. as soon as the increment is ready.

[Signature]
Major General
M.H.I.A.

2897

1068

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

ARMY FORM C 2186 (Small)			MESSAGE FORM		Register No. <u>55/12</u>
Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions		
		<u>OP</u>			
ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY					
FROM (A)	Originator	Date-Time of Origin	OFFICE DATE STAMP		
	<u>50 10 14</u>	<u>12 17 45A</u>	Stamp: <u>Slsee</u> <u>39 11</u> <u>13 11</u>		
For Action			Message Instructions - OR -		
<u>M M I A</u>					
TO	(W) For Information (INFO)				
<u>To remain attached pending adjustment</u>					
Originator's No.	<u>SD 332 ITALIAN Officer interpreters O Divisional Commandery</u> <u>requests authority from you by arrangement with S H K E for</u> <u>attachment of 12 ITALIAN officer interpreters A division - surplus to W B C</u> <u>Officers already present with division O Distribution DIV HQ same</u> <u>Gen. Regt each two Arty Regt two Transport Coy two Bugmen Battalion</u> <u>one workshop one Ordnance Field Park one</u>				
THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT WIRELESS		IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CODE		ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY	
SIGNED		SIGNED		<u>IMMEDIATE</u>	
				Time System Gr THI or TOR <u>122130</u> Time cleared	

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

SUBJECT - Training - Italian Combat Groups

NO ALLIED OPINIONS IN ITALY

Ref: PHL/OT 96

Y/OL/23/48/6(AM)

11 Nov 44

AFHQ

Copy to - MIA

DET

HQ Inf

File: 2004/99/11(Trg)

prj
 13K
 29.12
 13.11

1. It is understood that the position regarding Trg Increments for the British Liaison Units with Italian Combat Ops is now as follows:-

Two BLUs - Trg bases complete.
 One BLU - Complete, with exception of two majors deficient.

2. On the original program for trg and equipment of the Ops it was assumed that only three increments would be required, as those three 'teams' would each have completed their task with one Op before additional Ops were formed.

3. It was also assumed that personnel of the Ops would be fully trained soldiers and would therefore require only to be taught the use of British weapons.

4. It has, however, now been established:-

(a) That personnel are still fully trained soldiers and that there is a marked lack of junior leaders.

(b) That it has been necessary to lengthen the trg period required for each Op.

5. It is considered that Trg Increments should remain with the Ops until they are actually committed to operations. This will result in Trg increments not being available in time to proceed to later Ops.

6. It is requested that authority be given to form one Training Increment for each Op and that their formation should be implemented as quickly as possible.

2895

1068

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

2. On the original program for try and equipment of the Ops it was assumed that only three increments would be required, as those three Ops would each have completed their task with one Op before additional Ops were formed.
3. It was also assumed that personnel of the Ops would be fully trained soldiers and would therefore require only to be taught the use of British weapons.
4. It has, however, now been established :-
- (a) That personnel are NOT fully trained soldiers and that there is a marked lack of junior leaders.
 - (b) That it has been necessary to lengthen the try period required for each Op.
5. It is considered that try increments should remain with the Ops until they are actually committed to operations. This will result in try increments not being available in time to proceed to later Ops.
6. It is requested that authority be given to form one Training Increment for each Op and that their formation should be implemented as quickly as possible.

2845

[Signature]
General,
Commander in Chief.

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT:- Functions of BLU's attached to Italian
Combat Groups

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

Tel:- FILPOT 23

1605/50/57/G(SD1)

10 Nov 44

MEMO (5 copies)

Copy to:- AFHQ

DET

G (Ops)

G (Trg)

'A'

'Q'

PA

'X'

Interpretation and Translation of Orders

1. During the recent visit of GSO1 SD1 AAI to FRIULI and CREMONA Combat Gps, the question was raised of the channels through which orders will be transmitted to and from the Groups during battle. The Italian staff is organised on Italian lines and for the most part does not understand English or British methods and military phraseology. It appears that the BLU will be responsible for the translation of orders and for their interpretation.

2. Will you please instruct the two BLU's to fwd a report on the following lines:-

- (a) WE of interpreters in BLU, Gp HQ and other units of Gp.
- (b) Present strength and standard of interpreters in BLU, Gp HQ and other units.
- (c) Method proposed for translation and interpretation of orders and instructions.
- (d) Adequacy or otherwise of present staff for (c).
- (e) Any alterations to WE's considered necessary.
- (f) Personnel in regts and other units of the Gp. If a regt is placed under direct cmd of an Allied fm, can personnel (Brit and Italian) be found from within the resources of the Gp for interpretation and translation?

Draft Charter

3. Attached at Appx 'A' is a draft charter for the BLU's which is based on that devised for the Polish Corps. In the case of the latter all communications are addressed to the Polish Corps copy to the BLU. The Polish Corps staff take action consulting the BLU as necessary. Such

2894

1. During the recent visit to the BLU's to find a report on the following lines:-

- (a) WE of interpreters in BLU, Gp HQ and other units of Gp.
- (b) Present strength and standard of interpreters in BLU, Gp HQ and other units.
- (c) Method proposed for translation and interpretation of orders and instructions.
- (d) Adequacy or otherwise of present staff for (c).
- (e) Any alterations to WE's considered necessary.
- (f) Post in regts and other units of the Gp. If a regt is placed under direct command of an Allied fm, can personnel (Brit and Italian) be found from within the resources of the Gp for interpretation and translation?

Draft Charter

3. Attached at appx 'A' is a draft charter for the BLU's which is based on that devised for the Polish Corps. In the case of the latter all communications are addressed to the Polish Corps copy to the BLU. The Polish Corps staff take action consulting the BLU as necessary. Such a system is probably impracticable with the Italians. Please instruct the BLU's to make recommendations on the form of charter which should be adopted.
4. It is important that the points raised above should be settled and policy published before the Gps are committed to operations. Probably the BLU's will not wish to make final recommendations until formation exercises have been held. Interim reports, with your comments attached, should be forwarded to reach AAI by 25 Nov.

for Lieutenant-General,
Chief of General Staff.

CONFIDENTIAL

D R A F T

Appx 'A' to 1005/50/57/G(SD1)
dated 10 Nov 44

FUNCTIONS OF A BLU ATTACHED TO AN ITALIAN COMBAT GROUP

1. The BLU has three main functions :-
 - (a) To assist the Italian Staff to understand and comply with Allied instructions and orders, and to ensure smooth working between Allied and Italian Staffs by the elimination of any language or other obstacles.
 - (b) To assist the formation under whose command the Combat Group is operating to plan correctly by representing with and on behalf of the Italian Staff, Italian difficulties, capabilities and minor differences of procedure.
 - (c) To provide liaison wherever contact exists between Italian and other Allied lines, units or installations.
2. It is stressed that the BLU has NO executive role.

2893

11 0 7 2

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

SUBJECT : Discipline - ORs

50 Brit Liaison Unit

A/6/12

8 Nov 44

Q MIA

Further to my even number dated 4 Nov 44.

Please cancel above mentioned letter, as the matter is now settled.

OMP

~~OMP~~/SYB

Lt col
CS

Copy to : HQ 3 District
HQ 9th Sub Area
Comd RASC Trg Dep - ref your signal TD/2591 of 7 Nov.
Documents are returned herewith.

2892

11073

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

Subject: Discipline - ORS

Land Forces Sub-Commission AC
(AMIA)

CONFIDENTIAL

52 Brit Liaison Unit
CWP.

5 Nov 44.

4/13/22.

Reference 50 BLU's 4/6/12 of 4 Nov addressed to you
and copy to us and other addressees.

1. Cpl Michaelis was sent to this unit without prior notification by CO 50 BLU on 23 Oct 1944. A Movement Order quoted an O2X authority for this. This movement and which was unknown to 52 BLU, but which was supplied altered to authorize the 800's transfer to 52 BLU. Cpl Michaelis was interviewed and stated the authority referred to was his posting order to 50 BLU, and not 52 BLU.

2. On 12 October, No 1/614498 Cpl Hawkins BASC was posted to this unit under authority O2L/3/510/1228 of 1 Oct and was taken on strength was 12 Oct and the necessary casualty published. This posting was a normal one under the Unit as and no private arrangements with O2X were made by CO 52 BLU as alleged by CO 50 BLU.

3. As there was no vacancy on this Unit BLU, and as no authority for Cpl Michaelis' posting to this Unit was provided he was immediately returned to 50 BLU.

4. Cpl Michaelis was properly returned to a unit which disavowed him without authoritative documents. No justification whatever exists for the remarks made by CO 50 BLU and the strongest exception is taken to both these remarks and the ~~strongest~~ ^{so} allegations against CO 52 BLU.

5. Cpl Michaelis is not and never has been on the strength of this Unit nor has any communication been made to him at any time.

11074

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

from 50 BLU was the only authority for this. This movement Order quoted an O22 authority, no copy of which was supplied and which was unknown to 52 BLU, but which apparently was alleged to authorize the HGO's transfer to 52 BLU. Cpl Michaels was interviewed and stated the authority referred to was his posting order to 50 BLU, and not 52 BLU.

2. On 12 October, No 2/614498 Cpl Hawkins RASC was posted to this Unit under authority 022/17510/RPS of 1 Oct and was taken on strenuous work 12 Oct and the necessary casualty published. This posting was a normal one under the Unit and no "private arrangements with O22" were made by OC 52 BLU as alleged by OC 50 BLU.

3. As there was no vacancy on this Unit and as no authority for Cpl Michaels' posting to this Unit was provided he was immediately returned to 50 BLU.

4. Cpl Michaels was properly returned to a unit which dispatched him without authoritative documents. No justification whatever exists for the remarks made by OC 50 BLU and the strenuous exception is taken to both those remarks and the ~~allegations~~ allegations against OC 52 BLU.

5. Cpl Michaels is not and never has been on the strength of this Unit nor has any communication been received about him at any time from O22 or other sources except 50 BLU's Movement Order and letter now under reply. No responsibility for this HGO or for any charges preferred against him can be accepted by this Unit.

RWC/NS

F. J. J. J.
LT. COL.
G.S.O.I.

Copy to : HQ 3 District
HQ 94 Sub area
OC RASC Tru Depot
50 BLU.

CONFIDENTIAL

50 Brit Liaison Unit

A/6/12

4 Nov 44

SUBJECT: Discipline - ORs

HQ

MTIA

Your ruling, and if possible intervention are invited in the case set out below:

T/6101966 Cpl MICHAELS P RASC was attached to this unit, pending posting to 52 BLU as Tpt cpl on formation of 52 BLU.

While attached to this unit, he became sick and was sent to hosp.

On leaving hosp, he was duly sent to 52 BLU which was by that time in existence.

OC 52 BLU had, however, made private arrangements with Q2E and was already in possession of a Tpt Cpl.

52 BLU therefore, entirely without justification, returned Cpl MICHAELS to this unit, instead of requesting posting instructions from Q2E, which was the proper course.

As Cpl MICHAELS was not, and never had been on strength of this unit, he was returned by this unit to RASC Trg Dep.

In the meantime a charge against Cpl MICHAELS for being in improper possession of certain articles of WD property had followed this HQ from a previous unit, 1512 Arty H RASC.

CO RASC Trg Dep refuses to deal with the case and has forwarded the documents to me, with the information that Cpl MICHAELS will also be sent back to me. CO RASC Trg Dep adds most unnecessarily and apparently with offensive intent that "it is not part of the functions of this dep to deal with outstanding ICCY charges". I submit:-

- (i) That until the case has been investigated, which it has not, it is most improper to refer to it as an outstanding ICCY case.
- (ii) Cpl MICHAELS is not and never has been on the strength of this unit.
- (iii) He is in the RASC
- (iv) He was on the strength of a RASC unit when the alleged offence was committed.
- (v) He has very properly been returned to a RASC unit.
- (vi) The RASC Trg Dep is a unit situated in the south of Italy with the normal large adm staff and no operational duties or particular pressure of work of any kind.

2099

52 EBU therefore, entirely without justification, returned Cpl MICHAELS to this unit, instead of requesting posting instructions from OZE, which was the proper course.

As Cpl MICHAELS was not, and never had been on strength of this unit, he was returned by this unit to RASC Trg Dep.

In the meantime a charge against Cpl MICHAELS for being in improper possession of certain articles of WB property had followed this ICO from a previous unit, 1512 Arty Pl RASC.

CO RASC Trg Dep refuses to deal with the case and has forwarded the documents to me, with the information that Cpl MICHAELS will also be sent back to me. CO RASC Trg Dep adds most unnecessarily and apparently with offensive intent that "it is not part of the functions of this dep to deal with outstanding POCM charges". I submit:-

- (i) That until the case has been investigated, which it has not, it is most improper to refer to it as an outstanding POCM case.
- (ii) Cpl MICHAELS is not and never has been on the strength of this unit.
- (iii) He is in the RASC
- (iv) He was on the strength of a RASC unit when the alleged offence was committed.
- (v) He has very properly been returned to a RASC unit.
- (vi) The RASC Trg Dep is a unit situated in the south of Italy with the normal large adm staff and no operational duties or particular pressure of work of any kind, as far as I am aware.
- (vii) This unit consists of nine Staff Officers and thirty-five specialist ORs all of whom are at present working some 16 hrs per day to mobilise the Div to which they are attached for active service against the enemy at an early date.
- (viii) This unit possesses no adm office and no adm staff whatsoever.
- (ix) Any necessary disciplinary action against Cpl MICHAELS RASC could very well be taken by CO RASC Trg Dep.
- (x) Failing which he should be returned to 52 EBU to which he was posted.

Chief
ARCS/SVB

Copy to : HQ 3 District
HQ 24 Sub Area
OC RASC Trg Dep
52 EBU

Lt col
GS

I consider this a local admin. matter for 3 District to decide by the time the man has that 50660 will be in 101st WD

11077

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

ARMY FORM C 2198 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call ☒ Ssl. No. ☐ Priority OP

Transmission Instructions

Cipher Secret

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) 50 BCU Originator Date/Time of Origin 02 1130A

OFFICE DATE STAMP

For Action

361

TO MMIA
(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions GR

Originator's No.

6240

Ref SS 252 of 1st 03rd OPaint is NOT that REMC resources are at present sufficient or inefficient but that additional REMC tradesmen as specified in msg G/6/13 dtd 29 Oct are required for tag setting of Italian specialists both as tradesmen and in use of Antisl equipment. The team requested would move with the GPO Present REMC resources read employed in repair and maintenance which Italians cannot do for themselves. Their tradesmen are trained. Present REMC will also presumably NOT move with the group.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT ☐ WIRELESS

IF LEAKED OR INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CODE

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Immediate

Time	Status	Op.
THI or TOR		
Time cleared		

SIGNED

SIGNED

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

SECRET.

104

Subject :- Personnel.

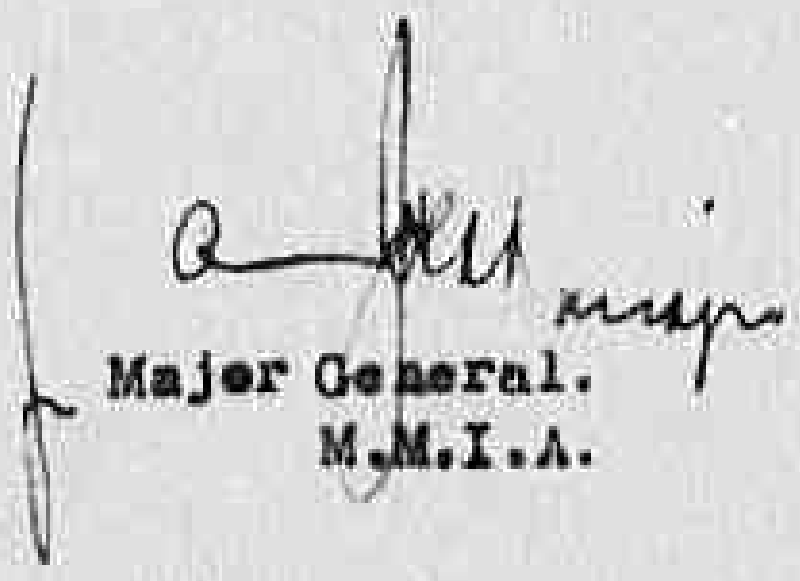
Military Mission Italian Army,
R O M E.

S/G/29/12.✓
31st. Oct..44.

To :- 51 B.L.U.

It was reported by Lieut-Col PERCIVAL on his return from a recent visit that you are not satisfied with the Commissariats Officer of the CREMONA Group.

You are reminded that changes of personnel up to and including the rank of Lieut-Colonel, may be made domestically. Prior reference to this H.Q. is not necessary.


Major General.
M.M.I.A.

2888

11079

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

103

29/11

GPA/12

5065

S/sec

1/11

INFO V MEDY NR 29 -11

FROM 50 U L U 311130A

TO DMIA

QEX GR 23 ---BT---

A221. CONFIDENTIAL. TWO ITALIAN INTERPRETERS AND ONE BRITISH
INTERPRETER TO COMPLETE ME OF BLU STILL REQUIRED. EMPHASISE
ESSENTIAL TO HAVE THESE BEFORE MOVING FORWARD

SENT OR 29 01-0530A CB B

RECD 29 0530 REB AR

2887
Spike Baynton Freedom 453
to expedite 1 Nov
WD
B1-4 Nov

1080

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

Subject: Mech. Eng. - Gruppo di Combattimento - R.E.M.3. Org.

50 British Edison Unit.

M.M.I.A. (2 copies).

M.M.I.A.	S/Sgt
FILED	27 12
Date Recd	31/10

Ref. 2/6/13.

23 Oct. 44.

(1) It is understood that a C.M.E. (Chief Mech Engr) has been approved for the Staff of a Gruppo di Combattimento. So far this Officer has NOT been appointed to this Gruppo. Could this be expedited, please?

(2) Ref conversation Gen BROWNING - Col PUSLEY - G.I. 50 B.L.U. - S.C. R.E.M.3. 50 B.L.U., of 20 Oct.

(a) As the standard of each eng in this Gruppo is very low, the following British personnel are considered essential, and it is requested that they should be attached to this Gruppo as soon as possible, and for a period of six weeks: -

Armament Artificers Vehicle.	1.
" " Guns.	1.
" " Wirelens.	1.
Armourer S/Sgt. Class 1.	1.
Vehicle Mech.	1.
Welders.	1.
Electricians. Cpl. or Sgt.	1.
Turner.	1.
Technical Storeman. (Sgt).	1.
Cook. A.C.O.	1.

(b) These personnel would:

- (i) instruct and supervise on British special eqpt.
- (ii) enable the Gruppo to carry out a reasonable proportion of its own maintenance and repair, (instead of overloading 3rd Line Workshops, when Gruppo moves into a fwd area) and also help to limit what would otherwise be a continual drain on ord services, (for new assemblies and replacement of controlled and other stores in short supply).

In explanation of the latter, it is pointed out that the average mechanic in this Gruppo is apparently NOT capable of detecting small defects in eqpts (i.e. vehs, guns, directors, W/T Sets, etc) early on - with the result that small defects rapidly develop and result in major repairs being necessary, with the consequent demand for replacement stores. It is considered that the British personnel requested, would go far, in their supervisory capacity, to obviate this.

(c) The value of these British personnel as trainers and examples is too obvious to need amplification.

C.M.E.
PUSLEY.

2886
Lt Col.
G.S.

Reply By signal
Ref 1. Some officers being selected
2. A.C.M.A. are attaching a complete British H.A.A. Workshop to you for this purpose E.T.A. about 5 Nov.

1081

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

LRKB V LAEE NR31 ROUTINE

FROM ~~LAEE~~ 261916A

TO MMIA

INFO AAI

GR 45 BT

(QVR 1)

FX 44256 RESTRICTED

YOUR SS 206 OF 21 OCT AND SS 220 OF 24 OCT. SIGNED SACMED

CITE PHGCT . AUTHORITY FOR FMN OF E BLU FOR 5 ITALIAN COMBAT

GP NOW GIVEN AND INSTRUCTIONS BEING ISSUED ACCORDINGLY . FMN OF F BLU

IS DEFERRED FOR TIME BEING

BT 261916A

SENT NR31 262023A HF AR

RECD NR 31 262023A JOE BB

9217 100-
N/32/26
(6)

60457
7/5/82

2564

MMIA	8/5/82
FILE REF	18/9/29/82
Date Recd	27/10/82

2885
262050

1082

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

FROM AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE FHECT
TO MMIA
INFO AAI

261916

6x
99.

FX 44256

RESTRICTED

Your SS 206 of 21 Oct and SS 220 of 24 Oct (.) Authority
for FMN of E BLU for 5 Italian Combat Gp now given and
instructions being issued accordingly (.) FMN of F BLU
is deferred for time being

2834

1083

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

A.P.S.

Tel No - VALJEN 12

025/24/021/74

21 Oct 54

Officer Commanding,
757 Coy. 8th Bn. G. (Italian Can Intl).

7/257061 Cpl Monti G.I.

1. The above named soldier, at present attached to
H.Q. Field Security, will be posted to 52 British Liaison Unit.

2. Please submit necessary casualty on A.F.M. 3011A
to this H.Q., quoting this letter as authority.

Richardson Capt

Brigadier,

D.A.S.,

G.H.Q., 2nd Echelon.

G.H.Q.
13/025

Copy to: H.Q. Field Security.

G.S. 52 British Liaison Unit.

G-1 (Br) A.F.H.Q. (your 02/2234/4-1 (Br) dated 5 Oct 54 refers)

G-2 (Org) A.F.H.Q. (Br).

— G.S. 33 Military Mission.

*See
W.R.*

2883

11034

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

Camp Itin A2

19 10

Subject: Up-Grading of Tradesman.

Military Mission
Italian Army
54 Area CMF
Ref/ MF/IO5
17 Oct 44

To : Military Mission Italian Army
IO546925 Pte SKEPPER F. Ordnance Storeman Class III.

The A/M soldier has been attached to this office for about 2 months and employed at the Italian Clothing Depot LA ROCCA.

He has proved a very capable worker and has carried out his duties as an ordnance storeman with every satisfaction and it is my opinion that he is eligible to be up-graded to storeman Class I.

May the necessary arrangement please be made for the up-grading of this soldier as soon as possible and this office informed of up-grading, so that the necessary documentary entries may be made.

Mark Hubbard

M. HUBBARD Major
For Senior MMIA LO
54 Area

2882

11085

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

SUBJECT: Attachments (CRs) RACC.

MILITARY MISSION
ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
S/B/29/12 ✓

20 Oct 44

TO : A.F.H.Q.

Reference your GI-B/14834/Ag dated 16th October the following is information required:-

7632759	Sjt	Chesterfield,	H.A.	From "X" 5 Bn. (Att 557 B O D)
2084463	Cpl	Brown, G. Class I	J.	posted to 33 Military Mission
10546925	Pte	Skepper,	F.	taken on strength w.e.f. 13 Aug 44.

Authority:-
G.H.Q., 2nd Ech. Re-inforcement
demand No AFI/2/5611 dated
3rd August 1944.

10587642	L/Cpl	Davidson, Clerk III	I.E.	From 500 A.C.D. posted to M.I.A. taken on strength w.e.f. 26.1.44.
----------	-------	---------------------	------	--

Authority:-
C.C.C. No 500 A.C.D. R.A.C.C.
25.1.44.

All the above are borne within the W/E of MMIA (W/E NA241/2).
Sjt Chesterfield and Pte Skepper are storemen. It is regretted that
we have no record of their classifications and they are employed at out-
stations.

Sjt Chesterfield is the Allied representative at the Italian
Clothing Depot at Naples, handling clothing & personal equipment for
Italian Troops working for the Allies.

Pte Skepper is doing a similar job at Naples Depot.

Cpl Brown, storeman G Class I is to do a similar job at
Rome.

L/Cpl Davidson, Clerk III is the only British Ordnance clerk
employed in the Ordnance office of this H.Q.

2821

[Signature]
Major General
M I A

1086
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject : Italian Increment to E.L.U.

Military Mission Italian Army,
R O M E.

8/8/29/12.✓

Oct., 44.

To : 51 E.L.U.

Reference your Q 5/4 of 16 Oct.

The Italian increment to the E.L.U. do not rank as co-operators.

They are not, therefore, officially entitled to free issues of cigarettes and matches or to E.F.I. supplies.

[Signature]
Major General.
M.H.I.A.

2889

1087

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

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No : NS6/18
Classification : SECRET
Precedence : R.
From : FREEDOM
To : AAI, MMIA

Date Time Rec'd :
Date Time Sent : 171515A
Reference NR : FX 40003
Cite : FTGCT

Signed SACMED

SECRET O ref MMIA 5139 of 4 OCT and AAI
A561 of 5 OCT O one of as formation 5
and 6 ITALIAN COMBAT GROUPS still under
consideration and NOT yet firm authorisation
of formation E and F. BLU for these
units being postponed? until decision
formation combat groups taken

I will speak AAI.

WP

Copy taken for the house

SL



2879

181510

1088

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

Subject :- Italian Increment to B.L.U.

H.Q.
HQA.

51 British Liaison Unit.

92

S/Sec.

20/12

18/10

Q 3/4.

May a ruling please be given as to whether the personnel of an Italian Increment to a British Liaison Unit ~~rank~~ as Co-operators or not.

This information is required in order to assess their eligibility to draw the free issue of cigarettes and matches and the E.P.I. Supplies.

Field
16 Oct 44.
RMH/MP

R. P. Halish

Major.
D.A. & C.S.

Co-operators are Italian Prisoners of War in Allied hands - if none there are NOT co-operators.

WP

2878

✓

1089

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Subject: ATTACHMENTS (ORs) RAOC

G1-B/14834/A9

16 Oct 44

29/12

MEMIA (For attention Major HEAD)
REQ ACC

Please forward details (No rank name trade parent unit duties)
of any RAOC personnel employed by you other than ORs posted to "A" "B"
"C" and "D" BLUs.



A. A. CHRISTIE S/CAPT
for Major General DAG
G-1(Br)

1-377

1090

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

RESTRICTED

90

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

G-3 SECTION

FILE NO : WSD/134

SUBJECT : Formation of Units - Trg

MEMO TO : G-1 (B)

18th
15 Oct 44
Sec 29/12
17/10

Ref LSP/55/2/MT1 of 11 Oct 44.

1. Authority is granted for the formation of 'D' Trg Inc British Liaison Unit on RA/542/1 w.e.f. 12 Oct and under the supervision of HQ No 3 District.
2. Please issue the necessary instrs to implement the above authority.

[Signature]
DANIEL MOGE,
Major General, G.S.C.,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3.

RWF/es

Copy to : MEDIA
DMT
HQ 3 District
G2E (Stats)
G-3 (Org-4)

2876

1092

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

(Delete (a) or (b), whichever is not applicable).

PART III. CONDITIONS OF ATTACHMENT.

- (a) This authority will be subject to termination at 24 hrs notice by this HQ at any time.
- (b) Return of personnel under unit arrangements.
- (c) Monthly review.
- (d) Validity until 21 November 44.
- (e) Under no circumstances will the u/m personnel be absorbed into W.E. without prior authority from this HQ.
- (f) All casualties in support of the u/m personnel will be published on the appropriate 3042. Throughout the period of attachment, personnel will be accounted for in Part III of AFM 5002.
- (g) On the termination of this attachment, personnel will be returned to 5. R. S. B. and this HQ informed.

PART IV.

No.	Rank.	Name.	Pos.	Ass Recommendation	Med Cat	Despatched	Arrived
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
4	(four)		R.A.C.O.	Storeman, S.W.		28 75	
1	(one)		"	Storeman, Armé.			
1	(one)		"	Storeman, S.A.			
2	(two)		"	Storeman, X.			
2	(two)		"	Storeman, Ing.			

All regimental particulars of personnel concerned to be forwarded to this HQ.

Note: - Column (g) will be completed by the holding unit.
Column (h) will be completed by the receiving unit.

68

10xweld re

Brigadier,
D.L.G.,
G.H.Q. 2nd Echelon.

C.M.F.

PART V. INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERSONNEL OF UNIT.

- SHEET 1. Will be retained by the holding unit.
- SHEET 2. Will be returned to G.H.Q. 2nd Echelon (Personnel Section) showing the date on which personnel are dispatched.
- SHEET 3. Will be sent with personnel to unit to which attached, and returned to G.H.Q. 2nd Echelon (Personnel Section) showing the date on which personnel arrived.
- SHEET 4. 5. R. S. B. - your 3515 a/a 6 Oct 44 refers. SHEET 6. 'A' B.L.B.
- SHEET 7. 5. R. S. B. - your 3515 a/a 6 Oct 44 refers. SHEET 8. 'A' B.L.B.

11093

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

ARMY FORM C2135 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No. W 1/12

1 Call 1 RUF/ME 01 | Srl. No. 410 | Priority MOV 2 | Transmission Instructions 20/12

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) <u>U.S.T. ARMP</u> Originator	Date-Time of Origin <u>141500 A</u>
For Action	
TO <u>1 REG</u> (W) For information (INFO)	Office Date Stamp <u>55/1</u>
Message Instructions <u>OR</u>	

Originator's No. 20/12

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 28

Time	System	Op.
THI or TOR		
Time cleared		

SIGNED [Signature]

SIGNED [Signature]

11094

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

CIPHER SECRET

29/12 4/14
2685

ARMY FORM C2100 (Small) MESSAGE FORM Register No.

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
------	----------	----------	---------------------------

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNAL'S USE ONLY

FROM (A) 50 BULL	Originator	Date/Time of Origin 13 1900A	OFFICE DATE STAMP.
TO SECOND ECHELON			Message Instructions GR -
(W) For Information (INFO) M M I A			
Originator's No. ORDA 1250 RESTRICTED O Ref M M I A SS 175 of 12 O			
Our needs the same as 51 BULL and more urgent			

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WHATEVER IS FEASIBLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS THIS MESSAGE DEGREE OF PRIORITY

SIGNED	SIGNED	IMPORTANT	Time	System	Op.
			28/12/12		

WIRELESS SAGE MUST BE SENT IN OTHER

1095

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

FROM: MMIA

TO : OZE

Info: 51 BLU

SS 175

29/12 12 165-0 A

RESTRICTED

Reference your MP/555 (.) PAREN ROME AREA _____ PAREN (.)
Please dispatch immediately to 51 BLU Storeman SW 3 Storeman
armt 2 Storeman SA 1 Storeman Eng 2 Storeman X 2 (.) For 50
BLU (.) If your needs justify please signal your requirements
direct to OZE remembering most British storeman versatile (.)
For OZE (.) Please note that A B C D BLUs now numbered by war
office 50 51 52 and 53 respectively

PRECEDENCE Insufficient

AUTHENTICATED Well

2872

1096

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

RMV FORM 0216 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Srl. No.

City

Trs

ation Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM
(A)

Originator

Date-Time of Origin

Origin Data Stamp

ORE CMF

091445 A

For Action

M.M.I.A.

MDLS

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

'A' BLU

'B' BLU

MDLS

Originator's No.

MP/SSS RESTRICTED O RAE YOUR SSIS OF 6 OCT 44 O REGRET
 NO STOREMEN GEN AVAILABLE O FOLLOWING CAN BE SUPPLIED O
 STAN SW 8 PTES STAN ARMT 3 PTES STAN SA 2 PTES STAN
 ENF 3 PTES STAN X 4 PTES O PLEASE ADVISE O

Wing Head R in 10
 ORE/MP/ATT/571

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERRUPTED OR TO
 FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE
 MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
 DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Time

System

Op.

THI or TOR

Time cleared

RPTS SEC 2 (BY HAND)

Sigsys

TOXnewad SC

NOTED

287

11097

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

LRKBV MEDY 562

~~CDY V LFSU MI 16~~

IMPORTANT

QVR 5 7315

4/1/10
020282

SV

N 47/10 Army S/C

SSec
29/12
11/10

HEADQUARTERS
17 OCT 1944
A. C. C.

FROM A B L U

TO DMT

INFO MMIA

G96

PLEASE CONFIRM THAT A TRG INCREMENT WILL REMIAN WITH
A BLU UNTIL FRIOLI GP HAS COMPLETED
TRG IN PRESENT AREA.

WILL THEN PASS TO E BLU AND NOT EPT NOT MOVE
TO C OR D BLU IN MID OCT

THI 081400

RFTNS 15 1 2 A 96 A A FRIOLI GP E O OR D BLU 081400

JEE

I agree
wt

[Signature]

NOA 1425
9/10

Col Pridley Losie

Q 11/10

2870

10 1655

1098

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

SUBJECT: Formation of New Units

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E

File No. S/O/29/12 ✓
10 Oct 44

TO : A. B. C. and P MUg

1. Attached copy of AFHQ letter, GR/1160/3.1(MR)
(Ser. 0821) of 6 October is forwarded for information.

[Handwritten Signature]
Maj Gen
M M I A

2669

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

Free 80 ^{21/12}

FROM: MMIA

TO : 50 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

10 1430 A

SS 167

RESTRICTED

Your G 94 dated 8 Oct refers (.) PAREN ROME AREA _____

PAREN (.) Necessary pressure being applied by this HQ

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

[Signature]

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

FROM: MMIA

TO : "B" ELU

Info: "D" ELU

SS 166

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION _____

Reference your A2 dated 8th (.) PAREN HOME AREA _____ PAREN (.)

Suggest D ELU could continue to lend Italian Ordnance personnel
who must however be returned by 21st October (.) Should RAOO
personnel requested in my SS 145 materialise Italians should
return at once

PREFERENCE _____

AUTHENTICATED _____

2868

1101

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

ARMY FORM 24136 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No. 33/9

Call Ssl. No. Priority **CIPHER** Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (X)	Originator <u>B B LU</u>	Date/Time of Origin <u>081640A</u>	N M I A <u>8/Sec</u> FILE REF <u>29/12</u> Date Recd <u>10/10/1</u>
For Action <u>O 2 E</u>			Message Instructions <u> </u> GP <u> </u>
TO	(W) For Information (INFO) <u>M M I A A B LU (QVR2)</u>		

Originator's No. A101 RESTRICTED Re: M M I A Signal S 145
@ 6th @ Requisition are being sent
information commencing 11 Oct @ Most
desirable to have ten storesmen that date @
Please advise

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT <u> </u>	IF LIKELY TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER SIGNED <u> </u>	ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY <u>IMMEDIATE</u>									
SUBJ <u> </u>		<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"><tr><td>Time</td><td>System</td><td>Op.</td></tr><tr><td>THI or TOR <u>091330A</u></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Time cleared</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Time	System	Op.	THI or TOR <u>091330A</u>			Time cleared		
Time	System	Op.									
THI or TOR <u>091330A</u>											
Time cleared											

1102

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

ARMY FORM 2136 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No. 237

Call: Ser. No.: Priority: Transmission Instructions:

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) A FRIDLE DIV Date/Time of Origin: 091200A

TO MMIA (W) For Information (INFO) 68

Originator's No. A10

YOUR SS 145 addressed O2E @ These men are now most urgently required would appreciate if the posting could be arranged immediately

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS: DEGREE OF PRIORITY:

SIGNED: WJH Q SIGNED: RDCPO

Time: System: Op:

THI or TOR: 091230A

Time cleared:

1103

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

LEAD V MEDV V LRGJ NR 39 IMMEDIATE
QVR 2

FROM B BLU

TO 025
INFO NR NMIA RONE A BLU

OR -- BT

A101

RESTRICTED . REF NMIA SIGNAL S 145 OF 6 . RE-EQUIPMENT THIS FMH
COMMENCES 11 OCT . MOST DESIRABLE TO HAVE TEN STOREMEN BEFORE THAT
DATE . PLEASE ADVISE

BT THE 091045Z

SENT NR 39 1525Z LEAVE B NP

REC'D NR 2 09/1325Z J O F K K

Army S/c 76
7402

29/12

68



2865

091550

1104

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

ARMY FORM 02136 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No. 75

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instruction	M.M.I.A.	REF.
					29/2
ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY					
FROM (A)	Originator	Date-Time of Origin	Office Date Stamp		
A BLU		08 1100A	239/5		
TO	For Action	Message Instructions			
M.M.I.A.		GR			
<i>Spide Bauman who will present on 23/10 ABLU WP.</i> CIPHER SECRET					

Originator's No. 694 @ SECRET @ Calculated that try. of specialists particularly of armory does wheel and does tracked will NOT be completed by target date unless sufficient ITALIAN interpreters can be made available @ 12 (12) interpreters required soonest @ May be civilians provided have some knowledge technical terms @ Repeated requests have been made to gp. comd. without results @ Gp. comd states that ITALIAN HQ CAMPANA will NOT apply sufficient pressure to SMRE @ Will you take action please.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT WIRELESS	IF LIKELY TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER	ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY	Time	Station	Op.
		Immediate	THI or TOR		
SIGNED <i>BF 13/10</i>	SIGNED <i>M. Bauman</i>				

1105

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

ARMY FORM C2136 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No. 3872

Call

Srl. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

CIPHER SECRET

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM
(A)

B BLU

Originator

Date/Time of Origin

080945A

For Action

M M I A D BLU

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

OFFICE DATE STAMP

M.M.I.A.	5/22
FILE REF	29/12
Date Recd	9/10/1

Message Instructions

GP

Originator's No.

A 20 D BLU wishes to collect their RAOB personnel now attached this unit O My DADOS reports impossible draw equipment next week without this extra personnel or portion additional RAOB men as requested my O/7/51 of 25th Sept. and in recent conference GI - PIDSLEY

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

Major Head Q

SIGNED

Adpt.

Time	System	QD
THI or TOR		
020255H		
4403		

GV 125 Wt. 938 104 200,000 Pds. 5/41 B & L Ltd. 54-275/6

4106

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

73

SUBJECT: Interpreters

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
File No. 6/2/19/2
8 Oct 44

A B C D BLUs

1. Attached copy of AFHQ letter, CR/2884/C-1(BK)
is forwarded for information.

W. H. Hayden
Maj Gen
M M I A

2862

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

C O P Y

SUBJECT:- Interpreters

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

CR/2284/G-1(ER)

5 Oct 44

GHA 2nd Echelon

Reference our letter of above number dated 19 Sep and your CR/RI/HAA/39/366 of 27 Sep 44.

1. The attached copy of G-2 (Org) 223 of 3 Oct 44 and list of interpreters therein referred to are forwarded for necessary action.

2. 'A' 'B' 'C' and 'D' British Liaison Units (Italian Group) are each allowed 2 interpreters (Sjts) on W.E. (NA/508/1). It is therefore requested that interpreters from the attached list be posted as follows:-

'A' B.L.U.	- 1	) Your above-quoted letter posted 1 interpreter to each of these units.
'B' B.L.U.	- 1	
'C' B.L.U.	- 2	
'D' B.L.U.	- 2	
<u>6</u>		

3. It is requested that copies of posting instructions be issued to this Section and G-2 Section, AFHQ, and to EMIA.

Major-General,
D.A.C.
G-1(ER).

Copy to: EMIA
G-2(Org)ER.

2381

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

SUBJECT:- Formation of New Units - Misc.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
CR/1160/G.1(BR)(Ser. 0621)
6 Oct 44.

'A', 'B', 'C' & 'D' BRITISH LIAISON UNITS
(FOR GRUPPI DE COMBATTIMENTI)

1. Reference AFHQ letter of even number (Ser. 0683) dated 2 Sep 44.
2. Numbers have now been allotted to the above units by the War Office, and the designations mentioned in the above quoted letter are therefore superseded.
3. The correct designations are:-

<u>Old Designation</u>	<u>New Designation</u>
'A' British Liaison Unit (for Gruppi de Combattimenti.)	50 British Liaison Unit, (for gruppi de combattimenti)
'B' -do-	51 -do-
'C' -do-	52 -do-
'D' -do-	53 -do-

DISTRIBUTION:-

(as per CR/1160/G.1(BR)(Ser. 0683) of 2 Sep 44)

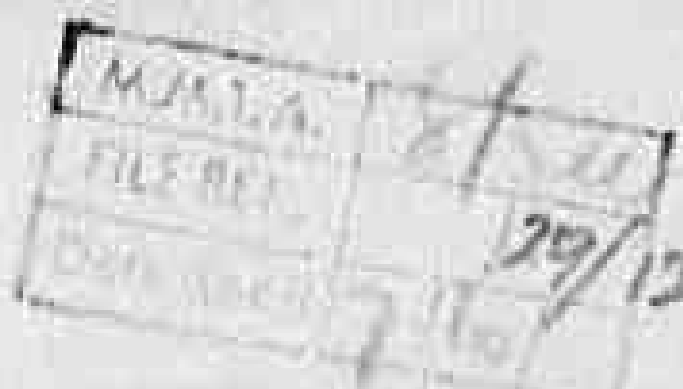
Supreme Allied Commander,
Mediterranean Theatre.

2860

1109

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

SUBJECT:- Interpreters.



70

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

GR/2284/C-1(BR)

5 Oct 44

WJ

GHQ 2nd Echelon.

Reference our letter of above number dated 19 Sep and your OZP/R1/HAN/39/366 of 27 Sep 44.

1. The attached copy of G-2(ORG)223 of 3 Oct 44, and list of interpreters therein referred to are forwarded for necessary action.

7/10

2. 'A' 'B' 'C' and 'D' British Liaison Units (Italian Group) are each allowed 2 interpreters (Sjts) on W.R. (NA/508/1). It is therefore requested that interpreters from the attached list be posted as follows:-

'A' B.L.U.	-	1	} Your above-quoted letter posted 1 interpreter to each of these units.
'B' B.L.U.	-	1	
'C' B.L.U.	-	2	
'D' B.L.U.	-	2	
		<u>6</u>	

3. It is requested that copies of posting instructions be issued to this Section and G-2 Section, AFHQ, and to MSHA.

John B. Stummitt
Major-General,
D.A.G.
G-1(Br).

Copy to: MSHA
G-2(ORG)Br.

Re: A B C D B L U by
letter. Q. 2859

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

Subject : WE of HIA

SECRET
URGENT

" B L U
C.M.F.

5/8/51/2

69.

Ref No : 9/7/51
Date : 25 Sep 44

To :-

HQ Military Mission Italian Army ROME.

1. I wish to raise the question of the WE of a HIA in connection with the establishment of Storemen R.A.C.C. The present figure of one Sjt. Storeman is ludicrously insufficient. The work involved in equipping a Division to complete G 1098 scale from zero speaks for itself. The facile solution of the employment of Italian personnel is no answer to this problem. A few reasons for this statement are :-

1. They are NOT familiar with the stores.
2. They do NOT understand our technical designations.
3. NO English speaking Italians are available for this work.
4. It has been found that untrained Italian have no idea of care in handling and loading.
5. They are likely to disrupt the flow at the B.O.D. through slowness.

2. Distribution of stores within the Div. presents the same problems until Italians can be trained through experience.

3. The Sjt. Storeman allocated is at present spending his time either on the road or at the B.O.D. I suggest the WE be amended to provide at least 10 storemen of whom four should be junior N.C.Os.

4. I may point out that the matter is extremely urgent as large quantities of stores are being released from 1st Oct 44.

Field,
CE/G I

BM. Hall

Lieut. Colonel
General Staff

O 1/c "B" Brit Liaison Unit

Major Head to discuss with B. BLU. *remitting.*

1. Italian responsibility - British assistance
2. W.E. cannot be changed ? *impr. loan.*
2. Report for RACC TT.

2858

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

FROM: MMIA

TO : OZE

Info: "A" BLU: B BLU

SS 145

06045A

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

Request loan ten RAOC Storemen each for A and B BLU during re-equipment
FRIULI and CREMONA Gruppi di Combattimenti(.) PAREN ROME AREA COM AND
PAREN (.) A BLU located at S. GIORGIO B BLU at ALTAVILLA (.)
Map references 1/50000 N7274 N6567 (.) Period required approximately
four weeks(.) Please advise

PRECEDENCE

AUTHENTICATED

2857

11112

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

LR0F V LRAR 1883 QVR2

FROM MAIN AAI 051815A

TO AFHQ

MMIA

A.561.

REFERENCE MMIA SS 1380 . REQUEST YOU
ACCEPT ACTION . SUBJECT IS PROVISION E AND F
BLU FOR 5 AND 6 ITALIAN
COMBAT GROUPS

THI 1835

BT

SENT 2345 E H G B K

RD 2345 JWR BBBB

BLU. file. WP

Spoke MS AAI who has SS 138 and
is acting on it
WP.
60d

19/6 R127 67

M.M.I.A.	5/20/58
FILE REF	129/28 E
Date Recd	6/10

Q

12

Q 6/10

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

FROM MMIA

TO AAI AFHQ

OR 1440 A

5/10/29/28

Price 65

SS 139

For MS branch G1.B and Q(AE) (.) PAREN ROME AREA _____ PAREN (.)
E and F British Liaison Units for 5 and 6 Italian Combat Groups will
be needed by following dates (.) Officers begin reporting to MMIA from
15 October (.) Units to form in S. GIORGIO area from 22 October (.)
Formation with personnel and vehicles and equipment to be complete by
5 NOV (.) Confirm ability to do this

PRECEDENCE

Important.

AUTHENTICATED

W.P. Drury Colnd.

2855

To go on BLU file TS/A

Q6/10

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

SUBJECT: - Interpreters.

: "A" and "B" B.Ls.

68
MILITARY MISSION ITALYAN ARMY
ROME

S/G/29/12

Oct 44

Attached letter, CZE/RM/HAA/39/366 dated 27 Sept 44 is
forwarded for information.

W. J. Con
Vaj Gen
MIA

2854

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

SUBJECT: Inspections - Italian Army.

64
MILITARY WITNESS
ITALIAN ARMY
RUCS
2/10/20/12 ✓
3 Oct 44

TO: A, B, C, D, E, F, HUs

Ref attached. R.N.E.E. inspectors will be with HUs approx.
as follows:

A. - 7 Oct

B. - 21 Oct

C. - 4 Nov

D. - 18 Nov

E. - 2 Dec

F. - 16 Dec

Please arrange all details with him.

John
Maj Gen
R N E E

2853

SUBJECT:- Inspections - Italian Army.

Unit Maintenance Inspectorate
(^B Vehicles Section)
H.Q. U.M.I., A.F.S. (Tel: 17572)

Capt. C.A. ITZCHAK.

AF/AMI/63 / Oct '63

Copy to:- H.M.I.A.
Senior Inspector, U.M.I. 3 District.

1. Inspections of newly equipped Units of the Italian Army will be commenced by you on 9th. October.
2. You will, together with Capt. Saleen, contact 'A', B.I.U. by 7th. October and arrange a programme.
3. Normal Inspections will be carried out, but, in view of the fact that most equipment will only have been issued a comparatively short time, the following points will be emphasized:-
 - (a) The standard of training in U.M. Maintenance of Italian Army personnel.
 - (b) Whether orders issued on U.M. Maintenance are, in fact, in operation.
 - (c) The condition of vehicles being issued and the state of vehicle equipment and tools.
 - (d) Full use of Inspections must be made in demonstrating U.M. Maintenance to the largest number of Italian Army personnel.
 - (e) Any factors which may militate against the longest possible life of U.M. outside the control of the Italian Army.
4. Unit Reports and a consolidated Report on each Group will be rendered to me. Copies of your reports will be distributed by this office on a distribution which will be arranged with H.M.I.A. All action needed by this Inspectorate will, in the first place, be taken by this office.

REC/AMI.

de Kiff
Ident. Col.
G.I. U.M.I. A.F.S.

2852

Copy to: A B C D E F BLUo

~~Ref~~ ^{Ref} attached instructions

R.E.M.E. Inspector will
be with BLUo approx, as

follows:

A. - 7 Oct 70

B. - 21 Oct 70

C. - 4 Nov

D. - 18 Nov

E. - 2 Dec

F. - 16 Dec

Datto
Please

amanda
all details with him

Effective date 25 August 1944.

Nr. 509/1

No. 11/882/1

AN ITALIAN INCREMENT TO BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
(for Gruppo di Combattimenti) NORTH AFRICA.

(Italian Army personnel)

THIS ESTABLISHMENT

Personnel

DETAIL

	Officers	arrant officers class I	arrant officers class II	Staff-serjeants	Serjeants	Corporals	Lance-corporals	Privates	Total
Officer commanding (Lieutenant) (a)	1								1
Duty N.C.O.						1			1
Interpreters						2			2
General dutymen									
Drivers, I.C.							1	5	6
Batmen								5	5
Cooks for -									
Officers' mess								1	1
Serjeants' mess								2	2
Rank and file mess								3	3
Total, an Italian increment to British liaison unit (for Gruppo di Combattimenti) North Africa.	1					3	1	17	22

(a) must be able to speak English.

This establishment will NOT be implemented without A.F.V.'s. authority.

(File 750/918-5)

(126/1341(1))

RESTRICTED

Unit No.	25 Aug 44
Date	
Officers	1
O.Ps.	21
Total	22
Trucks	-
Vehicles	-
Trailers	-

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

DETAIL	Officers	arrant off class I	arrant off class II	Staff-sergeants	Sergeants	Corporals	Time-corporals	Privates	Total
Officer commanding (lieutenant) (a) 1									1
Duty N.C.O.									
Interpreters									
General dutymen									
Drivers, I.C.									
Batmen									
Cooks for -									
Officers' mess									
Sergeants' mess									
Rank and file mess									
Total, an Italian increment to British liaison unit (for Gruppo di Combattimento) North Africa.	1					3	1	17	22

(a) must be able to speak English.

This establishment will NOT be implemented without A.F.V.O. authority.

(File 758/ORG-3)

(126/1341(V))

Effective date- 20 April 1944.

RECEIVED

11/5/37

ITALIAN INCORPORATION FOR ROYAL SIGNALS REINFORCEMENT
TRAINING DEPOT AND SCHOOL OF SIGNALS
(Italian Army personnel)

WAR DEPARTMENT

(E) Personnel

Captain
Schultz

Total, officers

Company sergeant major
Company quartermaster-sergeant
Sergeants

Corporals (General duty on)
Platoon, General duties
Sergeant

General duty men
Sanitary duty men
Medical orderly
Bakers

Carpenters
Drivers I.C.
Mess orderlies

Total, other ranks
Total, Italian increment for
R. Signals Reinforcement
Training Depot and School of
signals

NOTE

This establishment is for use in connection with R. Signals
Reinforcement Training Depot and School of signals (1/28/41)

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

2850

Total, officers	2	
Company sergeant major	1	
Company quartermaster-serjeant	1	
Serjeants	4	
Corporals (General Duties)	6	
Clerks, General Duties	2	
Stewards	4	
General Duties	19	
Sanitary Duties	5	
Medical orderly	1	
Bakers	18	
Carpenters	2	
Drivers I.C.	42	
Mess orderlies	17	

Total, other ranks	122	
Total, Italian increment for R. Signals Reinforcement training depot and school of signals	124	

2850

NOTE

This establishment is for use in conjunction with R. Signals Reinforcement Training Depot and School of Signals (M/206/1)

This establishment will NOT be implemented without A.R.N.O. authority.

(File 666/CRJ-5)

(127/1595(3))

Effective date 25 August 1944.

NA/508/1

RESTRICTED

BRITISH L.L.S.C. UNIT (For Gruppo di Combattimenti)
NORTH AFRICA

WAR ESTABLISHMENT

(1) Personnel

Amtd No.	-
Date	25 Aug 44
Officers	9
O.Rs.	25
Total	34
V.Cs.	6
Vehicles	10
Trailers	1

	Officers	arrant officers class I	arrant officers class II	Staff-serjeants	Serjeants	Corporals	Lance-corporals	Privates	Total
STAFF AND ATTACHED TO GENERAL STAFF	11								11
General staff officer, 1st grade (a)	1								1
General staff officer, 2nd grade	1								1
Deputy assistant adjutant and quartermaster-general	1								1
Staff officer, 2nd grade, R.E.	1								1
Staff officer, 3rd grade, R.E.	1								1
Staff officer, 3rd grade, R.Signals	1								1
SERVICES									
Deputy assistant director of supplies and transport	1								1
Deputy assistant director of ordnance services	1								1
Captain, R.E.M.E.	1								1
Clerks, general duties, R.A.S.C.									
Clerk, R.A.S.C.									
Clerks, (R.A.S.C. duties)									
Storeroom, technical, R.A.S.C.									
Serjeant									
Operators, wireless and line									
Operators, cipher									

ENTER LINK SIGNALS

STAFF and ATTACHED TO GENERAL STAFF	Officer	arrant class I	arrant class II	Staff-S	Serjeant	Corporal	Lance-c	Privates	Total
General staff officer, 1st grade (a)	1								1
General staff officer, 2nd grade	1								1
Deputy assistant adjutant and quartermaster-general	1								1
Staff officer, 2nd grade, R.A.	1								1
Staff officer, 3rd grade, R.E.	1								1
Staff officer, 3rd grade, R.Signals	1								1
SERVICES									
Deputy assistant director of supplies and transport	1								1
Deputy assistant director of ordnance services	1								1
Captain, R.E.M.E.	1								1
Clerks, general duties, R.A.S.C.	1								1
Clerk, R.A.	1								1
Clerks, (R.A.O.C. duties)	1								1
Storeman, technical, R.A.O.C.	1								1
RAIR LINK SIGNS									
Serjeant									
Operators, wireless and line									
Operators, cipher									
Electrician, signals									
Driver-cooperators									
Driver-mechanic									
Driver, I.C.									
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF									
Serjeant									
Transport H.C.O.									
Interpreters									
Officers' mess orderly									
Total, British liaison unit (for Gruppo di Combattimenti North Africa.	9		1	6	9	3	16	41	

3
 1
 1
 30410
 Gen Butler
 Acc - Col

3
 1
 1
 30410
 Gen Butler
 Acc - Col

RESTRICTED

ML/508/1

SHEET NO. 2

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (for Gruppo di Combattimenti) NORTH AFRICA

WAR ESTABLISHMENT - continued

(ii) Transport

Motor-cycles, solo	6
Cars, 2-seater, 4 x 2	2
Trucks, 15-cwt, 4 x 2, G.S.	2
Lorries, 3-ton, 4 x 2, G.S.	2
Water trailer, 250-gallons	1
Truck, 15-cwt, 4 x 2, G.S.	1
Trucks, 15-cwt, wireless house	2
Lorry, 3-ton, 4 x 2, G.S.	1

For rear link signals

- (a) This appointment may be filled by an Indian Army officer on Indian Army pay and allowances when the Gruppo di Combattimenti is employed in conjunction with an Indian formation.
- (b) Includes 1 lance-serjeant.

NOTES

1. A general staff officer, 2nd grade, will be attached from Headquarters, Army sub-commission for liaison duties.
2. Drivers, batman, cooks and orderlies are provided from the Italian increment to the British liaison unit.

Subject to War Office approval

This establishment will NOT be implemented without A.F.H. authority.

Truck, 15-cwt, 4 x 2, G.S.
Trucks, 15-cwt, wireless house
Lorry, 3-ton, 4 x 2, G.S.

1
2
1

- (a) This appointment may be filled by an Indian Army officer on Indian Army pay and allowances when the Gruppo di Combattimenti is employed in conjunction with an Indian formation.
- (b) Includes 1 lance-serjeant.

NOTES

1. General staff officer, 2nd grade, will be attached from Headquarters, Army sub-commission for liaison duties.
2. Drivers, batman, cooks and orderlies are provided from the Italian increment to the British liaison unit.

Subject to War Office approval

This establishment will NOT be implemented without A.F.H. authority.

(File 758/Or-3)

(126/1311(A))

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

Effective date 28 August 1944

No. 512/1

RESTRICTED

AN ITALIAN C.S. BATTALION
(Italian Army Personnel)

THE HISTORICAL

(i) Personnel

832

	"BONSTIGOMBE" section	I ^a section	II ^a section	III ^a section	IV ^a section	V ^a section	Sixth or V section	Eighth or IV section	I ^b section	II ^b section	III ^b section	IV ^b section	V ^b section	Total, in Italian C.S. Battalion.
Lieutenant-colonel Majors	1													1
Captains	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	14
Lieutenants	7	5	2	3	1	3	3	3	1	2	1	1	1	31
2nd lieutenants	2	1	2	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19
	1	1		1			1							4
Total, officers	14	8	5	4	6	4	4	5	2	3	3	3	2	69
Warrant officers, class I	4	28	5	4	6	2		1	3	1	5	2	4	69
Warrant officers, class II	17	24	12	17	8	9	6	5	3	13	20	25	17	136
Total, warrant officers	21	52	17	21	14	11	6	6	6	14	25	27	21	255
Staff-serjeants Serjeants	7	23	8	12	12	8	5	14	3	6	15	12	10	147
	7	6	14	11	4	5	4	7	1	4	14	8	10	107
Total, staff-serjeants and serjeants	14	29	22	23	16	13	9	21	4	12	29	20	14	254
Corporals General duty men) (lanec-	4	7	1	11	7	6	1	3						43
Drivers } corporals)	18	34	38	42	14	25		8						267
Cocks } (privates)	20	8	6	6	6	8	3							93
Drivers)	2	1	1	1			1	1						7
	4			1			1	6						13
Total, rank and file	43	49	46	62	27	39	6	18	3	16	23	22	14	422
Total, other ranks	83	130	85	106	57	63	21	45	13	42	77	69	57	991
Total, an Italian C.S. battalion	97	138	90	110	63	67	25	50	15	45	80	72	62	1300

Effective date 25 August 1944

NA/510/1

RESTRICTED

'Z' TRAINING TEAM (for Italian Forces) R.A.

WAR ESTABLISHMENT

(i) Personnel

Audit No.	-
Date	25 Aug 44
Officers	6
O. Rs.	20
Total	26
M.Cs.	-
Vehicles	7
Trailers	-

DETAIL	Officers	Warrant officers class I	Warrant officers class II	Staff-serjeants	Serjeants	Bombardiers	Lance-bombardiers	Gunnery	Total
Staff officer, R.A. (lieutenant-colonel)	1								1
Staff officer, R.A. (major)	1								1
Staff officers, R.A. (captains) (one anti-tank, one light anti-aircraft)	2								2
Instructor in gunnery (captain)	1								1
Subaltern	1								1
Battery serjeant-major			1						1
Instructors (includes three anti-tank and two light anti-aircraft)					9				9
Fitter, R.A.						1			1
Clerks, R.A.								2	2
Busmen-drivers								6	6
Driver, I.C.								1	1
Total, 'Z' training team (for Italian forces) R.A.	6		1		9	1		9	26

(ii) Transport

Cars, 2-seater, 4 x 2 2
 Trucks, 15-ton, 4 x 2, G.S. 4
 Lorry, 3-ton, 4 x 2, G.S. 1

This establishment will NOT be implemented without A.F.H.C. 2017 authority.

1129

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

MESSAGE FORM

File
61

From : YBIA
To : A HLU

Date - Time

2 1630 A

5/5 59/12

SS 125

Can you spare Sgt FABRI yet (.) Urgently required this HQ

PRIORITY IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATING
OFFICER

[Signature]
[Initials]

2816

1130

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

Ref No. VALJEAN 42 BY A.I.S.

Officer Commanding,
3d, H.A.A. Regiment, P.M.,
C.M.A.

022/R1/H2/32/300.
27 Sept 44.

60

SUBJECT: Interpretars.

MM 1/1	S/Sgt
MM 2/1	S/Sgt
MM 3/1	1/10

- (a) 874626 W/SGT. PROWSE. 1st W.
- (b) 871792 W/LDR. LAMBERGER. RM.

1. Please post the above named H.C.O.'s to (a) "A" ^{wp}
B.I.U. C.M.F. and (b) "B", B.I.U. C.M.F., forthwith,
and forward the necessary casualties on A.F. 130115 to
this Headquarters as soon as possible, quoting this
letter as authority.

WLP to Sec 1/10
Q

He Shields
and copies

L. J. Humphreys

10 A & B
John P.
1/10

In the Field.
GPH.

Brigadier,
D.A.G.
2nd Echelon.

Copy to: - ~~MM 1-1 (BR)~~, your ~~02/100/1/1/1~~
~~dated 19 Sept 44~~ ~~pages 28/5~~

~~MM 1-2 (BR)~~
~~M.I.A.~~
~~MM 1-3 (BR)~~
~~MM 1-4 (BR)~~

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

SUBJECT: W.M. British Liaison Unit. WA/508/1
Italian Increment ibarato WA/509/1.

SECRET

Military Mission Italian Army.
ROME.

26 5/6/29/12 ✓
Sept 14.

To: "A", "B", "C", "D", "E" & "F" BLU's.

The following assignments have been received:

1. WA/508/1
 - (a) Add to "Staff and attached to general staff"
General Staff Officer, 2nd. Grade 1
This makes total officers 9 instead of 8.
 - (b) The letter in brackets alongside the figure 4 in
the column "Corporals" for operators, wireless and
line should be (b) not (a), and refers to the note
"Includes one lance-serjeant."
 - (c) Delete the paragraph on vehicles and substitutes:

Motor-cycles, solo	6
Cars, 2-seater, 4 x 2	2
Trucks, 15-cwt, 4 x 2, G.S.	2
Lorries, 3-ton, 4 x 2, G.S.	2
Water trailer, 250-gallons	1
For Rear link signals.	
Truck, 15-cwt, 4 x 2, G.S.	1
Trucks, 15-cwt, wireless house	2
Lorry 3-ton, 4 x 2 G.S.	1
 - (d) Add "This establishment will not be implemented without
AFHQ authority."
2. WA/509/1
 - (a) After officer commanding lieutenant, add (a) this note
(a) is "must be able to speak English."

Add "This establishment will NOT be implemented without
AFHQ authority."

W. H. H. H.
Major General.
M. A. I. A.

1132

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

SUBJECT: Notes on the Training
of Italian Divisions.

TOP SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ, CMF

Ref: 11667

DME/55/101

22 Sep 44

Col. S.C.W. Egan, c/o CMFO CMF (2)
NSIA, CMF (6 - for distribution to
BLUs as and when formed).
G-3 Trg AFHQ (1)
G(Trg) H: AAI (1)

NAME	5/8/44
FILE NO.	12
Date Recd	15/9/44

Herewith, for information, copies of notes issued by DME
to assist the GSOsI of Italian BLUs in training of Italian divisions.

Copies have been forwarded direct to 'A' and 'B' BLUs,
attached to PRINDI and GRINCHA Divisions respectively.

Please acknowledge receipt.

L/c Skine as.

Forward copies to C & D B203 AC 26/9

25/9

HDP/ao

Seen

G.S.O.I to note. HP 25 Sep

2013

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

SUBJECT: Interpreters.

MAJ. R.
FILE REF.
Date Recd

8/5/44
8/6/44/2

24/9/44

5

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

CR/2284/G-1(BR)

19 Sep 44

43

GM 2nd Echelon.

Reference MIA cable SS 61 of 16 Sep 44 of which you had a copy, and telephone conversation (LAWSON - STERNITT).
re 18 Sep.

Will you please issue orders posting 874626 W/Sjt BROWNDON H.P.W. and 871792 L/Sjt LEUBERGER R.R. from 69 Hy AA Regt to 'A' and 'B' ELNs (NA/508/1) respectively.

R2519

John R. Sternitt
for Major-General,
D.A.G.
G-1(Br).

Copy to: M.M.I.A.
G-2 (Br).

W.P.
2

2842

1134

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

MOVEMENT ORDER NO 319

RESTRICTED

557 BASE ORD. DEPOT. R.A.O.C.

56

1. The u/a OR of 500 A.O.D. o.t.b.a. 557 B.O.D. on proceeding on posting to Military Mission Italian Army o/o Perilli Div. Benevento on 20 Sep 44.

10548897 Pte. Forbes. G. Clerk.

M.M.I.A.	5/5/44
FILE REF	5/5/44
Date Recd	24/9/44

2. AUTHORITY: O2R/27946/RFTS dated 8 Sep 44.

3. ARMES & EQUIPMENT: He will be in full possession of kit and equipment.

4. RATIONS: Unexpired portion of the days rations will be carried.

5. Pte. Forbes will be in possession of a copy of this Movement order which will be handed to O.C. Military Mission Italian Army immediately on arrival.

Field.
20 Sep 44.
TOS.....A.

E. H. Nelson
Capt & Adjutant.
for O.C. Depot Bn.
(E.H. NELSON).

Distribution:
GHQ. 02R CMF.
COO. 557 BOD.
OC. Military Mission Italian Army.
COO. 500 A.O.D.
File: Bn/22.

O.C. Regt 500 AOD.
O.O. 1 sub Depot.
Pte. Forbes.
File: Bn/8/23.

WP

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

55
Subject: Translation of Training Manuals.

Military Mission Italian Army,
ROME.

24 S/G/29/12. —
Sept. 44.

Ministry of War - for attn SGM
(Ufficio Addestramento) - Col FERRARI.

The attached pamphlet "Signal Training" (all Arms)
has today been received from Major FLEMING S.O.R.Sigs. MMIA.

Would you please have the pamphlet translated into
Italian. When translated 1,000 (one thousand) copies should
be printed.

gb.Jf.

Major General.
MMIA.

2849

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

MESSAGE FORM.

From: INDIA

Date,

TOO 22

1715

To: A BLU

THI 22

Restricted (.)

SS 86 (.)

Sgt FABRE to return this HQ immediately replacement arrives (.)

Enron ROME Area _____ Faren

5/8/91/12

ROUTINE

(Sgt).....

2839

11 137

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

53.

MAILED	8/20
FILED	8/20/12
PERIOD	22/9/1

SUBJECT:- Publications

Our Ref:- 1206/3385

To:- Army Sub-Commission (MIA)
..... HQ A.C.C.
..... R O M E
.....

41

Ref your 3/G/29/12 of 15 Sep 44
WE's NA/508/1 & 509/1 were
..... subject to
automatic distribution ~~by No.9 Publications Depot.~~ by No.9 Publications
Depot.

Bulk Stocks are not held here until distribution has been completed.

2 copies are enclosed. Will you please apply to OC, No.9 Publications
Depot, 57 Area, CIP for the balance of your demand.

*make a suitable
"amendment slip"
22/9 CLF 20/9/44 & issue to BLV's
a amend on spec w/ps
WP
22/9.*

W. H. Dill 2838
Asst, RASC,
OC, No.10 Publications Depot RASC.

11138

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

52
SUBJECT:- British Liaison Unit (for attachment to Italian Gruppo di Combattimento)

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY

R O M E

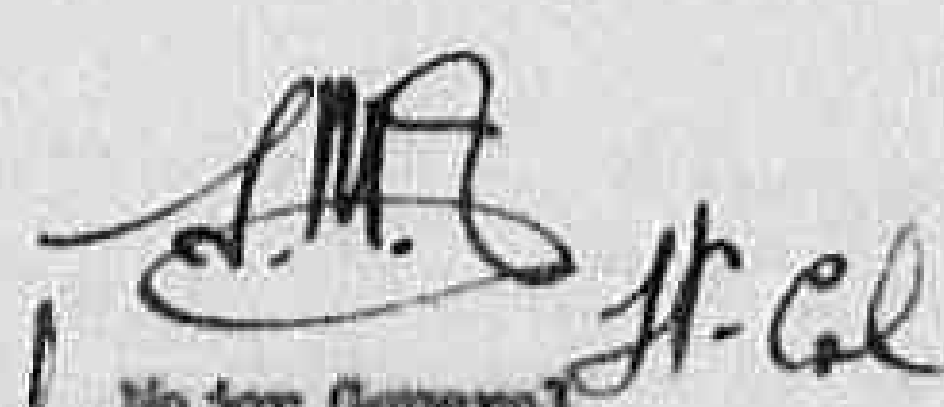
14/9/29/12

20 Sep 44

G(SD) A.A.I. (2 copies)

1. MMIA agreed with AAI's original proposal for WN of BLU with Italian Gruppo di Combattimento which contained no appointment of GSO 11.
2. The appointment was, however, considered necessary by AMHQ and was incorporated into the WN which was promulgated as NA/508/1.
3. It is understood that you have given instructions for the appointments of GSO 11 NOT to be implemented except under unforeseen circumstances (your 1701/23/48/G(SD2) of 18 Sep refers) and the object of this letter is to ask you to reconsider this decision for the following reasons :-
 - (a) the work of the BLU's has been greater than was originally anticipated and the G 11 so far appointed to A BLU has been invaluable.
 - (b) G 11 is required to take it in turns with G 1 to be present at HQ to answer the innumerable queries both verbal and by phone. It is essential that either G 1 or G 11 should be out.
 - (c) G 11 is required to act as S.O(Inf) in addition to his other duties. Every other branch of the service is represented on the BLU and Inf is the primary role of the Gruppo.
4. The desire of this HQ to reduce man-power was largely responsible for the agreement vide para 1, but implementation to WN is now considered essential and your co-operation is solicited.

ABC


Major General
MMIA

2837

SUBJECT: British Liaison Unit
(for attachment to Italian Gruppo
di Combattimento)

RESTRICTED

HQ ALLIED ARMY IN ITALY

Tel: FILLET 101

1701/23/48/G (102)

18 Sep 44

MS (2 copies)

1. The AAI War Establishments Committee agreed the proposed establishment of a British Liaison Unit at the 21st meeting, which was subsequently recommended to AFHQ under the above reference on 21 Aug 44.
2. The proposed war establishment, which was sponsored by MIA, was drafted in accordance with the recommendation of AAI branches concerned, and was regarded as the most economical unit which could fulfil the demands of supply and liaison.
3. The establishment was considered by the AAI War Establishments Committee at their 22nd meeting when a 300 II was added. The war establishment has since been promulgated as HA/300/1.
4. Since this HQ retains the view that this appointment is unessential, save under exceptional and unforeseen circumstances, will you please take steps to ensure that it is only implemented upon recommendation from this branch.

Copy to G1 MIA

K. J. J.
Brigadier
66889

FOR THE YEAR 1900

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
NO
AN ITALIAN COMBAT GROUP
(NA/508/1 of 25 Aug 1944)

Serial	Amendment Proposed	Reasons for Proposal	Units affected by Proposal
1	<u>Personnel</u> Add 1 cook ACC (Private)	Required to cook for British OR's of MU for whom all-Italian cooking is not suitable.	ELU's 50-55
2	Add 3 B.O.W.C.'s	Required for each group in view of difficulties in getting Italians to indent correctly for stores required. If this is authorized it should ease problem of supply of Ordnance stores which is likely to be one of its greatest difficulties when the group goes into action, as well as during equipping period.	ELU's 50-55
3.	Add 1 British OR for General Duties.	Required mainly as a check on the Italian Staff, and as a liaison officer.	ELU's 50-55
4.	<u>Motor Transport</u> Add 1 L C V	There are 9 2 1/2 ton trucks on the Italian Staff, the 400 cwt. required to be put on duty separately at the same time. The present scale of light vans allows for 2 cars 4 str 4 x 2 and 3 trucks 1 1/2 cwt.	ELU's 50-55 ELU's 50-55
5.	Add 2 cars 4 str 4 x 4		
6.	Add 3 x 3 ton 4 x 2 G.S.	To enable the unit to be mobile. At present it comprises 44 British all ranks and 22 Italian, and the scale of heavy vans allows for only 2 lorries 3 ton.	ELU's 50-55

TO
AN ITALIAN INCUBATOR

A BRITISH LIAISON UNIT.
(MA/509/1 of 25 August 1944)

2	Add 3 E.O.W.O.'s	Required for each group in view of difficulties in getting Italians to indent correctly for stores required. If this is authorized it should ease problem of supply of Ordnance stores which is likely to be one of the biggest difficulties when the Groups go into action, as well as during equipping period.	ELU's 50-55
3.	Add 1 British CR for General Duties.	Required mainly as a check on the Italian Staff, and control of actions	ELU's 50-55
4.	<u>Motor Transport</u>		
5.	Add 1 L C V Add 2 cars 4 str 4 x 4	There are 9 Staff cars on the 4 str 4 x 4. These are often required to be out on duty separately at the same time. The present scale of light vans allows for 2 cars 4 str 4 x 2 and 3 trucks 15 ton.	ELU's 50-55 ELU's 50-55
6.	Add 3 x 3 ton 4 x 2 G.S.	To enable the unit to be mobile. At present it comprises 44 British all ranks and 22 Italian, and the scale of heavy vechs allows for only 2 lorries 3 ton.	ELU's 50-55

B. Proposed Amendment to establishment of

AN ITALIAN INCURMENT

40

A BRITISH LIAISON UNIT.

(M/508/1 of 25 August 1944)

Personnel to be Italian

Serial Amendment proposed	Persons for Proposal	Units affected by Proposal
7. Add 6 drivers i/c	Will be required if above proposals for increase in transport of ELU is approved.	ELU's 50-55

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

[illegible]

1144

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

5/8/89/2. File 47

ROOMS MIA
A BLD

17

A

53 66

Restricted

Reference your A 25 dated 17th (.). Paren ROOM Area _____ Paren 022 now state
MIA requested repeat requested to collect RAOO clerks cma but no such request
received here (.). MIA LO NAPLES is being asked to investigate and keep you informed

2833

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

Subject: - Translation of Training Manuals.

Military Mission to the
Italian Army,

ROME.

s/c/29/12. —
Sept. 14.

Ministry of War for attn SMOE
(Ufficio Addestramento - Col. FERRARI.

The attached pamphlet "Signal Training" (all arms) has
today been received from Major FLEMING S.O.R.Sigs. MMIA.

Would you please have the pamphlet translated into
Italian. When translated 1,000 (one thousand) copies should be
printed.

gb.Mr.

W. H. W. J. M. I. A.
Major General.
M.M.I.A.

2832

1146

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

SUBJECT:- Training of Italian Groups.

RE ALLIED FORCES IN ITALY.

PHONE: PLLOT 75

2004/39/G(Trg)

15 Sep 44

DME

Copy to: Col. S.G.W.F. RBA c/o CMO.
MMIA

MMIA	S/Sec
REF	5/6/39/12
ed	18 9

Reference Para 7 your 55/ME1 dated 24 Aug 44.

It is considered that requests to MMIA rep should at all times be made through the British Liaison Unit in order that they may be kept fully informed.

[Signature]
General,
Commander in Chief.

[Signature] 18/9
WP

2831

1147

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

44

18 1615

MEMO

A BLU

5/6/12

SS62

For Col RBA your draft training instruction and directive No 1
and progress report No 1 agreed (.) Paren ROME Area _____ Paren

WP

IMPORTANT

DEPT. OF DEFENSE

2839

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

MMIA

FREEDOM for CI(Br)

02S. "A" BIU. "B" BIU.

SS 61

Restricted

69 HAA Regt report following interpreters available for duty with
A and B BLU (.) Paren ROME Area _____ Paren Please transfer
immediately if approved (.) 874626 W/Sgt BROWNSDON HPW 871792
L/Sgt LEMBERGER RR

2829

IMMEDIATE

1149

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

LRGT V LAGE NR 22 ROUTINE

FROM 69 NAA REGT 151150E

TO MAJOR DORRIS NMIA

CR 18 BT

AS25

RESTRICTED . FOLLOWING PERSONNEL ARE AVAILABLE

FOR DUTY WITH NMIA . 874626 W/SGT BROWN NPM .

871792 1/SGT LEMBERGER BR

BT

SENT NR 22 16/0505E NA DB

RE NR 22 16/0505 F A BDD

R. 10/19

M.M.I.A.	<i>S. Sec</i>
FILE REF	<i>8/1/12</i>
Date Recd	<i>1</i>

Repeat to Friedman for Col B 3328 02E.

69HAA report follows interpretation available for duty with A and B. Please transfer B.L.U.O.C. immediately if approved.

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

Subject:- War Establishments.

SECRET

Army Sub Commission (MCA)
H.Q. A.C.C.
R O M E
S/G/29/42
15 Sept. 44.

TO.
No. 10 Publications Depot
RASC. C.M.F.

A.F.H.Q. letter CR/1160/G-1 (Br) Ser 0683 of 2/9/44 refers.

Would you please forward to this H.Q. 12 copies of each of the following War Establishments.

(a) NA/509/1. British Liaison Units for Gruppi Di Combattimenti.

(b) NA/509/1 Italian increment for above.

apw/ME.

W. G. W. W.
Maj Gen
Army Sub Commission

2827

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

40
Subject:- Posting Orders (Officers) RAOC.

Army Sub Commission, BOMBAY.
H.Q. A.C.C.

ROME.

3/9/23/12.
1/ Sept. 12.

G I Brit. A.F.H.Q.

Ref. para 4 your GI-B/41835/A9-42 dated 30th August,
14. Would you please note that Major K. G. MACKENZIE (175751)
has been attached to "U" B.L.U. v.e.f. 3rd. September, 1944.

a. Hall
Major General.
Army Sub-Comm. A.C.C.

G.I. A.H.

2826

1152

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

DIS LRKB ERE G A PLS K

LRKB V LRAR NE5606

IMPORTANT

RUJRD

QVR2

FROM FREEDOM • 121241B

TO COMMANDETH MALTA

INFO M M I A FOR COL PIDSLEY

GR36 BT

M M I A.	
FILE REF	S/G/29/12
Date Recd	11/1

Army SC 5229 319
N 63/14

HEADQUARTERS
1 SEP 1944
A. C. C.

CONFIDENTIAL URGENTLY REQUIRE 12 ITALIAN INTERPRETERS FOR DUTY
WITH BRITISH LIAISON UNIT WIT ITALIAN COMBATANT
FORMATION. (FX24915 SIGNED WILSON CITE FHGAP. RANK SGT.
GRATEFUL ANY YOU CAN PROVIDE. VERY EARLY REPLY APPRECIATED.
BT

Risa

SENT 1630 BNK VA K

RECD NR 5 16// 14/1632E JOE B-P-

2825

141647

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

A P S

No: VALIEAN 26

02E/37510/Rfte

11 Sep 44

G1(B) A9 A.F.H.Q.

SUBJECT:- B.L.Us. for GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTI.

Reference G1 B/14964/A9 dated 29 Aug 44.

The following personnel have been placed under orders for A B C D BLUs reporting to Major FIELDMAN MMIA in accordance with AAI signal A7575 dated 24 Aug 44:-

Clerks RASC	S/Sjts 4 (In lieu of Sjts).
	Ptes 4
Clerks RA	Bdrs 2 (In lieu of Cpl
	Gnrs 2 (Clerks RASC)
Clerks RA	Gnrs 4
Gen Duties	Sjts 4
M.T.	Cpls 4
Offrs Mess Ords	L/Cpls 4

The remaining deficiencies i.e. Clerks RASC Ptes 8 and Interpreters Sjts 4 will be made up on suitable personnel becoming available.

Please confirm whether the personnel requested in your above quoted letter are in addition to requirements of A B C D BLUs.

7 7 7

for Brigadier,
DAG,
GHQ 2nd Echelon.

CMF

NT/ECK

Copy to: HQ AAI

HQ MMIA

Major Field man (10) MMIA

File 54894

2824
Seen 16 Sep - has been sent
sent them to the right place
WP

1154

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

2 ELS Q.R. 2 R-A.A.E

17/14

37

AAI

12 1500 B

02E

MATA

M.M.A	SS/
FILE RLF	1/12
Data Recd	19/11



22

A.1421

REQUEST EARLY REPLY MY AL399 OF 31 AUG SUBJECT PERSONNEL FOR
BRITISH LIAISON UNITS

SSC

for

2823

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

ARMY FORM C2136 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Srl. 1

Priority

Transmission Instructions

5/17/9/12

36

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM

Originator

Date-Time of Origin

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(A)

RA TRAINING TEAM (ITALIAN FORCES)

11 1015B

For Action

TO

COL. PIDSLEY

MMIA

HQ ACC

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions

GR

Originator's No.

RAH/11. It is impossible to fetch the interpreter today but I will send a truck for him tomorrow. Please tell him if he rings you up.

Q

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

SIGNED

SIGNED

Time

System

Op

THI or TOR

1020B

Time cleared

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

SUBJECT: Formation of B.L. Us.

35
SECRET

Army Sub Commission, MHA.
H.Q., A.C.C.

NOTE.

9/9/29/12. ✓

9 Sept 44.

To: "A" HLU
"B" HLU
MHA ID c/o G. Garrison (2)

Reference our SD 1403 dated 8 Sept.

Attached for information is a copy of AHKs
CR/1160/0-4 (ser 0683) of 2 September.

twm.JAD.
clm.

W.P. Parley.
Colonel
+ Major General.
Army Sub Com, A.C.C.

2821

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
CR/1160/C-1(BR)(Ser. 0683)
2 Sep 44

SUBJECT:- Formation of New Units - MISC

1A, 1B, 1C & 1D' BRITISH LIAISON UNITS (FOR GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTI)
FOR ITALIAN INCORPORATIONS TO BRITISH LIAISON UNITS (FOR GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTI)

1. (a) The above mentioned units will be formed on W.Es. as shown below, under the supervision of HQ No. 3 District.

Unit	W.E.	With effect from	Serial No. allotted.
1A' British Liaison Unit One Italian Incorporation for British Liaison Unit	NA/508/1 NA/509/1	26 Aug 44 26 Aug 44	11753 11755
1B' British Liaison Unit One Italian Incorporation for British Liaison Unit	NA/508/1 NA/509/1	26 Aug 44 26 Aug 44	11754 11756
1C' British Liaison Unit One Italian Incorporation for British Liaison Unit	NA/508/1 NA/509/1	1 Sep 44 1 Sep 44	11757 11759
1D' British Liaison Unit One Italian Incorporation for British Liaison Unit	NA/508/1 NA/509/1	1 Sep 44 1 Sep 44	11758 11760

(b) Copy of the above mentioned W.Es. may be obtained from No. 10 Public Relations Report on Demand.
(c) The above alphabetical designations will be used pending the allotment of unit numbers by the War Office.

2. (1) PERSONNEL
Postings will be affected as follows:-
(a) Officers
- (i) Lt-Col. & Staff Officers
of Dep. Mil. Sec., HQ 4AL.
(ii) Remainder by C-1(B), AFHQ.
(b) Other ranks
- By HQ GHQ 2nd Echelon
(iii) The appointments of C-1(B) or W.E. NA/508/1 are subject to War Office approval.
(iv) Italian personnel will be posted in accordance with arrangements to be made by 35 Liaison Division.

in conjunction with
Roads of Services
concerned.

SECRET
This document is submitted in accordance with arrangements to be made by 35 Liaison Division.

British Liaison Unit	NA/508/1	26 Aug 44	11754
One Italian Increment for British Liaison Unit	NA/509/1	26 Aug 44	11756
British Liaison Unit	NA/508/1	1 Sep 44	11757
One Italian Increment for British Liaison Unit	NA/509/1	1 Sep 44	11759
British Liaison Unit	NA/508/1	1 Sep 44	11758
One Italian Increment for British Liaison Unit	NA/509/1	1 Sep 44	11760

(b) Copy of the above mentioned W.Es. may be obtained from NO. 10 Publications Depot on demand.

(c) The above alphabetical designations will be used pending the allotment of unit numbers by the War Office.

2. PERSONNEL
- (i) Postings will be effected as follows:-
- (a) Officers - (i) Lt. Col. & Staff Officers } in conjunction with
by Dep. Mil. Sec., HQ A.I. }
(ii) Remainder by G.I.(B), AFHQ. }
(b) Other Ranks - by AFHQ CHQ 2nd Echelon }
concerned.

(ii) The appointments of G.I.1 or W.E. NA/508/1 are subject to War Office approval.

(iii) Italian personnel will be posted in accordance with arrangements to be made by 35 Military Mission.

CHQ AFHQ, EQUIPMENT & TRANSPORT

Instructions for the following will be submitted in accordance with instructions to be issued by HQ No. 3 District:-

Replacements of clothing, necessities and personal equipment to scale. Unit equipment to scale A.E. G.1098-1000 (less anti-gas stores).
By other scale of equipment of Ordnance supply, required additional to A.E. G.1098 scale, in accordance with Special Equipment List issued by G.I.(B), AFHQ.

(iv) Transport to be provided by W.E.

STATIONERY

Stationery for the units will be provided by the nearest Stationery Depot, the amount of stationery will be noted by AFHQ, HQ A.I.

5. PAY

Pay to be made to units will make application for the allotment of paymaster to be made by AFHQ or PD Cashier.

-2-

6.

POSTAL

Postal address will be:-

'A' ('B' 'C' or 'D') British Division Unit,
C.M.F.

7.

COMPLETION

- (a) HQ No.5 District will report to G.1(B) A-1 Section, A.H.Q., when formations are complete.
- (b) If, at the expiration of 21 days from effective date, deficiencies of personnel still exist, a statement will be rendered showing such deficiencies by ranks and trades.

8.

ACK

Received by Colonel

General,
Supreme Allied Commander,
Mediterranean Theatre.

DISTRIBUTION:-

The Under Secretary General,
The War Office (S.D.2)

- HQ A.I.I.
- Bt 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 (STATS)
- 33 Military Mission
- ARMS, HQ A.I.I.
- Postal, HQ A.I.I.
- Reinforcements, CMC
- No.9 Publications Depot, RASC
- No.10 Publications Depot, RASC
- No.8 Comd. Pay Office.
- Signalmaster, C.I.S.T.R.A.

- 4
- 15
- 3
- 3
- 3
- 16
- 11
- 3
- 3
- 3
- Dep. Mil. Sec.
- +++ G-3 (Org.2) (Manpower) (2)
- G-3 (Org.2) (ORBAT)
- G. (Joint)
- G. (A.E.)
- S.F.
- Division Sec.
- Ord. (Pr)
- R.A.M.E.
- P.A.
- P.E.I.C.
- A.D.P.S.C.
- D.D.A.P.S.
- War Office
- (2)

2. Two copies for raw units
and distribution as
necessary.

+++ WSD/131 of 31 Aug 44
refers.

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

LRKE V LRHY 231 IMMEDIATE

FROM DMT ADNAP 091200 E

TO HQ ACC CMF

QQX GR 37 BT

DMT/249 CONFIDENTIAL . PERSONAL FOR GENERAL BROWNING FROM KENCHINGTON .

~~Q1131~~ Q(AE) AAI UNABLE RELEASE VEHICLES FOR BLUS WITH GRUPPI . IMMEDIATE
RELEASE OF FOUR UTILITIES OR 15 CWTs OR EQUIVALENT ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL
OR TRAINING WILL SUFFER SERIOUSLY . CAN YOU ASSIST?

091200 E

THI 1740

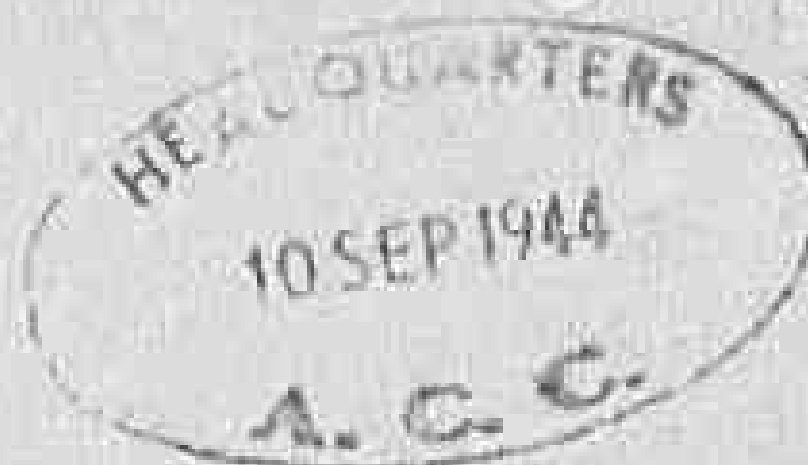
NOTE: VEHICLES FOR BLUS WITH GRUPPI .

SENT NR 231 AT 2140 HIRD E OPS

RECD NR 281 2140 SS

ON 36.

File in 2/24/12



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

MESSAGE FORM

From: MBIA

To: OS

B

To: 3 Dist

THI OS

B

SD 1405 (.)

(.) This refers to AFHQ CR/1166/01 (BR)

(Ser 0683) dated 2 Sept on formation EIU with Italian Combat Groups

Location as follows A EIU FRIULI Group S GIORGIO B EIU CEMONA Group

— S GIORGIO C EIU LIGNANO Group PIEDIMONTE D EIU FOLGORE Group

PIEDIMONTE (.) Officers only so far reported please hasten British personnel and vehicles

May be sent as WRITTEN
by any means except
() wireless.

Must be sent in
CIPHER if liable
to interception.

Priority

()

11162

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

LRKS V LRY NR 99 IMMEDIATE
FROM DMT ADNAP 031100Z
TO M N I A FOR PIDSLEY

QGX GR 28 BT
DMT/235

CONFIDENTIAL (.) DMT WAR OFFICE KNOWS LT COL WILKINSON AND
STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT HE IS NOT (.) REPEAT NOT APPOINTED
G S O I IN BLU WITH ITALIAN GRUPPO
BT THI 031200Z

SENT NR 99 1248B LEAKE AR KK
RECD NR 99 1248 E AAA AR

2/1
ARMY SEC
3/6/44
1/12

4764
N28/08
HEADQUARTERS
8 SEP 1944
A. C. C.

081252817

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

Subject: Italian increment to British Liaison Unit.

Army Sub Commission, MBIA.
H.Q. A.C.C.

RWE.

S/G/29/12.
8 Sept. 44.

To : Ministry of War.

Reference our S/G/29/12 of 24th. August.

1. Please arrange for the personnel of the Italian increment of the British Liaison unit to the CHERONA Division to report at the earliest to the Officer Commanding the unit, Lt-Col. WEBB-CARTER, at SAN GIORGIO del SABBIO.
2. Italian increments for the LEGNANO and FOLGORE liaison units will report to the MBIA Liaison officers for these groups by the 15th. and 30th. September respectively.

gb. JAD.

Copy to O.C. "B" B.U. e/o GTC
MBIA HQ e/o 6/Carrison.

[Signature]
Major
for Major General.
Army Sub Comm. A.C.C.

2816

1164

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

MESSAGE FORM

From: NMIA

TO: OS B

To: DTC for "A" BLU "B" BLU

TH: OS B

SD 1403 (.) Restricted (.) BLUS being formed under supervision 3
District (.) AFHQ CR/1160/6-1(Hr) (Ser 0683) of 2 September refers (.)
3 District has copy for you

May be sent as UNCLASSIFIED
by any means except
() wireless.

Must be sent IN
CIPHER if liable
to interception.

Priority
(Routine)

2815

1165

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

MESSAGE FORM

From: NMIA

TO: OS B

To: ONTC for A EU

THU OS B

SP 1404 (.) Restricted (.) Your A 13 of 8 Sept refers (.) Reference
is to Italian interceptors to be supplied by Italian General Staff

May be sent as WRITTEN
by any means except
() wireless.

Must be sent IN
CIPHER if liable
to interception.

Priority
(Routine)

2814

1166

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

ARMY FORM C 2136 (1-50)				MESSAGE FORM		Register No.
Cell	Srl. No.	Priority	Transm. Instructions	Originator	Date-time of Origin	Office Date Stamp
ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY					04	B
FROM (A)		MILA		AFHQ		
TO		(W) For Information (INFO)		Message Instructions. GR		
Originator's No.		AAI				
SD 1387 (.) PROSECUTION AND ADMINISTRATION (.) Groups will be delayed and seriously prejudiced if first two British Liaison Units are not completed very soon (.) Personnel particularly interpreters and clerks and signals as well as vehicles and equipment for first two Groups (FRIULI and CREMONA) are urgently required at once (.) Officers should report HQ MILA before posting (.) Other ranks as follows FRIULI and CREMONA Groups to S GIORGIO del SANNIO at once (.) LEONARDO and FULGORE Groups to PIEDIMONTE D'ALIBI between 10 and 20 Sep (.) MANTOVA and PIERNO Groups not repeat NOT before 20 Oct (.) Should appreciate very early action and information						

1167

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

Originator's No.

SD 1387 (.) ~~From~~ ~~Administrative~~ ~~and~~ ~~Administration~~ (.)

Groups will be delayed and seriously prejudiced if first two British Liaison Units are not completed very soon (.) personnel particularly interpreters and clerks and signals as well as vehicles and equipment for first two groups (BRILL and ORMONA) are urgently required at once (.) Officers should report HQ MMIA before posting (.) Other ranks as follows BRILL and ORMONA Groups to S GIORGIO del SANNIO at once (.) LEGNANO and PULGORE Groups to PIEDIMONTE D'ALIFE between 10 and 20 Sep (.) MANTOVA and PIGNO Groups not repeat NOT before 20 Oct (.) Would appreciate very early action and information

2813

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.

Time	System Op.
THI or TOR	
Time Cleared	

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

ELS MMIA QWCZ



816
22/24

MESSAGE FIELD

145/8/29/12

FROM: H.Q. A.A.E.

DATE: 3 GEN

TO: For Action: DISTRICT

For Information: MMIA

MMIA	Spec Sec
FILED	
Date Recd: 5/9/	

ORIG NO: 8625/1/NS

CONFIDENTIAL (.) IN CIL W A C NIKINSAN 99 LAA ROBT SELECTED
FOR APPOINTMENT CSD : HET TO GRUPPA DI CAMPATIMENTI (.)
TO REPORT MMIA ROMO

COPY TO: 8625/1/4/NS

[Signature]
Dep. Sec

Seen *[initials]*

[initials]
1530

? FULCORE

I would like to see him on arrival

2812

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

MESSAGE FORM.

From: M.M.I.A.

to: 8 Army.

Date

7.4

TOO 1810 B

THI

5/6/29 i/c

23

SD 1372 (.) Following for MMIA Liaison officer with G.I.L. (.) Either
GELARIE or PHILIP to go to Area MIEBIMONT VALISE as soon as possible
and remain during reorganisation G.I.L. (.) Report to M.M.I.A., ROME
en route (.) Signal officer selected and A.T.A.

May be sent as WRITER
except () wireless.

Must be sent IN
CIPHER if liable
to interception.

Priority.

5/6/29/12

2811

11170

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

ELS QRR2 MMIA

38/31

2527

AAI

31 1/45 B



OZE

MMIA - COL PIDSLEY

WP

S/G/29/12
19

A.1399

(.) FURNISH ME A1375 CP 24 AUG (.) PLEASE STATE PROGRESS
PROVISION PERSONNEL FOR TWO BRITISH LIAISON UNITS

2810

2010

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

MM - A	SS
FILE REF	15
Date Recd	31/8/44

CONFIDENTIAL

H.Q. A.A.I.

8868/15/44

20 Aug 44

SUBJECT: - Appointment of Officers.

H.Q. No. 1 District.

Approval is given to the following:-

WO/Capt (T/Major) G.H. THOMPSON (12384d) R.A.S.C., from 15 R.P.S.D. to be DAIPT, HQ, 61 Area, retaining temporary rank of Major, w.e.f. date of assumption, vice T/Major G.A. BLOCK, RAIO, who will retain the temporary rank of Major on posting to I(47) List, whilst awaiting absorption as DAIPT in HQ to Italian Combat Group.

Date of assumption should be reported IMMEDIATELY to G.H.Q. 2nd Echelon, on A.F. J. 3010A.

Copy of this authority will be handed to Major THOMPSON by H.Q. No. 1 District.

Major G.A. BLOCK should be instructed to report to H.Q. 13 Military Division, Rome.

James K. Gifford
Colonel.
Deputy Military Secretary.

IS.

Copy to:- Dep 131 Sec, ABHQ.
GHQ, 2nd Echelon.
HQ, RFA, CEF.
DQST, HQ, AAT (2)
8871/1/44.

G.I.(2) BF HQ
M.M.I.A.

2809

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

809R

RAR V LRHY NR 313 P T LRKB RPT LRKB

FROM DMT ADNAP 311800B

TO MMIA FOR PIDSLEY

QOX GR 30

DMT /123

RESTRICTED (.) UNDERSTAND BLU STILL NOT REPORTED FRUILL

DIV (.) IMPORTANT IT REPORTS AT ONCE TO RECEIVE EQUIPMENT

FOR TRG AND MAIN (.) PRESUME YOU

ARE NOMINATION OFFERS (.) CONSIDER THIS VERY URGENT

THI 1745

~~RPTN 313 311800 B 30 DMT /123 1745~~

VHH BB

Replied by phone to Ban, OBT
Freedom 301.

NEURTAIN

S/C/P 9/12

19

2215
2808

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

~~ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS~~

RESTRICTED

MMIA	42
FILE REF	1
Date Recd	31/3/44

G1-B/14835/A9-42

30 Aug 44

WP

POSTING ORDER (OFFICERS) - RAOC

1. The following posting will be effected forthwith :-
W/Capt (T/Maj) K G MACKENZIE (175751) RAOC from 38 Vehicle Coy to X(iv) List retaining temporary rank
2. Major MACKENZIE is required for duty with a British Liaison Unit to a Gruppi di Combattimenti and will remain on X(iv) List pending implementation of W/E
3. Major A J HEAD (RAOC) (DADOS MMIA) has agreed to arrange collection of Major MACKENZIE and to issue instructions as to where he should report
4. Will HQ MMIA please notify this HQ as to which Gruppi di Combattimenti Major MACKENZIE is to be attached and the effective date *← General's.*
5. Relevant casualties will be notified to GHQ 2nd Echelon on AFsW 3010.

W B Chapman
W B CHAPMAN MAJOR DAAG
for Major-General DAG

G-1(Br)

2802

Distribution: HQ AAI for EDOS
GHQ 2nd Echelon
HQ MMIA for DADOS (4)
HQ 38 Vehicle Coy (2)
"X" Coy 5 Bn 1 CRTD

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

MM A ELS QUR 3

1342

MESSAGE IN

6/28



FROM: H.Q., A.A.I.

DATE: 27 AUG.

29/12

TO: ~~FOR INFO~~ MAIN 13 CORPS (A)

FOR INFORMATION: MAIN HQ EIGHTH ARMY (MS)
MMYA

MM A	ACR
FILE REF	14
Date Recd	28/8/1

ORIG NO: 8925/1/MS.

RESTRICTED (.) REFERENCE EIGHTH ARMY M 7134 MS UP 24 (.)
INSTRUCT C/MAJ F H STEPHENS FLEETEDS ATTU 66 HDS TO REPORT
IMMEDIATELY TO COL REA (MTC) DEPARTED AS DAA & QMG OF FUJ
BORNING THERE (.) DIVERSITY URGENT

COPY TO: 8935/MS
8808/1155/MS

Asst. Col.
Dep. Maj. Gen.

Spoke M.S.

to come here just.
File in app. file

WP
Z

2806

1930

1175

Ed P. Sweeney
1600 14
S/G/29/12

THI 26

TO Lt Col OLIVER o/o AFHQ LIAISON SECTION CMF

W.D.

~~Went~~

Rutiger

12 2205

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

11176
Head says
tell OTTO
ARMYSC 3932 13
28/27 N 148/27
2801
271900
ERKE V LAEE NR15
QVR-3 AFHQ
FROM LAEE 271616B
TO GRC 2ND ECHOLON
INFO: "K" COY 5 BN 1 GRTD
NMIA C/O FRIULI DIV
DDOS AMI
QQX GR45 DT

SIGNED SACHED SITE FUGAB (.) F88443 CONFIRMING CONVERSATION
MCCARTHY/EBDON OF 27 (.) INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTED ATTACHING RACC
CLERKS 1 S/SGT 2 PTES ST C & S OR GEN 1 SGT TO NMIA FRIULI DIV
PENDING IMPLEMENTATION W/E BLU (.) ORS TO BE COLLECTED BY NMIA
BY 22 AUG DT 271616B
SENT NR15 1850B MFB AR K
RECD NR 15 1850 B AAA AR

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

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

SUBJECT:- Formation of Units

RESTRICTED

HQ ALLIED ARMS IN ITALY.

Tel: FILROT 101.

1701/23/48/G(SD2).

26 AUG 44

C-3 Org (Manpower) 2 copies

Copy to:-

G1 (D)

Q (AE)

C-3 (Org-4)

CHQ 2 Ech (Stats)

Allied Control Commission

(Army Sub Commission)

MS

G(Ops)

A

Q

Q (AE)

MM-A	SD
11 AUG 44	278

Spec Sec
26 Aug 44
File
27 Aug

1. Application is made to form the following units:-

(a) Units to be formed:-	W.E.	Offrs	ORs	Vehs	Trailers	MCS
(i) 'A' British Liaison Unit	A new war establishment.	8	35	10	1	6
(ii) 'B' British Liaison Unit	Vide Appx 'A' to this HQ	8	35	10	1	6
(iii) 'C' British Liaison Unit	1701/23/48/G (SD2) dated 21 Aug 44.	8	35	10	1	6
(iv) 'D' British Liaison Unit	Copy herewith.	8	35	10	1	6

(b) Net Increase

32 140 40 4 24

2. Additional appointments or upgrades above the rank of major:-

One Lieutenant-Colonel (G.S.O.1) in each unit.

3. It is regretted that no corresponding reduction from within this theatre can be found.

4. (a) The formation of six Italian Gruppi di Combattimenti has been approved in principle and it is considered that one British Liaison Unit will be required for each Gruppo for supervising trg in the initial stages and for liaison with the headquarters of the most efficient British formation during operations.

2803

1. Application is made to form the following units :-

(a) Units to be formed:-	W.E.	Offrs	ORS	Vehs	Trailers	MCs
(i) 'A' British Liaison Unit	A new war establishment.	8	35	10	1	6
(ii) 'B' British Liaison Unit	Vide Appx 'A' to this HQ	8	35	10	1	6
(iii) 'C' British Liaison Unit	1701/23/48/G (SD2) dated 21 Aug 44.	8	35	10	1	6
(iv) 'D' British Liaison Unit	Copy herewith.	8	35	10	1	6
(b) Not increase		32	140	40	4	24

2. Additional appointments or upgrades above the rank of major :-

One Lieutenant-Colonel (G.S.O.1) in each unit.

3. It is regretted that no corresponding reduction from within this theatre can be found.

4. (a) The formation of six Italian Gruppi di Combattimenti has been approved in principle and it is considered that one British Liaison Unit will be required for each Gruppo for supervising trg in the initial stages and for liaison with the headquarters of the next highest British formation during operations.

(b) Two units are required immediately for the first two Gruppi, now in course of fm, and a further two will be required v.e.f. 1 Sep 44 for reorg of CIL on the basis of two Gruppi.

5. It is recommended that the head of each liaison unit should be a first grade staff officer. It is not considered that the command of these units can be deputed to an officer of lower rank.

6. Desired effective dates:-

'A' and 'B' British Liaison Units - v.e.f. the effective date of the war establishment.

'C' and 'D' British Liaison Units - v.e.f. 1 Sep 44.

7. Interest accounts will be required.

A. M. T. Gledhill
for Command

2803

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

1180

MESSAGE FORM

Call _____ Ser. No. _____ Priority RTS MMIA Registration fast-outflow _____

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) AAI Originator Date-Time of Origin 25 Office Date Stamp _____

For Action

TO AFHQ (W) For Information (INFO) 4/26/81

MMIA

Message Instructions GB

Originator's No. 8925/1/MS

RESTRICTED (.) YOUR 14587/MS of 23 DESPATCH MAJOR P. H. GUYTER IMMEDIATELY AS DAA & QMG FOR ONE OF SIX BLUs BEING FORMED UNDER COL REA AT BELLEVILLE (.) IMPRESS URGENCY

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS UNCLASSIFIED BY ANY MEANS RECEIPT

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING CIPHER

2802

BOOKED

Dep HLT Secs

Col, HLT

BOOKED

Time	System	Op.
PH or TOR		
Time cleared		

SECRET.

Subject: Italian Increment to a British Liaison Unit.

Army Sub Commission, MIA.
H.Q. A.C.C.

REF.

5/10/29/12-
2-4 AUG. 44.

WBS

To: S.M.R.E.

Copy to:

Major O. PHILLIPS

C/O C.E.F.C., BIRMINGHAM.

Major HARTWICKS BRIGHTON.

1. A number of Italian personnel are required as an increment to the British Liaison Unit (B.L.U.) which will be attached to each Gruppo di Combattimento. The War Establishment worked out for this increment is attached.

2. Personnel as shown are required immediately for the PRIMI Division B.L.U. and will be required shortly for the CROMA.

3. Please arrange for the PRIMI and CROMA increments to be served immediately, and for the former to report as soon as possible to

Major O. PHILLIPS
MIA Liaison Officer,
SAN GEORGIO DEL SABBIO.

Please inform MIA of the date on which it may be expected to report. Instructions for the CROMA increment will follow.

4. The increments will be charged against the ceiling of the Combat Forces. There is no need of course for them to be recruited from personnel already with the PRIMI and the CROMA.

Major General

1182

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

1. A number of Italian personnel are required as an increment to the British Liaison Unit (B.L.U.), which will be attached to each Gruppo di Combattimento. The War Establishment worked out for this increment is attached.

2. Personnel as shown are required immediately for the FIUMI Division B.L.U. and will be required shortly for the CEMOMA.

3. Please arrange for the FIUMI and CEMOMA increments to be formed immediately, and for the former to report as soon as possible to

Major C. F. F. F. F.
Major Liaison Officer,
SAS GEORGIC WIL. BARRIC.

Please inform B.L.U. of the date on which it may be expected to report. Instructions for the CEMOMA increment will follow.

4. The increments will be charged against the ceiling of the Combat Forces. There is no need of course for them to be recruited from personnel already with the FIUMI and the CEMOMA.

GBJAD


Major General,
Army Sub Comm. A.C.C.

2801

11-18-3

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

8/6/20/12

9

File

MESSAGE FORM

TOO	25	B
THI	25	B

From MMIA
To CMTC for FIKHMAN

O 556 (*) RESTRICTED (*) Arranged by AAI that British personnel for first two BLU's report to you within next few days (*) No clerks yet available (*) Italian increment will also report earliest (*) Copies of both establishments forwarded

May be sent as written except () wireless To be sent in Ciph or if liable to interception

(IMPORTANT)

Internal copy for g- A/Q

2800

SUBJECT:- War Establishment - 4 British Liaison Unit

RESTRICTED

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY.

Tel: FILPOT 101.

1701/23/48/G(SD2)

21 Aug 44

AFHQ G-3 (Org.3) 5 Copies

Copy to:- AFHQ G-3 (Org.2) Manpower
G-3 (Org.4)

Allied Control Commission
(Army Sub Commission)

Q (Ops)	RG
A	X
Q	ST
Q (AE)	Ord
RA	REME

1. The Proposal

(a) A British Liaison Unit, and an Italian Increment to a British Liaison Unit.

(b) Two new war establishments.

(c) Not applicable.

2. The Effect of the Proposal

(a) The new establishment amounts to :-

(i)	4 British Liaison Unit - Officers	8
	Other ranks	35
	Vehicles	10

(ii)	An Italian Increment - Officer	1
	Other ranks	21

(b) Not applicable.

(c) It is intended to form one BLU and one increment with each Italian Group of Combat.

MAI A.	21/8/44
FILA REF	
Date Recd	22/8/44

G (Ops) RE
A X
Q ST
Q (AE) Ord
RA REME

1. The Proposal

- (a) A British Liaison Unit, and an Italian Increment to a British Liaison Unit.
- (b) Two new war establishments.
- (c) Not applicable.

2. The Effect of the Proposal

- (a) The new establishment amounts to :-

(i) A British Liaison Unit - Officers 8
Other ranks 35
Vehicles 10

(ii) An Italian Increment - Officer 1
Other ranks 21

- (b) Not applicable.

- (c) It is intended to form one BCU and one increment with each Italian Gruppo di Combattimenti.

- (d) The proposal involves an overall increase in personnel and vehicles required for this theatre.

- (e) It is regretted that no corresponding reductions can be made in A.I. theatre.

- (f) None of the personnel may be medical category 'B'.

- (g) The proposed new war establishments were approved in principle by the A.I. War Establishments Committee at the 21st Meeting.

- (h) Draft war establishments for the British Liaison Unit and for the Italian Increment are attached at Appendices 'A' and 'B' respectively.

-2-

3. The Reason for the Proposal

- (a) Since the formation of the Italian Gruppi di Combattimenti has been agreed in principle, the proposed establishment of 2 British Liaison Unit has been drafted at this HQ and is forwarded. It is hoped that this may save delay in the formation of these units as soon as approval of the Gruppi di Combattimenti is confirmed.
- (b) It has been decided that one British Liaison Unit will be required for each Gruppo for supervising training in the initial stages and for liaison with headquarters of next Higher British formation during operations.
- (c) It is recommended that the head of the Liaison unit should be a first grade staff officer, and he is shown on the general staff since it is on this branch that the greater responsibility will fall during operations. It is not considered that the command of the unit can be delegated to an officer of lower rank.
- (d) In view of the extreme importance of reliable communication a small signal section has been included in the establishment for duty as a rear link with HQ of higher formation.
- (e) The officers and the clerical staff have been kept to the minimum and a small Italian increment has been provided to undertake the administrative duties. It is intended that the transport of the Italian increment shall be provided from Allied sources together with that of the Gruppi.
- (f) Note (a) has been added to the first grade appointment of the I.S.U. as it is considered that two of the six Gruppi will be working with Indian arms.
- (g) Transport and equipment for six ELUs and increments have already been included together with the Gruppi themselves in the overall figures of three British division's worth of equipment or visually notified.

General,
Commander in Chief.

- (c) It is recommended that the head of the Liaison Unit should be a first grade staff officer, and he is shown on the general staff since it is on this branch that the greater responsibility will fall during operations. It is not considered that the command of the unit can be delegated to an officer of lower rank.
- (d) In view of the extreme importance of reliable communication a small signal section has been included in the establishment for duty as a rear link with HQ of higher formation.
- (e) The officers and the clerical staff have been kept to the minimum and a small Italian Increment has been provided to undertake the administrative duties. It is intended that the transport of the Italian Increment shall be provided from Allied sources together with that of the Gruppi.
- (f) Note (a)" has been added to the first grade appointment of the D.L.U. as it is considered that two of the six Gruppi will be working with Indian fms.
- (g) Transport and equipment for six BILs and increments have already been included together with the Gruppi themselves in the overall figures of three British division's worth of equipment previously notified.

General,
Commander in Chief.

SECRET

Appendix 'A' to 1701/2348/1(3D2)
dated 21 Aug 44

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

PROPOSED

U.S. ESTABLISHMENT

(1) Personnel

Unit No	Date
Offrs	8
QBs	35
Total	43
MCs	6
Vehicles	10
Trailers	1

DETAIL	Officers	Warrant Officers Class I	Warrant Officers Class II	Staff Sergeants	Sergeants	Corporals	lance Corporals	Privates	Total
STAFF AND ATTACHED TO GENERAL STAFF									
General Staff Officer, 1st grade (a)	1								1
Deputy assistant adjutant and quartermaster general	1								1
Staff officer, R.A., 2nd grade	1								1
Staff officer, R.A., 3rd grade	1								1
Staff officer, R. Signals, 3rd grade	1								1
SERVICES									
Deputy assistant director of supplies and transport	1								1
Deputy assistant director of ordnance services	1								1
Staff Captain, R. I. L. E.	1								1
Clerks, general duties, R.A.S.C.				1		1			2
Clerks, R.A.									
Clerks, R.A.S.C.									
Storeman, R.A.S.C.									
REAR LINK SERVICES									
Sergeant				1					1
Operators, wireless and line									
Operators, cypher									
Electricians, signals									
Driver operators									

SECRET

OFFICERS	Current OF Class I	Current OF Class II	Staff Serj	Serjeants	Corporals	Lance Corp	Privates	Total
STAFF AND ATTACHED TO GENERAL STAFF								
(a) General Staff Officer, 1st grade	1							1
Deputy assistant adjutant and quartermaster general	1							1
Staff officer, R.A., 2nd grade	1							1
Staff officer, R.A., 3rd grade	1							1
Staff officer, R. Signals, 3rd grade	1							1
SERVICES								
Deputy assistant director of supplies and transport	1							1
Deputy assistant director of ordnance services	1							1
Staff Captain, R.E.M.E.	1							1
Clerks, general duties, R.A.S.C.								5
Clerks, R.A.								1
Clerks, R.A.S.C.								3
Storeman, R.A.S.C.								1
REAR AREA SIGNALS								
Serjeant								1
Operators, wireless and line								11
Operators, cypher								3
Electricians, signals								1
Driver operators								2
Driver mechanic								1
Driver IC								1
AFRICANISTAN STAFF								
Serjeant								1
Transport H.Q.O.								1
Interpreters								2
Officers' mess orderly								1
NOTE: British Liaison Unit	8	1	6	9	3	16	43	
								2798

(b) This appointment shall be filled by an Indian Army officer on Indian Army pay and allowances when the Gruppo di Combattimenti is employed in conjunction with an Indian Formation.

(ii) Transport

Motor Cycles, solo	6
Cars, 2 seater, 4 x 2	2
Trucks, 15cwt, G3	3
Trucks, 15cwt, Wireless House	2
Lorries, 3 ton, G3	3
Motor Trailer, 250 gallon	1

(a) includes 1 lance sergeant

- Note:-
1. A General staff officer, 2nd grade, will be attached from HQ, Army Sub Commission for liaison duties.
 2. Drivers, batmen, cooks and orderlies are provided from the Italian Movement to the British Liaison unit.

RESTATIONED

Appendix 'B' to 1701/23448/E(SD2)
dated 21 Aug 44

AN ITALIAN INCORPORATION

TO A

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

AN ITALIAN INCREMENT TO A BRITISH LIAISON UNIT											
DETAIL											
Officer Commanding (Lieutenant)											
Duty N.C.O.											
Interpreters											
General Dutyman											
Drivers, IC											
Batman											
Cooks :- Officers' Mess											
Serjeants' Mess											
Rank and File Mess											
Total, an Italian Increment to a British Liaison Unit											

Unit No	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Date													22
Offrs	1												1
CRs	21												21
Total	22												22
MCs													
Vehicles													
Trailers													

Officers	1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
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192

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

DETAIL

Officer Commanding (Lieutenant)

Duty N.C.O.

Interpreters

General Dutymen

Drivers, IC

Bathmen

Cooks :- Officers' Mess

Sergeants' Mess

Rank and File Mess

Total, an Italian Increment to a
British Liaison unit

Officers	Warrant Officers Class I	Warrant Officers Class II	Staff Sergeants	Sergeants	Corporals	Lance Corporals	Privates	Total
1					1	1	555110	1 1 2 5 6 5 1 1 2
1					3	1	17	22

Note: This unit is intended for employment under
Command of a British Liaison Unit.

2797

NOTE: GSO 1 for B.L.U. for new ITALIAN
Combat Groups.

SECRET

Army Sub Commission, MILA.
H.Q. A.C.C.

ROME.

T.S./G/29/12. 12
23 AUG 44.

M.S.
H.Q. AAL.

1. I have been considering what type of officer is required as GSO 1 for the B.L.U. of the new 6 Italian Combat Groups.

2. As you know, these B.L.U. will remain with their respective Combat Groups not alone during the equipment and training period but also during active operations thereafter. There is no doubt that the G.S.O.1 will exercise a very considerable influence on the whole Combat Group and that, though the Italian Combat Gp Centre will make his own tactical decisions in accordance with orders issued by the British Corps Centre, he will lean heavily on the G.S.O. 1 BLU. The latter will undoubtedly be present at conferences etc while tactical plans are being made and will advise and help the Italian G.S.O. in the formulation and tactical execution of orders.

3. From this it follows that we need a really high class G.S.O. 1 BLU with fighting experience and personality. It will be very well worth while going out of our way to produce the right sort of officer as his influence will be felt throughout the whole 9,000 odd men of the Combat Group.

4. I would therefore suggest that selection be made from either existing British BLU centres in the line (possibly from those who have had a long spell of fighting) or from ex-G.S.O. 1s or G.S.O.2s of Divisions.

Wm. LB.

Major General,
Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

11194

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

1. I have been considering what type of officer is required as GSO 1 for the B.L.U.s of the new 6 Italian Combat Groups.

2. As you know, these B.L.U.s will remain with their respective Combat Groups not alone during the equipment and training period but also during active operations thereafter. There is no doubt that the G.S.O.1 will exercise a very considerable influence on the whole Combat Group and that, though the Italian Combat Gp Comdr will make his own tactical decisions in accordance with orders issued by the British Corps Comdr, he will lean heavily on the G.S.O. 1 B.L.U. The latter will undoubtedly be present at conferences etc while tactical plans are being made and will advise and help the Italian G.O.C. in the formulation and tactical execution of orders.

3. From this it follows that we need a really high class G.S.O. 1 B.L.U. with fighting experience and personality. It will be very well worth while going out of our way to produce the right sort of officer as his influence will be felt throughout the whole 9,000 odd men of the Combat Group.

4. I would therefore suggest that selection be made from either either the British Bn Comdrs in the line (possibly from those who have had a long spell of fighting) or from ex-G.S.O. 1s or G.S.O.2s of Divisions.

Wm. L.

W.D.

Major General,
Army Sub Comd, A.C.C.

2796

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

MM	6
FILE RE	8/6 12/3
Date Recd	11

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Composition of BLU for attachment to
GRUPPA DI COMBATTIMENTI

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED ARMS IN ITALY.
1701/53/G(SD2).

8 Aug 44

Ref 1701/53/G(SD2) of 7 Aug.

1. It has now been decided that a first grade General Staff Officer is necessary on the proposed VE of BLU to Gruppo Di Combattimenti.

For General Staff Officer 2nd grade read General Staff Officer 1st grade.

L. M. Ingledew
for Brigadier,
G(CE & T).

DISTRIBUTION:-

Allied Control Commission
(Army Sub-Commission)

MS
G (Ops)
A
C
Q(CE)
RA
RE
X
ST
Ord
RECE

Subject: Assignment Order - Liaison Officers.

Army Sub Commission(MMIA)
H.Q., A.C.C.
R O M E
AQ/63

8 Aug 44

1. Major M. FIELDMAN M.B.E. is assigned as MMIA LO to the FRULI Division wef 8 Aug 44.
2. He will check with Col. PIDSLEY GSO.1, and A/Q for special instructions before departure.

FJN/hh

DISTRIBUTION:-

Major M. Fieldman MBE.
Col. Pidsley.
All MMIA LO's.
Ministry of War.
S.M.B.E.
War Diary (2)
Circ.

and AAI.(SB)

Informing S.M.B.E. that he will be available to join HQ, Friuli Div in E. Georgia area after 15 Aug.

He should visit: San RA School Colle Fano.
SME. Capua.
Ord. School Pontecagnano
Sig Sch Palermo.

as early as possible.

[Signature]

2794

WE file WP.

1
10/5/53/29/10

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT:- Composition of BLU for attachment to
GRUPPA DI COMBATTIMENTI

SD

8 44

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY.
1701/53/G(SD2).

7 Aug 44.

At a meeting held in the War Establishments Committee Room on 7 Aug 44, and attended by the DQMG, Col Pidsley and representatives from branches and services concerned, the composition of the BLU for employment with the Gruppo di Combattimenti was discussed.

A draft war establishment was prepared, a copy of which is attached at Appendix 'a', and it was recommended that this be submitted to higher authority for approval.

L.M. Tugliandini.
St. Cl.

f
Brigadier,
G(SD & T).

DISTRIBUTION:-

Allied Control Commission
(Army Sub-Commission)

MS

G (Ops)

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Q

Q (AE)

RA

RE

X

ST

Ord

RUME

date 7 Nov 11

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

PROPOSAL

WAR ESTABLISHMENT

(i) Personnel

4mdt No	
Date	
Offrs	8
O.Rs	50
Total	58
MCs	6
Vehicles	10
Trailers	1

[illegible]

27th Dec 1954

11 200

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

6 2 3 2 3 1

- 2 -

(ii) Transport

Motor cycles, solo
Cars, 2 seater, 4 x 2
Trucks, 15-cwt, GS
Trucks, 15-cwt, Wireless house
Lorries, 3-ton, GS
Water trailer, 250 gallon

(a) includes 1 lance-serjeant.

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