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

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56/29/19 Notes On Meeting + Inspection
Opened Sept 8, 1944. Closed March 23, 1945
Sept 1944 - Mar 1945

0592

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

MESSAGE FORM.

DATE TIME OF ORIGIN

24 [illegible] A

FROM : MMIA

TO : 56 MLU

REF NO : SS 680

RESTRICTED

YOUR 15 G OF 25 MAR 78

Precedence IMMEDIATE

Authenticated [signature]

Colonel. 4273

29/19

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

29/19

SECRET

56 BLU
15 G

27 Mar 45

Subject :- Visit - Italian Royalty.

MMA. (10)

Copies to :- HQ. Combat Group, "MANTOVA". (2)
56 BLU.
'E' Trg Inc. } One per officer.

1. Herewith proposed arrangements for the visit of S.A.R. Prince Umberto Di Savoia to Combat Group, "MANTOVA" on 27 March 45.

2. 20 additional copies of Appx 'B' are being sent to HQ. Combat Group, "MANTOVA".

3. MMA will please acknowledge receipt by signal.

427-

Lt-Col.
GS.

In the Field.
MMA/ec

See our SS 680 of 24 Mar. "approved"

Only one copy recd.

24/3

Land Forces

SECRET

APPX 'A'

PROGRAMME OF VISIT

Reference ITALY ROAD MAP 1:200,000 Sheet 19.

SKETCH AT APPX 'B'

Serial numbers in Appx 'A' and 'B' are identical.

Serial	Place	TIME Arrive	TIME Depart	Particulars	Officers to be Presented
1.	Rd junc N 696778	0830	-	(a) Arrive in MONTOVA Group area (b) Drive through CFF	ITALIAN Generale Bologna Ten Col Guaiano Cap De Plachneis Capt Castiglione BRITISH Lt-Col Gibson
2.	S.GIORGIO	0850	0940	(c) Meet officers of Group HQ. Services and BLU.	ITALIAN Magg Riga Cap Tolaino Cap Viggiani Cap Camera Cap Argentieri Magg Fontanone Cap Gemini Cap Cotti Ten Col Subre Magg Bonocco Cap Cattori Cap Vitale Magg Pavone Magg Mormiolli Cap Borgherini Ten Lattanzio Cap De Felice Cap Giovannini Cap Chio Cap Grasso

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		N 696778			MANTOVA Group area	Generale Bologna Ten Col Guglano Cap De Flamineis Magg Castiglione BRITISH Lt-Col Gibbon
					(b) Drive through CFP	
2.	S.GIORGIO	0850	0940	(a)	Meet officers of Group HQ. Services and SLU.	ITALIAN Magg Pigo Cap Teloinco Cap Viggiani Cap Cesera Cap Argentieri Magg Perniceno Cap Arnezini Cap Cotti Ten Col Subre Magg [illegible]occo Cap [illegible]eri Cap Vitale Magg Pavone Magg Mennicilli Cap Borgherini Ten Lattannio Cap De Felice Cap Giovannini Cap Chio Cap Morasco Cap Donegani Cap Frattini Ten Capt Rossetti and four other captains S.Ten Borin BRITISH Maj Godsdon Maj Moore Maj Niles Maj Morgan Capt Wood Lt Brayne Lt Thomas Lt Voss

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Serial	Place	TIME Arrive	TIME Depart	Particulars	Officers to be Presented
				(b) Inspection of 104 ST Coy. (Normal work)	Magg Severoni
3.	MADONNA DEL CARMINE N 835736	1010	1050	Inspection of :- I, IV & V Cpe 155 Arty Regt. 107 Signal Coy. 1/76 Inf Bn. (Normal training)	ITALIAN Col Leonardi - Cattolica Magg Schiraldi Ten Col Palamidrini Ten Col Pasqualino Magg Picco Cap Marinelli Magg Silvestri BRITISH Maj Chadwyck - Healy MC Maj Duffy MO Capt Pillington
4.	Pt. on rd ARIANO - MONTE CALVO N 897885	1120	1230	Inspection of 76 Inf Regt (less one Bn) Fd firing exercise and normal trg.	ITALIAN Col Luciano Ten Col Donato Cap Tarantino Ten Col Lombardi Magg Gaeta BRITISH Maj Hadlow Maj Burn Maj Sneesbal MO Lt Garrione
5.	"	1230	1330	L U N C H	ITALIAN Gen Bologna Ten Col Gurlewo Magg Pigt BRITISH

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4269

4.	Pt. on rd ARIANO - MONTE CALVO N 897883	1120	1230	Inspection of 76 Inf Regt (less one Bn) AT firing exercise and normal trg.	Magg Fiore Cap Marinelli Magg Silvestri BRITISH Maj Chadwyck - Healy MC Maj Duffy MC Capt Fiddington ITALIAN Col Luciano Ten Col Donato Cap Terantino Ten Col Lombardi Magg Gaeta BRITISH Maj Medlam Maj Burn Maj Greenum MC Lt Gerrions
5.	"	1230	1330	L U N C H	4269 Gen Bologna Ten Col Garlano Magg Piga BRITISH Lt-Col Gibbon Maj Gedsdon ITALIAN Magg Fenoglio Cap Speroti Cap Leveroni Cap Murrone BRITISH Capt Gentle
6.	R. TRIGNANE N 870652	1420	1450	Inspect 4 & 79 Bn Coys. Bailey Bridging and fieldworks.	

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Serial	Place	TIME Arrive	TIME Depart	Particulars	Officers to be Presented
7.	Road PAROLISE - CHIUSANO N 757592	1600	1700	Inspect 114 Inf Regt. Fd firing exercise and normal trg	ITALIAN Col Giordano Ten Col Sentieri Cap Daffre Ten Col Battaglini Magg Somma Magg De Subato BRITISH Maj Newby Maj Cox MC Maj Hudson MC Capt Podesta
8.	ATRIPALDA N 702573	1715	1730	Visit Group Mech Engr Wksps.	ITALIAN Cap Velletta BRITISH Capt Bell
			1730	Depart via AVELLINO	

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					Maj	McVoy
					Maj	Cox MC
					Maj	Hudson MC
					Capt	Podesta
8.	ATRIPALDA N 702578	1715	1730	Visit Group Mech Engr Wksps.		ITALIAN
					Cap	Valletta
						BRITISH
					Capt	Bell
			1730	Depart via AVELLINO		

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SKETCH TO ILLUSTRATE APP. 'A'

SERIAL NUMBERS IN APPX 'A' AND 'B' ARE IDENTICAL

SCHIZZO ILLUSTRATIVO DELL'ALLEGATO 'A'

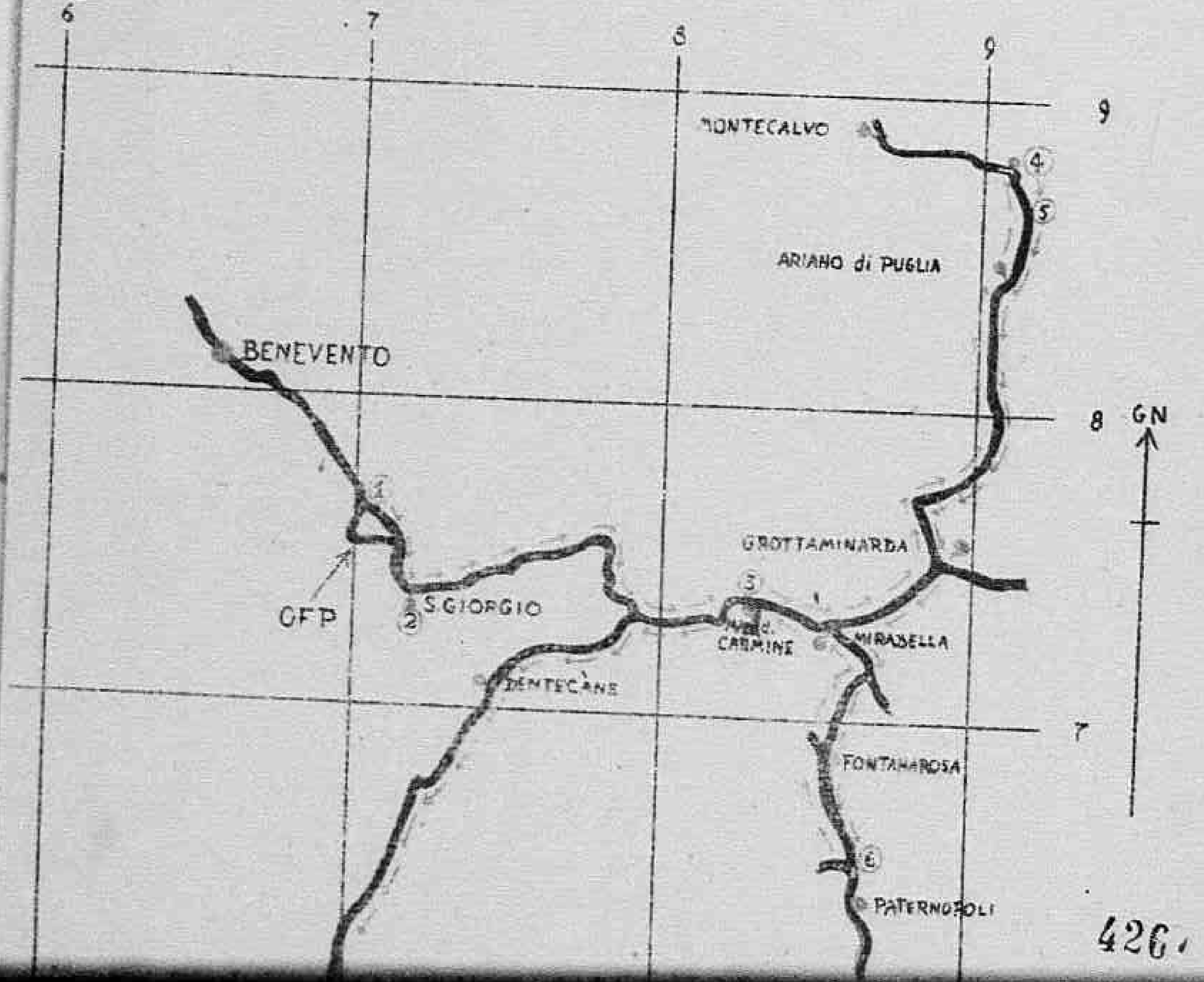
I NUMERI PROGRESSIVI DEGLI ALLEGATI 'A' e 'B' SONO CORRISPONDENTI

SECRET

APPENDIX - 'B'

SEGRETO

ALLEGATO - 'B'



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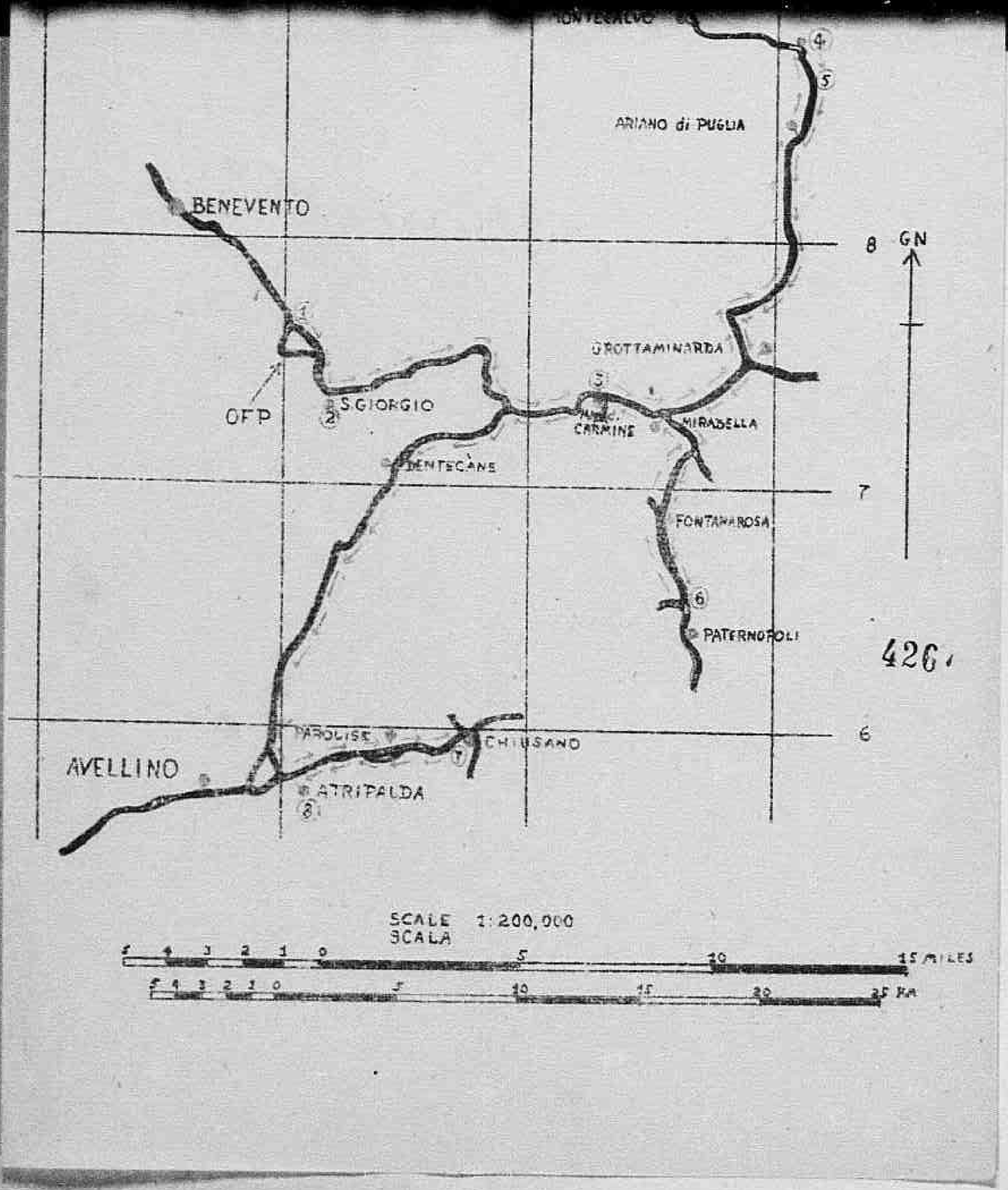
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020



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SIGNAL

FROM MAIA

TO 15 ARMY GROUP

SR 2477

= 29/19 17 A

CONFIDENTIAL

LT COL HOWARD SENIOR LIAISON OFFICER M A I A WISHES TO MAKE LIAISON VISITS TO DISCUSS PRESENT ITALIAN COMBAT GROUPS AND SERVICE TROOPS SPECIAL REP AD/G3 ORG AND A/G-1 MATTERS AS FOLLOWS (.)

A (.) ONE (.) 18 MAR (.) LEAVE BONIOLMO (ASTURA) FOR 53 BLU (.)

TWO (.) 19 MAR (.) VISIT F O L G O R E (.)

THREE (.) 20 MAR (.) VISIT 13 CORPS (.)53 BLU ARRANGE (.) LEAVE FOR 50 BLU (.)

FOUR (.) 21 MAR (.) VISIT F R I U L I (.)

FIVE (.) 22 MAR (.) VISIT F O L C O R P S IF NECESSARY (.) 50 BLU ARRANGE (.) LEAVE FOR 51 BLU (.)

SIX (.) 2 3 MAR (.) VISIT C R E S O N A (.)

SEVEN (.) 24 MAR (.) VISIT 5 CORPS IF NECESSARY (.) 51 BLU ARRANGE (.) VISIT EIGHTH ARMY (.) MAIA TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS B G S, BRIG AG, G 1 SD, A Q M G (.)

EIGHT (.) 25 MAR (.) VISIT PAOK TPT CENTRE F O S S O M B R O N E (.)

NINE (.) 26 MAR (.) LEAVE FOR 52 BLU (.) TEN (.) 27 MAR (.) VISIT LECHANO(.)

ELEVEN (.) 28 MAR (.) VISIT MAIA TO FIFTH ARMY AND II (US) CORPS IF NECESSARY (.) LEAVE FOR F L O R E N C E (.)

TWELVE (.) 29 MAR (.) VISIT BR LNOR FIFTH ARMY (.) MAIA TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS COL GS, COL AQ (.)

THIRTEEN (.) 30 MAR (.) VISIT 15 ARMY GROUP (.)

FOURTEEN (.) 31 MAR (.) RETURN HQ MAIA (.)

B (.) IS THIS APPROVED PLEASE (.) IF SO REQUEST YOUR JUNIOR PAOS GIVE ENVOYS FACILITY AND ASSISTANCE

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

FIVE (.) 22 MAR (.) VISIT F L O R E N C E IF NECESSARY (.) 50 BLU

AFRANGE (.) LEAVE FOR 51 BLU (.)

SIX (.) 23 MAR (.) VISIT C R E M O N A (.)

SEVEN (.) 24 MAR (.) VISIT 5 CORPS IF NECESSARY (.) 51 BLU ARRANGE (.)

VISIT EIGHTH ARMY (.) MEDIA TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS A C S, G2, AC,

G 1 SD, A Q M G (.)

EIGHT (.) 25 MAR (.) VISIT FAIR IFT CENTER F O S S O M B R O N E (.)

NINE (.) 26 MAR (.) LEAVE FOR 52 BLU (.) TEN (.) 27 MAR (.) VISIT LEGHARN (.)

ELEVEN (.) 28 MAR (.) VISIT MEDIA TO FIFTH ARMY AND II (2D) CORPS IF

NECESSARY (.) LEAVE FOR F L O R E N C E (.)

TWELVE (.) 29 MAR (.) VISIT SR 1MCK FIFTH ARMY (.) MEDIA TO ARRANGE

APPOINTMENTS COL GS, COL AG (.)

THIRTEEN (.) 30 MAR (.) VISIT 15 ARMY GROUP (.)

FOURTEEN (.) 31 MAR (.) RETURN HQ MEDIA (.)

B (.) IS THIS APPROVED PLAN (.) IF SO REQUEST YOUR MESSAGE FURN GIVE EVERY

FACILITY AND ASSISTANCE

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE 4266

AUTHENTICATED

INTERNAL:
Spec Sec
A
File 0/33

ek

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

2a/19

PICENO DIVISION.

1. Date of Formation - 20 February 1942.

2. Has never fought.

3. Formed into Gruppo di Combattimento - October 1944.

4. Formed into H.Q., R.T.C., I.C.F. - January 1945

5. Strength as at 11 March 1945 :-

		Officers.	O.Rs.	Total.
H.Q., R.T.C., I.C.F.		115	855	970
1st Regiment.				
	Permanent Cadre.	49	350	399
	Reinforcements.	94	2,622	2,716
2nd Regiment.				
	Permanent Cadre.	69	405	474
	Reinforcements.	63	2,464	2,527
3rd Regiment.				
Artillery.	Permanent Cadre.	38	189	227
	Reinforcements.	75	1,116	1,191
Engineers.	Permanent Cadre.	42	381	423
	Reinforcements.	35	682	717
Tented Reception Camp.				
	Permanent Cadre.	35	115	150
	Reinforcements.	---	936	936
TOTAL.		615	10,115	10,730

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

4. Formed into H.Q., R.T.C., I.C.F. - January 1945

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3rd Regiment.				
Artillery.	Permanent Cadre.	38	189	227
	Reinforcements.	75	1,116	1,191
Engineers.	Permanent Cadre.	42	381	423
	Reinforcements.	35	682	717
Tented Reception Camp.				
	Permanent Cadre.	35	115	150
	Reinforcements.	---	936	936
TOTAL.		615	10,115	10,730

4269

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

10606

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

CONFIDENTIAL

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
DC/S
March 45

Dear

Thanks for yours of 4 March with notes on your Group Comd.

1. It has been decided to make no change in Command at present.

2. H.R.H. Prince UMBERTO hopes to be able to spend a day with MANTOVA between 26 and 31 March, but it is not yet certain. You might discuss a programme provisionally with General BOLOGNA (but spread it no further) on the following lines - visit from 0830 to 1630 to see and talk with as many men as possible from all arms. As little ceremony as necessary, normal training or demonstration to taste. Lunch interval at convenient location to save travelling time - possibly a cold collation which I expect Gen. BOLOGNA would like to provide. Perhaps you would send me a suggested programme. General BROWNING and I hope to be there, too. British officers to attend with their units or staffs.

3. I will try and help over your five "outstanding difficulties".

4. I hope your leave will materialise.

Yours,

Lt. Col. A.W. GIBSON
SG SLU,
CMF.

4264

ek

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

2019

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	Reinforcements.	75	1,116	1,191
Engineers.	Permanent Cadre.	42	381	423
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4269

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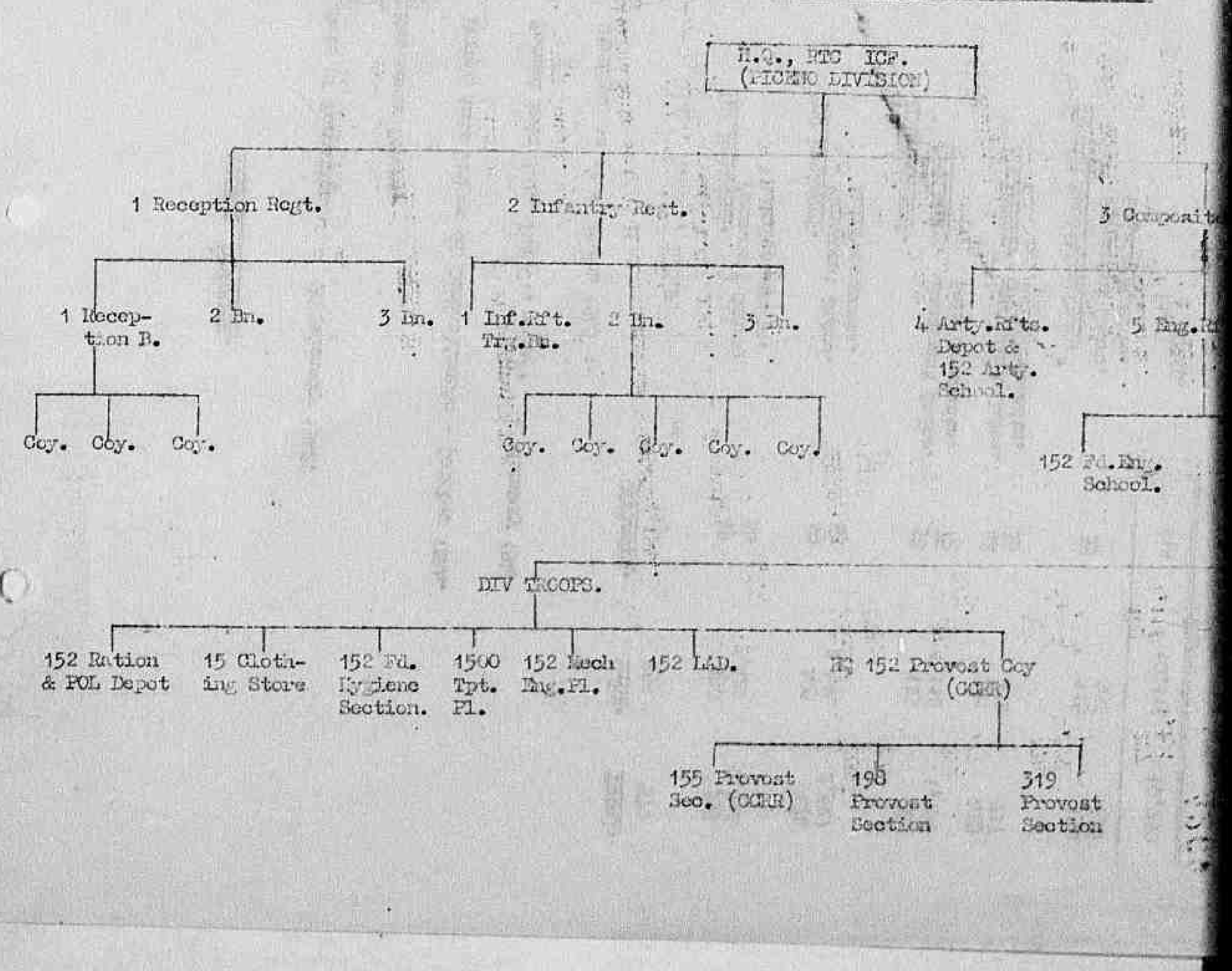
10609

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

DIAGRAMMATIC LAYOUT OF REINFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTRE, ITALIAN COMBAT FORCE.



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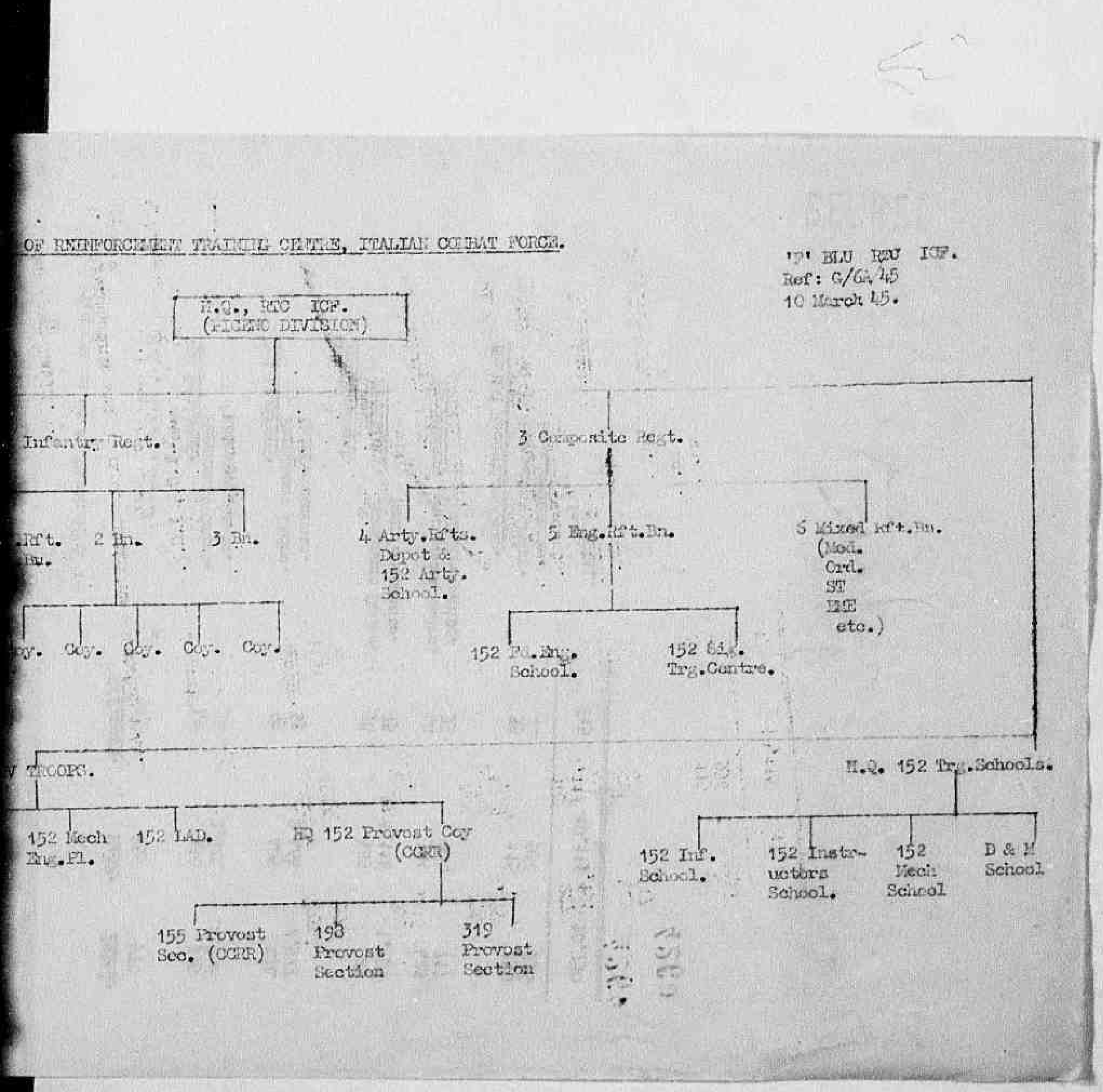
OF REINFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTRE, ITALIAN COMBAT FORCE.

'J' BLU REU ICF.
Ref: G/G.45
10 March 45.



0611

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

CONFIDENTIAL

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(M.M.I.A.)
DC/3
March 45

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Yours,

Lt. Col. A.W. GIBSON
56 MLU,
CMF.

4264

ek

SECRET

SUBJECT: Notes for visit to Army Area and Groups.

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/G/29/19
13 March 45

TO : Lt. Col. H.A.C. HOWARD, Coldstream Guards.

1. The following documents are attached :-

Appendix 'A' - Summary of strengths and deficiencies in Combat Groups, and holdings at RTC ICF, as at 10 March.
Appendix 'B' - British Directive No. 13 - Reinforcements.
Appendix 'C' - Staff lists of Groups down to ~~Battalion~~ Commanders.
Appendix 'D' - Letter to Min of War on subject of Drivers (SD/6/1 of 14 March).

2. Reinforcement System.

We want to tell the Groups :-

(a) No bulk reinforcements will be sent up unless they specifically ask for them. Specialists will be sent up as they become available against the weekly returns. See Appendix 'A'.

(b) The basis of the reinforcement system is direct contact between the Groups and the RTC ICF, CESANO (See Appx 'B'). If the BLU wants to support a particular request and get the British channels working, it is perfectly entitled to correspond with or against, direct to "F" BLU, RTC ICF. The RTC is forming a special office under Lt. Col. SIVO which has the job of studying the weekly specchi very closely and planning output and future training accordingly. This office will have a liaison officer who will go round Groups to study personnel problems.

(c) It is not proposed, owing to deficiencies elsewhere, to send any drivers forward to FRIULI, CREMONA, LEGNANO and FOLGORE, until the end of April, owing to immense deficiencies in MANTOVA and other units to be formed. See Appendix 'D'. If Groups must have more drivers, they should send a special urgent request, and they'll be sent.

We want from the Groups :-

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

Appendix 'A' - Summary of strengths and deficiencies in Combat Groups, and holdings at RTC ICF, as at 10 March.
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We want from the Groups :-

(a) Accurate returns. The whole planning of reinforcement training depends on this. Will BLU's do all they can.

(b) In particular, Groups must strike men off strength as per provisions of British Directive No. 13.

3. Surplus officers and Instructors for RTC ICF. 426

Many officers are being held surplus to W.E. (See Appx 'A'). The SMRE is sending out a letter to adjust this and is asking Groups to send back officers as instructors to RTC ICF, especially officers who have done Instructor's Courses at BENEVENTO, etc. This also applies to NCO's. The Groups' cooperation is requested, as it is naturally to their advantage that they should get well-trained reinforcements in the future, even if they don't like losing particular people now. ✓ da mandare

4. Patriots.

How are they getting on? Are they more useful as reinforcements than trained men from RTC ICF? Do they forget their politics?

Colonel

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

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* It is hoped that about the middle of April it will be possible to start a rotation system between officers and NCO's in Groups and Instructors at R.T.C. I.C.F. i.e. send back battle experienced men for a period as instructors at RTC ICF. Groups should bear this in mind for possible reliefs.

STAFF LIST OF GROUPS.

FRIULI

Comandante	gen.brg.Aga.	SCATTINI ARTURO
Capo di S.M.	t.col.	VEDOVATO GUIDO
87° rgt ftr	col.	SCAPPINI GIOVANNI
88° " "	Col.	CIANCABILLA FULVIO
35° " Art.	Col.	DE BIASE ACHILLE
120° rrt misto genio	t. col.	DEL PRETE FLORIO

CREMONA

Comandante	gen.brg.Ago.	PRIMIERI CLEMENTE
Capo di S.M.	col.	PEDERZANI ADELMO
21° rgt. ftr.	col.	MUSCO ETTORE
22° rft. ftr.	col.	FERRARA ARTURO
7° rft. art.	col.	OTTONE ANGELO
144° btg.misto genio	magg.	FERRE BENEDETTO

LEGNANO

Comandante	gen.div.	UTILI UMBERTO
Capo di S.M.	col.	GARGIOLI FEDERICO
68th rgt. ftr.	col.	DE RENZI EDMONDO
Rgt.spec. "Legnano"	col.	SCARPA GALLIANO
11th rgt. art.	col.	BRUNELLI MARIO
51th btg.misto genio	magg.	VESCOVINI ENZO

FOLGORE

Comandante	gen.brg.	MORIGI GIORGIO
Capo di S.M.	t.col.	DE MARTINO UMBERTO
Rgt.paracad."Nembo"	col.	RONCO FRANCESCO
Rgt.marina "S.Marco"	cap.vasc.	TESI AUGUSTO
184th rgt. art.	col.	PACINOTTI GIOVANNI
184th btg.misto genio	magg.	MOSCA DOMENICO

MANTOVA

Comandante	gen.brg.Aga.	BOLOGNA GUIDO
Capo di S.M.	t.col.spe.	GUALANO ANTONIO
76th rgt. ftr.	col.	LUCIANO ANTONIO
114th rgt. ftr.	col.	GIORDANO ALDO
155th rgt. art.	col.	LEONARDI CATT.FRANCESCO SAVERIO
104th btg.misto genio	magg.	FINOGLIO

426-

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

LEGNARO

Comandante	gen.div.	UTILI UBERTO
Capo di S.M.	col.	GAROFOLI FEDERICO
68th rgt. ftr.	col.	DE RENZI EDMONDO
Rgt.spec. "Legnano"	col.	SCARPA GAILIANO
11th rgt. art.	col.	BRUNELLI MARIO
51th btg.misto genio	magg.	VESCOVINI ENZO

POLESINE

Comandante	gen.brg.	MORIGI GIORGIO
Capo di S.M.	t.col.	DE MARTINO UMBERTO
Rgt.paracad."Nembo"	col.	RONCO FRANCESCO
Rgt.marina "S.Marco"	cap.vasc.	TESI AUGUSTO
184th rgt. art.	col.	PACINOTTI GIOVANNI
184th btg.misto genio	magg.	MOSCA DOMENICO

MANTOVA

Comandante	gen.brg.Aga.	BOLOGNA GUIDO
Capo di S.M.	t.col.spe.	GUALANO ANTONIO
76th rgt. ftr.	col.	LUCIANO ANTONIO
114th rgt. ftr.	col.	GIORDANO ALDO
155th rgt. art.	col.	LEONARDI CATT.FRANCESCO SAVERIO
104th btg.misto genio	magg.	FENOGLIO

426-

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

SECRET.

AIRFIELD PROGRAMME

For visit of Field Marshal Sir H.R.L.G.Alexander, GCB. CSI. DSO. MC. ADC.

Monday, 12 March 1945.

'F' B.L.U., RTC ICF.
Ref: V/18/9.
11 March 45.

Reference Map Sheet 1/200,000 No.17.

(1) 09.55 hrs. Arrive cross-roads Map Ref: 605828.
Cars halt at cross-roads and Officers mentioned are introduced to the Field Marshall.
After introductions, re-enter cars and proceed.

Meet: GENERALE DI BRIGATA ENRICO MATTIOLI
(G.O.C., R.T.C.)
Ten.Col. UGO STIVO
(Director of Training, R.T.C.)
Lieut-Col. L.H. MACKAY, R.A.
(O.C., B.L.U.)
Major W.P. PRICE, N.Staffs.
(G.II Infantry Training).

(2) 10.00 - 10.05 hrs.

Arrive at Artillery Barracks, BRACCIANO.

Meet: Col. MARCELLO BALBA.
(Commanding 3rd Regiment)
Teb.Col. PIETRO SANTUCCI.
(Commanding 1st Bn., 3rd Regt.)
Lieut-Col. R.W. Delm, R.A.
(Commanding R.A. Training Group).

(3) 10.05 - 10.15 hrs.

Watch training in Barrack square : (a) Anti-Tank.
(b) Bofors.
(c) 25-pdr.
(d) Specialists.

(Note: At this halt, cars will NOT enter barrack square, but will draw up in the road outside the barracks).

(4) 10.20 - 10.30 hrs.

Visitors will re-enter cars outside Artillery Barracks and will proceed to Training Ground, where they will witness 50 mm on Bailey Bridging, 50 men on Mine Warfare and 50 on Field Works.

10.35 hrs. Arrive main entrance Genio Barracks, BRACCIANO. (Cars will park in the square in front of the men's mess (under construction)).

File in visitors file WP

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(Director of Training, R.T.C.)
Lieut-Col. L.H. MACKAY, R.A.
(O.C., E.L.U.)
Major W.B. PRICE. N.Staffs.
(G.III Infantry Training).

(2) 10.00 - 10.05 hrs.

Arrive at Artillery Barracks, BRACCIANO.

Meet: Col. MARCELLO PALMA.
(Commanding 3rd Regiment).
Lieut.Col. PIETRO SANTUCCI.
(Commanding 1st Bn., 3rd Regt.)
Lieut-Col. R.W. Dunn, R.A.
(Commanding R.A. Training Group).

(3) 10.05 - 10.15 hrs.

Watch training in Barrack square : (a) Anti-Tank.
(b) Bofors.
(c) 25-pdr.
(d) Specialists.

(Note: At this halt, cars will NOT enter barrack square, but will draw up in the road outside the barracks).

(4) 10.20 - 10.30 hrs.

Visitors will re-enter cars outside Artillery Barracks and will proceed to Training Ground, where they will witness 50 men on Bailey Bridging, 50 men on Mine Warfare and 50 on Field Works.

10.35 hrs. Arrive main entrance Combo Barracks, BRACCIANO. (Cars will park in the square in front of the men's mess (under construction)).

Meet: Ten.Col. SALVATORE MISICARO.
(Cond. 2nd Bn., 3rd Regt.)
Magg. ENRICO DE MORI
(Cond. 3rd Bn., 3rd Regt.)
Col. TOSCHI.
(Cond. CRIOLO Camp).
Major E. HUNTINGDON, Kings Own.
(GSO II Schools).
Major J.C. HEATLAND, R.E.
(S.O.R.E.)
Major R. WAID.
(Officer i/c CRIOLO Camp).
Capt. R.H. THOMAS, R.C.S.
(GSO II. R.C.S.)

10.40 hrs. Visit Signals Class undergoing training on No.22 Set on the Parade Ground opposite the men's Cookhouse.

...../2

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10.45 hrs. Depart.

(Note: The programme at this Barracks has been extended by 10 minutes, i.e. from 10.20 - 10.45 hrs. as the time allowed to proceed from BRACCIANO to CESANO was excessive in the original programme).

(5) 11.20 hrs. Arrive POSTO DI BLOCCO, CESANO.

Cars will halt opposite CESANO Station.

Inspect a contingent of C.C.R.R. and meet :-

Ten. OSCALDO TENTARELLI
(Comd. C.C.R.R.)
Capt. C. GORDON, (R.W.K.)
(Provost).

(6) 11.40 hrs.

(a). Re-enter cars and drive through Factory building to entrance to D. & M. School.

Meet: Capt. VALENTINE KEMP
(Welding Chief Instructor).
Capt. [illegible] HOLLOW, Coldm.Gds.
(Comp. DAISY)

Dismount and proceed on foot through D. & M. School Buildings, visiting N.C.O's and Men's living quarters, barrack room, mess room, cookhouse, bathing place, and parade of vehicles, with their drivers, under the command of S.Ten. SONCINI.

Visitors will then return to the main entrance of the D. & M. School.

(Note: While visitors are inspecting the D. & M. School, cars will turn round and draw up at the far end of the D. & M. School).

(b). Meet Major C.H.C. HILTON, R.E.M.E. (DAIME), Officer i/c D. & M. School, and other Officers.

Visitors will proceed on foot through :-

(i) Vehicle Mechanics, armourers and gun fitters building.
(ii) Garage.
(iii) Stores. (Technical and M.T.)
(iv) Fitters Shop.
(v) School workshop.
(vi) Commandant's Office.
(vii) Dining Room.
(viii) Driver Mechanics Building.
(ix) Canteen Building.
(x) Sleeping quarters, (Instructors and Students).
(xi) [illegible]

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(6) 11.40 hrs.

(a). Re-enter cars and drive through Factory building to entrance to D. & M. School.

Meet: Capt. VALENTINE PIRRO
(Italian Chief Instructor).
Capt. J.J.M. [illegible], Col.Gds.
(Comd. DADME)

Dismount and proceed on foot through D. & M. School Buildings, visiting N.C.O's and Men's living quarters, barrack room, mess room, cookhouse, parking place, and parade of vehicles, with their drivers, under the command of S.Ten. SOMENI.

Visitors will then return to the main entrance of the D. & M. School.

(Note: While visitors are inspecting the D. & M. School, cars will turn round and draw up at the far end of the D. & M. School).

(b). Meet Major C.H.C. [illegible], R.E.M.E. (DADME), Officer i/c D. & M. School, and other Officers.

Visitors will proceed on foot through :-

(i) Vehicle Mechanics, armourers and gun fitters building.
(ii) Garage.
(iii) Stores. (Technical and M.T.)
(iv) Fitters Shop.
(v) School workshop.
(vi) Commandant's Office.
(vii) Dining Room.
(viii) Driver Mechanics Building.
(ix) Canteen Building.
(x) Sleeping quarters, (Instructors and Students).
(xi) Workshops.

4260

Visit will terminate at the entrance to the Mechanics School, where the visitors will re-embark and proceed to :-

(7) No.1 Regimental Square.

Route - up the main OSSARO road, past the guard room at the entrance of the 4th Lotto, where there will be a guard of six, including a Sergeant and a Trumpeter.

Party will proceed in vehicles to a point just in front of the Italian Institute Building in No.1 Square, arriving at 11.55 hrs.

11.55 hrs. Meet: Col. [illegible]
(Comd. No.1 Regiment)
Col. M. MANZI.
(Comd. Infantry School)
Ten.Col. GUISEPPE SORCIA.
(Comd. 1 Bn., No.1 Regiment)

...../3

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Magg. AGOSTINO CASSARA.
(Comd. 2 Bn., No.1 Regiment).
Magg. FREDERICO D'ACCINI.
(Comd. 3 Bn., No.1 Regiment).

The following training will be in progress :-

In the Square - squad drilling.

In the fields adjoining - squads engaged in rifle practice and others in field-craft training.

In the area below the Square - squads engaged in P.T. and on the Assault Course.

12.00 hrs. Inspection of No.3 Battalion barrack building.

12.05 hrs. Visitors re-enter cars and proceed to the vicinity of the Infantry School, where further squads will be in training on 6-pounders, 3-in. Mortars and Platoon Weapons.

After inspecting the Infantry School at 12.15 hrs., re-mount and proceed to :-

(8) No.2 Regimental Barracks entrance.

12.15 hrs. Meet Officers and inspection of some of the ground floor buildings.

Col. R. FANIZZA.
(Comd. No.2 Regiment).
Ten.Col. A. ALI.
(Comd. 4 Bn., No.2 Regiment).
Magg. G. MAZZEO.
(Comd. 5 Bn., No.2 Regiment).
Ten.Col. C. VERDOIA.
(Comd. 6 Bn., No.2 Regiment).

12.24 hrs. Meet remaining officers of B.L.U., and B.T.U., in entrance hall of No.2 Regimental barracks :-

Major A.M.G. GILARDI, R.A. D.A.A. & Q.M.G.
Major K.W. JEFFERY, R.A.O.C., D.A.D.O.S.
Capt. E.S.HOARE, R.A., Staff Captain.
Capt. G.R. SMETHURST, 16/5 L. G.S.O.III Training Equipment.
Capt. A.V. CRASSET, RECCE. G.S.O.III - Training.
Lieut. L.M. ROBERTS, Wilts. Camp Commandant.
Lieut. H.C. JANICHELLI, Genova Dragoons. Commander of Italian Increment (B.L.U.

(1331)

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

12.05 hrs. Visitors re-enter cars and proceed to the vicinity of the Infantry School, where further scenes will be in training on 6-pounders, 3-in. Mortars and Platoon Weapons.

After inspecting the Infantry School at 12.15 hrs., re-mount and proceed to :-

(8) No.2 Regimental Barracks entrance.

12.15 hrs. Meet Officers and inspection of some of the ground floor buildings.

Col. R. PANIZZA.
(Comd. No.2 Regiment).
Ten.Col. A. A.I.
(Comd. 4 Bn., No.2 Regiment).
Magg. G. MAZZEO.
(Comd. 5 Bn., No.2 Regiment).
Ten.Col. C. VERDOLA.
(Comd. 6 Bn., No.2 Regiment).

12.24 hrs. Meet remaining officers of B.L.U., and B.T.U., in entrance hall of No.2 Regimental barracks :-

Major A.M.C. GALARDI, R.A. D.A.A. & Q.M.G.
Major K.W. JEFFERY, R.A.O.C., D.A.D.O.S.
Capt. E.S.MOORE, R.A., Staff Captain.
Capt. G.R. SHERHURST, 16/5 L. G.S.O.III Training Equipment.
Capt. A.V. CRABBET, RECCE. G.S.O.III - Training.
Lieut. L.M. ROBERTS, Wilts. Camp Commandant.
Lieut. M.G. JANICELLI, Genova Dragoons. Commander of Italian Increment (B.L.U.

12.29 hrs. Re-enter cars and proceed to Football Field, where representatives of every unit in the Centre, including the Guard of Honour from the 336 Infantry Regiment, will be on parade.

12.30 hrs. Address.

At the conclusion of the address the party will proceed by the shortest route to the Central Italian Officer's Mess.

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

INCOMING MESSAGE

29/19 = Ex Corps (2)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: MA/14
Date Time of Origin: MAR 090945A

Message Centre No: D/4595
Date Time Rec'd: MAR 091410A
Precedence: IMMEDIATE

FROM: MAIN 8TH ARMY

TO : ALCOM FOR CHIEF COMMISSIONER, INFO 15 ARMY GROUP

SECRET

SECRET.

Army Commander delighted Prime Minister BONOMI and party visit Italian Combat Groups as proposed. Army representative will meet FORLI airfield 1000 hours 10th March. CREMONA warned to expect party 10th March and FRIULI either afternoon 10th or morning 11th March.

DIST — MMIA — Liaison Division

ACTION: Executive Commissioner
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
File

For information:-
GOC
~~2 i/c~~ R
A Pidsley
G1.

G3(Ln.) Please ensure French Corps Headqrs knows about this visit. WP

4/259

SECRET

10624

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

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

29/19 = G1 Corr

Originator's Reference: MA/14
Date/Time of Origin: MAR 090945A

Message Centre No: D/4595
Date Time Rec'd: MAR 091410A
Precedence: IMMEDIATE

FROM: MAIN 8TH ARMY

TO : ALCOM FOR CHIEF COMMISSIONER, INFO 15 ARMY GROUP

SECRET

SECRET.

Army Commander delighted Prime Minister BONOMI and party visit Italian Combat Groups as proposed. Army representative will meet FORLI airfield 1000 hours 10th March. CREMONA warned to expect party 10th March and FRIULI either afternoon 10th or morning 11th March.

DIST — LIAISON DIVISION

ACTION: Executive Commissioner W
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
File

For information:-
GOC
~~2 i/c~~ K
A/Pidsley
G1.

G3(Info.) Please ensure Major Owen [illegible] Vienna about this visit. WP

4/259

SECRET

10625

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

TRANSLATION.

From: M. of W.
To: M.M.I.A.

Date: March 8th. 1945.

PROGRAMME OF VISIT TO THE "CREMONA", "FRIULI" AND "FOLGORE" COMBAT GROUPS.

March 10th.

Departure from Rome by plane at 07.30 hrs.
Arrival at Forli at 10.00 hrs.
Departure by car for Ravenna, where HQ "Cremona" Combat Group is stationed.
Lunch at said HQ.
During the afternoon: visit to units of the "Cremona" Gp.
Bulow partisan formation.
Return to Forli for dinner and for the night.

March 11th.

Departure by car for Brisighella ("Friuli Combat Gp. HQ)
Visit to Units of the "Friuli" Gp. and lunch (at 12.00 hrs) at HQ "Friuli" Gp.
Departure in the early afternoon for HQ "Folgore" Gp.
Limited visit to Gp. HQ as it is necessary to return to Forli during the evening.
Dinner and overnight at Forli.

March 12th.

08.00 hrs. departure from Forli, by plane, for Rome.
Cars will be standing by at airfield to await Their Excellencies at 10.00 hrs.

FMDeJ.

4258

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

TRANSLATION

LIST OF PERSONS WHO WILL VISIT THE "CREMONA", "FRIULI" AND "FOLGORE" COMBAT GROUPS DURING THE DAYS 10th., 11th. & 12th. Inst.

H.E. BONOMI Ivanoe	-	Prime Minister
H.E. CASATI Alessandro	-	Minister for War
H.E. SCIALOIA Carlo	-	ex Minister for Air
H.E. Viscount VENOSTA Giovanni	-	ex Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Visit limited to Ravenna)
H.E. STANGONE Pierfelice	-	Private Secretary to H.E. Bonomi
Lt. Col. SAMPO Piero		
Capt. MARAINI Carlo		

FMDeJ.

0627

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BEST COPY POSSIBLE

File S C - visit to RTC ICF CESAND 12

1. Generale MATTIOLI, ufficiali, sottufficiali, graduati e soldati !

Come voi, io sono un combattente di linea, ed ho infatti trascorso quasi tutta la mia vita con soldati al fronte. Pertanto vi posso parlare semplicemente, come usa da soldato a soldato, e sono certo che noi ci comprenderemo.

2. Quando voi Soldati Italiani vi siete affiancati a noi come camerati in armi contro il nostro comune nemico Tedesco, mi sono reso perfettamente conto che per il nuovo Esercito Italiano occorreva un centro di addestramento di prim'ordine, e che questo centro doveva avere come istruttori i migliori elementi disponibili. Pertanto ho scelto per questo delicatissimo compito il gruppo di combattimento "PICENO".

3. Coloro tra di voi che costituiscono i quadri di questo centro di addestramento proveranno forse un senso di disillusione nel non avere l'onore di andare al fronte: come se venisse a mancare la possibilità di ottenere questa gloria. Questo non é affatto il caso ! Credetemi, voi svolgete un'opera di primissima importanza nel preparare gli altri al combattimento. Benchè possa mancare a quest'incarico il carattere vibrante del campo di battaglia, esso é pur sempre ugualmente onorevole, ed io so che voi, da veri soldati della vostra Terra e da patriottici Italiani, fate, e continuerete a fare il vostro dovere in questo ruolo estremamente importante che vi é stato assegnato.

4. Quelli tra di voi che vengono addestrati per partecipare nelle azioni dei Gruppi di Combattimento, si renderanno conto che dei soldati non addestrati, non equipaggiati od indisciplinati non possono avere successo nella guerra moderna. E pertanto necessario che mettiate tutta la vostra energia nel vostro lavoro in modo da essere pronti a compiere il vostro dovere ovunque e comunque vi sia richiesto.

5. Come soldato, mi sono trovato in combattimento contro l'Esercito Italiano ad EL ALAMEIN e conosco il vostro valore e quanto bene voi possiate combattere. Ho un alto concetto del vostro soldato e gli dò il benvenuto nei ranghi dei miei vittoriosi eserciti. Insieme vinceremo molto presto l'ultima battaglia, quella battaglia che libererà il vostro Paese dal terrore dell'oppressione Nazista.

Il Gruppo CREMONA, con l'appoggio dei Patrioti, nella sua prima importante azione contro i Tedeschi, a Nord di RAVENNA, ha già ottenuto un vibrante successo, conquistando tutti gli obiettivi e catturando parecchie centinaia di prigionieri. Questa é la prima delle molte vittorie che attendono le vostre armi.

6. Sono molto soddisfatto di quanto ho visto oggi. Sono stato minutamente

4220

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

Coloro tra di voi che costituiscono i quadri di questo Centro di addestramento proveranno forse un senso di disillusione nel non avere l'onore di andare al fronte: come se venisse a mancare loro la possibilità di ottenere questa gloria. Questo non é affatto il caso ! Credetemi, voi svolgete un'opera di primissima importanza nel preparare gli altri al combattimento. Benchè possa mancare a quest'incarico il carattere vibrante del campo di battaglia, esso é pur sempre ugualmente onorevole, ed io so che voi, da veri soldati della vostra Terra e da patriottici Italiani, fate, e continuerete a fare il vostro dovere in questo ruolo estremamente importante che vi é stato assegnato.

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6. Sono molto soddisfatto di quanto ho visto oggi. Sono stato minutamente informato del lavoro da voi quì svolto ed ho avuto grande piacere nel constatare ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ quanto mi era stato riferito .
per conto mio

7. Avvenimenti di grande portata storica si stanno in questo momento compiendo su tutti i fronti d'Europa. Il collasso definitivo della Germania é prossimo. Ora é il momento di spiegare la massima energia ed entusiasmo. Ciascun soldato deve fare sì che le sue armi ed il suo equipaggiamento sieno pronte per l'ultima battaglia: la battaglia che ci darà la vittoria finale.

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(1)

1. General Mattioli, officers, NCOs and soldiers.-

I, like you, am a front-line soldier, in fact I have spent nearly all my life with fighting soldiers; therefore I can speak to you in simple language as one soldier to another - and we will understand each other.

2. When you Italian soldiers joined us as comrades in arms against our common enemy, the Germans, it became clear to me that for the new Italian Army we must have a really first-class training centre, composed of the best soldiers as instructors. I therefore chose PISTOIA Combat Group for this important duty.

3. Those of you who form the staff of this training centre may be disappointed not to have the honour of going into the front line; you may feel that glory is being withheld from you. That is not true.

Believe me you are doing work of outstanding importance in preparing others for battle. It may not be quite so spectacular as the battlefield, but it is equally honourable, and, as true soldiers of your country, and as patriotic Italians , I know you are doing and will continue to do your duty in this vitally important role assigned to you.

4. Those of you who are being trained to fight in the Combat Groups, will understand that untrained, unequipped or indisciplined soldiers cannot succeed in modern warfare. It is necessary, therefore, that you should put all your energy ~~(heart and soul)~~ into your work so as to be prepared ~~(in mind and body)~~ to do your duty ~~(to even end)~~ in whatever position you may be needed.

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Group for this important duty.

3. Those of you who form the staff of this training centre may be disappointed not to have the honour of going into the front line; you may feel that glory is being withheld from you. That is not true.

Believe me you are doing work of outstanding importance in preparing others for battle. It may not be quite so spectacular as the battlefield, but it is equally honourable, and, as true soldiers of your country, and as patriotic Italians , I know you are doing and will continue to do your duty in this vitally important role assigned to you.

4. Those of you who are being trained to fight in the Combat Groups, will understand that untrained, unequipped or undisciplined soldiers cannot succeed in modern warfare. It is necessary, therefore, that you should put all your energy (~~heart and soul~~) into your work so as to be prepared (~~in mind and body~~) to do your duty (~~to some end~~) in whatever position you may be needed.

5. As a soldier, I have fought in combat against the Italian Army at EL ALAMEIN, and I know your worth and how well you can fight. I have a high regard for your soldiers and I welcome them into my victorious armies, and together, we are going to win the last battle quite soon, which will free your country from the terror of the Nazi invader.

Already, in their first action against the Germans, the Cremona Group with the help of the Patriots, have achieved a spectacular success in gaining all their objectives and in taking several hundred prisoners in their recent action North of RAVENNA.

contd sheet 2/..

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(2)

5. (Contd)

This is the first of more victories which are coming to your Arms.

6. I am well satisfied with what I have seen today.

I have been kept fully informed of your work here and it has been a great pleasure for me to see for myself the good work of which I have already heard.

7. Great and historical events are at this moment taking place on all the battle-fronts of Europe. The final collapse of Germany is near. Now is the time for more energy and enthusiasm - Every soldier must see that his arms and equipment are ready for the last battle which will bring us final victory.

10 Mar 45

tvs.

4254

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

10633

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

FROM: MEIA from ANDERSON 12 2130A

TO / FREEDOM FOR HINDLEY

SD 2448

S E C R E T

SUBJECT IS SAC's VISIT TO CESANO AND 7H (.)
BARNES AND LASCELLES HAVE FULL PARTICULARS OF
POINTS IN CONNECTION WITH CESANO AND 7H AND 9 ARMD
BDE RESPECTIVELY (.) THEY WILL CONTACT YOU ON
RETURN

PRECEDENCE Priority

AUTHENTICATED JM Eagleton
H-Cl

? File
S/G/29/19.

2 3/3

0634

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

SIGNAL

FROM MMLA 13 1101 A

TO 56 BLU

SS 676 SECURITY CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

REF YOUR SIGNAL G O 15 OF 11 (.) SUGGESTED 26/27 MARCH (.)

SEE MY DO/3 OF 10 MARCH

PRECEDENCE Immediate

AUTHENTICATED W Parker Edmonds

S/O/29/19

ok

10635

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

1 IMPORTANT

MMIA
11/11
SECRET

29/19
2625

S/Sec.

ROME AREA

101430 A

FM ROME - SC CHESHIRE BCCT

PRECEDE - DISTRO - MOV ROME - MMIA

SD 1268

SECRET (.)

11 of 12

SAC VISITS ROME ONE ONE AND ONE TWO MAR (.) ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AS FOLLOWS (.) ONE (.) FM ROME DETAIL TWO CMP W/C ESCORT MEET SAC AND ESCORT DIRECT TO FLAGSTAFF FRASCATINA RLY STA (.) BY MILC ONE FIVE HOURS SIX AT ONE ONE FOUR FIVE HRS ONE ONE MAR (.) TWO (.) FM ROME DETAIL TWO CMP RLY STA DUTIES FRASCATINA ONE ONE FOUR FIVE HRS ONE ONE MAR TO STD FLAGSTAFF TWO THREE ZERO ZERO HRS ONE TWO MAR (.) THREE (.) FM ROME DETAIL TWO CMP M/CYCLISTS FIVE JEEP ESCORT REPORT FLAGSTAFF FRASCATINA ZERO SEVEN FOUR FIVE HRS ONE TWO MAR TO ACCOMPANY SAC ON VISIT (.) FOUR (.) ORDER TWO ROME AREA DETAIL ONE FSO ECO REPORT PKG PARA THREE DETAIL IDENTICAL (.) FIVE (.) THREE ZERO CHESHIRE BCCT DETAIL FLAGSTAFF GUARD ONE WARRANT OFFICER CLASS TWO ONE CEA TWO ECOS CEA ONE TWO ONE REPORT FSO OFFR FRASCATINA ONE ONE FOUR FIVE HRS ONE ONE MAR (.) TO REMAIN UNTIL STD FLAGSTAFF TWO THREE ZERO ZERO HRS ONE TWO MAR (.) SIX (.) ITALIAN ESCORTS NOT REPEAT NOT UNDERTAKING DUTIES OUTLINED (.) SEVEN (.) RECORTS ON ONE ONE AND ONE TWO MAR REMAIN WITH SAC UNTIL RELEASED BY SO TO SAC (.) EIGHT (.) ADM COMPLETION ARRANGEMENTS

Rang Col MacKay and confirmed that Cesano will NOT be sched PRIORITY as British CCRR escort informed RAAC who OK'ed SM 3 101730

G-2 (ACTION)
PA to Top Comd
G-3 British

10636

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

MMIA.
6010
SIGNALS

S/Sec 29/9.
2052

ROME AREA 09 1200A

7 H (BRACCIANO) - "F" BLU (CESANO)

MMIA

SD 1244 SECRET (.)

WARNING ORDER (.) SAC WILL VISIT SEVEN HUSSARS AND ICG RTC MONDAY ONE TWO MAR (.) DETAIL OF TIMINGS FOLLOW WHEN KNOWN

IMPORTANT 4250

PRIORITY
G3 British

09/1220A

PA to
Dep Comd
G3 British

10637

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

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT:- Visit to CESANO

LAND FORCES SUB COM A.C.
(MMIA)

S/G/29/19

7 Mar 45

"F" HLU HTC ICF

Receipt is acknowledged of your A1 of 7 Mar with copies 1 - 12 of V/46/1 of 7 Mar.

ABC

Major General
M M I A

0638

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

TOPSEC

SUBJECT:- Visit to RTC ICF - CESANO

LAND FORCES SUB COM A.C.
(MMIA)

S/C/29/19

8. Mar 45

AFHQ for G3-ORG

Attached are copies 2 - 5 of the proposed programme for the visit of the Supreme Allied Commander to RTC ICF CESANO on Monday 12 Mar.

W. Pidduck Colonel

ABC

for Major General
M M I A

9

NOT SECRET.

PROGRAMME FOR VISIT OF FIELD MARSHALL SIR H.R.L.G. ALEXANDER, G.C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C.

MONDAY 12 MARCH 1945.

Reference Map Sheet 1/200,000, No.17

Ref: V/10/1.
7 March 1945.

09.00 hrs. Depart RCHE, leaving GRAND Hotel with General BROWNING.

09.35 hrs. Arrive cross-roads, Map Ref: 605828.
Meet: GENERALE DI BRIGATA ENRICO MATTIOLI
(G.O.C., R.T.C.)
Ten.Col. UGO SIVO.
(Director of Training, R.T.C)
Lieut-Col. L.H. MACKAY, R.A.
(O.C., B.L.U.)
Major A.F. DAVIDSON, Coldm. Gdm.
(C.II Training, B.T.U.)

10.00 hrs. Arrive Artillery Barracks, BRACCIANO.
Meet: Col. MARCELLO PRIMA.
(Commanding 3rd Regt)
Ten.Col. PIERRO SANTUCCI.
(Comd. 1st Bn., 3rd Regt).
Lieut-Col. R.W. Dolan, R.A.
(Comd. R.A. Training Group).

10.15 hrs. Depart.

10.20 hrs. Arrive Engineer Barracks, BRACCIANO.
Meet: Ten.Col. SALVATORE FISICARO.
(Comd. 2nd Bn., 3rd Regt.)
Magg. ENRICO DE MORI
(Comd. 3rd Bn., 3rd Regt.)
Major E. HUNTINGDON, Kings Own.
(G.S.O. II Schools)
Major J.C. BLAKLAND, R.E.
(S.O.R.E.)
Major R. WARD.
(Officer i/c ORIOLO Camp).
Capt. R.H. THOMAS, R.C.S.
(G.S.O.II R.C.S.)

10.35 hrs. Depart.

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

(G.S.C., R.T.C.)
Ten.Col. UGO SIVO.
(Director of Training, R.T.C)
Lieut-Col. L.H. MACKAY, R.A.
(C.C., B.L.U.)
Major A.F. DAVIDSON, Coldm. Gds.
(C.H Training, B.T.U.)

10.00 hrs. Arrive Artillery Barracks, MACCIANO.
Meet: Col. MARCELLO PALMA.
(Commanding 3rd Regt)
Ten.Col. PIETRO SANTUCCI.
(Comd. 1st Bn., 3rd Regt).
Lieut-Col. R.W. Dahn, R.A.
(Comd. R.A. Training Group).

10.15 hrs. Depart.

10.20 hrs. Arrive Engineer Barracks, MACCIANO.
Meet: Ten.Col. SALVATORE FISICARO.
(Comd. 2nd Bn., 3rd Regt.)
Magg. ENRICO DE MORI
(Comd. 3rd Bn., 3rd Regt.)
Major E. HUNTINGDON, Kings Own.
(G.S.O. II Schools)
Major J.C. HLAXLAND, R.E.
(S.O.R.E.)
Major R. WARD.
(Officer i/c ORIOLO Camp).
Capt. R.H. THOMAS, R.C.S.
(G.S.O.II R.C.S.)

10.35 hrs. Depart.

11.20 hrs. Arrive POSTO DI BLOCCO, CESANO.
Inspect contingent of C.C.R.R.
Meet: Ten. OSCALDO TENTARELLI
(Comd. C.C.R.R.)
Capt. C. GORDON, (R.W.K.)
(Provost).

11.40 hrs. Drive through factory to see School Buildings.
Meet: Capt. VALENTINI PIETRO
(Italian Chief Instructer).
Capt. C.H.C. HILTON, R.E.M.E.
(D.A.D.M.E.)
Capt. J.J.H. HOPLICK, Coldm.Gds.
(Temp. D.A.D.S.T.)

4274

......./2.

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

11.55 hrs. Arrive No.1 Regiment square.

Meet: Col. FERDINANDO BORELLO
(Comd. No.1 Regiment)
Col. M. TANZI
(Comd. Infantry School).
Ten.Col. GUISEPPE SCARCIA
(Comd. 1 Bn., No.1 Regiment).
Magg. AGOSTINO CASSARA.
(Comd. 2 Bn., No.1 Regiment).
Magg. FREDERICO D'ACCINI.
(Comd. 3 Bn., No.1 Regiment).
Major W.L. PRICE, N.Staffs.
(G.S.O.II, Infantry Training).

Visit one Barrack.

12.10 hrs. Arrive No.2 Regiment, front entrance.

Meet: Col. R. FANIZZA.
(Comd. No.2 Regiment).
Ten.Col. A. ALI.
(Comd. 4 Bn., No.2 Regiment).
Magg. G. MAZZEO.
(Comd. 5 Bn., No.2 Regiment).
Ten.Col. C. VERDOLI.
(Comd. 6 Bn., No.2 Regiment).

12.25 hrs. Meet remaining officers of B.L.U. in entrance hall of No.2 Regiment :-

Major A.M.G. GELARDI, R.A., D.A.A. & Q.M.G.
Major M.W. JEFFERY, R.A.O.C., D.A.D.O.C.S.
Capt. E.S. HOARE, R.A., Staff Captain.
Capt. G.R. SHEPHURST, 16/5 L. G.S.O.III Training Equipment.
Capt. A.V. CHASSET, RECCE. G.S.O. III - Training.
Lieut. L.M. ROBERTS, Wilts. Camp Commandant.
Lieut. H.G. JANIGELLI, Genova Dragoons. Commander of Italian Increment (B.L.U.)

12.30 hrs. Parade of contingents of all units on the Football Field.
Short address by Field Marshall Sir H.R.L.G. Alexander.

12.45 hrs. End of programme.

Lunch with Italian Staff.

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10642

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

TRANSLATION

9/19 SECRET

S/Sec
WP

LIST OF PERSONS WHO WILL VISIT THE "CREMONA", "FRIULI" AND "FOLGORE" COMBAT GROUPS DURING THE DAYS 10th., 11th. & 12th. Inst.

H.E. BONOMI Ivanoe	-	Prime Minister
H.E. CASATI Alessandro	-	Minister for War
H.E. SCIALOIA Carlo	-	ex Minister for Air
H.E. ~~Viscount~~ (SCONTI) VENOSTA Giovanni	-	ex Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Visit limited to Ravenna)
H.E. STANGONE Pierfelice	-	Private Secretary to H.E. Bonomi
Lt. Col. SAMPO Piero		
Capt. MARAINI Carlo		

FMDeJ.

4246

S/Sec
On "F" visits file.

Liaison Sec. A.C. requested to notify when Authorities give the OK. 8/3.

0643

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

TRANSLATION.

From: M. of W. Date: March 8th. 1945.
To: M.M.I.A.

PROGRAMME OF VISIT TO THE "CREMONA", "FRIULI" AND "FOLGORE" COMBAT GROUPS.

March 10th.

Departure from Rome by plane at 07.30 hrs.
Arrival at Forli at 10.00 hrs.
Departure by car for Ravenna, where HQ "Cremona" Combat Group is stationed.
Lunch at said HQ.
During the afternoon: visit to units of the "Cremona" Gp. Bulow partisan formation.
Return to Forli for dinner and for the night.

March 11th.

Departure by car for Brisighella ("Friuli Combat Gp. HQ)
Visit to Units of the "Friuli" Gp. and lunch (at 12.00 hrs) at HQ "Friuli" Gp.
Departure in the early afternoon for HQ "Folgore" Gp. Limited visit to Gp. HQ as it is necessary to return to Forli during the evening.
Dinner and overnight at Forli.

March 12th.

08.00 hrs. departure from Forli, by plane, for Rome.
Cars will be standing by at airfield to await Their Excellencies at 10.00 hrs.

FMDeJ.

Sampò/mi

SEGRETO

N.

IN

Ministero della Guerra

GABINETTO
UFFICIO I

P.M. 3800, 8 marzo 1945

PROGRAMMA VISITA AI GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTO
"Cremona" "Friuli" "Folgore"

Giorno 10:

- partenza da Roma in aereo alle ore 7 ½;
- arrivo a Forlì ore 10 ;
- partenza in macchina per Ravenna, dove ha sede il Comando Gruppo "Cremona";
- colazione presso il predetto Comando;
- nel pomeriggio: visita ai reparti del Gruppo "Cremona" e formazione partigiana Bulow;
- rientro a Forlì per il pranzo ed il pernottamento.

Giorno 11:

- partenza in macchina per Brisighella (sede Comando Gruppo "Friuli");
- visita ai reparti del Gruppo "Friuli" e colazione (ore 12) presso il Comando "Friuli";
- partenza prime ore pomeriggio per il Comando Gruppo "Folgore".- Visita limitata al Comando del Gruppo, dovendo rientrare in serata a Forlì;
- pranzo e pernottamento a Forlì.

4244

Giorno 12:

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

PROGRAMMA VISITA AI GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTO

"Cremona" "Friuli" "Folgore"

Giorno 10:

- partenza da Roma in aereo alle ore 7 ½;
- arrivo a Forlì ore 10 ;
- partenza in macchina per Ravenna, dove ha sede il Comando Gruppo "Cremona";
- colazione presso il predetto Comando;
- nel pomeriggio: visita ai reparti del Gruppo "Cremona" e formazione partigiana Bulow;
- rientro a Forlì per il pranzo ed il pernottamento.

Giorno 11:

- partenza in macchina per Brisighella (sede Comando Gruppo "Friuli");
- visita ai reparti del Gruppo "Friuli" e colazione (ore 12) presso il Comando "Friuli";
- partenza prime ore pomeriggio per il Comando Gruppo "Folgore".- Visita limitata al Comando del Gruppo, dovendo rientrare in serata a Forlì;
- pranzo e pernottamento a Forlì.

4244

Giorno 12:

- partenza ore 8 in aereo da Forlì per Roma;
- le macchine dovranno trovarsi sul campo d'aviazione ad attendere le LL.EE. per le ore 10.

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SEGRETO

ELENCO DELLE PERSONE CHE SI RECHERANNO A VISITARE I GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTO "CREMONA" "FRIULI" e "FOLGORE" NEI GIORNI 10 - 11 e 12 c.m.

- S.E. BONOMI Ivanoe	- Presidente Consiglio Ministri
- S.E. CASATI Alessandro	- Ministro della Guerra
- S.E. SCIALOIA Carlo	- ex Ministro Aeronautica
- S.E. VISCONTI VENOSTA Giovanni	- ex Sottosegretario agli Esteri (visita limitata a Ravenna)
- S.E. STANGONE Pierfelice	- Segretario Particolare di S.E. Bonomi
- Ten.Col. SAMPO' Piero	
- Capitano MARAINI Carlo	

4243

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

0647

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

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

29/19 =

M.M.I
555 56/07
SIGNALS

CIPHER

CODE	CIRCUIT No.	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
	NR		

SPACE WITHIN RED LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) AFHQ SIGNED SACSEC CITE FHQCT

DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN 061845

TO (FOR ACTION) MMIA RAAC "F" HLU(CESANO)

TO (FOR INFORMATION)

MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS GR
QVR 1 - 2 - 3

(REF No.) FX 38911

(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION) SECRET

CONFIRMING TELEPHONE CONVERSATION.

SAC INTENDS TO VISIT IOG RTC AND 7H RPT 7H ON 12

DECIPHERED 071005 A

4214

LOCAL DISTRIBUTION	PRECEDENCE	THI OR TOR	Opr.
	ORIGINATING SECTION		
	A. G. AUTHENTICATION	TIME CLEARED	
	ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION		

10648

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

SIGNAL

FROM M M I A 02 0959 A

TO COMMANDING GENERAL FIFTH ARMY

SS 667 SECURITY CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T

REF YOUR 4687 OF 22 FEB (.) DETAILS OF VISIT OF PRINCE U M B E R T O TO L E G N A N O GROUP ON 6 MARCH HAVE BEEN AGREED AS FOLLOWS (.)

0830 RENDEZVOUS AT T A V E R N E L L E II ARTY REGT (.)

1030 P R E S C I A N O 68 INF REGT (.)

1215 C A S T E L L I N A 69 REGT (.)

1330 R A D D A GROUP HQ (.)

1530 G A I O L E 51 ENG BN AND 51 HOSPITAL (.)

1630 DEPARTURE/

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATED W. P. Darley Colonel.

S/G/29/19

ek

10649

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

SIGNAL

FROM M M I A 28 1717 A

TO 52 BLU

INFO REAR HQ 5 ARMY
HQ 1 DISTRICT
HQ LUCIANO

83 661 SECURITY CLASSIFICATION Secret

YOUR G/70 OF 27 FEB (.) PROGRAMME C APPROVED WITH FOLLOWING TIMINGS (.) T A V A R N E L L A 0830 P R E S U T A N O 1030 C A S T E L L I N A 1215 R A D D A 1330 G A I O L E 1530 (.) GEN B R O W N I N G AND COL P I D S L E Y WILL SLEEP AT P I S T O I A NIGHT 5/6 AND REQUEST ACCOMMODATION WITH YOU NIGHT 6/7

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATED W. P. Pidsley. Colonel.

G/G/29/19

ek

4240

SECRET

ROYAL VISIT TO LEGNANO GROUP
6 Mar 45 - Programme.
- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

S/C/29/19

1. 0830 Gen. BROWNING, Group Commander and BLU Commander with immediate staffs meet H.R.H. at TAVERNELLE Cross Roads 716453 and visit units 11 Artillery Regt (Col. BRUNELLI) until 0915.

2. 1030 Arrive PRESCIANO (School 894165) and visit IX Assault Bn and 68 Inf Regt (Col. de RENZI). Distribution of 24 awards until 1130.

3. 1215 Arrive CASTELLINA (rd junc 816317) and visit 69 Inf Regt (Col. SCARPA) and 11 Arty Regt (V Bty)(Major VERNA). Distribution of 23 awards until 1315.

4. 1330 Arrive RADDA (Group HQ) (Gen UTILE). Lunch and meet staff officers and troops in RADDA until 1500.

5. 1530 Arrive GAIOLE (923342) and visit 51 Engr Bn (Major VESCOVINI) and 51 Med Sec (Capt CERRCA). Distribution of 4 awards and visit patients in Hospital.

6. 1630 H.R.H. departs.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Notes:
1. H.R.H. will arrive from FLORENCE and will be accompanied by Gen. INFANTE and two ADCs.
2. Gen. BROWNING will arrive from FLORENCE and be accompanied by Col. PIDSLEY.
3. Visitors will arrive in 3 Staff cars. If jeeps are needed they will be provided by Group HQ.
4. All Ads and traffic arrangements are being made by Commander of LEGNANO Group.
5. Gen. BROWNING will stay with 52 BLU night 6/7 March.

4239

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

4. 1330 Arrive RADDA (Group HQ) (Gen UTILE). Lunch and meet staff officers and troops in RADDA until 1500.

5. 1530 Arrive GAIOLE (923342) and visit 51 Eng Bn (Major VESCOVINI) and 51 Med Sec (Capt GERMSA). Distribution of 4 awards and visit patients in Hospital.

6. 1630 M.R.H. departs.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Notes: 1. M.R.H. will arrive from FLORENCE and will be accompanied by Gen. INFANTE and two ADCs.

4239

2. Gen. BROWNING will arrive from FLORENCE and be accompanied by Col. PIDSLEY.

3. Visitors will arrive in 3 Staff cars. If jeeps are needed they will be provided by Group HQ.

4. All Adm and traffic arrangements are being made by Commander of LEONARD Group.

5. Gen. BROWNING will stay with 52 HLU night 6/7 March.

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

10652

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

~~Provisional~~ Programme for the Visit of His Royal Highness, the Lieutenant General of the Realm

24 Feb

1230 hrs	Arrival
1245 hrs	Lunch
1430 hrs	Visit to the Engr Bn (In the vicinity of ASCOLI)
1500 hrs	Visit to the S & T Unit (In the vicinity of ASCOLI)
1515 hrs	Visit to the Workshops (ASCOLI PICENO Railway Stn)
1530 hrs	Visit to the NEMBO Parachute Regt (Presentations for military bravery)
1630 hrs 1730 hrs	Visit to the 517 Field Hospital (ASCOLI PICENO)
1930 hrs	Dinner

25 Feb

0800 hrs	Departure from ASCOLI PICENO
0900 hrs	Visit to SAN MARCO Regt (In the GARRUPO area). Presentation of the Colours and awards for military bravery.
1030 hrs	Visit to FOLGORE Arty Regt (In the PAGLIORE area)
1200 hrs	Lunch

4238

COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "FOLGORE"
Ufficio del Capo di S.M. - Sezione Operazioni

—oOo—

ELENCO UFFICIALI DEL GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO(FINO AI COMAN-
DANTI DI BATTAGLIONE INCLUSI)

—oOo—

COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO

Comandante	Gen.Brig.(parac.) MORISI Giorgio
Vice comandante	Colonn.i.g.s.(ftr)DE MICHELIS Mario
Capo di Stato Maggiore	Ten.Colonn.(S.M.) DI MARTINO Umberto

RGT. PARACADUTISTI "NEMBO"

Comandante del rgt.	Colonnello (ftr) BORGO Francesco
Comandante I btg.	Maggiore Cav.(par)VALENTI BONFINI Felice
Comandante II "	Ten.Col. ftr(Par) IZZO Giuseppe
Comandante III"	Maggiore Alp.(Par)MASSIMINO Angelo

RGT.MARINA "SAN MARCO"

Comandante del rgt.	Capitano Vasc. FOSCARI Adriano
Comandante btg."Bafile"	Capitano Corv. MARCA di VILLANUEVOSA Eugenio
Comandante btg. "Grado"	Capitano Corv. SENNI Alessandro
Comandante btg."Caorle"	Tenente Vasc. FULVI Luigi

RGT. ARTIGLIERIA "FOLGORE"

Comandante del rgt.	Colonnello art. PACINOTTI Giovanni
Comandante I gruppo	Ten.Col. art. CANGINI Gian Filippo
Comandante II "	Ten.Col. art. SALVATI Giuseppe
Comandante III "	Maggiore art. BRANCOLI Giuseppe
Comandante IV "	Maggiore art. SCARELLI Giuseppe
Comandante V "	Ten.Col.art(Par) AVOGADRO DI VIGLIANO Luigi
Comandante VI "	Maggiore art. VALENTINI Umberto

RGT. MISTO GENIO "FOLGORE"

Comandante	Maggiore Genio(Par)ROSSA Domenico

REPARTO TRASP. E RIF."FOLGORE"

Comandante	Ten.Col. ftr.Carr.STELLA Michele

PARCO MOBILE A.C.A."FOLGORE"

	Maggiore art. FONTANA Carlo

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

Comandante	Gen.Brig.(pers.) MORIOI Giorgio
Vice comandante	Colonn.i.g.s.(ftr) DE MICHELIS Mario
Capo di Stato Maggiore	Ten.Colonn.(S.M.) DE MARTINO Gaberto

RGT. PARACADUTISTI "NEMBO"

Comandante del rgt.	Colonnello (ftr) BONCO Francesco
Comandante I btg.	Maggiore Cav.(par) VALETTI BORGHINI Felice
Comandante II "	Ten.Col. ftr(Par) IOZZO Giuseppe
Comandante III"	Maggiore Alp.(Par) MASSIMINO Angelo

RGT.MARINA "SAN MARCO"

Comandante del rgt.	Capitano Vasc. TOSCANI Adriano
Comandante btg."Rafile"	Capitano Corv. NANCA di VILLAHERMOSA Eugenio
Comandante btg. "Grado"	Capitano Corv. SENSI Alessandro
Comandante btg."Charlie"	Tenente Vasc. FULVI Luigi

RGT. ARTIGLIERIA "FOLGORE"

Comandante del rgt.	Colonnello art. PACINOTTI Giovanni
Comandante I gruppo	Ten.Col. art. GANGINI Gian Filippo
Comandante II "	Ten.Col. art. SALVATI Giuseppe
Comandante III "	Maggiore art. BRANDOLI Giuseppe
Comandante IV "	Maggiore art. SCARELLI Giuseppe
Comandante V "	Ten.Col.art(Par) AVOGADRO DI VIGLIANO Luigi
Comandante VI "	Maggiore art. VALENTINI Umberto

RGT. GENIO GUASTATORI "FOLGORE"

Comandante	Maggiore Genio(Par) MONICA Domenico

BATTAGLIONE TRASMISSIONI "FOLGORE"

Comandante	Ten.Col. ftr.Carr. STELLA Michele

PARCO MOBILE A.C.A."FOLGORE" — Maggiore art. PUMPANA Carlo

OFFICINE MECCANICHE "FOLGORE" — Maggiore art. PALLAVICINO Mario
Comandante

SEZIONE SANITA' "FOLGORE" — Maggiore BESTA Luigi
Comandante

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4237

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

COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "FOLGORE"
Ufficio del Capo di S.M. - Sezione Operazioni

PROGRAMMA DI MASSIMA PER LA VISITA DI S.A.R. IL LUOGOTENENTE GENERALE DEL REGNO.-

GIORNO 24

Ore 1230	:	arrivo
Ore 1245	:	colazione
Ore 1430	:	visita al Btg. Misto Genio (presso di Ascoli)
Ore 1500	:	visita al rep. Trasp.e Rifor. (presso di Ascoli)
Ore 1515	:	visita alle Officine Meccaniche (stazione ferroviaria di Ascoli Piceno)
Ore 1530	:	visita al reggimento Paracadutisti "Nembo" (con consegna delle ricompense al V.M.)
Ore 1630 1730	:	visita al 517° O.C. (Ascoli Piceno)
Ore 1930	:	pranzo

GIORNO 25

Ore 0800	:	partenza da Ascoli Piceno
Ore 0900	:	Visita al Reggimento "S.Marco" (in località Garrufo) con consegna di bandiera di combattimento e ricompense al V.M.
Ore 1030	:	visita al Reggimento Artiglieria "Folgore" (in località Pagliare)
Ore 1200	:	colazione

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

Ore 1500 : visita al rep. Trasp.e Rifor. (presso di Asco-
li)

Ore 1515 : visita alle Officine Meccaniche (stazione
ferroviaria di Ascoli Piceno)

Ore 1530 : visita al reggimento Paracadutisti "Nembo"
(con consegna delle ricompense al V.M.)

Ore 1630 : visita al 517° G.C. (Ascoli Piceno)
1730

Ore 1930 : pranzo

GIORNO 25

Ore 0800 : partenza da Ascoli Piceno

Ore 0900 : Visita al Reggimento "S.Marco" (in località
Garrufo) con consegna di bandiera di combat-
timento e ricompense al V.M.

Ore 1030 : visita al Reggimento Artiglieria "Folgore"
(in località Pagliare) 4236

Ore 1200 : colazione

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

M40738/1444 350M 11/43 M. Ltd. 51-7558

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Large) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No.

Ch	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
			29/19

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

Office Date Stamp

FROM (A)	Originator	Date-Time of Origin.
	53 BLV	221235A

For Action.

M.M.I.A

TO

(W) for Information (INFO)

Message Instructions. GR

Originator's No.

GU/1 ⊙ CONFIDENTIAL ⊙ Ref your SS 651 of 20 Feb ⊙ Herewith two copies of programme and Staff list ⊙ Biographical notes will be available on day of visit.

4230

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

Originator's No.

GU/1 ⊙ CONFIDENTIAL ⊙ Ref your SS 651 of 20 Feb ⊙ Herewith two copies of programme and Staff list ⊙ Biographical notes will be available on day of visit.

4233

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. W Kerr Major

Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority.

Time	System	Op.
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

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

MESSAGE FORM.

DATE TIME OF ORIGIN.

20 1819 A

FROM : MACIA

TO : 53 BEF

REF NO : SE 651

SECRET.

S AR Y HAS B EN ASKED TO AGREE FOLLOWING FOR VISIT PRINCE B-BRUTO (*)
PRINCE WITH OWN IMPANTE AND TWO ADCs AND COL FIDSLEY TOTAL FIVE ARRIVE GROUP
BQ ASCOLI 24 FEB AT 1230 AND DEPART 25 FEB 1330 IN THREE CARS (*)
DETAILED TIMED PROGRAMME OF VISIT IN DUPLICATE REQUIRED ON ARRIVAL WITH
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON SENIOR OFFICERS CONCERNED (*) MAIN OBJECT TO SEE
AS MANY OFFICERS AND SEE AS POSSIBLE WITH AS LITTLE CEREMONY AS POSSIBLE
(*) SIGNAL CONFIRMATION AS SOON AS S ANCY APPROVE

Precedence IMMEDIATE.

Authenticator W Pinder

trm.

29/19

4234

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

10660

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

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Small) — MESSAGE FORM — CIPHER SECRET — Register No. 4621

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instruction
			QNR 2

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: Main 10 Corps — Date-Time of Origin: 211610

— Office Date Stamp — 289

For Action

TO: Main 8 Army — S/Sec ←

(W) For Information (INFO)

MMIA 53 BLU — 22↓

—Message Instructions— | —CR—

Originator's No.: Gg 993

SECRET Ref yr U 317 of 19 ⊙

One ⊙ Detailed programme will be sent you and MMIA evening 22 ⊙

Two ⊙ Accomodation being arranged through 53 BLU as requested ⊙

Three ⊙ Staff visit being sent direct MMIA by 53 BLU on 22 ⊙

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: 2112152 — System: CW

THI or TOR

Time cleared

P.S.S. B/D 30 10M/8/41 S.G.

3849/GHQP 3-44

ARMY FORM C 1136 (Large)

MESSAGE FORM

29/19

Register No. 53/20

Call T | Srl. No. | Priority

CIPHER SECTION

Classification Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM (A) Originator. Main 8 Army

Date-Time of Origin. 192130

Office Date Stamp

282

For Action.

Main 10 Corps

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Main 13 Corps Land Forces Sub-Commission
AC(MMIA)

Message Instructions. GR

Originator's No. U317

SECRET

NT

Ref my MC(:)60G dated 12 ○

1 ○ PRINCE UMBERTO intends visit FOLGORE Combat gp 24/25 Feb ○

2 ○ HRH will be accompanied by General INFANTE and two ADC's also Col. PIDSLEY MMIA ○ Also propose send Major GOSCHEN from this HQ as rep. army Command ○

3 ○ Party will arrive at gp HQ ASCOLI 241230A depart 251300A ○

4 ○ Request your
(a) Arrangt detailed programme and forward copies comest to this HQ and MMIA for info. HRH ○

4222

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

AC(MMIA)

Originator's No.
U317

SECRET

NT

Ref my MC(:)60G dated 12 ⊙

1 ⊙ PRINCE UMBERTO intends visit FOLGORE Combat gp 24/25 Feb ⊙

2 ⊙ HRH will be accompanied by General INFANTE and two ADC's also Col. PIDSLEY MMIA ⊙ Also propose send Major GOSCHEN from this HQ as rep. army Command ⊙

3 ⊙ Party will arrive at gp HQ ASCOLI 241230A depart 251300A ⊙

4 ⊙ Request you
(a) Arrange detailed programme and forward copies consist to this HQ and MMIA for info HRH ⊙

(b) Arrange accomodation for HRH with General INFANTE His (?) two ADC's at gp. HQ ⊙ 4232

(c) Arrange accomodation for Col PIDSLEY and Major GOSCHEN with S3 BLU ⊙

(d) Send two copies

Gen Infante informed.

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except WIRELESS.	If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER.	Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority.	Time	System	Op
Signed.	Signed.		THI or TOR 2004 30A		
			Time Cleared		

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

10663

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

SIGNAL

FROM MMIA

TO 5 ARMY FOR BR INC

INFO 52 BLO

AG 623

15 1212 A

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION SECRET

HRH PRINCE UMBERTO ACCOMPANIED THREE STAFF OFFICERS AND COL PILSBURY OF THIS MISSION WISHES VISIT LEGNANO COMBAT GROUP FROM 0900 TO 1600 SAT 24 FEB (.) OBJECT IS TO CONTACT OFFICERS AND MEN IN INTEREST OF MORALE AND EFFICIENCY AND IS IN KEEPING WITH VISITS AGREED FOR OTHER COMBAT GROUPS BY ALLIED COMD CONCERNED (.) DETAILS WOULD BE ARRANGED THROUGH ITALIAN CHANNELS UNDER SUPERVISION 52 B L O (.) REQUEST YOUR APPROVAL

ORIGINATOR LIEUTENANT

AUTHENTICATED

S/C/29/23

ek

4231

10664

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

EMERGENCY PASS

The Driver of this car No._____ is authorised to enter and leave 8 ARMY Area on the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. Prince UMBERTO and his staff to units of the Italian Army, during February 1945.

_____

_____

4239

8841a/GHQ 2-44

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Large)

CIPHER SECRET

MESSAGE FORM

= 29/11/1

Register No. 55/14

Call	Sct. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
474		O	Emergency OP

256

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM (A) Originator. MAIN 8th ARMY

Date-Time of Origin. 141250A

Office Date Stamp

For Action.

Land Forces Sub Commission AC
(M M I A)

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions. G R

Originator's No.

U 277 SECRET

Ref your S S 623 dated 130

1 HRH and party should land at either FORLI or RIMINI Airfield NOT apt NOT CESENA ⊙ Request you signal earliest at which airfield party will land in order that transport arrangements be made ⊙

2 ⊙ Accommodation for HRH and Staff Officer and Col PIDSLEY and ADCs (arranged) at Army HQ ⊙

4228

3 ⊙ Transport will be provided (in readiness) for

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

Originator's No.

LL 277 SECRET

Ref

Ref your SS 623 dated 130

1 HRH and party should land at either FORLI or RIMINI Airfield NOT apt NOT CESENA ⊙ Request you signal soonest at which airfield party will land in order that transport arrangements be made ⊙

2⊙ Accommodation for HRH and Staff Officer and Col. PIDSLEY and HDCs (arranged) at Army HQ ⊙

4228

3⊙ Transport will be provided (in readiness?) for royal party throughout tour ⊙

4⊙ Have instructed CREMONA and FRIULI GRUPPI to draw up suitable programme for submission to HRH

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except WIRELESS.	If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent in CIPHER.	Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority.	Time	System	Op
Signed.	Signed. Adcpc	Emergency Ops	THI or TOR 141330A		
			Time Cleared		

1

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

0666

10667

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

MMIA 1301 A

MAIN EIGHT ARMY

SS 623 SECRET

YOUR U.265 OF 12 FEB VISIT TO C R E M O N A AND F R I U L I (.) H. R. H. WITH STAFF OFFICER AND TWO ADCS AND COL PIDSLEY TOTAL FOUR PROPOSE ARRIVE C E S E N A BY AIR 1600 FRIDAY 16 FEB (.) WOULD LIKE ACCOMMODATION ARMY H Q THREE NIGHTS (.) CAN YOU PROVIDE TRANSPORT FROM AIRFIELD AND DURING VISIT (.) PLEASE ARRANGE PROGRAMME WITH GROUPS (.) PROPOSE RETURN BY AIR MORNING 19 FEB

Five

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

WB

AUTHENTICATED W. Pidsley. Colonel.

4221

P.A/ Centicelli Hyslop 6.

10668

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

PERSONAL.

Land Forces Sub Cor, A.C.
(M.E.I.A.)
DO/2
13 Feb 45.

Lt-Col PIDSLEY
To note & return
dL
13 Feb

My Dear

I am sorry not to be able to accompany the Prince when he goes around FRIULI and CREMONA at the end of this week.

Actually, these Combat Groups are under operational command of Allied Commanders in the forward area and it would be a bit awkward both for me and for them if I turned up with the Prince. Also it so happens that I am rather snowed-under at the moment with a lot of big matters and I cannot get away.

However, I am sending Colonel PIDSLEY, who organised these Groups for me, with the Prince and PIDSLEY can thus give the Prince any information he wants.

I would like you to explain the above to the Prince. I am sure he will understand.

Yours L.H.

4226

Major General.

General IMPARTE.
Chief Adjutant to Lieut General
of the Realm.

10669

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

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

29/12

CALL	CIRCUIT No.	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
	NR 394 XXXXX	IMMEDIATE	SECRET CIPHER

SPACES WITHIN RED LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

OP

FROM (A) MAIN EIGHT ARMY

DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN: 121300 A

TO (FOR ACTION) RAAC FOR LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION AC (MAIA)

TO (FOR INFORMATION)

MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS | CR

(REF. No.) U265

(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION) SECRET

Sec

REF YOUR S/G/747/19 DTD 10 .

13/2

ONE . PROPOSED VISITS PRINCE UMBERTO AGREED WITH EXCEPTION LEGNANO GROUP .

OK.

TWO . LEGNANO GP PASSING UNDER COMD FIVE ARMY WEF 13 FEB . REQUEST YOU DEAL WITH FIVE ARMY ON THIS VISIT. THREE . REQUEST YOU SIGNAL SOONEST (A) DATE AND TIMES ARRIVAL IN ARMY AREA . (B) NIGHTS FOR WHICH ACCN REQUIRED AND WHETHER PROPOSED HE SHOULD STAY WITH GRUPPI OR AT ARMY H Q . (C) WHETHER ARRIVING BY ROAD OR AIR . FOUR . PROGRAMMES FOR CREMONA AND FRIULI WILL BE ARRANGED AS SOON AS DETAILS ABOVE RECEIVED . NOT RPT NOT POSSIBLE ARRANGE FOLGORE AT PRESENT AS PROBABLE WILL MOVE UP TO UNDER COMD 13 CORPS BEFORE DATE STATED

Cremona - Friuli

A. Cremona. arrive 16 Feb am 16/17

B. 1. 16/17 am 17/18 A

2. Leg HQ

C. Return.

Legnano.

Cremona Feb 23rd.

Friuli.

Would HRH like to visit Folgore earlier.

4225

DECIPHERED 1600 J R D

LOCAL DISTRIBUTION

Col. P. will represent Gen. B.

ORIGINATING SECTION:	THI OR TOR	Corr.
A. G. AUTHENTICATION:	TIME CLEARED	
ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION:		

SECRET

SUBJECT: Inspection of Italian Combat Groups under Command EIGHTH Army by HRH Prince UMBERTO.

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/G/29/19
10 Feb 45

TO : H.Q. EIGHTH Army.

1. H.R.H. Prince UMBERTO, accompanied by his Chief Adjutant (General INFANTE) and an ADC, would like to pay the following informal visits to Italian Combat Groups under command EIGHTH Army. The primary object of these visits is to meet and talk with officers and men of the groups in the general interest of morale and efficiency.

2. Proposed dates (subject to exigencies of the service) are as follows :-

17 February	CREMONA Group
18 February	FRIULI Group
24 February	LEGNANO Group
2 March	FOLGORE Group

3. If these proposals have your approval, H.R.H. would like each Group Commander to prepare a seven hour programme designed to enable as many units to be visited as possible subject to any restrictions you consider necessary.

4. It would be appreciated if you would signal agreement or otherwise.

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

1. H.R.H. Prince UMBERTO, accompanied by his Chief Adjutant (General INFANTE) and an ADC, would like to pay the following informal visits to Italian Combat Groups under command EIGHTH Army. The primary object of these visits is to meet and talk with officers and men of the groups in the general interest of morale and efficiency.

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3. If these proposals have your approval, H.R.H. would like each Group Commander to prepare a seven hour programme designed to enable as many units to be visited as possible subject to any restrictions you consider necessary.

4. It would be appreciated if you would signal agreement or otherwise.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

ek

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

10672

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

Time	Unit	Location.	Name of Comd.	Remarks
0900 Hrs	68 Infantry Regt	PRESCIANO	Col DE RENZI Edmonde	
1115 hrs	51 Engineer Bn	GAIOLE	Magg VESCOVINI Enzo	
	51 Medical Section	GAIOLE	Capt GEROSA Giuseppe	
1215 hrs	HQ Legneno Group	RADDA (Lanch)	Gen UTILI Umberto	
1400 hrs	Special Inf Regt	CASTELLINA	Col SCARPA Calliano	
	V Bty 11 Arty Regt	CASTELLINA	Major VERNIA Alfredo	
1545 hrs	11 Arty Regt	TAVERNELLE	Col BRUNELLI Mario	

4223

10673

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

Capt Selby.
Maps please.

PROGRAMME "A"

(In the event of HRH arriving from SIENA)

0900 - 1000 hrs PRESCIANO (RV at Elementary School at 894165. Map Ref 1/50,000, Sheet 120/I)

Distribution of awards:-
(a) To the Colour of IX Assault Bn - Silver Medal
(b) To the soldiers of 68 Inf Regt - 1 Silver Medal
6 Bronze Medals
15 War Crosses
2 Promotions for War service.
Total -24.

1115 - 1145 hrs GAIOLE (RV 923342. Map Ref 1/50,000, Sheet 113/II)

Distribution of awards to soldiers:-
(a) 51 Engineer Bn - 1 Bronze Medal
(b) 51 Medical Section - 1 Silver Medal
1 Bronze Medal
4 War Crosses
Total - 7

1215 - 1330 hrs Lunch at RADDA (HQ Legnano Combat Group)

1400 - 1500 hrs CASTELLINA (RV at rd junc 816317. Map Ref 1/50,000, Sheet 113/II.

Distribution of awards to soldiers:-
(a) Special Inf Regt - 3 Silver Medals
6 Bronze Medals
6 War Crosses
1 Promotion for merit.
Total - 16.
(b) V Bty, 11 Arty Regt - 1 Bronze Medal
6 War Crosses
Total - 7.

1545 - 1615 hrs TAVERNELLE (RV at 716453. Map Ref 1/50,000, Sheet 113/IV)

4222

Visit to units of 11 Artillery Regt.

10674

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

PROGRAMME "B"

(In the event of HRH arriving from FLORENCE)

0830 0915
0900 - 0930 hrs - TAVARNELLE
1000 - 1100 hrs - CASTELLINA
1130 - 1230 hrs - GAIOLE
1300 - 1400 Hrs - RADDA (For Lunch)
1515 - 1615 hrs - PRESCIANO

Details of visits as for Programme "A"

PROGRAMME "C"

(In the event of HRH arriving from FLORENCE and being able to spend the night in the area)

0830 - 0915
0900 - 0930 hrs - TAVARNELLE 0830
1030 1045 - 1130 hrs - PRESCIANO
1330 1300 - 1430 hrs - RADDA (For Lunch)
1215 1430 - 1515 hrs - CASTELLINA
1615 - 1645 hrs - GAIOLE
1530 1630

Details of visits as for Programme "A"

4221

1215 - 11

10675

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

29/19

SECRET.

Subject: Programme for visit of HRH Prince UMBERTO. 52 Brit Liaison Unit, CMF.
24 Feb 45.

G/70

HQ Land Forces Sub Comm AG (MMIA)

Ref your signal SS 628 of 15 Feb, and 5 Army 62/A of 22 Feb 45.

1. The attached shows 3 alternative programmes which have been prepared by HQ Legnano Gruppo for the visit of HRH Prince UMBERTO on 6 Mar.

2. Programme 'C' was prepared, as the result of a message received by HQ Legnano from an officer of HRH's staff, in the event of HRH spending the night 6/7 Mar in the area and therefore being able to prolong his visit to 1700 hrs instead of 1600 hrs.

3. Will you please notify this HQ (copy to Brit Inc 5 Army and 1 District) which programme will be most suitable, in order that HQ Legnano Gruppo can be informed.

T.H. Douglas
Lieut-Col.
GS.

TPL/N3

Copy to: Rear HQ 5 Army (Brit Inc) ref your 62A dated 16 Feb.
HQ 1 District.
HQ Legnano (ref G/1582 dated 20 Feb)

4220

Programmes received by Col. P. WP

Signal 52 BLU. info By error Programme B. selected.

10676

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

Subject :- Visits to Cesano.

HLU RTC ICF
c/o Land Forces Sub Comm.
AC (MMIA) ROME.
Ref: G/1/37

24 Feb.45.

R.A.A.C.
M.M.I.A.

1. The RTC ICF is being visited by a considerable number of British Staff Officers and others. Occasionally this H.Q. is not advised by these officers and has no knowledge of their visit.

2. All visitors from British H.Qs. are most welcome and all the help possible to obtain what information is required will be given by this H.Q. It is requested, however, that as much warning as possible is given so that the appropriate Staff Officer on this H.Q. may be here to receive the visitors. It would also be appreciated if a short note as to the purpose of the visit could be sent so that the necessary information may be made available and ready for the visiting officer.

Lieut-Col.

AMEC/ch.

Internal.

File.
Float.

4213

10677

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

SEC 29/19 Vid - Visti 153

ARMY FORM C 9186 (Small) MESSAGE FORM Register No 59/23

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
			CIPHER SECRET

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) 53 BLU Originator fm FOLGORE GRUPPO | Date-Time of Origin 231500 — Office Date Stamp —

295

For Action
MOIA Lo Ministry of War fm General INFANTE

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

—Message Instructions— | —CR

Originator's No. 614/SM Signed General MORIGI

The (!) presentation of colours to the S. MARCO regiment (?) arranged for 0900 (?) hours 25th February cannot be postponed to 26th. February as the S. MARCO regiment sign its move into its forward (?) area on the (!) latter date. Confirm urgently

This Message may be sent as written by any means except Wireless	If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent in cipher	Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority	Time of TOR / Time cleared
Originator's Signature & Reg Brigadier	Signature 0830 24 Feb	IMMEDIATE	231615A.

10678

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

152

MESSAGE FORM

FROM : MMIA 22 1528 A

TO : 53 BLU

INFO : MAIN EIGHTH ARMY

REF : SS 659 CLASSIFICATION SECRET

FOLLOWING FOR GENERAL UTILE FROM MINISTER OF MARINE BEGINS (.)

QUOTE (.)
PLEASE INFORM HQ FOLGORE GROUP AND HQ SAN MARCO REGT THAT VISIT

OF MINISTER TO PRESENT FLAG AND DECORATIONS FOR VALOUR IS

POSTPONED 24 HRS (.) MINISTER WILL ARRIVE ASCOLI IN ACCORDANCE

WITH PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS IN THE EARLY HOURS OF AFTERNOON SUNDAY

25 FEB AND PRESENTATION COULD TAKE PLACE MONDAY MORNING 26 FEB (.)

UNQUOTE

PRECEDENCE Important

AUTHENTICATED W P Reddy
Colonel

INTERNAL

NAVAL SUB + COMMISSION A.C. (2)

Jw

29/19

4216

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

SS B1

5 1/22 5 39/19 D 3867 157 W58/22

LRKB V LOCU NR 2 P
QTR 1
FIFTH 5 ARMY (BR INC) 221338A

TO MMIA

GR 38 BT

Landforces

See 23/2

REF NR 4687

RESTRICTED X SIX TWO ABLE X YOUR SUGAR SUGAR SIX FOUR THREE DATED ONE NINE ONE FIVE FIVE ONE ABLE Y AGREED PAREN FROM BRITISH INCREMENT ABLE FIFTH ARMY FOR ACTION MIKE MIKE ITEM ABLE PAREN 4210

BT

SS AR THKS

RCD 22/1405A HRA B-1

already out y date
visit date is now 6 Mon.
WP

20/435

10620

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

SIGNAL

FROM M M I A+ 19 15 51 A

TO COMMANDING GENERAL FIFTH ARMY

SS 643 SECURITY CLASSIFICATION SECRET

REF MY SS 628 OF 18 FEB REQUEST VISIT OF PRINCE

U M B E R T O BE POSTPONED TILL 2 MARCH OWING TO

CHANGE OF OPERATIONAL PLAN REGARDING OTHER UNITS (.)

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED W. Pidley.

S/G/29/19 ✓

ek

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

29/19

149

MESSAGE NOTE.

DATE TIME OF ORIGIN.

23 A

FROM : 1/ MMIA

TO : 10 F.A. TRAINING TEAM (ITALIAN ...)

REF NO : SS 657

SUBJECTED.

15 ARMY GROUP ARS ROUTINE MEETING AT [illegible] AT 1100 HRS 24 FEB TO CONSIDER ORGANISATION OF ARTILLERY IN COMBAT GROUPS (*) REPRESENTATIVES ARE ATTENDING FROM 8 ARMY AND FLDs (*) 15 ARMY GROUP MAJOR LT COL. DRAPER ATTEND IF CONVENIENT (*) DOES GOING FROM MMIA 25 FEBRUARY

Precedence - IMPORTANT

Authenticated

Evn.

10682

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

148

SIGNAL

FROM: M M I A 21/2/2 A

TO : EIGHTH ARMY

REF : SS/655 RESTRICTED

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM GENERAL INFANTE ADJUTANT TO PRINCE UMBERTO FOR TRANSMISSION TO ARMY COMD BEGINS (.) BACK IN ROME HRH THE LIEUTENANT GENERAL OF THE REALM WISHES ME TO EXTEND HIS BEST THANKS FOR YOUR KIND HOSPITALITY AND FOR ALL YOU ARE DOING FOR THE ITALIAN TROOPS ENDS

PRECEDENCE: IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATED: W. P. Darby colonel.

Fiche ←
29/19

4212

10683.

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

147

29/19

FROM: MAIA

TO : (FOR ACTION) C G FIFTH ARMY 18 A

SS 688 CONFIDENTIAL

REFERENCE OUR SS 628 OF 18 FEBRUARY SUBJECT VISIT OF PRINCE UMBERTO TO FIFTH ARMY AREA (.) MUCH REGRET THAT ERROR IN THIS HEADQUARTERS CAUSED THIS TELEGRAM TO BE SENT TO FIFTH ARMY FOR BRITISH INCREMENT INSTEAD OF TO COMMANDING GENERAL FIFTH ARMY (.)

PRIORITY

421.

CLAYTON P. KERR, Col

0684

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

SECRET

29/12 LAND FORCES 146

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION 2/2154 64/16

INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No : N 105/16
Classification : S
Precedence : P
From : 5TH ARMY
To : MMIA

Date Time Rec'd : 16 2012A
Date Time Sent : 161531A
Reference NR :
Cite :

PRIORITY IMPORTANT

SS628

REFERENCE YOUR SUGAR SUGAR SIX TWO EIGHT FIVE ARMY TO [redacted]

MMIA UNPAREN ARMY COMMANDER IS VERY PLEASED CONCUR IN [redacted]

PROPOSED VISIT OF HOW [redacted] ROGER [redacted] PRINCE UMBERTO [redacted]

AND PARTY ASSIGNED TRUSCOTT

SECRET

4210

162145

0685

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

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No : 0138/10
Classification : SECRET
Precedence : Routine
From : BRITISH INDEPENDENT A SARMY
To : HQ MMIA
info MAIN SARMY 52 BLLL

Date Time Rec'd : 15 FEB NIL
Date Time Sent :
Reference NR : G2 A
Cite :

SECRET ○ agree visit UMBERTO to LEGNANO GRUPPO 24 FEB ○ your S/G/29/19 of 10th to 8 ARMY refers

4209

CIPHER

10686

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

144

SIGNAL 29/2 11

FROM M M I A

TO , 5 ARMY FOR BR IMO 15 12 12 A

IMO 52 BLU

SS 628 SECURITY CLASSIFICATION SECRET

HRH PRINCE UMBERTO ACCOMPANIED THREE STAFF OFFICERS AND COL PIDSLEY OF THIS MISSION WISHES VISIT LEGNANO COMBAT GROUP FROM 0900 TO 1600 SAT 24 FEB (.) OBJECT IS TO CONTACT OFFICERS AND MEN IN INTEREST OF MORALE AND EFFICIENCY AND IS IN KEEPING WITH VISITS AGREED FOR OTHER COMBAT GROUPS BY ALLIED COMDS CONCERNED (.) DETAILS WOULD BE ARRANGEDTHROUGH ITALIAN CHANNELS UNDER SUPERVISION 52 B L U (.) REQUEST YOUR APPROVAL

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED W Pidsley Colonel.

S/G/29/23

ok

See Signal SS 638 of 18 Feb. 45

This should be in the visits file WP

4208

1/

143

SECRET

SUBJECT: Inspection of Italian Combat Groups under Command EIGHTH Army by HRH Prince UMBERTO.

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/C/29/19
10 Feb 45

TO : H.Q. EIGHTH ARMY.

1. H.R.H. Prince UMBERTO, accompanied by his Chief Adjutant (General INFANTE) and an ADC, would like to pay the following informal visits to Italian Combat Groups under command EIGHTH Army. The primary object of these visits is to meet and talk with officers and men of the groups in the general interest of morale and efficiency.

2. Proposed dates (subject to exigencies of the service) are as follows :-

17 February	CREMONA Group
18 February	FRIULI Group
24 February	LEGNANO Group
2 March	FOLGORE Group

3. If these proposals have your approval, H.R.H. would like each Group Commander to prepare a seven hour programme designed to enable as many units to be visited as possible subject to any restrictions you consider necessary.

4. It would be appreciated if you would signal agreement or otherwise.

4207

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

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4207

WP

1 Major General
M.M.I.A.

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

10689

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

141

MMIA

18 1140 A

53 BLU

54 BLU

SS 570

RESTRICTED

REFERENCE YOUR A/Q A-3-62 OF 16 DEC (.) PLEASE MAKE OWN

ARRANGEMENTS WITH P L E W M A N (.) SUGGEST HE VISITS

M A N T O V A IN INTERVAL

4206

IMPORTANT

10690

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

SUBJECT:- Italian Army-Inspections.

Unit Maintenance Inspectorate
("B" Vehicles Section)
H.Q. U.M.I. C.M.F. (Tel 17972)

AF/MMI/63/1 7 Feb '45

Q.(A.E.), A.F.H.Q.

Copy to:- D.M.E., A.F.H.Q.
D.M.T., A.F.H.Q.
M.M.I.A.
Q. 3 District
D.D.M.E. 3 District
56 B.I.U.

1. Attached is report by Capt. Plowman of this Inspectorate on Mantova Gruppi.

2. It is suggested that great benefit would result in the implementation of para.5 of his report, since this is the first. Combat Group who have had instruction from this Inspectorate before the issue of their W.E. vehicles.

A. Cliff 4203
Lieut-Col.,
C.I.C. U.M.I., C.M.F.

dsO/MD.

REPORT BY INSPECTOR OF U.M.I. ON TOUR OF DUTY WITH MANTOVA COMBAT GROUP ITALIAN ARMY

1. Capt. G.A. Plowman and 2 Staff Sgts. visited the MANTOVA Combat Group of the Italian Army from 22 Jan to 3 Feb 1945.

2. The Group have not received releases for vehicles against the W/E. The only non-Italian vehicles in the Group are 56 lorries and trucks, the majority of which are Class V. These 56 vehicles include ambulances and water trucks and other vehicles which have to be used for administrative duties, many were received from other Italian Combat Groups, where they had been used for training drivers and are consequently in a far from satisfactory condition.

3. Two teams for training drivers operate within the Group. Each team is in charge of a Italian officer, with the necessary number of instructors and 3 vehicles per team. A carrier driving school is also operating. These teams visit each unit for a period of 2-3 weeks to give driving instruction. The teams train approximately 70 drivers during the 2-3 weeks period. It is estimated that to date 200 drivers have been trained by this means. 56 BLU estimate that there are at present 450 fully trained drivers in the Group, this figure includes the 200 mentioned above.
Approximately 6 officers and 50 O.R's have attended courses at the RASCHD. and several excellent reports have been given, qualifying a number as driving instructors.
56 B.L.U. have an adequate supply of A.B. 442, A.B. 406 and "Inspection, Maintenance & Care of Army Vehicles (Wheeled)" in Italian. The latter pamphlets have already been distributed to units.

4. The U.M.I. Increment during the period of it's stay visited all units in the Group, giving lectures and demonstrations to all available M.T. officers, N.C.O's and drivers, a total of approximately 600 all ranks attended.
These lectures and demonstrations covered:-

1. Drivers daily duties.
2. The Daily Task System of Maintenance.
3. The correct oils to be used and periodical oil changes.
4. Driving and road discipline.

At the conclusion of each period, questions were asked, and in the majority of cases the men had grasped what had been told or shown to them.
Personnel of the following units displayed particularly keen interest and intelligence:-

104 Engineer Bn.
76 Infantry Regt.
6 Bty. 155 Artillery Regt.

A precis of the information given in the lectures has been left with 56 B.L.U. for translation and distribution to units.

4204

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

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4204

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A precis of the information given in the lectures has been left with 56 B.L.U. for translation and distribution to units.

5. The conclusions reached by the Inspector are that, considering the very limited number of vehicles available for driving instruction, the best possible use has been made of them, and that those drivers that have been trained show great interest and keenness in vehicles, despite the fact that in a great many cases they have not a vehicle on their charge . To accelerate and improve the training of drivers in the Group, it is essential that more vehicles be made available. It is suggested that if a small number of vehicles were released periodically against the Group's W.E., say 50 vehicles per week, this would benefit the Group in 3 ways:-

1. These vehicles could be allotted to fully trained drivers, and take over various administrative duties, thereby releasing old Class V vehicles for driving instruction. The Group is in a position to supply the necessary driving instructors.

/2. .....

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

10693

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

2. The personnel that have already been trained are inclined to lose interest and forget what they have been taught, not being responsible for the care and maintenance of a vehicle. It is certain that great enthusiasm would be kindled and maintained if further vehicles were distributed to units and allotted to the better and keener drivers first.

3. A periodical release of a limited number of vehicles, would alleviate the difficulties likely to be encountered by the Group, if the majority of vehicles have to be drawn from Vehicle Parks and issued to units over a short period. It would also be very advantageous to equip the Italian Workshops at an early date. The Workshops personnel are available, and if the equipment is received, they would be able to get organised in time to deal with all eventualities. If the equipment is not received until the majority of the vehicles have been issued to the Group, undoubtedly a large number of vehicles will be off the road, waiting until the Workshops are in a position to deal with them. There is not a British Workshops attached to this Group, as is the case with other Italian Combat Groups.

3rd February 1945.

Sgd: G.A. FLEMMAN, Capt.
Inspector.

GAF/MD.

4205

10694

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

139

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Inspectorate of Training.

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/G/15
9 Feb 45

TO : Ministry of War.

Copy to: Director of Military Training, AFHQ.
British Training Unit.

138

1. I have to inform you that the authority for the Inspectorate of Training referred to in my letter S/G/15 of 8 February has NOT yet been given by the Supreme Allied Commander.

2. The letter referred to will therefore be cancelled.

3. Please acknowledge the receipt of this communication.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

4202

INTERNAL:
Acots
Sigs
S & T
A/Q
SHAEF

ak: Above. agreed 2½ and GSO I and signed by same signature as 138 like
Major Dobbs to discuss next move with GSO I on 10 Feb WD 9 Feb

138

29/19

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Inspectorate of Training.

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/G/15
8 February 1945

TO : Ministry of War.

Copy to: Director of Military Training, AFHQ.
British Training Unit

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Reference SMRE 28 prot B/5 ADD of 3 January.

1. Authority is given for the establishment of an Inspectorate of Training for the Italian Army, composed of the following personnel :-

1 Inspector (General Officer)

1 Senior Officer

1 Interpreter Officer

1 Senior N.C.O.

4201

2. It is considered, in agreement with the Director of Military Training, AFHQ, that the duties of the Inspectorate should cover the whole of the Italian Army and not just the Combat Groups.

3. Personnel of the Inspectorate will be held on the establishment of SMRE.

4. Two Italian cars from the Autodrappello Ministero Guerre will [illegible] the use of the Inspectorate.

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

8 February 1945

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3. Personnel of the Inspectorate will be held on the establishment of SMRE.

4. Two Italian cars from the Autodrappello Ministero Guerre will be allotted for the use of the Inspectorate.

5. It is understood that the posts of Inspector and Interpreter Officers are to be filled by General CASTIGLIONI and Col. RAVAGLI respectively.

R G A Graves-Rawlins
Capt
for Major General
F.M.I.A.

INTERNAL:
Accts
Sigs
S & T
A/Q
SCRE

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

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO

n° 28 prot.B/5 ADD. Roma, 3 Gennaio 1945.

OGGETTO: Costituzione dell'Ispettorato dell'addestramento per gruppi di combattimento.

ALLA L.F.S.C. (M.M.I.A.)

ROMA

In relazione agli accordi intercorsi ieri col Generale KENCHINGTON e col Colonnello PIDSLEY di codesta L.F.S.C., propongo la costituzione dell'Ispettorato dell'addestramento per Gruppi di combattimento.

Detto Ispettorato dovrebbe essere così costituito:

- 1 Ispettore (Ufficiale Generale)
- 1 ufficiale superiore
- 1 ufficiale superiore interprete (Colonnello Ravagli)
- 1 sottufficiale.

Allo scopo di porre l'Ispettorato nelle condizioni di poter esplicare la sua attività, non avendo questo S.M. la possibilità di destinarvi adeguati mezzi di trasporto, prego codesta L.F.S.C. di voler compiacersi assegnargli due autovetture.

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE

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

ALLA L.F.S.C. (M.M.I.A.)

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426

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
(P.Berardi)

D/ Register
1024/Training
Inspectorate
AR.

St/1024/mm

Ford Dodge
v. little
transport
two
not BR-ctts?

PATNA

0611

181

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

10699

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

2a/19 136

56 HLU
15 G

24 Jan 45

Subject :- Liaison with Combat Groups in Forward Areas.

MMLA

Copy to :- DMT.

S/Sec.

1. The news that Italian troops have recently been in action has aroused great interest in Combat Group, MANTOVA. Further news will be greatly appreciated.

2. It is requested that at a suitable time in the next few weeks arrangements may be made for an officer of this unit to make a liaison visit to the formation which has been in action.

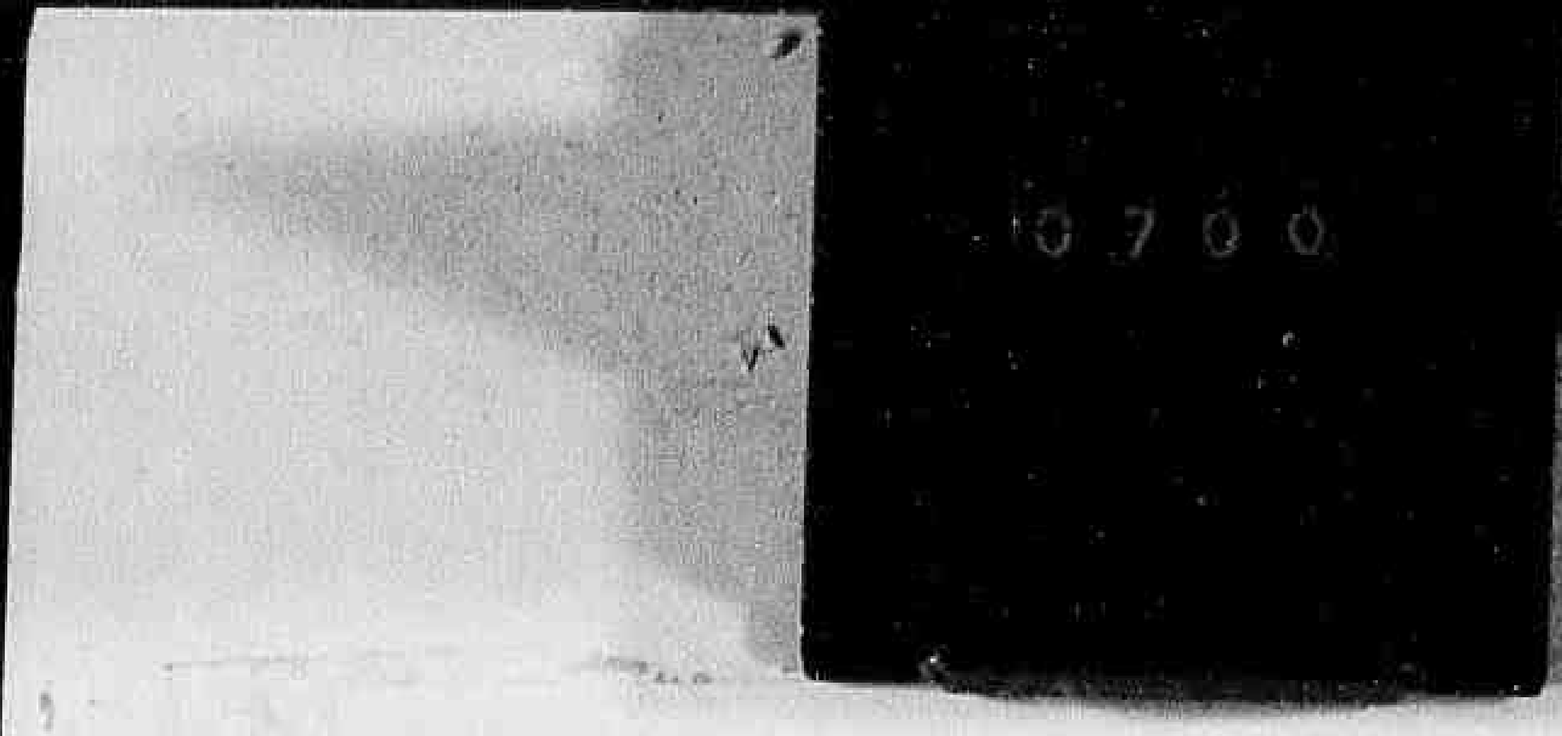
3. It is desirable that 'E' Training Increment should be made up to full strength before this visit takes place.

In the Field.
AWG/ec

Lt-Col.
GS.

* Done

4191



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

135

EYES ONLY

ALCON SICILY FOR EMIA LO

C.682

H O W A R D TO RETURN TO M A N T O V A OF SOONEST REPORTING FIRST TO H Q M M I A (.) PHONE E T A

4198

SD/49
Spec Sec
SD/50 (2)
G/T - File

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

134

MESSAGE FORM

FROM : LAUNIE MMIA 29/19 DATE - TIME

TO (FOR ACTION) : O.C. 701 VAN PRIME 23 0920

SE 596

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION Restricted

CAPT EDWARDS AND DRIVER ARRIVING 24 JANUARY (.) WOULD APPRECIATE

ACCOMMODATION FOR ONE NIGHT

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

4197

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

10702

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

133

File

29/19

17/610 A

IMMEDIATE

53 BLU

EG 566

RESTRICTED

LT-COL PHILLPOTTS G 1 TNG 8 ARMY WILL VISIT YOU ABOUT 1000 HRS THRUSDAY 18 JAN (.) ETA NOT CERTAIN OWING TO ROADS (.) REQUESTS THAT COLONEL BROOKS VISITS 8 ARMY IF FIESIBLE SUNDAY 21 JAN

Due to cold weather – (clogging the typewriter)

4196

IMMEDIATE

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

Brief Trade

29/10/1

2440

132

SUBJECT:- Inspections-Italian Army.

Unit Maintenance Inspectorate
("B" Vehicles Section)
H.Q. U.M.I. C.M.F. (Tel 17972)

Q (A.E.), A.F.H.Q.

AF/UMI/63/1 14 Jan '45

Copy to:- D.M.E., A.F.H.Q.
M.M.I.A.

1. It has become increasingly apparent that the number of Inspectors available for allotment to the Italian Combat Groups is totally inadequate for the work which they find it urgently necessary to carry out in order that M.T. Transport allotted to these Groups may be adequately maintained.

2. It is understood that the policy toward the Italian Army is to make them self supporting. In view therefore of the above it is suggested for consideration that

(a) An Italian Army U.M.I. be formed on the same lines as British.

(b) The Italian Army Inspectorate to be responsible for Inspections to, and be directed in Inspection by, Chief Inspector British U.M.I.

(c) To be administered by Italian Army.

(d) To be supervised in their work by the Increment now dealing with Inspections and training in the Italian Groups.

3. Attached is a proposed W.E. for this Inspectorate. Vehicles to be found from within the allotment to the Italian Army.

4. If the above were agreed, this Inspectorate would undertaken the followings-

(a) Train each Increment as formed.

(b) Disseminate to S.I. for onward transmission G.R.O's, E.M.E.I's and other data concerning vehicle maintenance.

(c) Maintain constant supervision of the work of Italian Inspecting Increments.

5. Inspection Reports of Italian Inspectorate would be submitted to Group

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(c) Maintain constant supervision of the work of Italian Inspecting Increments.

5. Inspection Reports of Italian Inspectorate would be submitted to Group H.Q., B.L.U. and H.Q., U.M.L. Action on such reports should be taken by Group H.Q. and reported to B.L.U. and HQ U.M.L.

Lieut-Col.,
G.I., U.M.L., C.M.F.

dc/dc.

A.Q.
S.D.

If you agree in principle, I think it should be made clear that the proposed inspectorate must be part of the training a of the Mech. Eng. School at CESANO. all allied dealings with it should be through MMIA

AQ + GI.
do NOT Consider
NFA

4195

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10705

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

W. E.
HQ Unit Maintenance Inspectorate
B. Veldsien (Italian)

(i) Personnel

Detail	Headquarters	Total
Major	1	1
Total Officers	1	1
Other ranks		
Cpl.	1	1
Privates	3 (a)	3
Total O.R's.	4	4
Total all Ranks.	5	5
(ii) Transport		
Cars 4 str 4 x 2	1	1

(a) One Clerk to be interpreter.

NOTE: Ranks given are British as equivalent Italian ranks are not known.

10706

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

W. E.
Inspecting Increment. Unit Maintenance Inspectorate
Re Vehicles (Italian)

(1) Personnel

Detail	These will be a maximum of from Increments in this Establishment each.
Captain	1
Total Officers	1
S/Sgts. (May be Veh. Mechanics)	2
Batman Driver	1
Total O.R's.	3
Total all Ranks.	4

(11) Transport

Cars 2 str 4 x 2 Light Utility.	1
Trucks 15 cwt 4 x 2 G.S.	1
Total Vehicles	2

4193

NOTE: Ranks given are British as equivalent Italian ranks are not known.

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

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No. 1380

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
		—	CIPHER SECRET

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: 53 BLU — Date-Time of Origin: 161020C — OFFICE DATE STAMP 1/1 96

For Action: MMIA Suggested visit Thursday 17th

TO (W) For Information (INFO): Monday 17th 127

Message Instructions: WP — CR

Originator's No. A/R-A3-62 Ref yr. SS559 of 15 Jan 0.

Owing to move of combat group suggest attachment Capt. PLEWMAN and party delayed till 1 February to join this HQ in new area.

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 by Cipher	Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority	Time THI or TOR 1611Z	Time cleared 1/2/96

Signature

Signed

10708

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

ARMY FORM O 2136 (Small) MESSAGE FORM Register No. 1130

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
			CIPHER SECTION

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: RA Training Team — Date-Time of Origin: 161615 — OFFICE DATE STAMP 29/10

For Action: MM 1A (128)

TO: (W) For information (INFO): Prod. WP.

Message Instructions — OR —

Originator's No. O 25

Ref yr SS 560 agreed. Will delay visit a week or more and signal yr ETA.

Letter follows

479

This Message may be sent by any means: Secret / Wireless	If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent by Cipher	Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority	Time	System	Op.
			TH or TOR 161205		
			Time cleared		

Signature

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

D9/19. 129

SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Trg Italian Gruppi.

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ CMF

Tel: 16950

MET/55/2/MT1.

G-3 (Org) AFHQ. (2)

14 Jan 44

Copy to: MMIA (2)

I visited LECCHANO Div to see trg on the 12 and 13 Jan, and conferred with Col FLESLEY of MMIA. I have discussed the points which I now report with MMIA, and we are in agreement over them.

1. LECCHANO is still backward in trg compared with other Gruppi, and of the reasons stated in my former note, I think that the one that has influenced the delay most has been the really serious delay in issuing to this Gruppo, clothing, eqpt and tpt. It must be realised that these necessary things are not in the hands of a Gruppo when the release order is issued. They have to be drawn, carried to the Gruppo, and then issued to them for trg. Whatever urge to trg there is, pl and coy trg cannot be efficiently carried out unless they have the necessary eqpt. Amongst other deficiencies reported to me I noted the following:-

The last 600 rifles and 20 Brens had only arrived on the 12th. There is still a serious shortage of clothing. OC 66 Inf Regt tells me that his 2nd Bn is still short of 212 prs trousers BD, and 400 great coats. They have only one pr of boots each, mostly reconditioned; and can get no issue of dubbin to keep them in order.

2. I found them on the 13th out on a Div exercise in 6 ins of snow and slush. They have done a little night patrolling, but much night work or really intensive trg in this weather is very difficult. GOC, General UTILE, devotes a good deal of attention to keeping his men from deserting, and I believe his figure is the lowest up to the present. He says, however, that with acute discomfort through shortage of clothing, and the realisation that this hinders proper utilisation of the limited time for trg, must in time lead to desertion unless we can put it right. I must say I agree with him on the importance of this.

4190

3. Apart from the delays to trg caused by their move and the leave

conferred with Col PEISLEY of MGIA. We have discussed the points where I now report with MGIA, and we are in agreement over them.

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3. Apart from the delays to trg caused by their move and the leave period, I do not think that the BLU set quite the best programme. The General in my opinion rightly wishes to concentrate on pl, coy, bn etc trg. He says approx 60% of his men have battle experience, but together with this nucleus in every sub-unit are rfts which need sub-unit trg urgently. Since the leave period OC BLU has had them working out a Div exercise with tps, which culminated on the day I was there with a whole Div occupying a defensive posn on a wide front. I told OC BLU that, especially in the prevailing conditions, I could not agree with him that the sub-units get adequate value out of this, and directed him that from now on until the move the General should be allowed to concentrate on sub-unit trg under junior leader offrs, properly supervised, including field firing and night work.

No action needed by me

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

4. I found that the 2nd Bn 66 Regt has been issued with only three sniper's rifles. They should of course have received the full allotment of 24 some weeks ago. Their full complament should be issued forthwith.

5. The drawing of their vehs from BARI has been delayed by the snow. They report that the state of vehs has necessitated inspection and minor adjustments by their REME workshops in addition to repairs arising from trg. OC BLU agrees, and reports that their REME workshop is working quite well. Many of the vehs issued are without hoods. REME workshop is dealing with about 25 vehs per day. I have recommended to OC BLU, with the agreement of MMIA, that they draw no more vehs after seven days before the date of their move, and then if possible draw the remainder from ANCONA.

agreed.

6. They have drawn practically no cookers or cooking utensils, and they are urgently needed before they reach a fwd area. They still have less than half their scale of mortars, both 2" and 3".

spoke Cloan 7/Jan

7. After noting these hindering deficiencies, it is gratifying to be able to report that as far as I could judge, the offrs and men appear to be a better and keener type than those in FRIULI and CREMONA. The Alpini in particular made a very good impression, and regtl spirit appeared strong.

a gee.

8. Lt Col ELLIOTT, OC BLU told me that he suffers from a bad heart, and was relegated from cond largely on this account. He doubts whether his physical condition is such as to enable him to do his duty with the Gruppo when they get fwd. Whether this be so or not, I feel that he is not the best choice for this important job, and have recommended to MMIA that an effort should be made to replace him with someone younger and less depressed. If it should unfortunately be decided to break up MANFROVA, it might be well to consider transferring from there to LEGNANO 56 BLU which appears to me to be a very good one, and to be working very keenly to help with the trg. I understand MMIA will be putting up a recommendation about Lt Col ELLIOTT.

held.

9. I noted on my visit that 4000 conscripts had arrived at 4189 Rft Centre at CESANO. The barracks are badly damaged, with no windows etc. The men had arrived in indifferent civilian clothing, many without adequate foot wear, and I understand that there were not sufficient blankets to provide each man with even one. They arrived in a snow storm into these conditions. It will not be surprising if numbers of them are predisposed to desert even at the outset. This is not a trg matter, but must start a state of mind not very encouraging for the trg of these rfts. It is most unfortunate. I know that MMIA are very perturbed about it too.

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

Spoke Sloan F7/Sec

6. They have drawn practically no cookers or cooking utensils, and they are urgently needed before they reach a fwd area. They still have less than half their scale of mortars, both 2" and 3".

a-gue.

7. After noting these hindering deficiencies, it is gratifying to be able to report that as far as I could judge, the offrs and men appear to be a better and keener type than those in FRIULI and CREMONA. The Alpini in particular made a very good impression, and regtl spirit appeared strong.

Noted.

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A.T. Kendrew

Brig.,
D.M.T.

AGK/rr.

Above confirms what we know and I have spoken to Q(AG) at AFHQ with the letter they are duly what they can. Much of the delay is due to Legnano having been allowed to move from Piedmonte - thus losing time and involving a longer journey to base depots. We warned AFHQ but our opinion was overruled

WP
18/Jan

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

0713

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

128

Field

24/19

MMIA

25 180 s- A

MA TRAINING TEAM

SS 560

RESTRICTED

REFERENCE YOUR # 24 of 14 (*) PREFERABLE YOU DELAY JOURNEY ONE WEEK

FROM MMIA POINT OF VIEW

4185

IMMEDIATE

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

0714

RESTRICTED

MEMA

53 DLU

SS 559

99/19 25 1730 A

CAPTAIN PLEWMAN AND TWO NCOs OF UNI WILL ARRIVE 17 JAN 45 AND STAY APPROXIMATELY 10 DAYS

4187

IMPORTANT

10715

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

ARMY FORM C 3136 (Small) MESSAGE FORM Register No. 1265

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
			CIPHER SECRET

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: RA Training Team | Date-Time of Origin: 141900 | Office Date Stamp 29/29

For Action

MMIA for DoBBS S/Sec

(81)

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

15 cm

—Message Instructions— | —Gr.

Originator's No. A 214

Contemplate coming Rome on Tuesday 16 Jan. if plans for exact location early ref depot far enough advanced to make determination possible. Please signal if journey would be useful

This Message may be sent as written by any means except Wireless	If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent in Cipher	Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority	Time Filed or Tor	By whom Sig'd
		IMPORTANT	150838	4180
Signed	Signed		Time cleared	

125

Notes on GOC's Visit to LEGNANO on 3 Jan 1945.

Conferences with Lt. Col. ELLIOT and Gen. UTILE

7th Legnano 29/19.

1. PERSONNEL

ELU.

Lt. Col. ELLIOTT reported that the Training Teams all were getting on well. He had been doubtful about Capt. EVANS, but had asked him whether he denied not to work with Italians and had been told he was satisfied. Col. ELLIOTT thought that Capt EVANS was now satisfactory.

There has been no S & T Officer here for 4 weeks, but Col. ELLIOTT understands that one is now on the way.

He may want to replace Major GORDON RAOC as he thinks he is not good enough, but does not want to change him yet as it would break the continuity of instruction.

Signals and RE officers are said to be good.

GRUPPO OFFICERS.

Col. ELLIOT's relations with Gen UTILE are good and that his was the chief influence on morale in the Gruppo while Col. LOMBARDI carried the Gruppo otherwise. He considered LOMBARDI a very good staff officer, honest and hardworking, but said he gets fussed under pressure, and Col. Elliot thought he might not be up to his new job to which he did not want to go.

Col. Elliot does not like the 2 i/c of the Gruppo who, he says, does not get on with the Gruppo Staff.

He considers that the Regimental Commanders are good, Lt. Cols alright, and the junior officers are keen and look after their men well.

GRUPPO ORs.

Gruppo is rather short of specialists - Drivers and Signallers, and Col. Elliot wants some drivers from the Driving School as soon as some are available.

He also wants 20 more interpreters.

2nd Lt NATY now in SMRE Intelligence Section wants to come to the Gruppo as an interpreter, and Col. Elliot would like to get him. 418

The Gunners of the Gruppo are carrying a WE of 259 men when 203 would suffice. G.C.C. instructed Col Elliot not to raise the question of the WE as the men could be absorbed elsewhere in the Gruppo.

2. TRAINING

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

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2. TRAINING

Col Elliot reported that the training area round MANZIANA was very good. The Artillery could shoot here, but had not done so yet as they were drawing their new guns.

He stated that the Gruppo does not finish drawing its vehicles before the end of January (420 to be drawn by 18th and 500 between then and the end of January) and therefore he thinks a move forward would be inadvisable and would take considerably more time than when the vehicles have been drawn. If it stays here, it will be able to cut short the time spent in the forward training area.

Training will be reasonably good by the end of the month. Gruppo has been doing Section and Platoon Training and not Company or Bn.

Gen UTILE also wants to stay here for a month to get on with the training without the interruption of a move.

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G.O.C. promised to recommend that the Gruppo stay here till the end of January (Col PIDSLEY to draft a letter to AFHQ for GOC's signature), and in the meantime Col Elliot to plan the training on the assumption that the Gruppo would stay here until the end of January.

Done passed 25 Jan Done.

Col Pidsley to find out 15 Army Group's intention with regard to the move and, if necessary, to draft a letter on it.

Col Elliot reported that officers and NCOs assimilated instruction well, but could not be persuaded to pass it on.

Difficulty had been experienced in getting mines for training. Col Pidsley to help to get them. SORE

Gen UTILE wants to put extra Tommy Guns in each Infantry Section and to take them from the Artillery and rear sections, so as to boost the morale of the forward troops.

G.O.C. instructed him to carry on training as at present and that he could get instructions on the point from the Corps Cmd in the forward area when he got there.

3. EQUIPMENT

Gruppo have had trouble with the signalling sets which are old ones.

Mortars are coming without muzzle covers, etc. To be improvised.

4. CLOTHING

There is some shortage of Greatcoats and Groundsheets. ✓

5. TRANSPORT

The Training Scale of transport is in course of being sent back, but instructions have not been received as to where it is to go. ✓

G.O.C. gave instructions that all Italian vehicles except Artillery Tractors were to be sent back. Col Pidsley to make arrangements. ✓

Gruppo has been given 20 unfitted 3 ton lorries instead of the WE of 10 fitted 6 tonners. There is consequently trouble in getting the exp 418 * drivers. Col Pidsley to go into the position and see what can be done.

About one third of the vehicles drawn are class I.D. and have no fittings or tools. Even Class I vehicles are being issued without tools. Min of War to be asked to provide them.

6. LEAVE

G.O.C. instructed Col Elliot to let ELU personnel go on leave before the move forward if possible.

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

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6. LEAVE

G.O.C. instructed Col Elliot to let HLU personnel go on leave before the move forward if possible.

There are 65 men of this Gruppo waiting to go on leave in forward area, but S.C.A.C. particulars required cannot be complied with owing to delay in correspondence. Gruppo sends the men on leave in its own transport which waits and brings them back.

The Remainder of the Gruppo, other than the above 65, have been on leave and most of them have come back.

Col Pidsley to check up on the new Leave Order.

Gen UTILE to see that after all men have had their leave, only 5 or 6 % are away at any time, including those overstaying leave.

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7. DESERTIONS

Many of the men are coming back now Christmas is over, and Col Elliot will put in a report about 5th January which will show the true picture.

8. RATIONS

Col Elliot has had complaints about the inadequacy of the rations. He does not know whether the rations are flogged by the officers or others.

Gen UTILE thought the ratiohs were inadequate for hard training. 5 Lire is allowed by the Min of War to supplement rations, but it is very difficult to buy locally as foodstuffs are reserved for civilians, and in any event are very expensive.

Officers and men are said by Gen. UTILE to eat exactly the same food.

G.C.C. suggested that the ration scale be posted up in cookhouses and Gen UTILE agreed to do this.

G.O.C. to talk to AFHQ about rations and to enquire about his letter to that HQ as to rations.

9. FILMS

Amusement films are needed here. The local cinemas do not hold enough people.

C.W.D. CHAYTOR, Capt,
M.A. to G.O.C.

4180

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

Spec Sec SECRET 124

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. G/E/1
10 Jan 45 29/19

NOTES ON VISIT OF G I MMIA TO ORVIETO BASE DEPOT AND NO 1 DISTRICT 9/10 JAN 45

1. ORVIETO Base Depot is catering for 3500/4000 personnel at present under orders AFHQ and MMIA will have to write to AFHQ explaining fully why the increase to 6000 is required. AQ

2. 1 Dist consider that the increased commitment could be catered for. One possibility would be to move 108 S.A. Gen Hosp whose sisters are in grave danger of being molested by the 4000 Italian Call-ups at present in ORVIETO Camp. 1 Dist

3. 200 personnel ex ORVIETO MTs FOSSOMBRONE 12 Jan
1400 " " " " " 15 Jan
Remainder of personnel to be clear by early Feb. G

4. It is NOT possible to increase the ration scale although a local arrangement of overdrawing one day and under-drawing the next would probably meet the local conditions of the Camp. Capt. BOURNE

5. A few more cooking utensils are required. Capt BOURNE with 1 Dist

6. 1 Dist has given priority of work to the repairs of the Camp but these repairs are seriously hampered by the personnel of the Camp who are without discipline. Gen BERARDI included this point in his address to the men. GII (L)

7. Gen MEYERMAN is most anxious that a small levy shall be made on the present Italian occupants of ORVIETO Camp to pay for barracks damages. Will MMIA write to 1 Dist on this subject. AQ

8. Med arrangements are now satisfactory and Gen BERARDI is enquiring why 6 out of the 7 offrs of 91 Fd Hosp were all on leave when the Hosp moved up. 4184 (L)

9. Clothing is satisfactory except for underclothing which is required. AQ

10. Camp reports that more water is required. 1 Dist

11. Gen BERARDI would like a circus to be organised

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

Italian Call-ups at present in ORVIETO Camp.

1 Dist

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4184 (L)

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AG

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1 Dist

11. Gen BERARDI would like a cinema to be requisitioned.

1 Dist

12. There is plenty of space for outdoor instruction of 5500 personnel as at present or 6000 as envisaged.

G

13. Gen BERARDI enquired if greater facilities could be given for the local purchase of vegetables.

1 Dist

14. Ministry of War will make representations to 1 Dist for welfare through Italian Welfare channels

GII (L)

15. Camp required an additional detail of 5 lorries for 10 to 14 days.

1 Dist

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16. The chain of command was explained. The camp is a HR-ITI Camp under Col SPADA. This Camp is under HQ 209 Div which is the Italian Adm Div of 1 Dist. Maj TUNGATE commands the HR Cadre. — 1 Dist

17. Approx 200 Sicilians who were causing grave political unrest in the camp by holding meetings and poluting the remainder of the personnel will be broken up into small parties and exchanged for a like number of personnel in other Italian Units under command 1 Dist — Capt. BOURNE and 1 Dist.

18. It would be most beneficial if HQ 209 Div could be moved to a more central position within 1 Dist - say FOLIGNO. — 1 Dist

19. 1 Dist will investigate necessity for taking over IRSI from 2NZ Div when latter moves fwd. — Capt. BOURNE

20. A good understanding exists between 1 Dist and FIFTH Army for the calling fwd of personnel from AREZZO R.E. — AQ

21. Explained why Call-up of 1914-24 Class in UMBRIA - MARCHE Area had been postponed. 1 Dist will inform MMIA as soon as accomodation can be freed. — 1 Dist

22. Gen HEYDEMAN was away on final exercise of FRIULI Gp. Just prior to Gp move fwd a det of MPs will be posted by 1 Dist to prevent desertion. — G Spec Sec

23. No difficulty envisaged over Italian Territorial Layout in 1 Dist. — G

24. Explained G.O.C's views on patriots. — G

25. All 1 Dist Staff are most co-operative and helpful.

Lt. Col.
G. S.

4181

Distribution:
Q. 1 Dist (2)
MMIA LO 1 Dist
G
AQ
Spec Sec
File

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

0724

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

123

MMLA 09

51 BLU

SS 530 RESTRICTED

CAN U M I TEAM FOR M T INSPECTIONS BE USEFULLY EMPLOYED E T A 15 JANUARY

OR WOULD YOU PREFER VISIT ABOUT 1 FEBRUARY QUERRY

4180

IMPORTANT

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

IDILA

56 BLU

SS 516

For HOWARD (.)

Cpl ORR with Col PIDSLEYS car should report AMHQ Visitors Bureau 1230 hours tomorrow 5 JAK (.) If Col PIDSLEY not there and no message has been left ORR should telephone Freedom 397 (.) Please confirm that above message is delivered to ORK

4173

0726

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

121

RESTRICTED

Subject :- Italian Army Inspections.

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

2 S/G/29/19.
Jan., 45.

To :- 53 E.L.U.

1. A.F.H.Q. has requested that the recommendations made in the attached AF/M/63/1 of the 25 December 44, should be brought to the notice of all concerned and that they will be implemented.

2. It is known ~~that~~ manager that you have this matter very much at heart, and that General ~~Lord~~ is cooperating energetically. In view of the seriousness of the equipment situation you should continue and increase your efforts to make all ranks vehicle conscious and to have guilty or careless drivers or officers severely punished.

W. P. Richardson 24/1/45

Major General.
M.M.I.A.

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

REPORT ON THE FOLGORE GROUP.

1. Capt. G.A.Flerman and Capt F.P.Moore with four Staff Sergts have to date spent 10 days with the FOLGORE Combat Group of the Italian Army.

2. The Group have received, so far, approximately 500 "B" vehicles and 100 carriers against their War Establishment. Releases have now been received for the balance, and it is estimated that vehicles will all have been drawn by 10 Jan 45. Upon receipt from Vehicle Parks, all vehicles go the the Italian Workshops, where they are checked over, before being issued to units. An AB 412 in Italian is filled in as far as possible, and issued with each vehicle.

3. It is estimated by 53 B.L.U. that there is a deficiency of 250 drivers in the Group. A driving instruction course is being run within the Group and the deficiency should be made up within a month, but these drivers will only have an elementary knowledge of driving and no practical knowledge of vehicle maintenance.

4. Every unit in the Group was visited by the U.M.I. increments during the past 10 days. Lectures and demonstrations were given to M.T. officers and N.C.O.s and all available drivers, on the elementary care and maintenance of vehicles, this included the daily duties of drivers, the more important points of the Daily Task System, correct oils to use and periodical oil changes, and the maintenance of tyres and batteries. At the conclusion of each demonstration, a few simple questions were asked, in the majority of cases the drivers appeared to have grasped what had been told to them.

5. As with other Italian Groups, there appeared to be a complete lack of M.T. discipline, not only with regard to vehicle maintenance, but also excessive speeds and careless and negligent driving.
there appeared to be a considerable number of efficient mechanics in the Group, not only in the Workshops but also in units, however unless there is a very strict M.T. discipline, these mechanics will not be able to cope, with vehicles off the road, through accidents and lack of maintenance.
To achieve a high standard of M.T. discipline, O.C.'s units must realise that they are primarily responsible for all vehicles on unit charge. Daily maintenance must be carried out by all drivers, and all cases of careless or negligent driving must be severely dealt with. All officers and N.C.O.s must take action in all cases brought to their notice.

4171

6. Drivers should be encouraged to take an interest and pride in the vehicle on their charge. The majority of Italian drivers keep their vehicles extremely clean, and spend a considerable amount of time in cleaning and polishing the bodywork, if this can be done, there is no reason why the vehicles should not be maintained in all other respects. A competition within units for the best maintained vehicle, would heighten the interest

no practical knowledge of vehicle maintenance.

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7. The officers of 53 B.L.U. have taken great interest during the visit of the U.M.I. increments. The position has been discussed between the G.S.O.1 and other officers of the B.L.U. and the Inspectors, and the attached directive has been forwarded to Group H.Q. by the G.S.O.1.

8. An inspector proposes to return to the FOLGORE Group about 10 Jan 45, to ascertain and inform the G.S.O.1 if the suggestions and recommendations have been acted upon.

(sgd) G.A. PLEWMAN Capt
P.P. MOORE Capt

23 Dec 44.

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

119

SUBJECT :- Visit of GOC MMIA to LEGNANO GRUPPO

29/19

MMIA 'RTC ICF'
c/o Land Forces Sub Comm
AC (MIA) ROME
Ref LO SD 1/4

3 Dec 44

52 BLU

Copy to :- Col W. PIDSLEY) Land Forces Sub Comm
ADC for GOC) AC (MIA) ROME

Confirming conversation Lt-Col ELLIOT - Maj GHLARDI.

1. GOC MMIA, Col W. PIDSLEY DSO.MC, Maj A.M.C. GHLARDI RA, and Capt C.W.D. CHAYTOR (ADC) will visit LEGNANO GRUPPO 5 Jan 45 arriving MANZIANA 0930 hrs and departing 1400 hrs.

Programme :-

0930 - 1030 hrs - Discussion with GSO I 52 BLU.

1030 - 1130 hrs - Discussion with GOC LEGNANO GRUPPO and Regt Comds.

1130 - 1300 hrs - At disposal of LEGNANO GRUPPO.

1300 hrs - Lunch with 52 BLU. 4176

1400 hrs - Depart.

1430 hrs - Arrive CESANO visit RTC ICF.

R.H. Stevens
Maj RA
DAA & QMG(Brit)

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

Confirming conversation Lt-Col ELLIOT - Maj CHIARDI.

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4176

A.M.C. Chiardi
Maj RA
DAA & QMG(Brit)

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

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

118

SUBJECT: Italian Army Ingeniere.

Unit Maintenance Inspectorate,
("B" Vehicles Section)
H.Q. M.M.I. C.M.F. (Tel 17272)

AF/UMI/63/1 25 Dec '44.

29/12

Q. (A.F.), A.F.H.Q.

Copy to: Q. 15 Army Group.
H.Q. M.M.I.A.
H.Q. 3 District.
D.D.M.I. 3 district.
S.I. 3 district.

S/Sec.

Attached is report by Capt. Plowman and Capt Moore on M.I. maintenance situation in Foligno Group.

di Cicco
Lieut-Col.,
C.I. M.M.I. C.M.F.

Seen WSP

Send a Copy to 55 DLV with enquiries letter as al 116 suitably amended WSP

31/12

dm 3/1

4175

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

10 7 23

118a

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2. The Group have received, so far, approximately 500 "B" vehicles and 100 carriers against their War Establishment. Releases have now been received for the balance, and it is estimated that vehicles will all have been drawn by 10 Jan 45. Upon receipt from Vehicle Parks, all vehicles go to the Italian Workshops, where they are checked over, before being issued to units. An AB.42 in Italian is filled in as far as possible, and issued with each vehicle.

3. It is estimated by 53 B.I.U. that there is a deficiency of 250 drivers in the Group. A driving instruction course is being run within the Group and the deficiency should be made up within a month, but these drivers will only have an elementary knowledge of driving and no practical knowledge of vehicle maintenance.

4. Every unit in the Group was visited by the B.M.T. Instructors during the past 10 days. Lectures and Demonstrations were given to M.T. officers and N.C.O.s and all available drivers, on the elementary care and maintenance of vehicles. this included the daily duties of drivers, the more important points of the Daily Task System, correct oils to use and periodical oil changes, and the maintenance of tyres and batteries. At the conclusion of each demonstration, afew simple questions were asked, in the majority of cases the drivers appeared to have grasped what had been told to them.

5. As with other Italian Groups, there appears to be a complete lack of M.T. discipline, not only with regard to vehicle maintenance, but also excessive speeds and careless and negligent driving.
There appeared to be a considerable number of efficient mechanics in the Group, not only in the Workshops but also in units, however unless there is a very strict M.T. discipline, these mechanics will not be able to cope, with vehicles off the road, through accidents and lack of maintenance.
To achieve a high standard of M.T. discipline, O.C.'s units must realise that they are primarily responsible for all vehicles on unit charge. Daily maintenance must be carried out by all drivers, and all cases of careless or negligent driving must be severely dealt with. All officers and N.C.O.s must take action in all cases brought to their notice.

417

6. Drivers should be encouraged to take an interest and pride in the vehicle on their charge. The majority of Italian drivers keep their vehicles extremely clean, and [illegible]

drivers in the Group. A driving instruction course is being run within the Group and the deficiency should be made up within a month, but these drivers will only have an elementary knowledge of driving and no practical knowledge of vehicle maintenance.

4. Every unit in the Group was visited by the M.T.I. Increments during the past 10 days. Lectures and Demonstrations were given to M.T. officers and N.C.O.s and all available drivers, on the elementary care and maintenance of vehicles. this included the daily duties of drivers, the more important points of the Daily Task System, correct oils to use and periodical oil changes, and the maintenance of tyres and batteries. At the conclusion of each demonstration, afew simple questions were asked, in the majority of cases the drivers appeared to have grasped what had been told to them.

5. As with other Italian Groups, there appeared to be a complete lack of M.T. discipline, not only with regard to vehicle maintenance, but also excessive speeds and careless and negligent driving.
There appeared to be a considerable number of efficient mechanics in the Group, not only in the Workshops but also in units, however unless there is a very strict M.T. discipline, these mechanics will not be able to cope, with vehicles off the road, through accidents and lack of maintenance.
To achieve a high standard of M.T. discipline, C.O.'s units must realise that they are primarily responsible for all vehicles on unit charge. Daily maintenance must be carried out by all drivers, and all cases of careless or negligent driving must be severely dealt with. All officers and N.C.O.s must take action in all cases brought to their notice.

4174

6. Drivers should be encouraged to take an interest and pride in the vehicle on their charge. The majority of Italian drivers keep their vehicles extremely clean, and spend a considerable amount of time in cleaning and polishing the bodywork, if this can be done, there is no reason why the vehicles should not be maintained in all other respects. A competition within units for the best maintained vehicle, would heighten the interest taken by drivers.

7. The officers of 53 B.L.U. have taken great interest during the visit of the M.T.I. increments. The position has been discussed between the C.S.O.1. and other officers of the B.L.U. and the Inspectors, and the attached directive has been forwarded to Group H.Q. by the C.S.O.1.

8. An inspector proposes to return to the FOLIGNO Group about 10 Jan 45, to ascertain and inform the C.S.O.1. if the suggestions and recommendations have been acted upon.

Signed: G.A.FLEMAN, Capt.,
R.F.MOORE, Capt.,

23Dec. 1944.

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

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

117

29/19.

2030

MMIA

28 A

53 BLU
56 BLU

WP

SECRET

RESTRICTED

GEN BROWNING WITH ADC AND COL FIELEY INTEND VISIT BLUE AS FOLLOWS (.)

SEVENTH JAN ARRIVE 53 BLU 1700 HRS (.) EIGHTH JAN DEPART TELESE 1400 HRS ARRIVE 56 BLU 1700 HRS (.) NINTH JAN DEPART SAN GORGIO 1400 HRS (.) GENERAL BROWNING WISHES TO SEE BLU GRO I CMA GROUP COMDR AND COLONELS AND ANY OTHER PERSONNEL TIME PERMITS (.) CAN YOU KINDLY ACCOMMODATE AS ABOVE (.) 53 PLEASE REPORT IF ROAD FROM CASERTA AND TO BENEVENTO IS LIKELY TO BE PASSABLE TO STAFF CAR

417.

IMPORTANT

SEVENTH JAN ARRIVE 53 BLU 1700 HRS (.) EIGHTH JAN DEPART TELESE 1400 HRS ARRIVE 56 BLU 1700 HRS (.) NINTH JAN DEPART SAN GORGIO 1400 HRS (.) GENERAL BROWNING WISHES TO SEE BLU GRO 1 CMA GROUP OCMDR AND COLONELS AND ANY OTHER PERSONNEL TIME PERMITS (.) CAN YOU KINDLY ACCOMMODATE AS ABOVE (.) 53 PLEASE REPORT IF ROAD FROM CASERTA AND TO BENEVENTO IS LIKELY TO BE PASSABLE TO STAFF CAR

4170

IMPORTANT

ADC
Circ MMIA

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

10736

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

RESTRICTED

116

SUBJECT: Italian Army - Inspections.

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/C/20/19
17 Dec 44

TO : 52 ELU (Copy to AFHQ ref AFHQ/8202/3/Q(AE))

1. AFHQ has requested that the recommendations made in para 7 of the REME report (AF/UMI/63/1 of 12 Dec) should be brought to the notice of all concerned and that they will be implemented.

2. It is known that you have this matter very much at heart, and that General UTILE is cooperating energetically. In view of the seriousness of the equipment situation you should continue and increase your efforts to make all ranks vehicle conscious and to have guilty or careless drivers or officers severely punished.

4176

W P Dobbs Brig

for Major General
M.M.I.A.

10737

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

39/19 115

SUBJECT :- Italian Army - Inspections

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

TEL. No. FREEDOM 121

AFHQ/8202/3/Q(AE)

14 Dec 44

1164

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(L.M.I.A.)

Reference is made to Unit Maintenance Inspectorate letter AF/UMI/63/1 dated 12 Dec 44 and report on Legnano Division attached thereto.

May it please be confirmed that the recommendations made in para 7 of the above mentioned report will be brought to the attention of all concerned, and that these recommendations will be implemented.

J.J. SLOAN, Lieut.-Colonel.
for Major General, G-4(Br).

/EHH

Subject: Italian Army - Inspections.

To. SE BLU.

(cys to AFHQ ref ——— 417 1 Q 19.9.19

AFHQ has requested that the recommendations made in para 7 of the REME report (AF/UMI/63/1 of 12 Dec) should be kept to the notice of all concerned & that they will be implemented.

It is known that you have this matter very much at heart, ~~and~~ please and that Sec Allied is progressing energetically. ~~Please~~ In view of the seriousness of the equipment situation you should continue & increase your efforts to make all ranks vehicle conscious and to have greater a caution driven strictly furnished

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

114

SUBJECT:- Italian Army, Inspections.

Unit Maintenance Inspectorate
("B" Vehicles Section)
H.Q. U.M.I. C.M.F. (Tel 17972)

AF/UMI/63/1 12 Dec '44.

Q. (A.E.), A.F.H.Q.

Copy to:- Q(AE), HQ, AAI.
D.M.E., A.F.H.Q.
M.M.I.A.
HQ 3 District (2)
52 B.I.U.
S.I., 3 District

Attached is Report by Capt. Plewman and Capt. Moore on Legnano Div.

In view of the statements made in paras.1-6 may instructions please be given that the recommendations in para.7 are put into force.

Spoke Lt Col Elliott 14 Dec

deC/MD.

Lieut-Col.,
C.I., U.M.I., C.M.F.

4170

10739

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(b) That speed limits be strictly enforced, and that all cases of speeding, dangerous or careless driving be punished with the strongest disciplinary action. It should be made the responsibility of all officers and N.C.O's to obtain particulars of any incident involving bad driving and to make a complete report immediately.

(c) It should be made clear to all units what repairs may or may not be undertaken by the various types of workshops.
Cannibalisation must be prohibited within units.

/HQ.

10 Dec. 1944.

Signed: C.A. FLEMING, Capt.
H.E. MOORE , Capt. R.A.

1109

0740

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

LROF V MWRU 11/230

FROM 701 VEH ASSY UKSP REME 101000A

TO CAPT H F H EDWARDS ATT 33 MILITARY MISSION

BT

RESTRICTED (.) PLEASE STATE ETA BEATTIE AND UTILITY (.)

BT

THI 111105A

SENT EA ~~1427~~ 1440

NR 230 RCD ~~1440~~ 111440A PJD AR

MMIA 27?
8/Sec 12/12
4168

10743

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

Yiel 112

10 1531 A

MMIA

51 BLU

SS 459 CONFIDENTIAL

Following from AFHQ (.) QUOTE (.)
F 65996 (.) Signed Saomed Cite FHLIA (.) Anxious to
contact Lieut Col B (.) WEBB = CARTER DNR now
51 BLU is Major P.L.G. Cousens now 2 i/c 1 Bn DNR (.)
COUSENS arrives NAPLES 8 Dec requests meeting be
arranged (.) NO knowledge movement COUSENS suggest
contact through unit (.) UNQUOTE

4167

LAND FORCES S/C (Admin)

SECRET

:::::::::::::::::::
:SECRET :
:Auth : SAC. :
:Initials:____ :
: 8 :
:COPY NO :____ :
:::::::::::::::::::

ALLIED FORCE HEAD QUARTERS

G-3 SECTION.

HEADQUARTERS 9 DEC 1944 G-3

FILE NO : ASD/923

4 December 1944

SUBJECT : Accommodation, Reinforcement and arrangements for training Italian Combat Groups.

TO : All Concerned.

1. A Meeting will be held in B.G.S (SD) office (Room No.2021) at 14.30 hrs. WEDNESDAY 6th December 1944, when the above matters will be under discussion. All addressees are requested to be represented at the meeting.

2. ACCOMMODATION:

a. The present location of the LEGNANO Group at PIEDMONTE d'ALIFE is unsuitable for training drivers. A suitable area has been found at BRACCIANO, N.W. of ROME. Is the move of LEGNANO to BRACCIANO agreed.?

b. A suitable area is required for the establishment of a Combat Group Reinforcement Training Depot. Should this be established at BRACCIANO now, or elsewhere until the LEGNANO is trained.?

3. Depot and training arrangements for Reinforcements for Combat Groups

a. Is the figure of 10% reinforcements for Combat Groups to be accepted, or can it be increased to at least 15%.? There would appear to be three alternative ways of doing this:

(1) Increase present Combat troop ceiling to 62,700.

4166

(2) Count the 3,000 men allotted to the "tail" units against BRI-ITI service troops, and thus increase allotment of reinforcements to 8,700.

(3) Use the sixth Combat Group as a reinforcement group.

b. Can necessary training equipment be made available immediately to establish the R.T.D.?

c. Are arrangements suggested in AMLA S/G/29/10/A of 18 Nov. (Not to all) agreed.?

4. Future of PICENO Division:

Remaining strength of this Division is approximately 4,000 after

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(3) Use the sixth Combat Group as a reinforcement group.

b. Can necessary training equipment be made available immediately to establish the R.T.D.?

c. Are arrangements suggested in MMIA S/G/29/10/A of 18 Nov. (Not to all) agreed.?

4. Future of PICENO Division:

Remaining strength of this Division is approximately 4,000 after certain personnel have been moved to perform Carabinieri duties. Are these personnel to:

a. Remain where they are in CALABRIA until they can be concentrated for training sometime in March, and possibly loaned to 3 District for temporary guard duties.?

b. Be moved to their eventual training area to do preliminary training, and await remainder of Div. and equipment.?

c. Be used as reinforcements for first five groups.?

d. Be used to form the R.T.D.?

DANIEL MOCCE,
Major General, G.S.C.,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3.

DB/vp

DISTRIBUTION: G-1(B), G(Maint), G(AE), AG(P & D.)
D.M.T., G-3(Org-B), R.A.C., Land Forces Sub-Commission, (MMIA) Spare

SECRET

4166

11/IV

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10744

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

LROF V MEDY NR470 IMPORTANT A LRSJ

FROM 54 BLU 081200

TO HQ MMIA

QQX GR35 BT

AQ 4 . RESTRICTED . FOR D O B B S FROM M O O R E .

INTEND VISITING YOUR HQ WITH D A D S T AND L T C O L

H O W A R D 10/11 DEC . PLEASE BOOK ACCOMMODATION

FOR TWO FOR NIGHT . 10 DEC .

WISH TO SEE (CMD) ORS ST AND MED

BT 1520

SENT NR 470 2251 CS B K

10745

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File 109

MMIA

05

701 V.A.W.

22 437

RESTRICTED

From Capt EDWARDS (*) Car in workshops undergoing repairs (*)

Hope to visit you Sunday or Monday

MINUTES OF BIU MEETING HELD AT AFHQ ON 30 MAY 1944.

Spec 20/19 188.

Members Present: Major CALVALEY
Capt GOULD-ADAMS.
Capt DIXON
Capt PILKINGTON.
Capt MASEY.

1. Capt GOULD-ADAMS asked for an Italian Appointments Code. Believed one has been produced.

2. Capt GOULD-ADAMS raised question of postings to make up deficiencies in CMMID.

Major CALVALEY explained that this is responsibility of 'A' Staff at Group and CMMB. Major CALVALEY stated screening has been bad and he has found further specialists in incorrect jobs, he is arranging to get these posted to Groups.

Major CALVALEY and Capt PILKINGTON to investigate.

3. Capt GOULD-ADAMS. Question of Tech Maint Secs.

Major CALVALEY explained 3 TM Secs being formed. 181, 182 and 183. One to each pair of Groups.

At moment only two of above have been allotted to Groups.

4. Capt GOULD-ADAMS stated that he had been instructed to supervise formation of 183 TM Sec but as far as he knows no one has received orders to form this Sec.

Major CALVALEY to investigate.

5. Capt GOULD-ADAMS stated that he now had his Cdn 9 Sets for R/L.

Capt DIXON also stated that he now had his Cdn 9 Sets for R/L.

Major CALVALEY instructed POLGOOK to send both old sets to MEDIOVA. They are both valuable.

4163

LEBRANC to return old sets to BSD.

Capt GOULD-ADAMS
Capt DIXON.

6. Capt GOULD-ADAMS and Capt DIXON raised question of stores deficiencies.

3 way switches - stated is N/A

Major CALVALEY instructed Capt GOULD-ADAMS to get DIXON to put up a letter to 3 Dist giving list of such deficiencies and requesting action.

Deficiencies against release notes from Ord 13 (stores collected from 3 Dist).

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Capt DIXON also stated that he now had his Cdn 9 Sets for R/L.

Major CALVALEY instructed FOLKORE to send both old sets to MANTOVA. They are both valuable.

LEONARD to return old sets to RSD.

4163

Capt GOULD-ADAMS
Capt DIXON.

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3 way switches - stated is N/A

Major CALVALEY instrue ed Capt GOULD-ADAMS to get DAMS to put up a letter to 3 Dist givin list of such deficiencies and requesting action.

Deficiencies against release notes from Ord 13 (stores collected from 3 Dist).

7. Capt GOULD-ADAMS. Question of Italian Procedure Pamphlet.

At present being vetted by A&I.

8. Capt DIXON raised question of Sig Office procedure.

Major CALVALEY stated that a compromise must be made between Italian and British Sig Office organisation.

It was agreed that the Italian Forte Militare must only deal with SIS within the GRUPPI

All traffic outside the GRUPPI should go through British SIS.

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0748.

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9. Question of wireless link ROME-BIU's was discussed.

LEGNANO will close on this link 302200 B hrs NOV.

FOLGORE opened at 011200 B hrs DEC.

Set at St. GERMILA will be taken over by MANTOVA and set will close down. The set will remain closed until cipher detachment can be produced for MANTOVA.

10. Question of Italian Signal School.

Capt MASEY stated that instruction, though far from perfect, was as good as could be expected.

Stores situation at the School is fairly satisfactory.

11. Next conference arranged for 20th Dec 1944 at 1400 hrs AFHQ.

DISTRIBUTION.

BIU 52 LEGNANO (SO R. Sigs)	(1)
BIU 53 FOLGORE	(1)
BIU 54 MANTOVA	(1)
Capt MASEY, Italian Signal School, NOCERA.	(1)
ASCIA, Major CALVALEY.	(5)
Major SANDERSON.	(1)

4162

0749

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

A

LHOF V LAKE NR 87 P P

QVR 3

FROM ~~LAKE~~ AF HQ 301740A

TO 52 BLU 53 BLU

INFO MMIA

GR 22 BT

RESTRICTED YOUR DADOS TO REPORT TO ADOS PLANS THIS HQ AT 1500 HRS FRIDAY 1 DEC (.) FX 60610 SIGNED SACMED CITE FHQAE

BT 301740A

SENT NR 87 2// 1844A LS B KK

RD NR 87 D LON 1844 K

16/01

W.P. 8/sec 29/19

1112

5808

4161

0750

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

MESSAGE FORM

From : MMIA

To : 52BLU for MMIA LO

Date - Time

30 1801 A

SS 427

Restricted

DOMRS will not visit TEAMC (.) Frenume will see you at LO's conference Monday

Precedence IMPORTANT

Authenticating Officer

Major

4180

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

105

Subject:- Capt Bird's Report

29/10/44

TO: Comd | Special Sec | ORD
2 i.c. | Q(AE) | Q(Maint)
G.S.O.1 | ST

W.P.

1. Herewith Capt. Bird's report.

2. Attd to Q(AE) copy only is clothing state.
Attd to GSO 1 copy only is Muleteer Rfts Appx.
Attd to 2 i.c. copy only is draft directive.

Col.
D.A. & Q.M.G.

29 Nov 44.

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

REPORT No. 1 Date: 27 Nov 44

FIFTH ARMY BR-ITIS

1. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

Att is a state showing :-

(a) First allotment from Lt.Col. Moriarty. This was passed direct to 13 Corps and distributed by them (not incl in total).

(b) Amounts held in 13 Corps P.M.S.

(c) Second allotment from Lt.Col.Moriarty. This is now being collected, and will be held by 210 Div, till 231 Div can take over.

(d) Third allotment from MG, due 5 Dec.

(e) Fourth allotment from MG (MGIA AQ2267 of 26 Nov refers)

(f) Issues made by ORD (not incl in total)

NOTES.

(a) SAMOIS clothing was allocated and distributed by "Q" through ORD.

(b) 81 x 56 lbs Dubbin to all BRITIS (this will be a regular supply) was issued by ORD on 25 Nov.

(c) 18 bicycles have been loaned by ORD to BRITI pioneers, until replacements can be made available from ITALIAN sources ("Loan" is the word used, but not entirely meant.)

2. SOAP.

There is a soap shortage - or was. 210 Div, however, found 2000 extra rations for BRITIS today. Hospitals require more than 300 grams per man per month, as laundry is high, and patients dont bring their soap. Suggest there should be a hospital scale, additional to normal ration.

3. 894 Fd Amb is now at SIENA nr FLORENCE, ready to operate. 4158

When "our" ship comes home, a proposed M/T for vehs is :-

Staff cars	1
3-tonners	1
Ambulances	2
Water cart	1

(e) Search allotment [illegible] (Nos 2&223, or 20 Nov letters)

(f) Issues made by ORD (not incl in total)

NOTES.

(a) SARDIS clothing was allocated and distributed by "Q" through ORD.

(b) 81 x 56 lbs Dubbin to all BRITIS (this will be a regular supply) was issued by ORD on 23 Nov.

(c) 18 bicycles have been loaned by ORD to BRITI pioneers, until replacements can be made available from ITALIAN sources ("Loan" is the word used, but not entirely meant.)

2. SOAP.

There is a soap shortage - or was. 210 Div, however, found 2000 extra rations for BRITIS today. Hospitals require more than 300 grams per man per month, as laundry is high, and patients dont bring their soap. Suggest there should be a hospital scale, additional to normal ration.

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When "our" ship comes home, a proposed M/S for vehs is :-

Staff cars	. . . .	1
3-tonners	. . . .	1
Ambulances	. . . .	2
Water cart	. . . .	1

The ADMS here thought that would be nice when possible, and meanwhile is helping them out.

4. BLANKETS

(a) All 13 Corps BRITIS have three blankets. I am checking to find their origin.

(b) Most other units also have three, and none less than two. Again checking origin.

(c) Where it is definitely considered units should have THREE, I intend to issue, where possible, one comforter, and to withdraw one blanket. It has been found that a blanket over a comforter will stand the weather.

5. 231 DIV.

(a) Acqua is prepared - a barracks in good condition, except for some windows. Admirable for all purposes, incl Transit Camp. The latest

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rfts have been housed there already. Mame CUSTA DI S.GIORGIO, via Leonardo, FLORENCE.

(b) I have written a directive for 231 Div on Clothing (copy att) which has passed all comment by "Q" here, incl Col. Rich. This will await them on arrival. I have also prepared a memorandum of priority local tasks for them.

(c) Br Inc are mooting the question of passing FRIULI rfts etc through 231 Div Transit Camp. Rations seem the only difficulty, and I have brought this to their notice. In general, I think it would be a good thing, and would help to prevent possible ill feeling arising in various parts of the Italian Army (see also Welfare).

6. WELFARE

Free seats and occasional free performances are now given to Italian Tps in the local cinemas. Likewise ENSA parties, run by ENSA but Italian performers, are giving occasional performances to Italian tps. No distinction is, or will be made between any categories. This is essential and fully realised here.

7. CO-OPERATORS

A Co-operator Mkpe has arrived at FLORENCE under comd Br Inc . to look after MT vehs. It's a pity.

8. GENERAL.

With the imminent arrival of FRIULI, there is a danger in the background, of tps in Green S/D becoming a lesser breed, and it is a possible source of ill-feeling, which might give certain Italian parties political propaganda.

4157

~~Them~~ This will be combatted by making Welfare General. That includes Clubs and so on. It would be a good thing if the following could happen too.

(a) EFI to all tps in Combat Area (I know !)

(b) Battle Dress cease to be dyed - at least for fwd tps.

In this connection I feel it would do good if the Transit Camps of Adm Div HQs could be used as, or extended to embrace Combat transit

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In this connection I feel it would do good if the Transit Camps of Adm Div HQs could be used as, or extended to embrace Combat transit personnel and perhaps fwd rft centres. Rations and NAAFI would be the great problem.

9. MULETEERS

Two reports from Italian sources on the Muleteers re-inforcements are att.

Maj. Barbato, Italian OC 21 Pack Gp was ~~almost~~ almost in tears. He loves his Gp and is proud of it, and rightly so. On the new Call Up from ABRUZZI (home of Muleteers, I'm told), he would like to come down and choose his fellows. Under AFHQ letter Command and Administration, setting up BRITI rft centres, this becomes a British responsibility, and I have put his wishes to the authorities here.

Both in the rfts and in his present Gp, there are a number of overage personnel. The Ministry of War has said they should be demobilised. Their wishes will be respected, when

(a) they conform themselves.
(b) replacements become available.

(sgd) J.C. KIRD S/Capt.
Att Br Inc 5 Army. 27.11.44.

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0756

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103

MMIA 29

AFH4 for G 3 Org
DMT

AAI 207 Sub Area for GELARDI

SS 419 RESTRICTED

Major DOBBS proposed visit DMT morning 2 December with MMIA/SMRE draft of administration side of WE for RTD ICF, agree training side with DMT and proceed to G 3 Org AFH4 with complete WE morning 3 December (.) Will visit RTD morning 4 December.

4156

0757

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

MMIA

271640A

51 HLU

SS 408

Restricted

For Colonel WEBB + CARTER from HATCH (.)
Acen night 30/1 Dec and 1/2 if required
for you in A mess (.) For self and MACKENZIE
in B mess (.) Please tell MACK to wait at
B mess (.) Obtain locations messes from HQ
MMIA

4150

10758

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

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

50/240

CALL	CIRCUIT No.	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
	NR 3389	ROUTINE	

SPACES WITHIN RED LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) 37 Beach Group

DTG TIME OF ORIGIN 231010

TO (FOR ACTION) MMIA

TO (FOR INFORMATION)

Message Identification	GR

(REF. No.) DP 4(D)

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

FROM VINCENT FOR SOUTHBY. CONFERENCE ON TRAINING NOW
1445 HOURS 29 NOV NOT 26 NOV

Deciphered 240815 THB WH

LOCAL DISTRIBUTION			
	PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE	TBI OR TOR	Ops
	ORIGINATING SECTION:		
	A. G. AUTHENTICATION:	TIME CLEARED	
	ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION:		

10759

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

SECRET

SUBJECT :- Conference - Tri MINUI Op

Hq ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

To :- FILPOT 75

2004/40/G(TRE)

22 Nov 44

GC Fifth Army (for Exit Incr)
13 Corps
1 District
55 Area (2) (Inc 1 for GC Eighth Army Tous)
IIIA
50 MG cars of 37 Bench Op

Copy to :- G(Ops)
G(SD1)
A
Q
Ref
Int
X
ST
Med
Ord
RE
Pro
HQ Dif
Pilo Tn

It is Agenda for conference on TRI MINUI Op.

Lieutenant-General,
Chief of General Staff.

415.

SECRET

2004/40/G(Trs)

AGENDA FOR CONFERENCE ON TRG - FRIULI GP
to be held in Adm Wor Room, Main HQ AAI, 1445 hrs 29 Nov 44

1. Object

To decide trg to be carried out by FRIULI Gp in RADDA area.

2. Present state of Trg

Statement by G3O. I. BLU.

3. Special requirements of Fifth Army and 13 Corps for op role in which it is proposed to use Gp.

4. Time available

(a) Estimate by G3O. I. BLU of time required.

(b) Tgt date for readiness.

5. Trg to be carried out

(a) Individual trg.
(b) Specialist trg - Dvrs
Tradesmen
(c) Junior Ldrs Tac trg.
(d) Staff trg.
(e) Mov exercises.
(f) Fn exercises preceded by TEWT.

6. Adv Trg

7. Trg Team from 56 Div

(a) Composition
(b) Cmd
(c) Relations

8. Trg Area

Report of recce by OC Trg Team.

9. Assistance required

(a) Additional arms.
(b) Bde and brs.

10. Trg Wpn

4152

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

4. Time available

(a) Estimate by G30. I. HQ of time required.

(b) Tgt date for readiness.

5. Trg to be carried out

(a) Individual trg.
(b) Specialist trg - Dvrs
Tradesmen
(c) Junior Ldrs Tac trg.
(d) Staff trg.
(e) Mov exercises.
(f) Fd exercises preceded by TEsWT.

6. Adm Trg

7. Tr. Team from 56 Div

(a) Composition
(b) Cond
(c) Functions

8. Trg Area

Report of recce by GO Trg Team.

9. Assistance required

(a) Additional areas.
(b) Rds and brs.

10. Trg Aim

Requirements.

11. Reports

Progress reports to Fifth Army, 13 Corps, 1 District and AAI.

12. Programme

Outline to be submitted weekly.

13. Any other points

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10782

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

2984

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

17/23

CALL	CIRCUIT No.	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
	NR	ROUTINE	QVR6

29/19

SPACE BELOW FOR LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) MAIN AAI

DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN 221847

TO (FOR ACTION) CG FIFTH ARMY FOR BRIT INCR 13 CORPS 50 BLU DISTONE 55 AREA MM IA

Message Distribution: CR Sfaec

TO (FOR INFORMATION)

(REF. No.) TRG582

(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION) SECRET

24/11

REF TRG 575 DATED 22. AT REQUEST BLU CONFERENCE TRG FRIULI GP WILL TAKE PLACE 1445 HRS 29 NOV AIM WAR ROOM MAIN HQ AAI NOT REPEAT NOT 26 NOV

Relid
I am going DP

SECRET

415

DECIPHERED 222359A

LOCAL DISTRIBUTION	PRECEDENCE:	TIME OF TOR	Or.
✓	ORIGINATING SECTION:		
	A. G. AUTHENTICATION:	TIME CLEARED	
	ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION:		

0763

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

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

3/23

CALL	CIRCUIT No. NR	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
	2784	Routine	QVR 7

WRITE WITHIN RED LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Main AAI

DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN 221010A

TO (FOR ACTION) CG 5 Army 8 Army 13 Corps 50 BLU c/o 55 Area Distone 55 Area MMIA

TO (FOR INFORMATION) Florence City Command

Words Transmitted GR 29/19

(REF. No.) TRG 575

(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION) SECRET

94

Sec

WP

281

Ref TRG 564 dated 20.
Conference on trg Friuli Gp will take place Adm War Room Main HQ AAI 1445 hrs 26 Nov.
For 8 Army. Request offr in charge trg team instructed to attend.

4150

LOCAL DISTRIBUTION	PRECEDENCE:	221600A
	ORIGINATING SECTION:	THI OR TOR / Ops.
	A. G. AUTHENTICATION:	TIME CLEARED
	ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION:	

0764

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

29/19 Leila 96

22 1210 A

MMA

Main AAI

CG 5th Army for Br Inc
13 Corps : Adv HQ DISTWO

SS 383

RESTRICTED

REFERENCE YOUR Q 1784 OF 21 NOV COL FIDSLEY ATTEND MEETING APPROX
26 NOV AGREED

4149

IMPORTANT

10765

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

OF
LAKE V MJAQ NR 6 OPOP IMMEDIATE
QVR 1 QQY
FROM MAIN AAI 21/1700A
TO MTOUSA
INFO CG FIFTH ARMY FOR BR INC
13 CORPS ADV HQ DISTWO DISTONE

GR-- BT
Q 1784 CONFIDENTIAL
REFERENCE THIS HQ Q 1779 DATED 19 NOV IN VIEW CHANGED
CIRCUMSOANCES NOT NOW NECESSARY COL P I D S L E Y VISIT 5 ARMY
NOR 13. CORPS REQUEST INSTEAD HE ATTENDS MEETING TO BE HELD
APPROX 26 NOV THIS HQ TRG 564 DATED 20 NOV REFERS
ET
THI 1730
SENT NR 6 21 1915A CEB BBK
RECD NR 6 211915A J O E K

95 4814
S/Sec N85/21
22/11
41 Sgd
Repeat Info WP
2,200

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

IMMEDIATE

FROM MAIN AGI 211700

TO MMIA

INFO CG FIFTH ARMY FOR MR ING
13 CORPS ADV HQ DISTWO DISTONE

Q 1784 CONFIDENTIAL

Ref this HQ Q 1779 dated 19 Nov in view changed circumstances not now necessary Col HIDSLEY visit 5 Army nor 13 (.) Corps request instedd he attends meeting to be held approx 26 Nov this HQ trg 564 dated 20 Nov refers

cgl

4141

10767

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

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Small) — **MESSAGE FORM** — Register No. 8/21

Call | Srl No. | Priority | Transmission Instructions: Cipher Secret 2a/19

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY — Office Date Stamp 517

FROM (A) Originator: Main AAI — Date-Time of Origin: 2005 Oct

For Action: CG 5 Army for Bde Detachment 13 Corps
50 BLG DISTONE 55 Area . MMIA

TO — (W) For Information (INFO): 8 Army FLORENCE city comd.

Originator's No. Alle 564 ⊙ SECRET ⊙ First ⊙ Intend hold conference beg FRIULI group effective 26 NOV ⊙ Second ⊙ Req 5 Army dir one I Corps 1 Dist 55 Area MMIA and 6501 BLG requested attend ⊙ Third ⊙ 5 Army dir inc will report whether convenient if conference held this HQ ⊙ If NOT request 5 Army instruct FLORENCE city comd prepare suitable conference rooms in FLORENCE ⊙ Fourth ⊙ 6501 50 BLG will detail Italian rep. if he considers necessary ⊙ 5 Army please confirm place and convenient time and date is MKS-

Time Received — Written by — Checked by — Transmitted by — Received by

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING PRIORITY

Message Instructions — CK

Time: THI or TOR 201745Z — Time cleared — System — Op.

Signed — Signed — Initials WP

41 6

10768

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

93

27/19

L 1 OF 1 V MBCA NR NR 43 QVH 1

FROM ADV DISTWO ~~1ESMAR~~ 181205A

TO MMIA

INFO 13 CORPS

QQX GR 13 BT

89

Sec.

1180

03012 (.) CONFIDENTIAL (.)

REF YOUR 55344 (55346)

OF 17 (.) 18 OR 19 DC ACCEPTABLE

D I S T W O

4110

BT 181205A THI 1247

SENT NR43 1442A BW B5 K

RECD NR 43 1442A IN AR

10769

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

Jue 18 R.

AMIA

13 CORPS, ADV I DIST.

22/11

AS 251

RESTRICTED

Reference your O 133 of 17 Nov (.) Regret FINDLEY cannot visit 18 or 19 Nov (.) Proposal for later date follows

Immediate.

4144

0770

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

O O 7i691

29/19

VIA MIA

AAI

18'7" A

Confidential

SS 353

5 Army and 13 Corps have asked for MIA rep to explain background and administration of Italian Combat Groups (.) Suggest Col. PIDSLEY visit you 5 Army and other necessary HQ 26 to 28 NOV for this purpose. (.) Signal agreement and notify all concerned.

41[illegible]

Routine Important

Organizational Authentication (sgd) W PIDSLEY Col

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

KR
LRKB V LRAR 7592 UCENT
T FROM MAIN 13 CORPS 17195 A
TO MMIA
QQX 16
0133 . REF YOUR SS346 . VISIT ACCEPTABLE 18 OR 19 NOV .
CONFIRM DATE NOV AND NOIM DEC .
THI 1935
SENT HTH B 3 IMS
D T G 171915
RECD LRKB AT 17/2251 A AAA AR AR AR AR AR AR AR

HEADQUARTERS
19 NOV 1918
A.

10772

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

File
89

MIA 27 1220 A

13 Corps, Adv 2 Dist

SG 346 CONFIDENTIAL

Colonel FISHER MIA in charge organization Italian Combat Groups proceeds visit 13 Corps and Adv 2 Dist on 13 or 14 Dec to give any information required on Italian Combat Forces. Confirm if acceptable.

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

Major

414

10773

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

88

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Conference at H.Q. M.E.I.A.

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.E.I.A.)
File No. G/2
17 Nov 44.

Ref M.E.I.A. letter G/2 of 15 Nov 44.

1. Para 1(c) for "Monday 4th Dec - Return (remain until noon 5th Dec if necessary)"

Read "Tuesday 5th Dec - Return (remain until Wed 6th Dec if necessary)".

[signature]

Lt. Col.
G.S.

Distribution: Col SIMMONS - SARDINIA
Lt. Col. MOSIARTY Rear EIGHTH Army
Lt. Col. ALBERT - SICILY
Maj. SMITH NAPLES Office
Maj. MURRELL BARI Office
MEIA LO FIFTH Army
MEIA LO 1 Dist
MEIA LO 3 Dist
MEIA LO FRIULI
MEIA LO GRECHIA
MEIA LO LIGURIA
MEIA LO FOGGIA
MEIA LO MANTOVA

Internal: S 1/c
A/Q
Col. FIDELEY
Capt. FOA (to be secretary of meeting)

Sicily. RESTRICTED Spec Re

Notes on C.O.C's Conference with Gen. MARRIOTTI at PALERMO on 7th Nov. G/2

BF 20 Nov ACTION up 89

I TROOPS IN SICILY.

Gen. MARRIOTTI stated that the morale of the troops in the island was very high.

He wants a new C.O. for the Regiment in SYRACUSE urgently. Lt. Col. ALBERT stated that the Regts are well organised but that the Sanitary and Supply arrangements are not as good as they should be. G

II PUBLIC SAFETY AQ

Gen. MARRIOTTI said that being short of 2 Bns he had not really enough troops in the island and there might be trouble in places arising out of the Assessing of the harvest. He wanted to have back his 2.Bns in CALABRIA, but the G.O.C. explained the position to him and he said he was satisfied and could carry on. G

He is worried that he cannot call out the troops to quell a public disturbance without orders from A.C. and 3 District who might be a long way off and difficult to contact and could not know the local situation exactly. It was explained that Brig. CARR was believed to have asked for the alteration of the relative Order. G

Gen. MARRIOTTI asked Gen. BROWNING to tell the P of W that everything was quiet in SICILY and the recent disturbances were not serious - in fact, not to "flap"..! G-G

Gen. MARRIOTTI wants to form a mobile unit of about 600 Carabinieri out of the 8,000 on the island, who could be held centrally and part taken quietly in M.T. to the scene of any possible disturbance. He put this proposition to the P of W over a month ago. G

The only likelihood of trouble arises from bands of MAFIA or Sicilian SEPARATISTS who take advantage of the discontent caused by the Assessing of the Harvest to cause trouble and discredit the Italian Government. They are well armed, but Gen. MARRIOTTI is satisfied he can deal with any trouble if he gets his mobile CC.RT. unit organised. G

4139

III CLOTHING

Gen. MARRIOTTI reported he was short of about 2,000 sets of clothing, but Lt. Col. ALBERT has indents in for these. AQ

IV PASSING OF ORDERS ETC

G.O.C. instructed Gen. MARRIOTTI to expedite the passing of orders and correspondence which Lt. Col. ALBERT reported was very slow in the island.

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

position to Him and he said he was satisfied and could carry on. G

He is worried that he cannot call out the troops to quell a public disturbance without orders from A.C. and 3 District who might be a long way off and difficult to contact and could not know the local situation exactly. It was explained that Brig. CANE was believed to have asked for the alteration of the relative Order. G

Gen. MARRIOTTI asked Gen. HEWKING to tell the M of W that everything was quiet in SICILY and the recent disturbances were not serious - in fact, not to "flap"..! G.C.

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IV PASSING OF ORDERS ETC

G.O.C. instructed Gen. MARRIOTTI to expedite the passing of orders and correspondence which Lt. Col. ALBERT reported was very slow in the island.

V CALL-UP

Gen. MARRIOTTI stated it would help the morale of the island as a whole if there was a call-up for the Army. He has a shortage of 1,500 troops, but would prefer that this should be made up with other than Sicilians. G

VI TRANSPORT

There is rather a shortage of transport and General HEWKING promised to let General MARRIOTTI have some vehicles when they arrived from SARDINIA. AQ

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ACTION

VII SPECIALISTS FOR MANTOVA DIVISION

Gen. MARRIOTTI has sent to M of W the names of 100 - 120 volunteers (not necessarily specialists) for Gruppis. He has not tried to get specialists.

M.M.I.A. to let Gen. MARRIOTTI have a list of the types of Specialists required through Lt. Col. ALBERT.

There are also 2,000 men in SICILY not now in the Army (but about half of them have been in the army and some are rejects from it) who have volunteered for Combat Service. They would not come in to SARAUDA and AOSTA Divs as they are not Combat Divs.

General BROWNING instructed General MARRIOTTI to wait until he received the list of specialists required for MANTOVA Division and then he and Col. ALBERT were to screen these volunteers for specialists and by Trades.

Spec Sec

asked for
B.F.
20 Nov
WP

circulate to
H.A. to G.C.C.

15 Nov 44

DISTRIBUTION:
HA to GOC
2 i/C
G
AQ
Spec Sec

4128

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

RESTRICTED

0/2 S/Gen

Notes on C.O.C's Conference with Generals CORBETT and BRACCA at CASERTA on 5 November 1944.

ACTION

I INTERNAL SECURITY IN CALABRIA.

General CORBETT said that after MANTOVA Division leaves, he will not have enough troops for guarding the necessary places (SILA, REGGIO, etc). He will only have one Bn, and even divided up this will not cover commitments. He wants at least one more Bn. C.O.C. to enquire into the position. Gen. CORBETT also said that as he will have less troops, they will all have to be effective and must, therefore, be clothed properly. G

Lt. Col. HOWARD to report the necessaries required when next he comes to RAR.

Gen. CORBETT said he could carry on with his present transport for a few weeks. He uses a lot of animal transport, but this will be difficult when his manpower falls.

C.O.C. promised him some M.T. Transport ex-Sardinia. AQ

II MANTOVA DIVISION.

Gen BRACCA reported that the division was now on the new organisation.

General BRAMALL especially stressed the necessity of getting the best available officers and of giving proper attention to maintenance.

SPECIALISTS

There are considerable shortages of Specialists and Lt. Col. HOWARD is sending Col. PIDNEY a list of these.

C.O.C. instructed Gen BRACCA that over-age Specialists might have to be retained in the Army. No order to this effect has been received from the Ministry of War. Can we do this? G

C.O.C. to take up with Ministry, and also to arrange with them for specialists in the SARACENA and AOSTA Divisions to be transferred to MANTOVA, forthwith, being replaced by other non-Specialist "bodies". 4137 Spec Sec

Gen BRACCA stated that 113 Regt, formerly part of this Division now works for PWB. He would like to get volunteers from them to be replaced by P.O.I.A. on a body for body basis. C.O.C. promised to take this up with Col. C + X. Z A/C

Gen BRACCA asked that if the Division is not to move up North immediately, pilot models of equipment be given them to become familiar with. C.O.C. instructed the Division to take up North with them their Italian gas masks.

They were not to take their unnecessary Unit Stores forward, but to store them locally near CASERTA.

A.F.H.Q. had ordered the Division not to take Refs

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

but this will be difficult when [illegible].
G.O.C. promised his [illegible] M.T. Transport ex-Cardiff. AG

II MANTUA DIVISION.

Gen BOLOGNA reported that the division was now on the new organisation.

General BROWNING especially stressed the necessity of getting the best available officers and of giving proper attention to maintenance.

SPECIALISTS

There are considerable shortages of Specialists and Lt. Col. HOWARD is sending Col. PIDGEY a list of them.

G.O.C. instructed Gen BOLOGNA that over-age Specialists might have to be retained in the Army. No order to this effect has been received from the Ministry of War. Can we do this?

G.O.C. to take up with Ministry, and also to arrange with them for specialists in the SARDINIA and AOSTA Divisions to be transferred to MANTUA, forthwith, being replaced by other non-Specialist "bodies". C 4137 Spec Sec

Gen BOLOGNA stated that 113 Regt, formerly part of this Division now works for Fifth. He would like to get volunteers from them to be replaced by E.R.I.A. on a body for body basis. G.O.C. promised to take this up with Col. G + A. 2 i/C

Gen BOLOGNA asked that if the Division is not to move up North immediately, pilot models of equipment be given them to become familiar with. G.O.C. instructed the Division to take up North with them their Italian gas masks.

They were not to take their unnecessary Unit Stores forward, but to store them locally near [illegible]Z.

S.H.A.E. had ordered the Division not to take Beds and Dry Stores and Italian Cooking Utensils. G.O.C. instructed Lt. Col. HOWARD to discuss the position with Col. PIDGEY, but the G.O.C. said that they should be taken on loan and returned as soon as British equipment was issued in lieu. He would take this up with S.H.A.E. if necessary. G.O.C. considered it a sheer waste of equipment and bad for morale if MANTUA is uncomfortable in S. CROCE area while stores which could ensure comfort were lying idle in COSENZA.

15 Nov 44

Clive Clayton
A.A. to G.O.C.

DISTRIBUTION:
VA to CAS
2 i/C, G,
AG, Spec Sec

Spec Sec

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

RESTRICTED

See Sec 0/2

Notes on G.O.C's Conference with Lt. Col. ALBERT at PALERMO on 7th November 1944

ACTION

I. CLOTHING

Ministry of War are very slow in passing out instructions re Lt. Col. SHIPLEY's releases of clothing. MMIA to make them get a move on.

Lt. Col. ALBERT has indents in for (a) emergency clothing and (b) 10% emergency stock. Lt. Col. SHIPLEY to expedite these.

The MO of AC wants clothing issued to 21 Italian personnel (8 officers and 13 ORs) in PANTELLARIA. These are not part of the official Italian Army, so G.O.C. instructed Lt. Col. ALBERT not to authorise the issue.

Ministry of War states that officers can draw on the stock of clothing for their own use on repayment. Lt. Col. ALBERT has been issuing accordingly and the G.O.C. agreed to this being continued.

The Italian Military Authorities in SICILY told Lt. Col. ALBERT that they had M of W authority to issue 2,000 sets of clothing to Italians returning from the Balkans. He cabled MMIA and their refusal to issue was passed on by him. The M of W had asked for a report on the numbers of necessaries required for these men and Lt. Col. ALBERT instructed the local Military Authorities to give this information, but to say that no Italians returning from the Balkans or Prisoners of War may have clothing issued to them. He has given the local Military Authorities a written order to this effect.

4130

Ministry of War ref 20797/V dated 12 Oct.

Lt. Col. SHIPLEY's cable ref A/Q 2096 dated 28 Oct. Practically all men in SICILY have 2 blankets. AQ

II. BOOTS

There is a boot repair workshop employing about 50 men which could employ another 100 if repair materials were available. Leather has been frozen by A.C.. Lt. Col. ALBERT has instructed Units to do their own repairs so far as material is available (practically

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4136

Ministry of War ref 20797/V dated 18 Oct.

Lt. Col. SHIPLEY's cable ref A/Q 2096 dated 28 Oct. Practically all men in SICILY have 2 blankets. AQ

II. BOOTS

There is a boot repair workshop employing about 50 men which could employ another 100 if repair materials were available. Leather has been frozen by A.C.. Lt. Col. ALBERT has instructed Units to do their own repairs so far as material is available (practically none is)

Many of the Italians here have 2 pairs of boots and M of W has given instructions for the second pairs to be hamsed in. Lt. Col. ALBERT has told Units to keep at least 25% (and up to 50%) of the second pairs to allow for repairs being done before the boots become irrepairable. AQ

III. RATION RELEASES

Every 2 weeks Lt. Col. ALBERT gets information from MMIA as to the ration ceiling for all Italy and has to wire back for the ceiling for SICILY.

A/Q of MMIA (ref 27-5) to wire Lt. Col. ALBERT the ceiling for SICILY at the same time as it sends him the ceiling for all Italy, unless any particular reason against this procedure. AQ

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

Italian Army, so G.O.C. instructed Lt. Col. ALBERT not to authorise the issue.

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III. RATION RELEASES

Every 2 weeks Lt. Col. ALBERT gets information from MMIA as to the ration ceiling for all Italy and has to wire back for the ceiling for SICILY.

A/Q of MMIA (ref 27-5) to wire Lt. Col. ALBERT the ceiling for SICILY at the same time as it sends him the ceiling for all Italy, unless any particular reason against this procedure. AQ

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

IV. SARDUA DIVISION

Lt. Col. ALBERT reported that the Hq of this Division was moving from ENNA to MESSINA on 8th November.

C

15 Nov 44

M.A. to C.O.C.

DISTRIBUTION:

MA to COC
2 i/c
G
AQ
Spec Sec

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

S/Sec

CREMONA RESTRICTED

C/2

Notes on C.C.Cs Conference with Lt. Col. WEBB-CARTER at ALTAVILLA on 9 Nov.

1. OFFICERS.

ACTION

S.W.R.E. to be told to produce an officer (Major) to command the Workshop in place of the present C.O. who is no good.

Col. SILVESTRI, C.O. 22 Inf. Regt. is said by Col WEBB-CARTER to be doubtful. (PRIMIERI defends him - he is new, so query as to getting rid of him). SILVESTRI was bad but a "rocket" shook him so that he is much better now, but still doubtful. Spec Sec

2. MEWR.

Staff Capt. MEWR (MERVEY) is not up to the job. Lt.Col. WEBB-CARTER would very much like Capt. GRAY at present commanding 65 M.A.A. Workshops (R.E.M.S.) now attached to the BLU, to be exchanged with MERVEY. In view of the maintenance problem, C.C.C. strongly approves.

British key personnel are required for the Italian Workshop to get it going. Once it is put on its feet, it may be able to keep going satisfactorily. Spec Sec

3. MANUALS, etc

Expedition is required in the translation of the Maintenance Manuals, especially 25 Pr. Italian Inspector R.A. to be pressed on this.

200 Range Tables Part I to be flown out from England for 25 Prs and 50 similar ones for 40 M. Q(AF) AFHQ were visited on 12 Nov by C.C.C. and promised this. Spec Sec

4. STATIONERY, etc

S.W.R.E. to be told to expedite the supply of stationery, caps, stars, flashes, etc. 4135 Spec Sec

5. MEDICAL.

S.W.R.E. to be told to produce medical non-expendable Stores. Spec Sec

6. CREMONA have been issued with twenty 3 tonners instead of ten 6 ton lorries. They therefore need 10 extra drivers. C.C.C. instructed Col. WEBB-CARTER to keep these extra 10 drivers out of his 5% surplus when he goes up to the line.

S.W.R.E. to try and get the 10 x 6 tonners instead of ... Spec Sec

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

Staff Capt. [redacted] (HENVEY) is not up to the job. Lt.Col. [redacted]-CARTER would very much like Capt. GRAY at present commanding 65 H.A.A. Workshops (R.E.M.E.) now attached to the BLU, to be exchanged with HENVEY. In view of the maintenance problem, G.O.C. strongly approves.

British key personnel are required for the Italian Workshop to get it going. Once it is put on its feet, it may be able to keep going satisfactorily.

Spec Sec

3. MANUALS, etc

Expedition is required in the translation of the Maintenance Manuals, especially 25 Pr. Italian Inspector R.A. to be pressed on this.

200 Range Tables Part I to be flown out from England for 25 Prs and 50 similar ones for 40 Mk. Q(AF) AFHQ were visited on 12 Nov by G.O.C. and promised this.

Spec Sec

4. STATIONERY, etc

S.M.N.K. to be told to expedite the supply of stationery, caps, stars, flashes, etc.

4135

Spec Sec

5. MEDICAL.

S.M.N.K. to be told to produce medical non-expendable Stores.

Spec Sec

6. [redacted] have been issued with twenty 3 tonners instead of ten 6 ton lorries. They therefore need 10 extra drivers. G.O.C. instructed Col. [redacted]-CARTER to keep these extra 10 drivers out of his 5% surplus when he goes up to the line.

M.M.I.A. to try and get the 10 - 6 tonners instead of the 20 - 3 tonners.

Spec Sec

15 Nov 44

Curtis Cleyton
M.A. to G.O.C.

DISTRIBUTION:
MA to GOC
2 i/c
G
AQ
Spec Sec

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785028

RESTRICTED

S/Lcn

FRIULI

G/2

Notes on C.L.C's. Conference with Lt. Col. SOUTHEY at [redacted] on 10 Nov.

ACTION

1. DRIVERS

Col. SOUTHEY now has 70 instructors from R.A.(Br) and hopes to get 280 drivers more or less trained this week and another 280 next week. If this happens the division should be able to move on 18th Nov. Col. SOUTHEY expects to have enough truck drivers by then. Spec Sec

2. OFFICERS

2 Bde Commanders have been asked, about 12 October, but have not gone yet.

S.H.A.E. to be told to produce forthwith replacements for these and other officers immediately. G11(L)

Lt. Col. SOUTHEY gave GOC a list of officers asked and for whom replacements are urgently needed.

3. LEAVE

Lt. Col. SOUTHEY estimates that 33% of the division may desert when they get north where their homes are. If transport is provided for those going on and returning from leave, this figure will probably be much reduced. AQ

4. CLOTHING

Penalties are not nearly severe enough to be effective to check the sale of underclothing by Italians. AQ 4132

5. MARIO PALERMO

PALERMO arrived at FRIULI, quite unannounced, at 1300 hours on 8 Nov (?) and asked to see the whole division. He went with Col. SOUTHEY to see one Regt., causing an interruption in their training, and gave them an harrangue. There was nothing objectionable in the speech, but after it he went about amongst the troops talking to them and told them he would take up the matter of Leave and Rations. Next day, 150 communists deserted.

It is possible that the former general of the Division PEDRETTI asked PALERMO to come and see them. G.O.C.

for these and other officers immediately.

Lt. Col. SOUTHEY gave GOC a list of officers sacked and for whom replacements are urgently needed. G3(D)

3. LEAVE

Lt. Col. SOUTHEY estimates that 33% of the division may desert when they get north where their homes are. If transport is provided for those going on and returning from leave, this figure will probably be much reduced. AQ

4. CLOTHING

Penalties are not nearly severe enough to be effective to check the sale of underclothing by Italians. AQ

4132

5. SANTO PALERMO

PALERMO arrived at FRIULI, quite unannounced, at 1330 hours on 8 Nov (?) and asked to see the whole division. He went with Col. SOUTHEY to see one Regt., causing an interruption in their training, and gave them an harrangue. There was nothing objectionable in the speech, but after it he went about amongst the troops talking to them and told them he would take up the matter of Leave and Rations. Next day, 150 communists deserted.

It is possible that the former general of the Division PEDRETTI asked PALERMO to come and see them. G.O.C.

15 Nov 44

DISTRIBUTION:
BA to COC
2 i/c
G
AQ
Spec Sec

Overleaf
B.A. to G.O.C.

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

10787

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

Subject:- Conferences.

Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
X519
15 Nov 44. 79/19

86a

CMO AFHQ (Attn Maj SAUNDERSON)
CMO AAI (" Maj WHITEHEAD)
Ord 13 AFHQ
Signal Officer 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55 BLU's.
Special Section MMIA.

15 Nov

Herewith copy of Minutes of Meeting of BLU Signal Officers held at HQ MMIA on 13 Nov 44, for your information and retention.

Captain,
for Major General,
M. M. I. A.

4121

86

Minutes of Meeting of PLU Signal Officers held at HQ META on 13 Nov 44.

Present: Major W. CALVELEY, R.Sigs. — Capt. R.J.M.GOOLD-ADAMS, R.Sigs.
Major A.J.HEAD, RACC. — Capt. J.G. DIXON, R.Sigs.
Capt. J.M.GREIG, R.Sign. — Capt. I.D.B.PILKINGTON, R.Sigs.
Capt. A.N.ALEXEEW, R.Sigs. — Capt. C.J. MASEY, R.Sigs.

SUBJECT	ACTION
1. The question was raised as to whether the Signal equipment for the Groups, as laid down in the Special Equipment Lists, was sufficient to cover the signal commitments in the field. Capt Alexeew stated that he thought it essential that each Arty Bd Sty should have two Switchboards UC 10 line. He also pointed out that amendments to the Special Equipment Lists had decreased the total number of Teleg DV within the Groups from 190 to 170. This latter number was in his opinion, insufficient. The matter was thoroughly discussed and it was agreed that although Groups could work efficiently with the equipment as at present, it did however leave little reserve of Swbds UC 10 and Teleg DV. It was agreed therefore to submit proposed amendments to the Spec. Equipment Lists to increase the total number of Swbds UC 10 held in the Groups to 23 and Teleg DV to 190. It was agreed that two UC 10's could be withdrawn from the eight held by the Genie Bn and that these, with the two asked for, would provide two exchanges per Arty Bd Sty.	HQ META to submit proposals.
2. Signal Officers were warned that they should make full use of all Italian signal equipment held.	
3. Major Calveley impressed upon Signal Officers the necessity for making out a Signal plan as early as possible in the training period.	
4. Major Calveley raised the question of deficiencies of personnel. Capt Grego stated that in Friuli Group the main deficiencies were in wireless operators for Arty. Major Calveley stated that no further personnel were available at present. Capt Alexeew stated that the personnel position in Cremona was satisfactory. Signal Officers stated that the training of Driver	41[illegible]

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

Capt Alexeev stated that he thought it essential that each Arty Bde should have two Switchboards UC 10 linc.

He also pointed out that amendments to the Special Equipment Lists had decreased the total number of Teles DV within the Groups from 190 to 170. This latter number was in his opinion, insufficient.

The matter was thoroughly discussed and it was agreed that although Groups could work efficiently with the equipment as at present, it did however leave little reserve of Swbds UC 10 and Teles DV.

It was agreed therefore to submit proposed amendments to the Spec. Equipment Lists to increase the total number of Swbds UC 10 held in the Groups to 23 and Teles DV to 190.

It was agreed that two UC 10's could be withdrawn from the eight held by the Genio Bn and that these, with the two asked for, would provide two exchanges per Arty Bde.

HQ MTIA to submit proposals.

7. Signal Officers were warned that they should make full use of all Italian signal equipment held.

8. Major Calveley impressed upon Signal Officers the necessity for making out a Signal plan as early as possible in the training period.

4. Major Calveley raised the question of deficiencies of personnel.

Capt Grepe stated that in Friuli Group the main deficiencies were in wireless operators for Arty. Major Calveley stated that no further personnel were available at present.

Capt Alexeev stated that the personnel position in Cremona was satisfactory.

Signal Officers stated that the training of Driver Mechanics was proving difficult, but was being carried out as well as possible.

Major Calveley stated that he would try to arrange attachment of two Dvr Mechs from Folgore to a REME workshops.

He confirmed that 1 Italian Officer and 1 NCO were being attached to Friuli and Cremona respectively to instruct in MT driving and maintenance.

Major Calveley

5. The question of the Italian Signal School was discussed.

Capt Gould-Adams stated that Legnano did not wish to accept any of the vacancies allotted on the Genio and Regimental courses commencing on 18 Nov.

Continued Sheet 2.

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

Minutes of Meeting of BLU Signal Officers held at HQ MMIA on 13 Nov 44 (Contd)

	SUBJECT	ACTION
5. (Contd)	It was agreed that Folgore would accept all vacancies on these courses, i.e. 40 Genio, 40 Inf Signallers and 40 Arty Signallers. Ministry of War will be informed accordingly	HQ MMIA to see Min of War who will issue necessary instructions.
6.	The question of communications between BLU's was discussed. (a) ELS is very poor between ROME and the BLU's and all Signal Officers were requested to investigate the matter.	All Signal Officers
	(b) It was agreed that 52 and 53 BLU's should join the wireless link operated between MMIA and 50 BLU. 52 BLU agreed to lend a No.9 set to 53 BLU for this purpose.	Signal Officers 52 and 53 BLU's.
	Major Calveley will arrange with AFHQ to supply cipher detachment to 53 BLU for this wireless link.	Major Calveley.
	(c) Telephone communication is poor between 52 and 53 BLU's. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of constructing a 70 lb cu. route between these BLU's.	Major Calveley.
7.	The question of stores was raised. Major Calveley stated:	
	(a) Rheostats for 4kw charging engines would be available for collection at Ord 13 AFHQ on 14 or 15 Nov.	BLU Signal Officers.
	(b) A limited number of measuring instruments had been obtained. These could be collected from CSO's Branch AFHQ, the scale per Group being, 2 Avominors, 2 Test Sets EE65F, and 1 Test Set I-56-J-1.	BLU Signal Officers.
	(c) Batteries, Secondary, 12v 22 AH were not available. Btys, sec, 12v 75 AH had, however, been issued.	
	(d) Tolos, Loudspeaking; Ladders, field tele; and Hydrometers, sec.cell, were not available. Min of War were to be approached as to the possibility of having Ladders, field tele, made locally.	HQ MMIA to see Min of War.
	(e) Ord 13 AFHQ had been approached about all N/A equipment and had stated that they would signal AAI, informing them of items which it was impossible to issue due to non-availability.	

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4153

6. The question of communications between BLU's was discussed.

(a) ELS is very poor between ROME and the BLU's and all Signal Officers were requested to investigate the matter. — All Signal Officers

(b) It was agreed that 52 and 53 BLU's should join the wireless link operated between MMIA and 50 BLU. — Signal Officers 52 and 53 BLU's.

52 BLU agreed to lend a No.9 set to 53 BLU for this purpose.

Major Calveley will arrange with AFHQ to supply cipher detachment to 53 BLU for this wireless link. — Major Calveley.

(c) Telephone communication is poor between 52 and 53 BLU's. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of constructing a 70 lb cu. route between these BLU's. — Major Calveley.

7. The question of stores was raised.

Major Calveley stated:

(a) Rheostats for 4Kw charging engines would be available for collection at Ord 13 AFHQ on 14 or 15 Nov. — BLU Signal Officers.

(b) A limited number of measuring instruments had been obtained. These could be collected from CSO's Branch AFHQ, the scale per Group being, 2 Avominors, 2 Test Sets ME65F, and 1 Test Set I-56-J-1. — BLU Signal Officers.

(c) Batteries, Secondary, 12v 22 AH were not available. Btys, sec, 12v 75 AH had, however, been issued.

(d) Teles. Loudspeaking; Ladders, field tele; and Hydrometers, sec.cell, were not available.

Min of War were to be approached as to the possibility of having Ladders, field tele, made locally. — HQ MMIA to see Min of War.

(e) Ord 13 AFHQ had been approached about all N/A equipment and had stated that they would signal AAI, informing them of items which it was impossible to issue due to non-availability.

(f) Major Calveley pointed out that items such as Pouches, lineman, and Chests, tool filled, IM and ES, should be obtained by indenting on Ordnance for components separately

The stores position for Friuli and Cremona Groups were, in the main, found to be satisfactory.

8. It was agreed that Friuli and Cremona would retain the Training Teams until these Groups leave the training area, when the teams would be passed over to Legnano and Folgore.

9. The next conference was arranged for 1430 hrs 25 Nov 44 at CSO's Branch, AFHQ.

4129

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

10792

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

SUBJECT:- Signal G 563.

Restricted

HQ CM Trg Centre
CMF
CMTC/41/G

11 Nov 44.

M.M.I.A.

Herewith copy of signal sent off on behalf of Col. PIDDLEY.

f. Brig.
Comd CM Trg Centre.

4128

10793

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

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No. 84

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: CENTRAC

Date/Time of Origin: 111010 A

Office Date Stamp.

For Action: AFHQ

TO

(W) For information (INFO)

Message Instructions — OR —

Originator's No. G 563 (.) restricted (.) from MMIA their ref LB II (.) General BROWNING proposes visiting General LEWIS and Brig NAPIER at 1030 on Sunday 12 Nov reference accommodation for Italian formations and supply of equipment for them

Copy to:- MMIA

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

Cypher

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

Priority

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS ORDERING OF PRIORITY: IMPORTANT 412

Time of Origin | Time Cleared | Up

TOR

10794

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

FROM: MAIA

TO : 64 GARRISON

SS 328

14/5014 A

RESTRICTED

For GELARDIG (.) Conference with representatives of EMT at 1000 hrs Friday 17 Nov at this HQ on Training of Groups and reinforcements (.) Request you attend if you can

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

10795

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

2a/11

81

SUBJECT: Postings, Officers.

Artillery Section,
Fifth Army.

GI/ER/12

O.C., 166 (Nfld) Field Regt R.A.

5 November, 1944.

T/Major E.R. CHADWYCK-HEALEY (46965).

1. The above officer has been selected for the appointment of G.S.O. II R.A., to 'E' British Liaison Unit. This B.L.U. serves an Italian Combat Group that is now forming.

2. Major CHADWYCK-HEALEY will be despatched at once, reporting to H.Q., M.M.I.A., ROME, for further details and onward routing. M.S. posting authority will be issued in due course.

For the Artillery Officer:

A.G. Bullock

Lt. Col. R.A.,
G.S.O. I R.A., Fifth Army.

Copy to:-
G - 1 (British).

Intimated to Rome 13 Nov.
Algiers & 60 BLU.
RATC
and 64 BLU by 25 Nov.

The WP

4120

10795

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

FROM: MMLA

TO : RA TRAINING TEAM (Italian Forces) 14 A

Rptd: 50, 51, 52, 53 MAUs

SS 323 RESTRICTED

For DEMIN (.) Conference on Training Groups and Reinforcements will be held this HQ 1000 hrs Friday 17 Nov with representatives IMT (.) Request you attend if you can

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

4124

File 79

Notes on Col. PIDSLEY'S Visit to Gruppi's 9th, 10th, 11th Nov 44.

ACTION

I. ORGANIZATION

(a) All Groups want S.M.R.E. to relieve them of surplus officers and men at once, and issue disposal orders. — S.S.

(b) MONTGOMERY Bn (LEGNAN) consists of 500 (for C.C. R.R.) plus 600 odd men awaiting disposal by S.M.R.E. — G(SC)

(c) Use of vehicles and retention of surplus personnel by S.M.R.E. is delaying readiness and hampering training. — S.S.

(d) 6 Sig Instrs from LEGNANO at MACERATA, required back at once. — S.C.R. Sigs

(e) FOLGORE HAVE 150 SURPLUS OFFICERS AND S.M.R.E. is taking away officers they wish to keep. — S.S.

(f) FRIULI have surplus and unsuitable officers, who must be removed by S.M.R.E. — S.S.

(g) Copies of W.E. (BR edition) required by all M.Us and L.Os. — S.S.

(h) Replacement for Italian workshops officer required by CREMONA. — S.S.

(i) Reinforcement Depot to be called "R.T.D. I.C.F." all to be informed. — S.S.

(j) Rfts. 450 gone to PICENO 7/8 NOV without any kit
70 gone to LEGNANO to 68 Regt.
800 to go to MANTOVA 119 Regt.

II TRAINING

(a) Training teams, equipment and ~~stores~~ stores to complete LEGNANO and FOLGORE urgently required. Pass to D.M.T. — S.S.

(b) Suggested MACERATA Signal Course to be 6 weeks instead of three. — S.C.R. Sigs 4125

(c) British ORs for admin training, driving, maintenance are required as for FRIULI and CREMONA. — S.S.

(d) Ord Clerks, B.O.M.O.s and Shore men required for FOLGORE, Transfer from FRIULI? — Maj HEAD

(e) Arty Range Tables. 25 per part I, 200 required and 60 required for 10 AFPU (WILLIAMSON) asked verbally to fly

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

(e) FULCRE HAVE 150 SURPLUS Officers AND S.M.R.E. is taking away officers they wish to keep. S.S.

(f) FRIULI have surplus and unsuitable officers, who must be removed by S.M.R.E. S.S.

(g) Copies of W.F. (BR edition) required by all BLOs and LOs. S.S.
(h) Replacement for Italian workshops officer required by CREMONA. S.S.

(i) Reinforcement Depot to be called "R.T.D. I.C.F." all to be informed. S.S.

(j) Rfts. 450 gone to FICENO 7/8 NOV without any kit
70 gone to LEGNANO to 68 Regt.
800 to go to MANTOVA 119 Regt.

II TRAINING

(a) Training teams, equipment and ~~stores~~ stores. to complete LEGNANO and FULGORE urgently required. Pass to D.M.T. S.S.

(b) Suggested MOGHERA Signal Course to be 6 weeks instead of three. 4125 S.C.R. Sigs

(c) British ORs for admin training, driving, maintenance are required as for FRIULI and CREMONA. S.S.

(d) Ord Clerks, R.C.M.O.s and Shore men required for FULGORE, Transfer from FRIULI? Maj HEAD

(e) Arty Range Tables. 25 pdr part 5, 200 required and 60 required for 40 ~~RA~~ AFHQ (MICHAELSON) asked verbally to fly from LONDON at once.

(f) "RTD.ICF". Plan of Basic and Special training for recruits to be considered at a conference with D&T etc. Col FIDSLER

III EQUIPMENT

(a) Shortage of 3" Mortars generally. S.S. to enquire numbers of 81 mortars and ammn available. S.S.

(b) Shortage of T.W.C.s. Take up with S.M.R.E. the possibility of using, numbers available, ammn etc of BIRETTAS. S.S.

(c) Future returns to be a copy of that ~~read~~ Read by AFHQ and not a special one for BMIA. SCAAaj HEAD

(d) FULGORE and LEGNANO unable to train for lack of equipment or march for lack of boots, therefore they are doing nothing and deteriorating. A/Q

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

III (e) Med equipment - Expendable and non-expendable stores require definition (Surgeons coats, hats, towels, etc) DADMS

(f) G.P.T. is being issued with 20 x 3 tonners instead of 10 x 6 tonners. This is unworkable as the 10 extra drivers are not available on W.E. Maj HQAD

(g) Denims or overalls - any allowance in HR Units Maj HQAD

(h) Carriers universal - modification to take mortars. AFHQ authority? Maj HQAD

(i) Scales required of 2nd line ammn and Petrol from AFHQ. Maj HQAD

(j) Three district G.S. 126/5 of 29/10 (attd) Does A/Q agree with para 3. A/Q

(k) 10,000 blankets en lieu from call-ups to be fetched by PRIMI from NAPLES and handed over to RED.1CF (TRANI) Neither BULCOTE nor LECHLADE need them. Maj HQAD

IV ACCOMMODATION

(a) 52 BDU (LECHLADE) wish to move nearest to MARGHERITA area and have obtained FBC agreement. They are reccying sites and will inform us of their recommendations. Suggest move in their own tpt in 3 turn rounds (9 days). S.O.(A)/Q

(b) Roads and Bridges in LECHLADE and BULCOTE areas require maintenance and repair. To be taken up again by S.O.(A). with 3 District. 41[illegible]

(c) MTD. I.C.F. is opening at TRANI on 15/11. AFHQ have ordered 3 Dist to provide tents, transport, blankets, clothing and personal equipt. So far 3 Dist have issued nothing. A/Q

V MISCELLANEOUS

(a) M.U (Distinguishing Signs) opinions as follows :-
1. PRIMI - ordinary Div Sign (or 3)
2. CHERONA. Div colours only (or 3)
3. LECHLADE. A Shield with Div Sign.
4. Don't mind, but don't like Red, White, Green.
Therefore, No. 3 wins.

(b) Leave to BARLETTA for 80 of LECHLADE. G.S.

(c) I.S. branch to be asked position re formation of 54 M.U. Required by 15 Nov. Also whether all CO's appointments have as yet been approved. I.S.

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

(i) 10,000 blankets on last from call-ups to be fetched by PRIMI from BARI and handed over to HTD.ICF (TRANI) Neither PULGNIK nor LEGNANO need them. — Ref HEAD

IV ACCOMODATION

(a) 52 SAU (LEGNANO) wish to move nearest to BRESCIAN area and have obtained VMS agreement. They are recying sites and will inform us of their recommendations. Suggest move in their own tpt in 3 turn rounds (9 days). — S.C.A.O./4

(b) Roads and Bridges in LEGNANO and PULGNIK areas require maintenance and repair. To be taken up again by C.R.E. with 3 District. — 412 C.R.E.

(c) HTD. I.C.F. is opening at TRANI on 15/11. AFHQ have ordered 3 Dist to provide tents, transport, blankets, clothing and personal equipt. So far 3 Dist have issued nothing. — A/G

V REMEMBRANCE

(a) SAU (Distinguishing Signs) opinions as follows :-
1. PRIMI - ordinary Div Sign (or 3)
2. CHIEVRA. Div colours only (or 3)
3. LEGNANO. A Shield with Div Sign.
4. Don't mind, but don't like Red, White, Green.
Therefore, No. 3 wins.

(b) Leave to SARDINIA for 80 of LEGNANO. — G...

(c) I.S. branch to be asked position re formation of 54 M.U. Required by 13 Nov. Also whether all CSO 1 appointments have as yet been approved. — S...

(d) Rations. Locally procured ~~cheese~~ items are being brought by lorry distances of 200-300 miles to save a few Italian Lire at the expense of allied petrol. — A/G

(e) S.M.R.E. to improve supply of hats, stationery, stars and badges. — S...

(f) Punishment for disposal of allied equipment, by replacement at cost price, is inadequate in view of prices attained in Black Market. — A/G

(g) Translation of Manuals. 25 lbs. Infy trng part VIII. Distribution generally to be taken up by S.E. — G...

(h) Position re M.A.A.F.I. Stores. — A/G

DISTRIBUTION

G.S.O. 1)Please see and pass to respective
A/Q)Services concerned.
Col. PIDSLEY
File (2)

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

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

FM: MMIA LO LEGNANO 101100

TO: HQ MMIA ROME

A515 RESTRICTED

CELARDI visits ROME Saturday PM (.) Discuss R T D ICF (.)
FW with FW sub-Commission (.) Collect Italian version A12
My A512 of 05 refers discuss details Italian welfare
scheme for obtaining information re families in newly liberated
areas my A14/22 of 2 Nov refers (.) Italian discipline

el:

10802

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

L

ROF V LRLC NR 41

FROM MMIA LO LEGNANO 11// 11

LROF V LRLC NR 41

FROM MMIA LO LEGNANO 101100

TO HQ MMIA ROME

GR -- BT

A515 (.) RESTRICTED. GELARDI VISITS ROME SATURDAY PM.

DISCUSS R T D ICF (.) PW WITH PW SUB COMMISSION (.) COLLECT

ITALIAN VERSION 412 MY A512 OF 05 REFERS DISCUSS DETAILS ITALIAN WELFARE

SCHEME FOR OBTAINING INFORMATION RE FAMILIES IN NEWLY LIBERATED AREAS

MY A14/22 OF 2 NOV REFERS (.) ITALIAN DISCIPLINE

BT

SENT NR 41 EJ 10-2310 AR THKS K

RECD NR 41 " SLW " 10/2310A (-B-)

0803

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

FM: [illegible]

TO: [illegible]

INFO: [illegible]

[illegible]

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

For Col [illegible] FROM [illegible] (.) C is C would like out and dried type outlines programs handed to him in triplicate on arrival at [illegible] (.) Please decide yourself exactly what he is to see when and where and for how long and NOT leave anything to his choice (.) This from [illegible] via [illegible] (.) Above probably only confirms arrangements you made in [illegible] ES 279 of 7 NOV (.) Can you phone through any details tonight so that VIP can study enroute to W

PREPARED BY [illegible]

AUTHENTICATED

Copy 8/Sec

4119

0904

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

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

8249 2/9

CALL	CIRCUIT No.	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
	NR		

SPACES WITHIN RED LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FORM (A) MAIN AAI

DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN 081930A

TO (FOR ACTION) AFHQ

TO (FOR INFORMATION) MMIA DAT

Message Instructions	GR
QVR 2	

(REF. No.) SD 1499

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION SECRET

C IN C PROPSES TO VISIT FRIULI AND CREMONA ~~IXI~~ ITALIAN COMBAT GROUPS 11 NOV. ARRIVE KILO STONE 269 N7077 NORTH WEST OF S GIORGIO 1115 HRS. DEPART BENEVENTO 1730 HRS. MMIA HAVE ARRANGED PROGRAMME. REQUEST DMT ATTENDS.

4115

DECIPHERED 090230A.RT

LOCAL DISTRIBUTION

PRECEDENCE: IMMEDIATE.

ORIGINATING SECTION:

A. G. AUTHENTICATION:

ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION:

THI OR TOR	Obs.
TIME CLEARED	

0305

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

S8 12a 19

FROM: MMIA

TO : 50 ELU 09 A

SS 295 SECURITY CLASSIFICATION _____

Reference your A294 of 8 Nov (.) Twelve Sandwiches

all ranks needed

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED _____

4117

File 73
27/19

VISIT OF H.R.H. The PRINCE of PIEDMONTE

to

CREMONA COMBAT GROUP

10th November 1944

TIME-TABLE, PROGRAMME and NOTES

Accompanying British Officers:

Major General L. BROWNING C.B., C.B.E., M.C.	- G.O.C., M.M.I.A.
Brigadier A.G. KENCHINGTON, C.B.E., M.C.	- DAT AFHQ
Colonel W. PIDSLEY D.S.O., M.C.	- Combat Section MMIA.
Lieut Col B. W. WEBSCARTER D.S.O.	- G.S.O. I 51 HLU

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

10th November 1944

TIME-TABLE, PROGRAMME and NOTES

Accompanying British Officers:

Major General L. BROWNING C.B., C.B.E., M.C.	- G.O.C., M.M.I.A.
Brigadier A.G. KENCHINGTON, C.B.E., M.C.	- DMT AFHQ
Colonel W. PIDSLEY D.S.O., M.C.	- Combat Section MMIA.
Lieut Col B. W. WEBSCARTER D.S.O.	- G.S.O. I 51 BLU

4116

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

PROGRAMME FOR VISIT

10 November 1944

1. 0900 - arr Road and Track junction MR 703637 (Avellino - Pratola road)

0901 - 0904 Meet Div Comd, Vice Comd, Col Webb Carter & Chief of Staff.

General : Clemente PRIMIERI. Commander. ex Chief of Staff 2nd Army (CROATIA-SLOVENIA).
Commander of CREMONA Division since 7 August 43 and whilst Division was in CORSICA.

Brigadier General: Giacomo ZANUSSI. Vice Comd. late attached to Chief of Staff Italian Army. Joined CREMONA 17 November 43

Colonel : Adelmo PEDRESANI. Chief of Staff. Ex Chief of Ops 4th Army. Late Supreme HQ. Ex Chief of Ops Army Group. Ex Comd 2nd Inf Regt in CROATIA. Deputy Chief of Staff 6th Army. Vice President Italian Mission attached C-in-C ALGIERS Ex Chief of Staff 7th Army Corps in SARDINIA.
Joined CREMONA Division 19 October 1944.

---

2. 0910 - Dep for PRATA
0915 - Arr at PRATA

0915 - 1000 Visit to 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Btys of 7 Arty Regt.

Colonel : Angelo OTTONE. C.O. Joined Div 1 September 44. Ex Comd 7 Arty of Army Corps. Has taken part in GREEK campaign & in the fighting against the Germans in CORSICA.

Captain : Giuseppe PLATTER. Adjutant Joined Regt 18 September 1944. Posted from Admin Centre Coast Arty of TERRACINA where he remained from 1st Aug 41 until 8 Sep 43. Took part in Greek campaign.

Lieut Col : Gino MARCANTE. C.O. 1st Bty Posted from 13th Arty Group. Army Corps. Joined Regt 15 June 44. Western Front.

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Army. Late Supreme H.Q. Ex Chief of Ops Army Group. Ex Comd 2nd Inf Regt in CROATIA. Deputy Chief of Staff 5th Army. Vice President Italian Mission attached C-in-C ALGIERS Ex Chief of Staff 7th Army Corps in SARDINIA.

Joined CREMONA Division 19 October 1944.

---

2. 0910 - Dep for PRATA
   0915 - Arr at PRATA

0915 - 1000 Visit to 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Btys of 7 Arty Regt.

Colonel : Angelo CITONE. C.O. Joined Div 1 September 44. Ex Comd 7 Arty of Army Corps. Has taken part in GREEK campaign & in the fighting against the Germans in CORSICA.

Captain : Giuseppe PLATTER. Adjutant Joined Regt 18 September 1944. Posted from Admin Centre Coast Arty of TERRACINA where he remained from 1st Aug 41 until 8 Sep 43. Took part in Greek campaign.

Lieut Col : Gino MARCANTE. C.O. 1st Bty Posted from 13th Arty Group. Army Corps. Joined Regt 15 June 44. Western Front. Eastern Front from 5th to 19th April 41.

Lieut Col : Mario DE FLORENTIS. C.O. 2nd Bty. Joined Regt 28 Aug 44. Comd 4th Arty Bty of 1st Arty Regt "CACCIATORI delle ALPI" from 8 Sep 43.

Major : Enrico BENVENUTI. C.O. 3rd Bty. Joined Regt 2nd Aug 41. Took part in fighting against the Germans in CORSICA.

contd/sheet 2

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

Major : Enrico CECCHINI. O.C. 4th Bty Joined Regt June 43. Has taken part in the fighting on the Alpine Sector of the Western Front and in the battle against the Germans in CORSICA.

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3. 1000 - Leave for PRATA
1010 - Arr at PRATA
1010 - 1020 Visit to 84 FD HOSPITAL.

Captain : Virgilio GRONCHI. O.C. Has been with the FD Hospital since 9 Sep 41. Has expressed a desire for a compassionate posting.

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4. 1020 - Leave for TUFO station
1030 - Arr at TUFO
1030 - 1055 Visit to 5th & 6th Btys 7 Arty Regt.

Major : Ernesto CHIARIZIA. O.C. 5th Bty Joined Regt 3 Oct 40. Posted from 10th Arty. Army Corps.

Major : Leonardo DE MICHELE. O.C. 6th Bty. Joined Regt 1 Sep 44. Ex 563 Arty Regt "GRANATIERI"

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5. 1055 - Leave for ALTAVILLA station
1100 - Arr at ALTAVILLA Station
1100 - 1110 Visit 44th Signal Coy

Captain : Renato COLZI. O.C. Western Front, June & July 1940. CORSICA 11 Nov 42 to October 43.

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6. 1110 - 1120 Visit CRD FD PARK

Captain : Dario GARROLA. O.C. Joined Div 1 Sep 44. Ex 48 Coast Regt.

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7. 1120 - Leave for ALTAVILLA
1130 - Arr at ALTAVILLA
1130 - 1145 Visit to Div Hq Presentation of Officers

Lieut Col : Alfredo SANNI. Chief of Personnel & Secretarial Branch. Joined Div 2 Oct 44. Ex Partisan Forces; Banda TRIONFALE CORSICAN campaign.

411

Captain : Domenico MIRIGELLI. Ops Branch. With Div since 1935. Service with Div interrupted for courses at the School of War 1941, 42 & 43. Western Front. CORSICA.

Captain : Luigi ZANE. Services Branch. Joined Div June 43. YUGO SLAV Front NORTH AFRICA. CORSICA.

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

				Joined Regt 3 Oct 40. Posted from 10th Arty, Army Corps.
			Major :	Leonardo DE MICHELE. O.C. 6th Bty. Joined Regt 1 Sep 44. Ex 553 Arty Regt "GRANATIERI"
5.	1055 -	Leave for ALTAVILLA station		
	1100 -	Arr at ALTAVILLA Station		
	1100 - 1110	Visit 44th Signal Coy	Captain :	Renato COLZI. O.C. Western Front, June & July 1940. CORSICA 11 Nov 42 to October 43.
6.	1110 - 1120	Visit CMD FD PARK	Captain :	Dario CARROLA. O.C. Joined Div 1 Sep 44. Ex 48 Coast Regt.
7.	1120 -	Leave for ALTAVILLA		
	1130 -	Arr at ALTAVILLA		
	1130 - 1145	Visit to Div HQ Presentation of Officers	Lieut Col :	Alfredo SANZI. Chief of Personnel & Secretarial Branch. Joined Div 2 Oct 44. Ex Partisan Forces; Banda TRIONFALE. CORSICAN campaign.
			Captain :	Domenico MIRIGHELLI. Ops Branch. With Div since 1938. Service with Div interrupted for courses at the School of War 1941, 42 & 43. Western Front. CORSICA.
			Captain :	Luigi ZANE. Services Branch. Joined Div June 43. YUGO SLAV Front NORTH AFRICA. CORSICA.
			Captain :	Mario ZUCCHI. Ops Branch. Joined Div 2 June 42. Ex 7th Machine Gun Bn, Army Corps. YUGO SLAV Front. CORSICA.
			Captain :	Giovanni CARTA. M.T. Office. With Div since March 43; interrupted for short period. CORSICAN Campaign.
			Major :	Venosta VISCONTI. Interpreter's Branch. Joined Div 5 Oct 44. Ex Ministry of War.

Contd/ Sheet 3

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

Major : ERNESTO PITTARI. Medical Office. Joined Div Dec 40. Ex Mil Hospital Florence. CORSICAN Campaign.

Major : Luigi LIBERTINI. Supply Office. Joined Div 2 Oct 44. Ex Tpt Delegation S.M.R.E.

Captain : Raffaello GRASSINI. Camp Commandant. Joined Div Dec 40. CORSICAN Campaign.

Lieut : Giuseppe DESANTO. O.C. 94 Section Carabinieri. Ex 7th Army Corps CORSICAN Campaign.

Lieut : Luigi ANDREUZZI. O.C. 759 Section Carabinieri. Joined Div 15 Sep 44 Ex BARI Div.

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8. 1235 - Leave for BAGNARA Xrords MR 657726

1235 - ARR BAGNARA

1255 - 1310 Visit 22nd Inf Regt. Inspect Parade.

Colonel : Emilio SILVESTRI. C.O. Joined Regt 29 Sep 44. Ex Patriot Forces (Comd Patriot Group) de ROHDEN 2 i/c

Lieut Col : Joined Regt 17 Sep 44. Ex Rome Garrison. Took part in Greek Campaign.

Major : Lionello GHERCIA. Adjutant. Joined Regt 7 Sep 44. Ex Armd Car Regt. SARDINIA.

Major : Salvatore LIGUORI. O.C. 1st Bn. Joined Regt 13 Sep 39. Ex ELVA Engr Bn. Took part in fighting against Germans in CORSICA.

Major : ALBERTO BONGIOVANNI. O.C. 2nd Bn. Joined Regt 2 Nov 44. Ex "LEGNANO" Grenadiers. Has taken part in fighting against Germans in CORSICA and ITALY.

Lieut Col : Giulio CARLINI O.C. 3rd Bn. Joined Regt 20 Sep 44. Ex 53rd Inf Regt. Taken part in fighting against Germans in CORSICA.

Captain : Arvedo MOSCATELLI. O.C. Mortar Coy. Joined Regt 18 Oct 44. Ex Nucleo Presidio di Foligno. North AFRICA.

Lieut : Gioigio LA MOVERE. C/C A/Tk Coy. Joined Regt 28 Sep 44. Ex C. M.E.S.A. Greek-Albania Front.

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9. 1310 - Leave for CHIANCHE

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

Inspect Parade.

Colonel : Emilio SILVESTRI. O.C. Joined Regt 29 Sep 44. Ex Patriot Forces (Comd Patriot Group)

Lieut Col : de RONDEN 2 i/c Joined Regt 17 Sep 44. Ex Rome Garrison. Took part in Greek Campaign.

Major : Lionello GHERCIA. Adjutant. Joined Regt 7 Sep 44. Ex Armd Car Regt. SARDINIA.

Major : Salvatore LIGUORI. O.C. 1st Bn. Joined Regt 15 Sep 39. Ex ELVA Engr Bn. Took part in fighting against Germans in CORSICA.

Major : ALBERTO BONGIOVANNI. O.C. 2nd Bn. Joined Regt 2 Nov 44. Ex "LEGNANO" Grenadiers. Has taken part in fighting against Germans in CORSICA and ITALY.

Lieut Col : Giulio CARLINI O.C. 3rd Bn. Joined Regt 20 Sep 44. Ex 53rd Inf Regt. Taken part in fighting against Germans in CORSICA.

Captain : Arvedo MOSCATELLI. O.C. Mortar Coy. Joined Regt 16 Oct 44. Ex Nucleo Presidio di Foligno. North AFRICA.

Lieut : Giciglio LA NOVERE. O/C A/Tk Coy. Joined Regt 28 Sep 44. Ex C. E.R.S.A. Greek-Albanian Front.

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9. 1310 - Leave for CHIANCHE (Bridging Site) (MR 651724)

4115

1315 - Arr at CHIANCHE Bridging Site

1315 - 1350 Inspect ENGR FD COYS

Major : Franco PODESTA. O.C. Ex C.O. 21st Engr. Bn., Army Corps in AFRICA (SIDI BARRANI-AGHEILA) Ex 501 Sapper Bn att Brit 8 Army from 20 Sep 43 to end of Sep 44 Took part in the May offensive with Italian Corps of Liberation

2/Lt. : Emilio PENNARI. Adjutant. CORSICA 2 Dec 42 until Oct 45.

Captain : Attilio ZUNINO. O.C. 77 Engr Coy Joined Coy Nov 1939. CORSICA 2 Dec 42 to 28 Oct 43.

Lieut : Vittorio SALERNO. O.C. 29th Engr Coy. Joined Coy 15 Sep 44.

Contd/ Sheet 4

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

10. 1350 - Leave for BAGNARA Xroads
1355 - Arr at BAGNARA Xroads
1355 - 1410 March Past of 22nd Inf Regt.

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11. 1410 - Leave for PETRURO (MR 670701)
1425 - Arr at PETRURO
1425 - 1530 Inspection of 21st Inf Regt. at training between PETRURO and TORRIONI.

Colonel : Ettore MUSCO. C.O.
Joined Regt 18 Sep 44. Ex Patriot Front (Banda Sprovieri). CROATIA Front as Chief of Staff "RE" Div from July 43.

Lieut Col : Dino SCOTTI. 2 i/c.
Joined Regt 25 Nov 37. Took part in fighting on Alpine Sector of Western Front and in fighting against Germans in CORSICA.

Major : Michele LOSITO. Adjutant.
Joined Regt 5 Oct 44. Ex SIENA Took part in fighting on Western Front and in North AFRICA.

Lieut Col : Piero CARLINI. C.O. 1st Bn.
Joined Regt 2 Nov 44. Ex CALABRIA Div in SARDINIA where he was Chief of Staff. CORSICAN campaign

Lieut Col : Aldo CATALANI. C.O. 2nd Bn.
Joined Regt 25 Oct 44. Ex "GRANATIERI" Div where he was Chief of Staff. Western Front, ALBANIA and CORSICA.

Major : Luigi LANDOLFI. C.O. 3rd Bn.
Joined Regt 19 Aug 44. Ex "SIENA" Div. Ex P.O.W. North African Campaign.

Captain : Mario MOSCHERA. C.C. Mortar Coy.
Joined Regt 1 Sep 39. Western Front and CORSICA.

Captain : Renzo DELL'OMO. C.C. A/Tk. Coy.
Joined Regt 18 Sep 44. Ex 321 Inf Regt. Western Front and CORSICA.

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12. 1530 - Leave for CAPRIGLIA (MR 658619)
1550 - Arr at CAPRIGLIA
1550 - 1600 Inspect Transport Coy.

Captain ; Mario ROMANELLI. C.C.
Joined Div 1 Nov 44. Ex HQ 7th Army Corps. Western Front and CORSICA.

Lieut : Giorgio BOLOGNINI 411 1st Pl.
Joined Div Feb 40. CORSICA

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

Took part in fighting on Western Front and in North AFRICA.

Lieut Col : Piero CARLINI. O.C. 1st Bn. Joined Regt 2 Nov 44. Ex CALABRIA Div in SARDINIA where he was Chief of Staff. CORSICAN campaign

Lieut Col : Aldo CATALANI. O.C. 2nd Bn. Joined Regt 26 Oct 44. Ex "GRANATIERI" Div where he was Chief of Staff. Western Front, ALBANIA and CORSICA.

Major : Luigi LANDOLFI. O.C. 3rd Bn. Joined Regt 19 Aug 44. Ex "SIENA" Div. Ex P.O.W. North African Campaign.

Captain : Mario MOSCHERA. O.C. Mortar Coy. Joined Regt 1 Sep 39. Western Front and CORSICA.

Captain : Renzo DELL'OMO. O.C. A/Tk. Coy. Joined Regt 16 Sep 44. Ex 3Bl Inf Regt. Western Front and CORSICA.

---

12. 1550 - Leave for CAPRIOLIA (AR 653619)

1550 - Arr at CAPRIOLIA

1550 - 1600 Inspect Transport Coy.

Captain : Mario ROMANELLI. O.C. Joined Div 1 Nov 44. Ex HQ 7th Army Corps. Western Front and CORSICA.

Lieut : Giorgio BOLOGNINI 411 1st Fl. Joined Div Feb 40. CORSICA

Lieut : FERDINANDO VITTONE. O.C. 2nd Fl. Joined Div Jan 41. CORSICA.

2/Lieut : Carlo MAIONE. O.C. 3rd Fl. Joined Div 7 Oct 44. Ex 10th Engr Regt. CORSICA.

Captain : Michele RONCAGLIA. O.C. 1st Fl (Misto) Joined Div Nov 41. Western Front and CORSICA.

Captain : GIOVANNI CAZZULLO. O.C. 2nd Fl (Misto) Joined Div Dec 40. CORSICA.

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

OFFICERS 51 HDU

G.S.O. 1	Lt. Col.	B.M. WEBB - CARTER	D.S.O. Duke of Wellington's Regt.
G.S.O. 2	Major	L. MACRAE	The Black Watch
D.A.Q.M.G.	Major	R.W. HATCH	E. Lancashire Regt.
S.O.R.A.	Major	J. B. SLATER	R. A.
S.O.R.E.	Captain	J. F. COOKE	R. E.
G.O.R. Sigs	Captain	A. N. ALEXEEW	R. Sigs
D.A.D.S.T.	Captain	H. C. PALMER	R.A.S.C.
D.A.D.O.S.	Major	K. G. MACKENZIE	R.A.O.C.
S.C.R.E.M.E.	Captain	R. F. W. HARVEY	R.E.M.E.
MGIA IO	Major	P. M. EDERTON	Royal Irish Fus.

4111

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10817

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

72

MESSAGE FORM

FROM : MMIA 97 A

TO : (1) AFHQ (2) AAI (3) 50 BLU (4) 51 BLU (5) 52 BLU (6) 53 BLU (7) 54 BLU

(Info): Spec Sec ——

X080 SECRET

(1) For Sanderson (2) For Whitbread (3)-(7) for Sigs (.) Owing to visit of C in C. conference of Signal officers at HQ MMIA on 11 Nov is cancelled (.) Conference will take place at HQ MMIA at 1430 hrs 13 Nov (.) All informed

1 Nov

PRECEDENCE - IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED 411 U

0816

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

Tue 11

50/19
or 1040

FROM: MMIA

TO : 50, 51 BLU

Info: DMT
ADNAB
AAI

SE 279

SECRET

C in C proposes visiting FRIULI and CREMONA Groups
Saturday eleventh November to see training and meet
Unit Comdrs (.) Arrange pro ramme on lines discussed
and within following times (.) Arrive 1115 hrs 269 km
stone M7077 NW of S. GIORGIO inspect FRIULI until 1315 (.)
Arrive 1430 hrs Rd Junction N6368 north of ALTAVILLA
inspect CREMONA until 1630 (.) General BROWNING and Br
KENSINGTON are attending (.) BLUS to prepare written time
tables with names of Comdrs for C in C (.) Will 50 BLU
please arrange sandwiches for 1315 (.) AOK

4109

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATED

10819

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

Visit of General ALEXANDER.

Suggested Programme and Timetable.

0845 hrs. R.V. 269 Kilometre stone VIA ASTIA.
GOC. SICILY II, Corps 1 (PRIMI) GP Corps HQ and G.S.O. 1
30 M.T.M. to meet.

0850. Arr. 728780 (1½ miles).

0850 - 0855. Meet Regt Cmdrs 35 Arty, 67 and 68 Inf Regts.

0855 - 0915. Inspect elements of Div on parade as follows :
(i) 3 Cy (25 pdr) 35 Arty Regt with guns - vehicles.
(ii) 70 Bties 5 Cy (17 pdr) 35 Arty Regt with guns - vehicles.
(iii) 12 Bties 6 Cy (40 mm) 35 Arty Regt with guns - vehicles.

(iv) 1 Bn 67 Inf Regt.
(v) 3 (Green) Bn 68 Inf Regt.
(vi) One 3" Mortar Pl H.Q. Coy. 67 Regt.
(vii) Det. Recovery Sec. Mechanical Engineers Workshops.

0915 - 0925. Meet Heads of Depts from Div H.Q. and In and equivalent Cmds.

0925 - 0930. Meet Officers of R.A.F. and Training Increment.

0930 - 1045. Inspect training as desired.
(a) Six " continuous events " will be taking place in the immediate vicinity.
(i) One Coy I/67. Adv handling of weapons, individual movement with and without arms. Field signals and sec formations. 4138
(ii) One Coy III/68. Judging distance, indication of targets. Fire orders.
(iii) One Coy I/67. Range Practice : T.M.G.
(iv) One Coy III/68. Range Practice : Rifle.
(v) One Coy III/68. Range Practice : L.M.G.
(vi) One Coy I/67. Range Practice : 2" Mortar (live ammo) and PIAT (inert bombs).

(b) The following may be ordered " into action " as the Inspecting Officers wish :
(i) To 17 pdr. : Demonstration " ACTION " and gun drill only.
(ii) To 40 mm. : Deployment, communication and " ACTION " : space available. Can all be watched from a central spot.
(iii) To 25 pdr. : Engagement of a target with live ammo.
(iv) Pl 3" Mortar. Engagement of a target with live ammo.
(v) Det Rec Sec Mech Eng Workshops : Practical unditching and recovery.

1045. Depart.

10820

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

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Small) MESSAGE FORM Register No. 741

Srl. No. | Priority | Transmission Instructions

CIPHER SECRET

SID. 3769

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: 50 BLL | Date-Time of Origin: 030945A | OFFICE DATE STAMP

For Action: MMIA

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions | OR

Originator's No. G245

SECRET 0 Following offrs dept for visit to 2 Army today as indicated 0 Maj 0 GIANNUZZI NICOLO U.S. Major 0 ULTRERA SEBASTIANO Capt 0 CANTONNET ENRICO 2nd Lt 0 Capt CARRARA IDALGO Capt 0 2nd Lieut BARBUCCI SILVANO Sgt 0 2nd Lieut MICHELOZZI NILO Engineer 0 Should report Major TEACHER Operations Corps 0 HQ NAVY

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT IN CIPHER 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 DEGREES OF PRIORITY

Time filed or TOR: 031145A | Time cleared | Sig. 4107

SIGNED Should have been 3rd

SIGNED ADCP

NOTES ON C.O.C's VISIT TO FRIULI DIVISION ON 28 OCT 44.

68

1. 300 pairs of Fliers are urgently needed.

2. British Artillery Methods. Inspector of Artillery at S.A.A.F. to be given instructions.

3. Drivers. By 11 November this Division will be 100 carrier and 150-200 or more wheel drivers short. (They will be there but untrained). In addition to the 30 instructors coming tomorrow they need another 30 at once to cope with the instruction of wheel transport drivers. G.O.C. to ask for 100 by end of next week.

Examine the possibility of getting drivers from PICENO and MANTOVA Divisions.

Lt. Col. SOUTHEY to ask C.M.F.C. if they could house and feed 100 instructors.

OXILIA to be asked if he has combed Italian Army for wheel and truck drivers.

4. Maintenance

(a) Lt. Col. SOUTHEY to insist on motor maintenance being done. He said that there is no officer in these units who knows what maintenance should be done, and the lack of maintenance is due to ignorance rather than slackness.

G.O.C. to ask for 1 officer and 6 O.Rs to be attached from the 4 officers and 23 O.Rs now attached to each of the 4 Italian R.A.S.C. T.D. Companies - 4 officers and 24 ORs.

(b) 8 - 12 R.H.A. British O.Rs wanted for maintenance of guns, wireless etc. A.F.H.Q. has been asked but nothing has come. 6 weeks attachment to be asked for.

Col Pickering
Major Tuby acts as Jr.

5. Jeeps wanted for Training Increment. They use the Gruppi's transport now.

4130

L.B.
30 Oct.

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

10821

and feed 100 instructors.

GHILIA to be asked if he has combed Italian Army for wheel and truck drivers.

4. Maintenance

(a) Lt. Col. SOUTHEY to insist on motor maintenance being done. He said that there is no officer in these units who knows what maintenance should be done, and the lack of maintenance is due to ignorance rather than slackness.

G.O.C. to ask for 1 officer and 6 O.Rs to be attached from the 4 officers and 23 O.Rs now attached to each of the 4 Italian R.A.S.C. T.D. Companies - 4 officers and 24 ORs.

(b) 8 - 12 R.E.M.E. British O.Rs wanted for maintenance of guns, wireless etc. A.F.H.Q. has been asked but nothing has come. 6 weeks attachment to be asked for.

Col Pidsley Major Lathy motor a Div Sit

5. Jeeps wanted for Training Increment. They use the Group's transport now.

4100

L.B. 30 Oct

two.

Maj Dobbs.
Col Pidsley says leave this alone as they are sure to have asked Brig Kench.

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FROM HQ USAFE

TO 50, 51, 52, 53 BLUS

AS 268

04 1515Z 29/19

CONFIDENTIAL

Owing to roads being impassable following will be revised programme Col PIDSLEY'S visit (.) FIRST (.) Wednesday eighth (.) Meet 52 BLU at officers mess 1300 hrs MEIA LO to be present (.) Meet 53 BLU 1700 hrs at BLU HQ (.) SECOND (.) Thursday ninth (.) Leave 53 BLU 0900 hrs meet 50 BLU 1130 at BLU HQ (.) Meet 51 BLU 1730 at BLU HQ (.) Thereafter as per my AS 259 dated third added 51 BLU only.

PRECEDENCE Immediate

AUTHENTICATED [illegible]

Copy to Col Pidsley's File.

4104

10824

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

FROM: MMIA

TO : 51 MAU

SS 259

OS/1054 A

RESTRICTED

Your A12 of 1 Nov (.) Visitors on 10 Nov will arrive from South passing cross roads AVELLINO M6657 at 930 hrs depart same way (.) Send programme and aide memoire here by 7 Nov (.) Gen BROWNING, ADC and Col FIDSLEY with two drivers ~~cars~~ arrive afternoon 9 Nov depart immediately after inspection (.) Arrange modified programme in case heavy rain

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED [signature] Major

4104

10825

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

(P) 41/3 62 65

6578

LEGT V LMLC NR 27 IMPORTANT

FROM LIMA LO LEGMARO 031103

TO HQ LIMA ROME

GEN GEN--- ET

SDSO(.) RESTRICTED. FOR SO(.) REF SSO/S OF 02 AND DO/1 OF 01 (.)

CONFIRM SELARDI NEETS FINLEY MONDAY NOT SUNDAY

ET

SENT NR 27 EJ 03/1472 32 K

RLCD NR 27 03/1443A GH B XX AA K

ACT. A. See
INFREF Seq 19.
DATE FILED 3/11

Dsm

4103

Wt. 9533/63723P 490M (Pads of 100) 5/43 MP 218425 51-6236

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Large) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No. 2404

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
[redacted]			CIPHER SECTION

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM (A) 51 BLU — Originator — Date-Time of Origin. 021200A — Office Date Stamp

For Action. MMIA

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions. GR

Originator's No. A2/1 CONFIDENTIAL

Reference General

BROWNING'S verbal instructions during visit 29th Oct to return surplus personnel reinforcement regt ALIFE ⊙ SHAE Signal 845/MOB 3 27th Oct states Ord ⊙ NO room at depot for any more reinforcements ⊙

Two ⊙ personnel already at depot awaiting operations to be returned to divisions to ease accommodation problem ⊙

Our reactions are,

1 ⊙ DO NOT get NOT want any more reinforcements here because accommodation question already acute and clothes problem bound to arise ⊙

2 ⊙ Considers essential to get unit strengths down to WE with minimum delay ⊙

3 ⊙ To get still more reinforcements from depot will confuse units trying to organise personnel in accordance with

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

des Duclos 8/11

Originator's No

A 2/1 CONFIDENTIAL

Reference General

BROWNING'S verbal instructions during visit 29th Oct to return surplus personnel reinforcement recd ALIFE ⊙ S HRE Signal 845 MOB 27th Oct states

One ⊙ NO room at depot for any more reinforcements ⊙

Two ⊙ Personnel already at depot 1104. precautions to be returned to divisions to ease accommodation problem ⊙

Our reactions are,

1 ⊙ DO NOT apt NOT want any more reinforcements here because accomodation question already acute and clothes problem bound to arise ⊙

2 ⊙ Consider essential to get unit strengths down to WE with minimum delay ⊙

3 ⊙ To get still more reinforcements from depot will confuse units trying to organise personnel in accordance with WE ⊙ We suggest

1 ⊙ NO apt NO further reinforcements from depot ⊙

2 ⊙ men at present with units and surplus to WE pooled as Reinforcement Coy and held attached strength of units in readiness for despatching to depot as soon as that unit can take them ⊙

3 ⊙ then so retained NOT apt NOT to be reequipped by (?) ⊙ Greatful your comments

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any Com d WIRELESS except

Signed

If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER.

Signed. RD Cpl.

Originator's instructions. Degree of Priority.

IMMEDIATE

Time	System	Ch.
THI or TOR		
0-2100A		
Time Cleared		

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0828

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

5380 62.

3/3

LROF V LREC NR 41 IMPORTANT

FROM MILA LEGNANO 021153Z

TO MILA ROMA

GRX GR19

EEE. RESTRICTED. FOR FIDDLEY. AM STILL AT PIEDEMONTE.

REQUEST ETA YOUR VISIT THIS WEEK END

ET 021210

SENT NR 41 2273 KWJP B K

RD NR 41 2218 F A BB

Done WP

4101

0829

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

C

29/19

FROM MMIA

TO 52, 53 SLU, 64 Garrison

SS 256

02 1630 A

RESTRICTED

Col PIDSLEY will visit 52 SLU from 1400 - 1600 on 5 NOV and 53 SLU from 1700 5 NOV to 0900 6 NOV (.) Col PIDSLEY will meet Maj GELARDI at T.C. Post VAIRANO at 1100 6 NOV

Re June SWS TEAND.

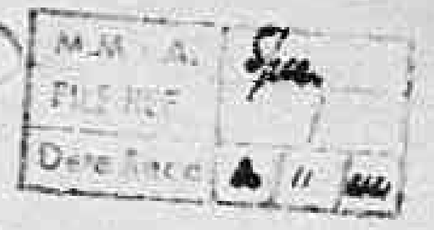
PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED W P Didsley

Gelardi.

4100

29/19



61

Subject :- Visit of DAA & QMG to Q(AE) AFHQ.

51 British Liaison Unit.

To :- see below

The following points which arose during a visit by the DAA & QMG to Q(AE) AFHQ on 27 Oct 44 are circulated for infm and action where necessary.

	Subject	Action by
1. CLOTHING.	Ref Bi-Weekly Controlled Stores Sitrep. It was requested that a note be added shewing how the drawing of clothing and necessaries and other uncontrolled stores is proceeding - this should incl mention of any large quantity of items not available.	DADOS
2. ARTY EQPT.	Q(AE) asked that the following infm also be added to the next Controlled Stores Sitrep. (a) Type of fire control issued for use with 40 mm. (b) Have 6prs all been issued c/r muzzle brakes.	DADOS
3. GENERALS CAR	A car 4 seater 4 x 4 is to be released for General PRIMIERI.	Chief of Staff
4. MACHINERY LORRIES.	Machinery lorries Type D1 F & Z are not available. At least 1 RASC Workshop lorry will be issued in lieu. NOTE MMIA state that an Italian Machinery lorry is to be provided in lieu of the 'Z' lorry.	Chief of Staff DADOS SO R Sigs SC REME
5. BREAKDOWNS.	4 x 3 ton Breakdowns will be issued shortly. After that there are no more available but we can have 2 'Macks' in lieu.	DADOS SC REME
6. TRACTORS FA	Tractors FA are not available so Tractors LAA in lieu are to be issued to complete scale.	G II RA DADOS
7. CARRIERS.	If there is any difficulty in arranging Rail tpt for the 52 carriers coming from the East Coast AFHQ will try to arrange release from PORTICI.	3 Dist DADOS
8. VEHS.	A further release of vehs is being made 28 Oct. Numbers and types were not fixed at the time of this visit but would be considerably less than the first batch of 300	3 Dist DADOS
9. WATER	Trucks 15 cwt 4 x 2 Water are in very short	DADOS

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785020

7093

[illegible] of any large quantity of items not available.

2. ARTY EQPT.

Q(AE) asked that the following infm also be added to the next Controlled Stores Sitrep. — DADOS
(a) Type of fire control issued for use with 40 mm.
(b) Have 6prs all been issued c/r muzzle brakes.

3. GENERALS CAR — A car 4 seater 4 x 4 is to be released for General PRIMIERI. — Chief of Staff

4. MACHINERY LORRIES. — Machinery lorries Type D1 F & Z are not available. At least 1 RASC Workshop lorry will be issued in lieu. — Chief of Staff, DADOS
NOTE MMIA state that an Italian Machinery lorry is to be provided in lieu of the 'Z' lorry. — SO R Sigs, SC REME

5. BREAKDOWNS. — 4 x 3 ton Breakdowns will be issued shortly. After that there are no more available but we can have 2 'Macks' in lieu. — DADOS, SC REME

6. TRACTORS FA — Tractors FA are not available so Tractors LAA in lieu are to be issued to complete scale. — G II RA, DADOS

7. CARRIERS. — If there is any difficulty in arranging Rail tpt for the 52 carriers coming from the East Coast AFHQ will try to arrange release from PORTICI. — 3 Dist, DADOS

8. VEHS. — A further release of vehs is being made 28 Oct. Numbers and types were not fixed at the time of this visit but would be considerably less than the first batch of 300 — 3 Dist, DADOS

9. WATER TRUCKS. — Trucks 15 cwt 4 x 2 Water are in very short supply but the 3 ton type are for the moment plentiful. Allowing for the 5 x 3 ton 4 x 2 Water already released the div requires 13 to complete W.E. I stressed the need for the smaller vehs at least for inf bns and arty and it was therefore arranged that the balance should be made up by
9 x 15 cwt
2 x 3 ton
In the event of difficulty in distribution of water due to shortage of vehs as against capacity AFHQ are prepared to consider releasing more 3 tonners — DADOS

..... to sheet 2.

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	Subject	Action by
10. MDs	Although plenty of these are at present available it was agreed NOT to draw to full scale yet as there was NO immediate need for large numbers and the load carrying tpt was needed for other stores. The aim is to collect some MDs concurrently with the drawing of new vehs and to leave the balance until the bulk of other stores are in.	DADOS

R Hotblack

Major
DAA & QMG

Field.
10 Oct 44
RWH/FTM.

Distribution :-

3 Dist (2)
HQ MMLA
Chief of Staff
G
RA
RE
R Sigs
ST
Ord
REME
Filo
War Diary (3)

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

10833

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

SECRET

SUBJECT:- Inspections - Italian Army

29/10/44.

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY
Tele:- FILFOT 75
2004/40/G(Trg)
27 Oct 44

MMA /
---

1. Copy of a report by Capt FLEMMAN of the Unit Maintenance Inspectorate on MT maintenance of the FRIULI Group is forwarded for info and necessary action.

MMIA
FILE REF 3/Sec 1
Date Recd 31/10

4095

~Lieutenant-General,
Chief of General Staff.

10834

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

SECRET

SUBJECT: Inspections - Italian Army

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

Tele:- FILPOT 75

200.4/1.0/G(Trg)

27 Oct 44

AFHQ

Copy to: 15TH A
G(SD)
G(AS)
DCT

Ref att copy of report by Capt PLEWMAN of the Unit Maintenance Inspectorate on MT Maintenance in the FRENCH Group.

It is requested that a further report may be submitted during the first week of November.

General,
Commander-in-Chief.

4097

SUBJECT: Inspection - Italian Army

57

A.A.I. Chief Inspector,
Unit Maintenance Inspectorate,
("A" Vehicles Section)
A.A.I.H.Q.

Reference letter AP/UMI/63, Oct 44.

An attempt to carry out normal maintenance inspections of the [redacted] Gruppo was commenced on 9 Oct 44. It was immediately apparent to the Inspector that it would be entirely useless to inspect and report on units in the normal way owing to the complete lack of any maintenance whatever. This was admitted by the B.I.O. and by the Italian officer i/c [redacted].

The primary cause of this is lack of drivers. The W.E. of the Gruppo is apparently 1,200 vehicles. There are alleged to be 900 drivers on the strength. The B.I.O. estimated that only 200 have even an elementary knowledge of driving. In the opinion of the Inspector this figure is optimistic.

To date approximately 500 vehicles have been collected from vehicle parks. Over the last 3 weeks an average of one vehicle per day has been seriously damaged either through accidents or lack of maintenance. It should be emphasised that a large number of vehicles are constantly used for driving equipment and stores.

Two instances of the ignorance of drivers can be quoted. One vehicle was towed into workshops as having broken down. On inspection the cause was found to be complete lack of petrol in either tank. The Inspector was asked to look at another non-runner. Here the cause was one lead disconnected from the battery terminal.

The seriousness of the position is fully realised by the B.I.O. and by the Gruppo Commander and orders have been issued upon the necessity of carrying out daily maintenance. The Inspector is visiting all units during maintenance parades and carrying out demonstrations. The first unit visited, the Transport Coy, are showing great keenness and a great improvement should soon be evident, particularly as they have none of the better drivers.

4090

A very comprehensive demonstration was given to all Battery M.T.Os and M.C.Os of the Army Rest and an inspection of all Batteries will be carried out in the near future to ascertain that the points brought out in the demonstrations are being carried out.

Both Infantry Regiments have also been visited, but here the lack of drivers appears to be more acute than in other units. A further visit will be paid this week to both Regiments, to ensure that the orders issued regarding maintenance parade are being carried out.

The majority of the vehicles being issued by the Vehicle Parks are Class [redacted] and in the opinion of the [redacted]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020
By [redacted] NARA Date 6/8/01

To date approximately 500 vehicles have been collected from vehicle parks. Over the last 3 weeks an average of one vehicle per day has been seriously damaged either through accidents or lack of maintenance. It should be emphasised that a large number of vehicles are constantly used for driving equipment and stores.

Two instances of the ignorance of drivers can be quoted. One vehicle was towed into workshops as having broken down. On inspection the cause was found to be complete lack of petrol in either tank. The Inspector was asked to look at another non-runner. Here the cause was one lead disconnected from the battery terminal.

The seriousness of the position is fully realised by the B.L.O. and by the Gruppo Commander and orders have been issued upon the necessity of carrying out daily maintenance. The Inspector is visiting all units during maintenance periods and carrying out demonstrations. The first unit visited, the Trans Art Coy, are showing great keenness and a great improvement should soon be evident, particularly as they have some of the better drivers.

4090

A very comprehensive demonstration was given to all Battery M.T.Os and W.C.Os of the Arty Regt and an inspection of all Batteries will be carried out in the near future to ascertain that the points brought out in the demonstrations are being carried out.

Both Infantry Regiments have also been visited, but here the lack of drivers appears to be more acute than in other units. A further visit will be paid this week to both Regiments, to ensure that the orders issued regarding maintenance parade are being carried out.

The majority of the vehicles being issued by the Vehicle Parks are Class I, and, in the opinion of the Inspector, they leave the Vehicle Parks fully equipped with tools, etc. Some complaints have been received from drivers about deficiencies of tools, but it would appear probable that these have become deficient after the vehicle left the Vehicle Park.

Approximately 40 vehicles have been drawn that are Class I D. Although the speedometer reading is low, they are in very poor condition and are very deficient of equipment and tools.

It is understood that, until more drivers are available, only urgently required technical vehicles will be drawn from Vehicle Parks. It is also understood that the D.A.A.G. has agreed for 50 B.O.R. drivers to be attached to the Group to train Italian drivers.

In conclusion the Inspector is of the opinion that the deplorable state of affairs with regard to M.T. in the [redacted] Gruppo is practically entirely due to lack of drivers. Trained drivers should have been posted as drivers should have been trained within the Gruppo before new vehicles were issued.

15 Oct 44.
G.S.O.1

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

H.Q. FRIULI COMBAT GROUP 29/19 155

COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "Friuli"
Ufficio del Capo di Stato Maggiore
Sez. 2ª - Personale e Segreteria

HEADQUARTERS
~~COMANDO~~

1.

- Generale di brigata — SCATTINI Arturo — Comandante
Già vice-comandante della dv. "La Spezia" in A.S. - Rimpatriato dalla prigionia (campo n.4, Inghilterra) il 9 aprile 1941.
Proviene dallo Stato Maggiore Generale.

- Generale di brigata — TICCHIONI Gian Carlo — Vice-comandante
Già comandante del Raggruppamento granatieri in Corsica e successivamente della Divisione granatieri in Sardegna.

- Ten. Colonnello (in serv. di S.M.) — PETRUCCI Luigi — Capo di S.M.
E' al comando della divisione "Friuli" fin dal 6 dicembre 1941.

- Ten. Colonnello — LA STELLA Alfredo — Capo sez.pers.e segr.
Già aiutante di campo della 1ª brigata corazzata "Centauro".
E' al comando della divisione "Friuli" dal 26 agosto 1943.

- Ten. Colonnello — LIBERTI Gerardo — Comandato all'addestr.
Proveniente dal territorio liberato.
Assegnato alla divisione dall'ufficio addestramento dello S.M.R.E.

- Maggiore (in esperimento per il servizio di S.M.) — GIANNUZZI Nicolò — Capo sez.op. — 469 — serv.
Già della divisione corazzata "Centauro".
Proviene dal territorio liberato.

- Capitano (in esperimento per il servizio di S.M.) — BARBIERI Nicola — Add. 1ª sez. (servizi)
Proviene dalla 225ª divisione costiera.

- Capitano (abilitato al serv. di S.M.) — MAZZI Alfredo — Add. 1ª sez. (operaz.)
E' al comando divisione "Friuli" dal 15 ot[illegible]

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- Ten. Colonnello (in serv. di S.M.)	PETRUCCI	Luigi - Capo di S.M. E' al comando della divisione "Friuli" fin dal 6 dicembre 1941.
- Ten. Colonnello	LA STELLA	Alfredo - Capo sez.pers.e segr. Già aiutante di campo della 1^ brigata corazzata "Centauro". E' al comando della divisione "Friuli" dal 26 agosto 1943.
- Ten. Colonnello	LIBERTI	Gerardo - Comandato all'addestr. Proveniente dal territorio liberato. Assegnato alla divisione dall'ufficio addestramento dello S.M.R.E.
- Maggiore (in esperimento per il servizio di S.M.)	GIANNUZZI	Nicolò - Capo sez.op.-Inf.-serv. Già della divisione corazzata "Centauro". Proviene dal territorio liberato.
- Capitano (in esperimento per il servizio di S.M.)	BARBIERI	Nicola - Add. 1^ sez. (servizi) Proviene dalla 225^ divisione costiera.
- Capitano (abilitato al serv. di S.M.)	MAZZI	Alfredo - Add. 1^ sez. (operaz.) E' al comando divisione "Friuli" dal 15 ottobre 1942.

UFFICIO SANITA'

- Capitano	D'ANGELO	Mario - Capo ufficio Rimpatriato dalla prigionia (campo n. 56, Inghilterra) il 13 ottobre 1943. Proviene dalla delegazione T. dello S.M.R.E.

UFFICIO COMMISSARIATO

- Maggiore	BENEDETTI	Flavio - Capo ufficio Proviene dal territorio liberato.

./.

469

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5. 87° REGT. FTR.

- Colonnello — SCAPPINI Giovanni — Comandante
  Già vice-comandante della 226ª divisione.
  E' comandante dell'87° dal dicembre 1943.

- Ten.Colonnello — POLVEROSI Bartolomeo — Vice-comandante
  Proviene dal territorio liberato.(In trasferimento).

- Maggiore — COLATEI Emilio — A.M. in 1ª
  E' all'87° fin dal 1939.

- Maggiore — BUSCEMI Giuseppe — Com.te II btg.
  Proviene dalla delegazione "A" dello S.M.R.E.

- Maggiore — CARNULO Mario — Com.te III btg.
  Proviene dal territorio liberato.

- Ten.Colonnello — FABRIS Benvenuto — Incarichi vari
  Già aiutante di campo della fanteria divisionale "Friuli".
  E' all'87° dal 1942.

- Ten.Colonnello — CALAMIDA Enrico —
  E' all'87° fin dal 1937. (In trasferimento).

- Maggiore — CULTRERA DI MONTESANO Sebastiano — Incarichi vari
  Proviene dall'Intendenza della Sardegna.

409.

7 88° REGT. FTR.

- Colonnello — CIANCABILLA Fulvio — Comandante
  Proviene dal C.I.L. (Medaglia d'oro).

- Ten.Colonnello — SACCHI Renzo — Vice-comandante

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- Maggiore — BUSCEMI Giuseppe — Com.te II btg.
Proviene dalla delegazione "A" dello S.M.R.E.

- Maggiore — GARIBOLO Mario — Com.te III btg.
Proviene dal territorio liberato.

- Ten.Colonnello — FABRIS Benvenuto — Incarichi vari
Già aiutante di campo della fanteria divisionale "Friuli".
E' all'87° dal 1942.

- Ten.Colonnello — CALAMIDA Enrico —
E' all'87° fin dal 1937. (In trasferimento).

- Maggiore — CULTRERA DI MONTESANO Sebastiano — Incarichi vari
Proviene dall'Intendenza della Sardegna.

409.

7

88° R.T. FTR.

- Colonnello — GIANCARLLA Fulvio — Comandante
Proviene dal C.I.L. (Medaglia d'oro).

- Ten.Colonnello — SAGGINI Renzo — Vice-comandante
E' all'88° fin dal 1933.

- Ten.Colonnello — AULISINO Francesco — Com.te II btg.
Proviene dal territorio liberato.

- Maggiore — LO MONACO Alberto — Com.te III btg.
Proviene dal territorio liberato.

- Ten.Colonnello — COLLARILE Nicola — Pratiche giudiziarie
Proviene dal territorio liberato.(In trasferimento).

./.

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segue 88° rgt.ftr.

- Ten.Colonnello L O J Aldo - Incarichi vari
  Proviene dal 387° rgt.ftr. "Friuli".

4 35° REGT. ART.

- Colonnello DE BIASE Achille - Comandante
  Già comandante dell'8° art. "Pasubio".
  Proviene dal comando zona militare di Salerno.

- Ten.Colonnello DURAN Antonio - Vice-comandante
  Proviene dal territorio liberato.

- Maggiore LULE' Giovanni - A.M. in 1°
  Proviene dal territorio liberato.

- Maggiore SCHIRALDI Nicola - Com.te I Gruppo
  Proviene dal 7° art. di C.d'A. (Sardegna)

- Maggiore PIZZO Giovan-Battista- Com.te II Gruppo
  Proviene dal territorio liberato.

- Ten.Colonnello SANNA Fulvio - Com.te III Gruppo
  Proviene dal 116° Gruppo someggiato, della Sardegna.

- Maggiore FERRANTE Giuseppe - Com.te IV Gruppo
  Proviene dall'Ispettorato di Artiglieria.

- Ten.Colonnello COMPAGNO Ignazio - Com.te VI Gruppo
  Proviene dal territorio liberato. (In trasferimento).

- Ten.Colonnello DOVONE Mario - A disposizione
  E' al 35° art. fin dal 1943.

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

Proviene dal territorio liberato.

- Maggiore — SCHIRALDI Nicola — Com.te I Gruppo
Proviene dal 7° art. di C.d'A. (Sardegna)

- Maggiore — PICCO Giovan-Battista — Com.te II Gruppo
Proviene dal territorio liberato.

- Ten.Colonnello — SANNA Fulvio — Com.te III Gruppo
Proviene dal 116° Gruppo someggiato, della Sardegna.

- Maggiore — FERRANTE Giuseppe — Com.te IV Gruppo
Proviene dall'Ispettorato di Artiglieria.

- Ten.Colonnello — COMPAGNO Ignazio — Com.te VI Gruppo
Proviene dal territorio liberato. (In trasferimento).

- Ten.Colonnello — BOVONE Mario — A disposizione
E' al 36° art. fin dal 1943.

- Ten.Colonnello — CHIAPPARELLI Luigi —
Proviene dal territorio liberato. (In trasferimento).

2. BTG. GENIO

- Maggiore — TANZARELLA Antonio — Comandante
Proviene dal territorio liberato.

./.

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9 COMPAGNIA TRASPORTI

- Maggiore — PIERONI Agostino - Comandante

Già console comandante dell'88^ legione "Friuli" fin dal 1941. Si è distinto combattendo contro i tedeschi dopo l'8 settembre 1943.

11 OFFICINE MECCANICHE

- Maggiore — CECERE Salvatore - Comandante

Proviene dal Comando Militare della Campania.

12 26^ SEZIONE SANITA'

- Capitano — MARABOTTI Piero - Comandante

Già direttore dell'83° ospedale da campo della divisione "Friuli" alla quale appartiene fin dal 1940.

83° OSPEDALE DA CAMPO

- Capitano — SELLARI Andrea - Direttore

Già direttore dell'ospedale dal 1940.-

COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "FRIULI"

4092

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

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

SF

PROGRAMME FOR VISIT OF GEN L BROWNING

28 October 1944

1.	0900	arr S.GIORGIO SQUARE
	0901 - 0906	Inspect GUARD OF HONOUR
	0906 - 0915	Meet DIV STAFF
	0915	leave for ENG BN
2.	0925 -	arr FD PK COY, CASA GREGORIC
	0925 - 0935	Inspect FD PK COY
	0935	leave for FD COY TRG AREA, CASTELLO
	0940	arr FD COY
	0940 - 0950	Inspect BRIDGING AREA
	0950 - 1000	Inspect MINE WARFARE TRG
	1000	move to SIG COY, CASTELLO
3.	1005 - 1015	Inspect SIG COY at trg
	1015	leave SIG COY for 35 ARTY REGT
4.	1030	arr HQ 35 ARTY REGT, PIETRADIFUSI
	1030 - 1045	Watch 5 gp (ATk) engaging dep tank targets
	1045 - 1050	Watch 6 gp (AA) at gun drill
	1050 - 1105	Watch 4 gp (25 pr) at drill for taking up gun posn and opening fire
	1105	leave 35 ARTY REGT for 87 REGT (PIETRADIFUSI Fd Firing Range)
5.	1110	arr PIETRADIFUSI Fd Firing Range
	1110 - 1140	Watch II/87 carrying out coy attack exercise
	1140	leave PIETRADIFUSI Fd Firing Range
	1150	arr 87 REGT area
	1150 - 1210	Inspect I and III/87 drawn up in regt area

4091

	0940	arr FD COY
	0940 - 0950	Inspect BRIDGING ARMA
	0950 - 1000	Inspect MINE WARFARE TRG
	1000	move to SIG COY, CASTELLO
3.	1005 - 1015	Inspect SIG COY at trg
	1015	leave SIG COY for 35 ARTY REGT
4/	1030	arr HQ 35 ARTY REGT, PIETRADIFUSI
	1030 - 1045	Watch 5 gp (ATk) engaging sep tank targets
	1045 - 1050	Watch 6 gp (AA) at gun drill
	1050 - 1105	Watch 4 gp (25 pr) at drill for taking up gun posn and opening fire
	1105	leave 35 ARTY REGT for 87 REGT (PIETRADIFUSI Fd Firing Range)
5/	1110	arr PIETRADIFUSI Fd Firing Range
	1110 - 1140	Watch II/87 carrying out coy attack exercise
	1140	leave PIETRADIFUSI Fd Firing Range
	1150	arr 87 REGT area
	1150 - 1210	Inspect I and III/87 drawn up in regt area
	1210	leave 87 REGT for LUNCH in the open.
6	1220 - 1305	BUFFET LUNCH
	1305	leave for 88 REGT
7/	1310	arr 88 REGT
	1310 - 1410	Inspect each bn carrying out weapon trg in respective bn areas
	1410	leave 88 REGT for CRD FD HK

4091

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

8	1415	arr GRD FD PK
	1415 - 1425	Inspect GRD FD PK
	1425	leave GRD FD PK for SUPPLY & TRANSPORT COY
9	1430	arr SUPPLY & TRANSPORT COY
	1430 - 1440	Inspect SUPPLY & TRANSPORT COY at daily maintenance
	1440	leave SUPPLY & TRANSPORT COY for GRD STORES
10	1445	arr GRD STORES
	1445 - 1455	Inspect GRD STORES
	1455	leave GRD STORES for WKSPS
11	1500	arr WORKSHOPS
	1500 - 1510	Inspect WORKSHOPS
	1510	leave WORKSHOPS for MEDICAL SEC, MONTEFUSCO
12	1525	arr MEDICAL SECTION
	1525 - 1540	Inspect HOSPITALS
	1540	leave HOSPITALS
13	1540 - 1600	Drive through tps of gp drawn up at roadside: route DENTICANE - PIETRABBUSI (35 ARMY REGT) - rd junc 7373 (XEC BN) - S.GIORGIO (87 REGT) - GINESTRA (88 REGT).
	1600	Take leave of Gp Comd at BENEVENTO end of GINESTRA and depart.

NOTE : Jeeps laid on for whole tour from time of departure from S.GIORGIO 0915 till departure at 1600. Greater part of route and turning place being unsuitable for staff cars.

4093

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

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

2VR1 CIPHER 5112

ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ MESSAGE
INCOMING

41/24

OFFICE OF ORIGIN : ADVANCED HQ AAI

DATE TIME ORIGIN : 291430A

AUTHENTICATED BY : Deciphered 291550A

PRECEDENCE : MOST IMMEDIATE

	TOP SECRET
X	SECRET
	CONFIDENTIAL
	RESTRICTED

TO:

ACTION : MKIA(R) AFHQ

INFO :

MA1757. SECRET. AS THE RAILWAY LINE TO BENEVENTO WILL NOT BE PASSABLE BY 31 OCTOBER IT IS REGRETTED THAT THE VISIT OF THE C IN C TO THE ITALIAN COMBAT GROUPS MUST BE POSTPONED. ANOTHER DATE WILL BE SUGGESTED LATER.

MOST IMMEDIATE

4083

HGM.

REF. NO. :

DTG. :

0848

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

Rec 51

29/19

FROM: RMLA

TO : 50 ELU

26 A

SG 235

SECRET

Cannot stop repeat stop all traffic on main road (.)

PAREN ROME AREA _____ PAREN (.) Suggest you use

Carabinieri to control traffic as necessary, leaving

clear passage at all times

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATED

Major

10849

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

CIPHER

4529 M. A. I. A. 49

ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND

~~OUTGOING~~ MESSAGE
INCOMING

9239

OFFICE OF ORIGIN: ADV HQ AAI

DATE TIME ORIGIN: 262125A

AUTHENTICATED BY: Deciphered 270710A

PRECEDENCE: IMMEDIATE

	TOP SECRET
X	SECRET
	CONFIDENTIAL
	RESTRICTED

TO:

ACTION: MMIA

INFO:

S/Sec 27/10

MA 1749. SECRET. GENERAL ALEXANDER WOULD LIKE TO VISIT FRIULI AND CREMONA COMBAT GROUPS ON WEDNESDAY 1 ST NOVEMBER. HE COULD ARRIVE BY TRAIN AT BENEVENTO AT 0830 HOURS AND WOULD RETURN HERE BY AIR FROM MARCIANESE, TAKING OFF AT 1530 HOURS

4087

SECRET

RGM.

HEADQUARTERS
27 OCT 1944
A. C. C.

REF. NO.:

DTG:

27 0907

10850

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

32/26. 48

4122

GROF V LRLC NR 21 | IMMEDIATE

FROM MMIA LO LEGNANO 261130

TO MMIA ROME

CQX GR 12 BT

SD20 (.) RESTRICTED. REFERENCE YOUR SS22/3 OF 25

ELLIOT ARRIVING ROME P. M. TODAY

BT

4080

SENT NR 21 EJ 26/1227 B K

NR 21 RECD 261227A PJB BB

10851

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

29/19 June 49

FROM: MMIA

TO : 50 MLW

SS 227

25 1627 A

SECRET

Programme for visit approved (.) PAREN ROME AREA _____

PAREN (.) HRH and Gen BROWNING will be in Second Car (.)

On arrival Div Comd will meet and guard be inspected before

introduction of other officers (.) LMT and GSO one before

Italian Staff Officers (.) Other British Officers at various

units (.) Dress all Italian Officers in Battle Dress (.)

If wet we shall arrive some time but you can modify programme

if thought necessary

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED W F Darby

Col. A.G.

4085

0852

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

29/19 File 46

MESSAGE FORM

From : MMLA

To : 64 Garrison for 52 HLU

Date - Time

25 1154 A

223
SG 283

RESTRICTED

For information Col ELLIOTT (.) Paren ROME Area _____ Paren (.) General BROWNING and Col FIDSLEY will be away 0800 hrs 27 Oct to 2000 hrs 29 Oct and fully occupied morning 30 (.) Signal decision re proposed visit

Precedence IMPORTANT

Authenticating Officer

408.

SECRET UK

22/19.

"G" Notes on visit of Col PIDSLEY, Lt Col NOAKES, and Lt. Col INGLEDEW to HQ AAI on Mon 23 Oct 44

G/2
25 Oct 44

SERIAL	REMARKS	ACTION
1.	Draft instructions entitled "Command and Adm of Italian Army" (HSD424) were agreed. AAI will fwd to AFHQ.	(SD AAI)
2.	MMIAs appreciation on method of maintaining in manpower the Italian Army, together with suggested reinforcement supply system (ref G/4 of 22 Oct) were accepted in principal by AAI who will comment and fwd to AFHQ for publication if agreed. G(SD)US AAI was anxious that C.G. MATOUSA should be informed as early as possible.	(SD AAI) S 1/o
3.	As soon as AFHQ approves Italian Territorial Layout (ref TS/G/12 of 4 Oct) AAI will agree to implementation as far north as Army Rear Bdy or security line. whichever is further fwd, and will agree to small advance parties operating with AMG Rear Army.	G
4.	G1 SD AAI stated the future of Gruppi would probably be as follows (this NOT yet to be mentioned to M of W). (a) Issue of full scale equip to third and fourth gps to be delayed for three or four weeks. (b) Fifth gp probably to be equipped on light scales for i.s. duty in N.W. Italy. (c) Sixth gp under discussion. (d) No extra gp or mtn increment required. No action on above to be taken until confirmation or otherwise received in writing from AAI.	again varied by AFHQ 15 day WP 25710 409 (SD AAI)
5.	SD AAI will fwd to MMIA a copy of SMIT Maint Inspection report on FRIULI gp dated 18 Oct.	(SD AAI)
6.	Col PIDSLEY reported that first and second gps would be available for calling fwd w.e.f. 13 Nov. He stated that he hoped third and fourth gps would not be left in their present area to train for longer than was absolutely necessary.	

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

3. As soon as AFHQ approves Italian Territorial Layout (ref TS/G/12 of 4 Oct) AAI will agree to implementation as far north as Army Rear Bdy or security line. whichever is further fwd, and will agree to small advance parties operating with AMG Rear Army. G

4. GI SD AAI stated the future of Grupp i would probably be as follows (this NOT yet to be mentioned to M of W).
(a) Issue of full scale equip to third and fourth gps to be delayed for three or four weeks.

(b) Fifth gp probably to be equipped on light scales for i.s. duty in N.W. Italy.

(c) Sixth gp under discussion.

(d) No mtn gp or mtn increment required.

again varied by AFHQ 15 day WP 25/10

408

No action on above to be taken until confirmation or otherwise received in writing from AAI. (SD AAI)

5. SD AAI will fwd to MMLA a copy of UNRRA Maint Inspection report on FRIULI gp dated 12 Oct. (SD AAI)

6. Col PIDSLEY reported that first and second gps would be available for calling fwd w.e.f. 15 Nov. He stated that he hoped third and fourth gps would not be left in their present area to train for longer than was absolutely necessary. (SD AAI)
AAI will signal calling fwd dates & order the moves. (SD AAI)

7. MMLA will look for suitable training area for fifth gp. SPEC SEC

8. SD AAI will give authority for Italian Increment on Br portion of ACC WE to be classed as ER-ITI and held in category 3 (SD AAI)

9. SUM. SD AAI will fwd reply to MMLA letter SD/31 of 1 Sep (SD AAI)

10. SD AAI stated that call-ups in SARDINIA should not be completely discounted. As shipping will probably become available approx Feb 45. G

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11. SD AAI stated that approx 140 vehs of 205 Div were being shipped now from SARDINIA in three special ships arranged by NATOUSA AQ

12. MMIA agreed to arrange for as much "Smartening up" of 521 Gd Bn during staging in AFRIGOLA as possible. G

13. Draft instruction re handing over control of Italian Org by AAI to AFHQ w.e.f. 31 Oct was agreed.

L. M. Ingledew

Lt. Col. G.S.

DIST.: SD AAI
Comd
2/i/c
G
A/Q
Spec Sec
File (2)

4084

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

10856

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

44

1 Sqn

30/9

FEEDBACK FORM

FROM : MMA 25 1145 A

TO : 50, 51, 52, 53 B.I.U.

— Also 6et Pidsley

Z070 (.)

CONFIDENTIAL

For Signal Officer (.) Paren RCAF Area _____ Paren

Conference at CSO Branch AFHQ (Maj SANDERSON) 1230 hrs 1 NOV (.)

Ack

PRECEDENCE: IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED _____

4081

10857

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

29/19 Tilo 43.

FROM EMLA

TO 50 BLU 20 A

SS 203 SECRET

Gen BROWNING and visitor with staff of four total six visit FRIULI Group Saturday 28 Oct arriving S. GIORGIO 0900 leaving area approx 1600 (.) PAREN ROAD AREA_____PAREN (.) Outline programme as follows (.) First meet DIV Comd and Staff with Guard of Honor and appropriate ceremony 15 minutes (.) Second visit Inf Arty and Eng units training 3 hours no ceremony (.) Third Picnic Lunch provided locally at convenient spot 45 minutes (.) Fourth visit service units Fd hosp and QM stores etc three hours (.) Fifth depart through informal lines of troops on roads (.) Consult DIV Comd and send by Maj GREGSON or by 25 OCT at latest detailed programme and itinerary with aide memoire on C.O.s and units etc concerned (.) BLU officers to be in attendance with respective unit or service concerned and GSO I throughout (.) Restricted publicity

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATED 4030

0858

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

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

10859

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

Army Form C2136
(Page of 100)

MESSAGE FORM

2/9/19

Serial No. 2c

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN / OUT	CIPHER SECRET	No. of Groups. GR.	Office Date
		16/10	10	27c

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO MMIA for General BROWNING

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to No.
50 BLU from PIDSLEY	A 132	16	55184

RESTRICTED ⊙

Am meeting DEHN today ⊙ First impress are that ~~eight~~ BRITISH advanced methods will be necessary and poss

Your presence NOT necessary ⊙ Background easily explains the fa

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS { except / WIRELESS }

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.

Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority: IMMEDIATE

Time of: 08

Signed

Service

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender

T.O.R.

* Originator may delete "except" and insert "including."

GV14: W [illegible] 500M Pads 5/42 B A

10860

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

29/19 41

FROM: DEA

TO: 54 CARRIAGE

SS 185

16 A

CONFIDENTIAL

For 53 RED for Col. PIDDLEY from GENERAL BROWNING (.) PARIS BASE AREA_____PARIS (.) Have sent by AR to PIDDICOTE this morning DET letter on groups with my reply (.) Wait for this

PRECEDENCE: IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATED

10861

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

File 40.

MESSAGE FORM.

From : MMIA

To : Col FIELEY c/o 51 SLU (by SDR).

Date - Time

15
29/19 A

SS 184

From Gen BROWNING (.) In conjunction with Lt-Col DSDM Artillery School examine how far British advanced artillery methods should supercede Italian considering time available and alteration in methods known to Italians and their artillery efficiency (.) I could come and discuss if you wireless me

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER L. BROWNING G.

MAJOR-GENERAL

THX 151130

4071

0862

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

29/19
1615

38.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

10863

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

SECRET

37

[illegible] Italian Front

[illegible] Allied Armies in Italy

ITEM: Yellow 219

AFHQ/20/3(AM)

8 Oct 44.

G(Ir)

Ref your AFHQ/20/3(2FS) of 29 Sep and all directive by ZAF returned herewith.

1. It is considered absolutely essential that very careful instruction is given to Italian personnel of Groups in the maintenance of all British equipment issued to them. The initial provision of this equipment has only been possible at the expense of other commitments, and stocks will not permit replacement of the excessive wastage which would result from careless or ignorant handling.

2. While the above applies to all equipment, it applies particularly to weapons and vehicles. Weapons may be covered by 4 (a) of the AFHQ, but there is no question of which, through their shortage, are always the personal property in the eyes of any Unit.

3. It is possible it is not considered part of your functions to issue instructions on this subject, and enquiries unless any have been issued by AFHQ. On the other hand in view of the importance, it would be appreciated if you would draw the attention of this to the matter. Italians should be instructed to maintain vehicles on the daily basis applied and to use their and AFHQ or equivalent in the same manner as is now operative in the British Army. The most rigorous steps should be taken to ensure the correct fulfilment of this procedure, and disciplinary action taken against offenders. Only by instituting this might this case be likely to become effective.

4075

Lt Col.

Major General G.S.I. (Ground Staff)
for Brigadier,
D.M.I.

S/Sec 56.
14
TO
29/19

Minutes of Conference held at
HQ "B" British Liaison Unit
on Tuesday 10 Oct 44

		Subject	Action By
1	Visits from Senior Offrs	DMT has laid down that when senior offrs visit the fmn to see Training no special set pieces are to be mounted but normal trg programmes adhered to	All Branches
2	Visit of DMT	DMT & BGS SD & T AFHQ will be visiting the unit at about 1500 hrs 12 Oct	All branches
3	Bridge between HQ and Mess	G II RA raised the question of the damaged bridge between this HQ and Mess. SORE said the bridge really needed completely rebuilt but he was taking steps to have it temporarily strengthened	S O R E

Distribution :- G 1
G II
A/Q (file copy)
G II RA
SO RE
SO Sigs
DADST
DADOS
SO REME
Camp
HQ MMIA
MMIA LO
War Diary (2)

407 =
15/10.

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

10865

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

29/19 Ltr 38

FROM: MMLA

TO : 52 SLU

SC 182

14 A

RESTRICTED

Al (.) COL FIDSLEY arriving 52 SLU Monday PM will stay night (.)

PAREN ROMA ARSA _____ PAREN (.) Lt. Col IMBLEDEN arriving

Tuesday will stay night (.) Please arrange accomadations

PRECEDENCE _____

AUTHENTICATED _____

Italia

33.

13/10/44

SUBJECT: Notes on 4 (Br) Inf Div 21 Jun - 11 Aug 44.

SECRET

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ, CMF

Tel: 11567

DMT/49/MT1

9 Oct 44.

DMT, The War Office
G-3 Trg (Br) AFHQ (6)
Fd Arty Sec, AFHQ (3)
DGS (Trg) GHQ MEF
G (Trg) HQ AAI (3)
MEFAD CMF, c/o HQ AAI (6)
MCRA, AAI
Brig Inf, AAI
HQ CMTC CMF (2)
IRTD CMF
RAOTD CMF
RATD CMF
School of Arty CMF
Engr Trg Establishment CMF
R Sigs TD and School CMF
RASCTD, CMF
5 Bn GRTD, CMF
Combined Trg Centre, CMF
Depot and Trg Est CMF
8 Ind Rft Camp CMF
11 " " " "
16 " " " "
1 (Br) Corps Rft Unit CMF
2 " " " " "
3 " " " " "
4 " " " " "

GHQ Base Rft Gp CMF
HZ Adv Base CMF
Polish Adv Base CMF
WLA, CMF (for distribution to WLs - 6 copies)

Copy to: HQ 4 Div
DMT (Adv) (10)
Indian Army Liaison Mission
26 WLU att Polish Adv Base

4074

The enclosed notes on the 4 (Br) Inf Div in the fighting advance from LAKE TRASIMENO to the FLORENCE area have been compiled by an observer of this Directorate.

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

0 8 6

9 Oct 44.

DMT, The War Office (6)
G-3 Trg (Br) AFHQ (3)
Fd Arty Sec, AFHQ
BGS (Trg) GHQ MEF (3)
G (Trg) HQ AAI (6)
MGRAC CMF, c/o HQ AAI
MGRA, AAI
Brig Inf, AAI
HQ CMTC CMF (2)
IRTD CMF
RACTD CMF
RAID CMF
School of Arty CMF
Engr Trg Establishment CMF
R Sigs TD and School C-F
RASCTD, CMF
5 Br GRTD, CMF
Combined Trg Centre, CMF
Depot and Trg Bat CMF
8 Ind Rft Camp CMF
11 " " " "
16 " " " "
1 (Br) Groups Rft Unit C.F
2 " " " " "
3 " " " " "
4 " " " " "

Cdn Base Rft Gp CMF
NZ Adv Base CMF
Polish Adv Base CMF
MMLA, CMF (for distribution to MLOs - 6 copies)

Copy to: HQ 4 Div
DMT (Adv) (10)
Indian Army Liaison Mission
26 MLO att Polish Adv Base

4074

The enclosed notes on the 4 (Br) Inf Div in its fighting advance from LIRI VALLEY to the FLORENCE area have been compiled by an observer of this Directorate.

They represent the views of individual officers and will NOT be taken as official doctrine.

Reader Hall
Brig.,
D.M.T.

HMF/ho

Copies sent to Mrs on behalf of Capt Hall's executors.
J. McLeod

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

29/19 32.

SUBJECT: Notes fro. V Corps

SECRET

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ, C.M.F

Tel: 11667

DMT/49/MT1

9 Oct 44.

DMT, The War Office (6)
G-3 Trg (Br) AFHQ (3)
Fd Arty Sec, AFHQ
BGS (Trg) CHQ MEF (3)
G (Trg) HQ AAI (6)
AEGRAC C.M.F, C/O HQ AAI
AEGRA, AAI
Brig Inf, AAI
HQ CMTC, C.M.F (2)
IRTD C.M.F
RACTD C.M.F (5)
RATD C.M.F
School of Arty C.M.F
Engr Trg Establishment C.M.F
R. Sigs TD and School C.M.F
RASCTD C.M.F
5 Bn GRTD C.M.F
Combined Trg Centre C.M.F
Depot and Trg Bat C.M.F
8 Ind Rft Camp C.M.F
11 " " " "
16 " " " "
1 (Br) Corps Rft Unit C.M.F
2 " " " " "
3 " " " " "
4 " " " " "

Cdn Base Rft Gp C.M.F
NZ Adv Base C.M.F
Polish Adv Base C.M.F
MMLs, C.M.F (for distribution to MLUs - 6 copies)

Copy to: HQ (Main) 5 Corps
DMT (Adv) (10)
Indian Army Liaison Mission
26 MLU att Polish Adv Base

4071

Herewith are some notes compiled by a DMT observer as a result of conversations with certain officers in 5 Corps.

These notes will NOT be regarded as official doctrine but merely as the expression of the views of certain individual officers.

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

BGS (Trg) GHQ MEF (3)
G (Trg) HQ AAI (5)
MGRAC C.F, C/O HQ AAI
MGRA, AAI
Brig Inf, AAI
HQ CMTC, C.F (2)
IRTD C.F
RACTD C.F (5)
RATD C.F
School of Arty C.F
Engr Trg Establishment C.F
R. Sigs TD and School C.F
RASCTD C.F
5 Bn GRTD C.F
Combined Trg Centre C.F
Depot and Trg Est C.F
8 Ind Rft Camp C.F
11 " " " "
16 " " " "
1 (Br) Corps Rft Unit C.F
2 " " " " "
3 " " " " "
4 " " " " "

— MAI, C.F (for distribution — to HLUs - 6 copies)

Copy to: HQ (Main) 5 Corps
D.A.T (Adv) (10)
Indian Army Liaison Mission
26 HLU att Polish Adv Base

4071

Herewith are some notes compiled by a D.A.T observer as a result of conversations with certain officers in 5 Corps.

These notes will NOT be regarded as official doctrine but merely as the expression of the views of certain individual officers.

for Brig.,
D.A.T.

HMF/he

Copies sent to
HQ Base on 10 Oct 44
Copies for Gen & HLUs
retained
K 4/c 11/Oct

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

0870

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

File 31

29/19

FROM: MMLA

TO : A. A. G. D HLU

SS 170

12 1130A

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION Restricted

Col Pidsley attending R.E.M.E. meeting A.F.H.Q. 1100 Sat 14 Oct and visiting HLUs as follows (.) PAREN ROME AREA _____ PAREN (.) B 0930 Sunday (.) A 1430 Sunday (.) D 1500 Monday (.) C 1700 Monday till 1000 Tuesday

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED [signature]

Wray

4070

Maj Hearle
See P 17/10

30

Sec
29/19
12/10

Minutes of a Conference held at
H Q "B" British Liaison Unit
on Monday 9 Oct 44

	Subject		Action By
1	Conference with Col PIDSLEY at HQ MMIA 5 Oct 44	G 1 said that many of the subjects discussed at RCME last week would be dealt with at a later date by HQ MMIA in the form of letters and directives etc. In the meantime the following ~~were~~ are of more immediate interest.	
	2" Mortars	(a) 48 of these were unrequired in the Sp Coys and would be distributed as follows. 12 to each Regt A Tk Coy 1 to each Coy HQ 6 spare which will be withdrawn	
	Mortar Pl Comd	(b) MMIA is to apply for an increase in WE to allow Mortar Pl Comd to have his own carrier	
	Carrier Pl	(c) It was suggested that the carrier pl be org on Br lines. MMIA is to obtain a ruling	
	Bn HQ	(d) Certain adjustments are required in the org of Bn HQ - e.g two extra dvrs are required to man all vehs and the M O requires some tpt - suggested a 15 cwt. These were noted by MMIA	
	Scout Pl	(e) Org of Scout Pl as at present is not considered satisfactory. A BLU and later B BLU is to consider the amalgamating of this with the Pnr Pl to form a proper Assault Pioneer Pl of 2 Assault Secs and one Artizan Sec. The Scout Pl will thus cease to exist	
	Veh Maint	(f) A team from UKI is coming on about 21 Oct to deal with maintenance by units and particularly the provision of veh mechs	

4069

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

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

40C9

2" Mortars (a) 40 of these were [illegible] Sp Coys and would be distributed as follows.
12 to each Regt A Tk Coy
1 to each Coy HQ
6 spare which will be withdrawn

Mortar Pl Comd (b) MMLA is to apply for an increase in WE to allow Mortar Pl Comd to have his own carrier

Carrier Pl (c) It was suggested that the carrier pl be org on Bn lines. MMLA is to obtain a ruling

Bn HQ (d) Certain adjustments are required in the org of Bn HQ - e.g two extra dvrs are required to man all vehs and the M O requires some tpt - suggested a 15 cwt. These were noted by MMLA

Scout Pl (e) Org of Scout Pl as at present is not considered satisfactory. A BLU and later B BLU is to consider the amalgamating of this with the Pnr Pl to form a proper Assault Pioneer Pl of 2 Assault Secs and one Artizan Sec. The Scout Pl will thus cease to exist

Veh Maint (f) A team from UMI is coming on about 21 Oct to deal with maintenance by units and particularly the provision of veh mechs

Armourers (g) AFHQ have been requested to loan some unit armourers to help train Italian armourers on British weapons

Verey Pistols (h) WE shows each Inf regt as holding four Verey pistols. This is obviously wrong and MMLA is having figure checked

Composite Pl Trg (i) Composite pl course commences at 60 DID TORRE ANNUNSIATA 14 Oct

Saluting (j) All BRITISH tps will salute ITALIAN flagged cars and the officers who normally occupy such cars
Attempts are being made in CREMONA to induce ITALIAN tps to salute all British offrs

Ans Sheet 2/Veh Maint (k)...

		Subject	Action By
Veh Marking	(k)	MMIA is drawing up a schedule of veh markings for ITALIAN fms, based on BRITISH ARMY methods. Italian authorities must provide the paint	
Correspondence from MMIA	(l)	In future all correspondence from MMIA will be addressed to BLUs and NOT LOs	
Stationery for Italian Army	(m)	This is receiving consideration by MMIA. It is NOT the intention that BLUs should indent for the requirements for the entire div. Expert Gunner advice is being sought insofar as items peculiar to the arty are concerned	
Clothing	(n)	When BD is issued Italian uniforms may be kept to work in as overalls are NOT being issued	
Classification of GRUPPOS	(o)	All combat Groups are classified ER:ITI as distinct from US:ITI and ITI:ITI. That is they are a BRITISH responsibility	
Leave to SICILY	(p)	There is no possibility of the ban on leave to SICILY being lifted	
Potatoes	(q)	There is no chance on the ban on local purchase of potatoes being lifted	
Local purchase by ITALIANS	(r)	AFHQ has issued an order forbidding local purchase by Italian tps. This is being taken up by MMIA and will be cancelled insofar as GRUPPOS are concerned	
Payment of Levy for CIP POL	(s)	MMIA is taking steps to have GRUPPOS put on BRITISH Order of Battle - when POL will be supplied through normal army channels. In the meantime payments to CIP to continue as at present	
Cyd Personnel	(t)	In addition to ten storemen on loan to BLUs during re-equipping period MMIA is to ask for an addition of 3 BOWOs to HLU ETC. It is suggested these can supervise cyd duties as follows	

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Ord Personnel	(t)	In addition to ten sharaman on loan to BLUs during re-equipping period MMIA is to ask for an addition of 3 BOWOs to BLU #2. It is suggested these can supervise ord duties as follows. 1 - Inf Regts 1 - Arty 1 - Remainder Div tps
G 1098 BLUs	(u)	Suggested scale being drawn up by MMIA
Visits	(v)	MMIA will give BLUs as much warning as possible of impending visits from MMIA staff. AFHQ and AAI are to be requested to do the same. BLUs must similarly warn MMIA when SOs propose visiting ROME at the same time saying whom they wish to see
Scales of Amn Holding	(w)	Scales are still awaited from AFHQ. MMIA is trying to arrange that 1st and 2nd lines are drawn in forward areas.

/To Sheet3/#2 BLU (x).....

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	Subject	Action By
HQ BLU	(x) In addition to the BORs mentioned above the following increases have been asked for and MAIA has agreed to submit these PERSONNEL Med Offr (Grade 2 or 3) ACC cook for men's mess 2 G D men TRANSPORT 2 Staff Cars - in lieu of PUs 3 Jeeps 1 L C V 3 3-tonners	
2 Re-equipment	A/Q said it had been arranged with AFHQ for the bulk of the clothing G 1098 and controlled stores to be drawn during the week 11-18 Oct. Vehs were likely to be in short supply but it was hoped to obtain a release for 30 3-tonners at an early date to assist in the drawing of stores. During this period Ord must have top priority in tpt allocation. Release notes are being collected by A/Q and DADOS on 10 Oct and there is to be a further conference with Brig COWLEY on 20 Oct	DADST DADOS MAIA to note
3 Move of 3 Dist	3 Div Adv opens at BARI 10 Oct. HQ 3 Dist opens there 14 Oct on taking over 2 District's commitments	All Offrs
4 Welfare	A/Q said 65 HAA Wksp hoped to open their own canteen in the near future - this would be available for our own BORs. Also this unit run a recreation truck to NAPLES every Tuesday and Thursday - and our men could be sent in on either of these runs. They also hoped to arrange Soccer fixtures with the IRTDs and would like to have any players we can give them. Camp to see OC Wksps and ensure the Canteen and Leave trucks were brought to the notice of all ORs.	Camp
5 Trg Eqpt	A/Q said that the deficiencies in arty trg eqpt (25 pr sights etc) would not be issued to us as UE will so soon be issued. These items will be issued direct to 'D' ELL	G II G II(RA)
6 Office Routine	A/Q said RA ST and Ord should and presumably are maintaining their own filing systems. RE, Sigs and REME will use the General clerks who will maintain their files. SOs RE, Sigs and REME are requested to give the chief clerk a list of files they consider necessary and these will be opened at once. FLOAT FILE	All Offrs

4068

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3 **Move of 3 Dist** — 3 Div Adv opens at BARI 20 Oct. HQ 3 Dist opens there 14 Oct on taking over 2 District's commitments — All Offrs

4 **Welfare** — A/Q said 65 HAA Wksp hoped to open their own canteen in the near future - this would be available for our own ORs. Also this unit run a recreation truck to NAPLES every Tuesday and Thursday - and our men could be sent in on either of these runs. They also hoped to arrange Soccer fixtures with the IRTDs and would like to have any players we can give them. Camp to see OC Wksps and ensure the Canteen and Leave trucks were brought to the notice of all ORs. — Camp — 4068

5 **Trg Eqpt** — A/Q said that the deficiencies in arty trg eqpt (25 pr sights etc) would not be issued to us as US will so soon be issued. These items will be issued direct to 'D' ELO — G II, G II(RA)

6 **Office Routine** — A/Q said RA ST and Ord should and presumably are maintaining their own filing systems. RE, Sigs and REME will use the General clerks who will maintain their files. SOs RE, Sigs and REME are requested to give the chief clerk a list of files they consider necessary and those will be opened at once. — All Offrs

FLOAT FILE

A copy of all outgoing letters (excl Top Secret and Confidential Officers' ones) will be put in a float file which will be seen by all offrs daily. RA ST and Ord will please arrange to provide chief clerk with copies of their outgoing correspondence — All offrs

ROUTINE ORDERS

These will also be circulated as necessary. Offrs will please pass on quickly and initial in the space provided

7 **War Service Increments** — All offrs should read GRO 770

8 **Tpt and Wk Tickets** — DADST said he was only responsible for the Div Tps Coln vehs and not all vehs in div. G 1 said Italians must look after their own. A/Q said the SC REME must report any case of unfair wear and tear in order that it may be taken up with the Div Staff. — A/Q

/To Sheet 4/Tpt & Wk Tickets...

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	Subject	Action By
8	**Tpt and Wk Tickets** (cont) DADST asked if the UNI rep was looking at all vehs incl his or only unit vehs. G 1 said he was coming to help and advise not simply to inspect. DADST said could a case be put up to MMLA asking for British Work tickets printed in Italian to be used universally instead of Italian type ones.	
9	**Sigs** SO said so far five truck loads of Sig controlled stores and approx a further fifteen tomorrow. Refresher course for those who had been to NCLA and trg in Regts would start 16 Oct.	
10	**Progress Reports** Heads of Branches and Services will submit to the G 1 by Thursday 12 Oct progress reports covering the week ending 12 Oct on the following subjects. (a) Re org (b) Re equipment (c) Trg.	Heads of Branches & Services

Distribution :- G 1
G II
A/Q (file copy)
G II RA
SO RE
SO Sigs
DADST
DADOS
SO RE&S
Camp
HQ MMLA
MMLA LO
War Diary (2)

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0875

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

Rueger
22/19

FROM MACA

TO 50, 51, 52, 53 MAG's

11 A

RPTD AFH.

S: 168

RESTRICTED

SEND REMF REPRESENTATIVES TO AFHQ FOR MEETING WITH LT COL RANKEN SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER 1100 HOURS (.) PAREN HOME ARRA PAREN

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

4067

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

1 ROF

~~5~~ SUMEDY 361 QVR 2

~~HEDY V ERCO NR 17 11, QVR 1 DOP~~

FROM A B L U

TO D M T

INFO MMIA

G97 NOW THAT BLU HAVE DIRECT ACCESS TO DMT MAY

ALL INFORMATION AND DETAILS OF

FUTURE VISITS OR INSPECTIONS UNDER

AUSPICES OF D M T PLEASE

BE SENT DIRECT TO GSO 1

BLU

THI 08140

~~RPTNS 17 1 2 97 TO GSO 1 BLU 081400~~

JEE

81

10880

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27.

SUBJECT: Visits

CONFIDENTIAL

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
APHQ. GHF

Tel: 11667

DMT/55/AT1

7 Oct 44.

8 Sec
29/19
9 10

'A' HAJ
'B' HAJ
'C' HAJ
'D' HAJ

Copies to:
HQ. HMCA
G-3 Trg (Br) ASTE
G Trg AAI

It is probable that an increasing interest in the training of the Divisions to which you are attached will be shown in the near future.

It is stressed that when you are warned of a visit no special set piece is to be mounted. Visitors should see the Divisions at their normal daily tasks and the training Programme must not be upset on their account.

All visits should be of an informal nature but you should be informed beforehand of proposed visits.

W.E. Elliott
Major

11:37/hc

15/10

15/10

D. 2065

Subject: Leave - Italian Military Personnel.

Military Mission
Italian Army,
R O M E
AQ/17

6 Oct 44

To: MINISTRY OF WAR

1. Leave may be granted to Italian Military Personnel under the following terms and conditions :

(a) Where Italian Military Personnel are under Allied Command, leave will not be granted without the prior consent of the Allied Commander who will decide whether the Military situation permits the granting of leave.

(b) Leave may be granted for a period of 7 days, excluding travelling time, not more than once in six months.

(c) Compassionate leave may be granted in deserving cases subject to approval by an officer of the Italian Army of rank of Colonel or above, for 14 days excl travelling time, recipients of compassionate leave will on return be placed at the bottom of the roster for ordinary leave.

(d) Not more than 5% of a unit may be away on privilege and compassionate leave at any one time.

(e) Rations will NOT be drawn for, or issued to, personnel on leave.

(f) Rest or Leave Camps, or any facilities serving similar purposes, will NOT be maintained for Italian personnel on leave.

406

2. PERMITTED AREAS.

Personnel on mainland of ITALY will be permitted to travel on leave as follows :-

(a) Troops stationed in rear of Army Security Control Line.

Anywhere within that area up to but not forward of Army Security Control Line.

(b) Troops stationed fwd of Army Security Control Line.

(i) Anywhere within area to rear of Army Security Control

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(a) Where Italian Military personnel are under Allied Command, leave will not be granted without the prior consent of the Allied Commander who will decide whether the Military situation permits the granting of leave.

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4064

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Anywhere within that area up to but not forward of Army Security Control Line.

(b) Troops stationed fwd of Army Security Control Line.

(i) Anywhere within area to rear of Army Security Control Line.

(ii) Fwd of the Army Security Control Line only with approval of Army, District or Base Section concerned.

(c) Leave will not be granted to personnel in SICILY or SARDINIA to visit places outside those Islands. Similarly personnel on the Mainland will not be granted leave to places outside the Mainland.

3. The Army Security Control Line referred to in para 2 above has been established for the specific purpose of restricting and controlling movement of personnel into fwd operational areas.

This line consists of a series of check posts, which are manned continuously to prevent access to fwd areas by persons not in possession of a pass.

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This line will be adjusted from time to time: the following is the present line :-

FIUMESINO S.4951 - JESI - FABRIANO S.1217 - FOSSATO R.9912 - PERUGIA - MAGIONE W.5396 - N of L TRASIMENO - SINALUNGA R.1605 - SIENA - VOLTERRA - CECINA.

These towns defining the Boundary are inclusive to the unrestricted leave area.

4. PERMITS.

Where troops may travel to or within any specified area only at discretion of appropriate Army, District or Base Section (see para 2 (b) ii above), a permit authorising such travel will be issued by appropriate HQ. No person without such permit will be permitted to travel to or in that area.

5. The discretion of Army, District or Base Section will not be exercised in favour of any person who cannot give good reasons for spending leave in the area in question by reason of location of his home, family or business.

6. RESTRICTED ZONES.

Personnel granted leave to places within the area bounded on the NORTH by the Army Security Line (as defined in para 3 above), and on the SOUTH by the northern boundaries of the Provinces of TERAMO - RIETI and ROMA, or to places in the province of FOGGIA, must be in possession of A.C.C. passes, or in the case of troops of the Combat Groups, must receive M.M.I.A. authorisation.

7. TRANSPORT.

No demand on Allied Military sea, rail or road facilities will be made for personnel going on leave. The movement of personnel going on leave will be carried out by the Italian Army. There is no objection to existing Allied Military transport facilities being used for the purpose, providing such use is not to the exclusion of any Allied military personnel or stores, as decided by the appropriate Movements Officer.

SPA/hh

F. J. Noakes
Lt Col

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SPA/hh

F.J.Noakes

F.J.NOAKES Lt.Col.
For Major General.
M. M. I. A.

Copies to: AFHQ (your CR/3696/G1(Br) of 16 Sept refers)
HQ AAI (your 3074/27/A(O) of 26 Sept refers)
CG NATOUSA.
CG COM ZONE NATOUSA.
AAFSC/MTO.
Rear 8 Army
Rear 5 Army
HQ 1 District (5)
HQ 2 District (5)
HQ 3 District (5)
PBS.
ABDG.
HQ ACC (10)
Air Force Sub Commission.
Navy Sub Commission.
G.I.
All MMIA LOs.
War Diary (2)

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Map Head Lore S/10 Mr. Segura Keep Special file Ltrs WP 25

da 11a

Minutes of Staff Conference held at HQ "B" B L U on 3 Oct 44

		SUBJECT	ACTION BY
1.	Visit to MMIA	GI & A/Q will be visiting HQ MMIA on Thursday 5 Oct. Any branches having points they wish raised will submit same to A/Q before tomorrow morning.	Branches & Services
2.	Signs.	GI said B L U signs were inadequate and insufficient. SO RE to arrange for provision of large well painted signs forthwith.	SO RE
3.	B L U Tpt.	W.e.f. 4 Oct Jeeps will be alloted as follows one GI & GII (present GI's) one A/Q & SO Sigs (present A/Q's) one GII RA & SO RE one DADST & DADOS One of the two jeeps used by ST & Ord will be placed at disposal of GII RA & SO RE. MMIA LO will have a call on either G or A/Q Jeeps	
4.	Deserters.	MMIA LO said Div Comd was concerned about possibility of SICILLIANS deserting in view of ban on leave to that area. Had we any police posts which might be warned to check up. A/Q to ask 56 Area.	A/Q
5.	Ord personnel (Italian)	A/Q said DADOS MMIA had stressed necessity for keeping Italian Ordnance trained personnel as a unit and not to dilute them throughout Div. DADOS said they were being maintained as a complete unit.	MMIA
6.	Italian Blankets	A/Q said 18000 Italian Blankets were being shipped from SARDINIA to the mainland in cruisers. These were those left behind by Div. Would LO please request LO NAPLES to contact PORT OFFICER (Capt ZAYEZ) and inform us when they were ready for collection.	MMIA 406 S
7.	Buck Slips.	A/Q asked all officers to assist the minute clerical dept by passing on to the next offr all papers circulating on Buck slips.	All Offrs.

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of large well painted signs forthwith.

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one GII RA & SO RE
one DADST & DADOS
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7. Buck Slips. — A/Q asked all officers to assist the minute clerical dept by passing on to the next offr all papers circulating on Buck slips. — All Offrs.

8. Petrol. — DADST said the Petrol Depot BENEVENTO had received an allotment of 15000 gal to CMP for the next three days. We were collecting our allotment today.

Distribution

G I
G II
A/Q (file copy)
G II (RA)
SORE
SO Sigs
DADST
DADOS
CAMP
HQ MMIA — WD
MMIA LO
War Diary (2)

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Minutes of Staff Conference held at H Q "B" B L U
on 28 Oct 44

		SUBJECT	ACTION BY
1.	25-pdr Bgpt	8 guns to be drawn from FRIULI G I and G II (R A) seeing "A" B L U today	G I G II (R A)
2.	Saluting	G I has instructed Chief of Staff to smarten up saluting amongst Div HQ personnel and ALTAVILLA generally. All Offrs of "B" B L U to be scrupulously correct when addressing Italian officers senior to themselves.	All officers
3.	Intercomm	Several messages despatched recently have failed to reach their destination. S O to check up on all channels of Comm.	S O
4.	Offrs Income Tax	A Fs O 1656 A being issued shortly to all Offrs	A/Q
5.	Family Allowance	All Offrs to read A C I 981/44 and sign a certificate to this effect. A C I available in office and A/Q will issue certificates.	A/Q All Offrs
6.	Tpt	A/Q reported that tpt had been heard passing the Mess on three consecutive nights at about 2300 hrs. Last night a jeep pulled up at men's lines at 2330 hrs and then proceeded towards tpt lines. Requested all offrs to whom jeeps are assigned to check speedometer readings over night and camp to check up with O C Italian Increment.	All offrs with jeeps assigned Camp
7.	Stationery	G II R A said he required certain stationery for gunners from British sources. A/Q said ruling required from MMIA in case it was intended to issue in bulk to S M R E. G II (R A) to provide full list of his requirements for G I and A/Q to take to ROME. G II said his demand would include a PORDIGRAPH for Arty HQ and presumably Div HQ would also require one.	G II R A 4062 A/Q
8.	Tpt	S O R E said he wanted 6 lorries tomorrow to collect stores. D A D S T requested him to demand direct on Capt ZANE.	S O R E
9.	Tpt	A/Q asked if tpt which conveyed Major SKETCHLEY to ROME last week had returned. Camp said it had	A/Q

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9.	Tpt	A/Q asked if tpt which conveyed Major SKETCHLEY to ROME last week had returned. Camp said it had not. A/Q to signal MMIA.	A/Q

Distribution

G I
G II
A/Q
G II (RA)
SORE
SO Sigs
DADST
DADOS
MMIA LO
Tac Trg Team
War Diary (2)
HQ MMIA

4062

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

10889

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

23.

SUBJECT: Visits to H.Q. M.I.A.

Military Mission Italian Army.
H.Q.M.I.A.
5/0/29/19
1 Oct. 44.

To: A B C D E F H Us.

Cases are constantly occurring of officers coming to H.Q. to discuss questions with members of M.I.A. H.Q. Staff, only to find that the officer or officers they wish to interview are away on tour.

In order to avoid wasted journeys, members of M.I.A. who intend coming to M.I.A., should give previous notice to H.Q. by telephone or signal, stating with whom they desire interviews.

Major General.
M.I.A.

4080

0890

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

MESSAGE FORM

Rule 22

From MMIA

To ABLU

Date - Time of Origin 30 1620 A

BS 114

Security Classification SECRET

Your G 50 (.) C in C visit Postponed owing to operations(.) Unless more time available will probably delete Grenadiers Bnt be prepared for anything

CLS 12/9/19

Precedence Immediate

Authenticating Officer Lt Col Quinlan Inc

4059

10801

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

ARMY FORM C2136 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No. 21

Call | Set. No. | Prior | Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

CIPHER SECT

Office Date Stamp

FROM (A) Originator: A DLO

Date-Time Group: 291200

For Action: MMIA

5/8/29/19

TO (V) For Information (INFO)

201.

MIL A | S/Sec
FILE REF | 1
DATE | 3-9-1

Message Instructions | CR

Originator's No. G-50

SECRET.

Owing to progress in trg. detail of programme for C-in-C's visit will require modification ⊙ Will only be time for visit to two units ⊙ Please inform me whether C-in-C would wish to visit Two Inf. units or only one Inf. unit and one Arty. unit ⊙ If desirous of visiting ~~4050~~ one Inf. unit whether this is ~~to~~ be Grenadier or Inf. Bn.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS { EXCEPT / WIRELESS }

Signature:

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

Signature: MSJ

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS Degree of Priority: Important

Time	System	Op.
THI or TOR		
Time cleared		

(GVSB) Wt. 48/42 — 500M Pads — 5/43 B & S Ltd 31-5745 (6)

10892

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

ARMY FORM G2186 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM**

Call | Set. No. | Prec. | Transmission Instructions | Register No.

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

CIPHER SECRET

FROM (A) Originator | Date-Time of Origin | Office Date Stamp

2018

For Action

Page II.

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions | CR

Originator's No.

on receipt of your reply will submit revised programme

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 MDSP

Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority

Time	System	Op.
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

W. 8222 M. 2M. 5/43 B. & S. Ltd 51-6735 E.

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

Deciphered 211830A-[illegible] CIPHER 9128

ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND

INCOMING MESSAGE

43/21

FROM: ADV AAI

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

REFERENCE No.: GGS 496

DATE TIME RECEIVED:

DATE TIME GROUP: 211425A

PRECEDENCE: IMPORTANT

TO:-

ACTION: MMIA

INFO:

16

M.M.I.A.	SS
FILE REF	S 4/19/19.
Date Recd	22/9/44

Your 3291 of 19th Sept.

For operational reason C-in-C is unable fix date for visit at present. You will be informed as soon as a date can be arranged

WP

R 22/10
S.S.

SECRET

Repeat to A.B.L.

WP

4057

10894

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File 17

MESSAGE FORM

TOO 19 1815 A

THI 19 A

From LT COL SOUTHBY at MMIA HQ

To "A" B.L.U.

s/s Perla

SS 80 (*) (*) Inform Div Comd visit will NOT be before 21 Sep (*) Programme to be substantially as suggested by me (*) SMFA agree (*) Returning myself midday 20 Sep

---

To be sent in CIPHER

( )

4056

0895

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Fiesole/6/29/14

14

EMIA

1 Dist 5 Army

10 1430 A

SS 71

RESTRICTED

Following for EMIA LO . (*) Paren [redacted] Area _____ Paren Col [redacted] rep [redacted] authorised to visit 210 Italian Div area 19 Sep (*) He will also contact local Patriot branch HQ with authority to enlist up to one thousand Patriot volunteers for Italian Combat Force with screening agency allotted 5 Army (*) Any enlisted should be sent back VAITAK soonest (*) No objection to using C.I.L. vehicles to railhead and thence one days train lift allotted to C.I.L. (*) Signal any arrangements made

4055

IMMEDIATE

10396

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

5/6/20/19

13

MALTA

18 DLO A

A BCH

SS GS

SECRET

C in C intends visit FIJULI any day now (.) Paren RAF Area _____ Paren Arrange two hours programme no repeat no parades one nor conferences nor lunch (.) Present Div Cond and staff also Dept Cond and inspect two or three units at training in convenient locations (.) No ceremonial nor publicity (.) Cond CINCMED to meet C in C at end of visit (.) Date and time will be sent you when known (.) Signal outline programme and E.T.

4054

M.M.I.A. 50-
FILE REF 1
Date Recd 8/9/[illegible]
5/8/1944

12

SECRET

SUBJECT: Notes on Tour of Schools & Training Depots HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

Tel: FILPOT 75

BM6/G(Trg)

7 Sep 44

MS
MA to CGS
G(SD)
A
Q
Q(.E)
Q(Mov)
RE
X

HQ R&C
HQ Inf
DMT
MMIA
Gnd
RE&E
G-4

Action procedure

ENGINEER TRAINING ESTABLISHMENT

Equipment

In general they are very well off for equipment; they do, however, require certain wireless stores a list of which has been sent in to DMT.

AA Draft

AA draft being converted to engineers - men are very keen and Commandant considered that they will be up to standard after training.

Italians

(1) Courses for Italian Engineers for the Gruppi are in full swing and the general impression is they are very keen and should be quite efficient.

Future Move

Considered that this should not take place until a suitable site is found in the PO VALLEY area. Present location is very good and they have sufficient accommodation for the winter.

CMTC

Equipment

The workshops are in urgent need of a crane for lifting assemblies out of vehicles. In addition a 15t vehicle diesel

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Q(E) REAIS
Q(Mov) G-4
RE
X

Action procedure

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Considered that this should not take place until a suitable site is found in the PO VALLEY area. Present location is very good and they have sufficient accommodation for the winter.

CMTC

Equipment

The workshops are in urgent need of a crane for lifting assemblies out of vehicles; in addition a 'B' vehicle diesel engine is required for training in the Mechanics School. At present they have only a Sherman diesel which is not the type required for training. With the exception of the above the equipment is sufficient.

1. ~~Improved.~~

Personnel/..... 2

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Action procedure

Personnel attending Courses

At present considerable difficulty obtains to personnel moving to and from the School. It was hoped that the setting up of a train would ease this problem. This, however, does not appear to be working very well, an example of which is under:

60 officers and 66 ORs moved from Eighth Army.
23 Aug railed from ASISSI.
26 Aug 30 arrived 1700 hrs in a freight train.
27 Aug 10 arrived 0710 hrs in a freight train.
27 Aug 15 arrived CASERTA then had to be collected by lorry.

Students arrived in batches of twos and threes having in many cases hitch-hiked and in all cases travelled in luggage vans where they carried out their own cooking as and when available.

Another batch arrived ASISSI 1730 hrs 24 Aug from the formations. Departed by goods wagon 2100 hrs 24 Aug changed goods trains at ROME pm 25 Aug. Delayed by shunting for 8 hours on 26 Aug at AVERSA delayed 4 hours CASERTA 27 Aug arrived BENEVENTO 1400 hrs 27 Aug.

I consider that personnel arriving on courses under such conditions not only increases considerably the length of time personnel are away from units, but also does not get personnel in the right frame of mind for getting the maximum benefit out of the courses.

I recommend that every step should be taken to see if personnel cannot be flown to the nearest aerodrome. As the advance progresses this time lag is bound to increase and, therefore, I think we should definitely go for air travel.

Guard Duties

At present the School has 240 Italians on their strength for guards, of which at any one time only approximately 186 are effective. It is considered that they require an effective strength of 250, and I consider we should increase their allotment of guards. BENEVENTO is a bottle-neck for all travel moving North and South and is an ideal place for police check

CIL excess personnel can do this temporarily.

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

27 Aug 10 arrived 0710 hrs in a freight train.
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CIL excess personnel can do this temporarily.

FRIULI DIV

Colonel RAE , who is unofficially assisting in the training, requires WEs of the Gruppi, SLUs and training teams. Also essential to issue instructions as to which is in control because at the moment there appears to be three different bodies:-

(a)/..... 3

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(a) Colonel R&E and Lieutenant-Colonel ASH.

(b) HLU

(c) LO [illegible]

(4) I recommend that they should all come under the HLU who is the directing HQ. ✓ Done

State of the Italian Div

(5) A General PEDROTTI is the Commander. Difficult to judge, but doubt if he would be a commander in battle though I think during this stage of organisation and training he is getting on with the job to the best of his ability and the means at his disposal. I consider, however, that urgent steps must be taken to ensure that they are properly clothed from ACC stocks. There appears to be a tendency to hold back these stocks until British Battle-dress arrives. I consider this entirely wrong and detrimental to the speed and efficiency with which we can get this group formed and trained. ACC clothing should be utilised for this training period and on arrival of the British Battle-dress this should be used for walking out in the evening only so that it is in good condition when the Group moves forward in an operational role.

(6) In general training equipment is coming forward and there will be sufficient for them to train on by 14 (approx) September. In the meantime I consider the Div should be issued with rifles, etc., before the instructors turn up from the CMTC as in the meantime they will get accustomed to the handling of the weapons. The risk of damage I suggest is not very great provided the HLU ensure that inspections are carried out at frequent intervals. ✓

4052

Personnel

(7) The FRIULI DIV is short of approximately 2,500 personnel who are now coming forward at a slow speed. Every step should be made to ginger this up and make them up to their proper establishment. Until this is done it is not possible for the Commander to organise and be ready by the time the instructors arrive. See letter

(8) The Div will undoubtedly be short of drivers and I have spoken to both Colonel CLARKE of the RACTD and Colonel STOTT of the IRTD who are both willing to assist in lending them Instructors for driving purposes. Mutual arrangements should be made direct by Colonel R&E with the above Commanders. HLU K Lo [illegible]

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

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RACTD

Equipment

It would be of great assistance to them if derelict tanks and SPs, both German and British, could be given to them. Also they do require some White Scout Car Half-tracks - not essential that these should be runners.

IRTD

Equipment

Urgent request for an 'R' mine and some concrete block charges. Also they urgently require Bags Armourers Tools filled for the 7th Bn. A platoon's worth of enemy uniform should also be issued.

General/..... 4

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Action procedure

GENERAL

The atmosphere of all Schools and Depots was most impressive. All personnel appeared to be in excellent spirits, very fit and keen to learn.

DMT

DMT wishes to ensure that when 78 Div move forward from the concentration area in the Heel, that surplus personnel which they have are not thrown to the IRTD. The IRTD with its present large numbers cannot absorb any more. I consider that 78 Div should take them forward if possible to a forward concentration area then leave a small team with them to continue their training.

'A' have this in hand.

NO. 3 CRU

If possible this unit should not go forward with 5 Corps, but should remain at its present location for the re-training of AA gunners.

FUTURE SCHOOL AND DEPOTS

Until there is sufficient room and good accommodation can be found in the PO VALLEY they should remain where they are, and in the meantime accept the increased length of time for personnel returning to their units.

In certain cases, such as RAC, Training Teams can go forward (this is now being done on a small scale) to formation areas and assist in training forward.

POST-WAR CONDITIONS

The present organisation of Schools should be utilised as a basis for forming Vocational Training Centres who instruct instructors. As formations will probably be widely scattered in occupied Europe and will not be able to afford to send large numbers of personnel back to Schools, instructors must be trained to return to their formations and form vocational schools in their formation areas.

In addition to this an Advisory Board will be required to be set up in the very near future. This Board to be in a position to state the numbers required to be trained in the various trades and assist in selecting the personnel for these trades.

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Brigadier,
G(SD & T).

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10.

[redacted]

AFF NC AAI

SS 54 SECRET

Personal for General MARSHALL from General EISENHOWER (*) Paren NONE Area _____ Paren Ref CCS 487 (*) FIRST (*) Planning and organization and initial training has gone according to time programme and I am satisfied it could NOT repeat NOT have been done more quickly (*) SECOND (*) Provision of equipment is still the limiting factor despite pressure by MAIA on all concerned (*) Training scale of arms and vehicles for first two Groups now being issued (*) Provision of full scales in hands of AFHQ understood not available until end September for first Group and during October for second Group (*) THIRD (*) British battledress is essential but not yet authorized (*) The high level discussions still continuing on policy of supplying and distributing and supplying Italian Armed Forces are undoubtedly complicating whole problem and delaying the issue (*) FOURTH (*) If you could arrange for formations of Combat Groups to have priority over everything else British or American and speed up delivery British vehicles and arms and equipment it would be a great help (*) FIFTH Am visiting training areas 12 to 14 Sep and will send Col FINDLEY

xx. MAIA.

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

Personal for General [redacted] from [redacted] (*) [redacted]

Paren Ref GOS 467 (*) FIRST (*) Planning and organisation and initial training has gone according to time programme and I am satisfied it could NOT repeat NOT have been done more quickly (*) SECOND (*) Provision of equipment is still the limiting factor despite pressure by MMIA on all concerned (*) Training scale of arms and vehicles for first two Groups now being issued (*) Provision of full scales in hands of AFHQ understood not available until end September for first Group and during /~~xxx~~October for second Group (*) THIRD (*) British battledress is essential but not yet authorised (*) The high level discussions still continuing on policy of employing and distributing and supplying Italian Armed Forces are undoubtedly complicating whole problem and delaying the issue (*) FOURTH (*) If you could arrange for formations of Combat Groups to have priority over everything else British or American and speed up delivery British vehicles and arms and equipment it would be a great help (*) FIFTH As visiting training cross 12 to 14 Sep and will send Col FINLAY

~~xx~~. MMIA.

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

9

H1810B

SS 54 -2- SECRET

who is in charge of the project to you on 15 Sep if convenient to give full details and receive your orders

405

IMMEDIATE

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

SECRET
MMIA

Pitchy Island

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

4925

Army 8/5

MAR A. SD
FILE REF
Date Recd 11 9

14

FROM C I L L C 1212300

TO H C H I A

ROY GR 52

SD/25 (.) CONFIDENTIAL(.) REF YOUR SD52 OF 02 (.)

NEITHER HQ HAS YET ARRIVED ONLY ADV PARTIES (.) SUGGESTED

~~PPZZ11~~ PROGRAMME ARRIVE PIEDMONTE D'ALIFE

1300 HRS LUNCH MEET SENIOR OFFR CIL LT-COL LOMBARD AND. NEIBO

COL MOCCIA (.) AFTER ~~LUCH~~ LUNCH VISIT UNITS ARRIVE SIGNALLED

GEN UTILI ON 6 SEP TO COME NEW AREA WITH STAFF SOONEST

BT 161627

SENT NR 5% 1907 .. C P M . B1 K

LINE 5 GR 4 W A MOCCIA (.) AFTER

LUNCH IMI LUNCH K

RECD NR 1 10/1903Z J O E K K

1

Copied. WD

10/13/0

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

MESSAGE FORM.

From: MMIA TOO 09 B

To : 64 Garrison for MMIA LO PIEDMONTE THI 09 B

SS 52 (.) General BROWNING with AIC and Col PIDSLEY visiting PIEDMONTE areas Tuesday 12 Sept from 1200 to 1600 hours (.) Arrange programme with all concerned to include visits to both Groups Hq and some units (.) R.V. VARIANO stn T.C.P. 1200 signal outline plan soonest

---

May be sent as MUTTER by any means except ( ) wireless.	Must be sent IN CIPHER if liable to interception.	Priority ( )

4048

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

MESSAGE FORM.

5/9/29/19

3

From: MMIA TOO 09 B

To : FRIULI Group for MMIA LO THI 09 B

General BROWNING with ADC and Col PIDGLEY visiting S GIORGIO areas Wednesday 13 Sept from 0930 to 1630 hours (.) Arrange programme with all concerned to include Col RAE and BLU commanders and visits to both Groups HQ and some units (.) R.V. PIAZZA S GIORGIO 0930 signal outline plan request

---

May be sent as [illegible] by any means except ( ) wireless.	Must be sent in CIPHER if liable to interception.	Priority (Urgent)

4041

SS (Hanna Goering) 2

S/6129/19

SECRET

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

Tel:- FILPOT 73

1605/50/36/G(SD1)

8 Sep 44

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 7 SEP AT HQ AAI ON THE PRIORITY OF PROVISION OF ITALIAN ARMY PERSONNEL

Chairman	Brig COOPER	G(SD)
Present	Brig-Gen HAMBLEN	DCAO
	Brig RITCHIE	DQMG
	Col KERR	MMIA
	Col PIDLSEY	MMIA
	Col WELCH	'A'
	Lt-Col MACKAY	G(AS)
	Lt-Col McLEAN	G(1)
	Lt-Col McQUEEN	G(SD)
	Maj BUTTERWORTH	MMIA
	Maj FRIEDBERG	G(SD)(US)
Secretary	Maj MORGAN	G(SD)

Secret file WP

1. The term "effective"

MMIA explained that the difference between the effective strength of the Italian Army, standing at 340,000 and the ration strength at 303,000, was accounted for entirely by personnel absent on leave, absent without leave, sick and in hospital or in transit. Personnel on leave whilst awaiting demobilisation, amounting at present to 35,000, were NOT counted as "effective."

40's

2. Assets in SARDINIA

MMIA stated that there were, at present, in SARDINIA awaiting shipment to the mainland, 22,000 to 27,000 Italian Army personnel to meet service unit requirements. The wide margin is accounted for by the presence of personnel due for demobilisation the exact number of whom is NOT known. These 27,000 personnel are ALL counted as "effective". It was agreed that AFHQ should again be asked to provide an augmented personnel lift from SARDINIA.

3. Supervision of Combat Groups

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

~~Chairman~~	~~Brig COOPER~~	G(SD)
Present	Brig-Gen HAMBLEN	DCAC
	Brig RITCHIE	DQMG
	Col KERR	MMIA
	Col PIDLSEY	MMIA
	Col WELCH	'A'
	Lt-Col MACKAY	Q(AE)
	Lt-Col McLEAN	Q(1)
	Lt-Col McQUEEN	G(SD)
	Maj BUTTERWORTH	MMIA
	Maj FRIEDBERG	G(SD)(US)
Secretary	Maj MORGAN	G(SD)

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40/0

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3. Screening of Combat Groups

MMIA stated that the Italian divs, from which the six combat groups are to be formed, contain a high proportion of personnel due for demobilisation and personnel, who although suitable for service units, are NOT considered fit for combat groups. It was agreed:-

(a) That MMIA order the immediate screening of the CREMONA Div and the CIL and that the personnel be divided into the following categories and be dealt with accordingly:-

(i) to be retained with present fmn

(ii) to be transferred to another combat group

(iii) to be transferred for duties in service units

(iv) to be demobilised as over age or for other reasons.

(b)/..... 2

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(b) that the PICENO and MANTOVA Divs will be reduced as soon as possible to 50% of the WE of the two Groups. Units guarding Allied installations cannot be reduced in strength until they are relieved.

4. Allocation of non-specialist personnel

It was agreed that as non-specialist personnel are made available by MMIA they should be allotted in the following proportions which may be varied from time to time by AAI:-

To US	1/3
To British	2/3

This allocation would not become effective until existing assignments had been met.

5. Allocation of specialist personnel

It was agreed that, for the present, specialist personnel becoming available would be allotted as follows:-

To US	1/3
To British	1/3
To Combat Groups	1/3

NOTE:- Specialists already earmarked for the first two combat groups will be provided notwithstanding.

6. Rft depots

It was decided to postpone, temporarily, the discussion on the arrangements to be made for rft depots.

7. Priority List 7

It was agreed that personnel already ordered forward on Priority List 7 should be allotted in accordance with arrangements already made.

4040

8. Conclusion

It was agreed that the decisions above would serve as a temporary working basis until APHQ take over responsibilities for MMIA and Italian Army at present devolving on AAI.

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4045

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8. Conclusion

It was agreed that the decisions above would serve as a temporary working basis until AFHQ take over responsibilities for MMLA and Italian Army at present devolving on AAI.

Major, GS.
Secretary.

DISTRIBUTION:-

MMLA (3)
DCAO
DAG
DQMG
A
Q
Q(AE)

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0916