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Opened Sept. 19, 1944 - Closed March 26, 1945

Sept. 1944 - March 1945

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LRAFDV LADE NR27

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FROM LADE 092016A

TO DISTHREE 557 BOD

INFO 557 BOD REAR GUN PARK 557 BOD

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SIGNED SACMED CITE FHORD (.) FIRST ADDRESSEE FOR G(SD), Q AND ORD (.) SECOND ADDRESSEE FOR OC 3 SUB-DEPOT THIRD ADDRESSEE FOR COO (.) FIRST (.) FOLLOWING RELEASED MANTOVA GRUPPI (.) READ (A) ITEM (B) QTY (C) RELEASE NUMBER (D) Q(AC) AUTHORITY (.)

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
25-PRS (EX REAR GUN PARK)	5	A/1/53	1/38
3-INCH MORTARS (EX 3 SUB-DEPOT)	10	A/40/75	39/44
2-INCH MORTARS (EX 3 SUB-DEPOT)	10	A/39/113	38

6566

SECOND (.) FOR 3 SUB-DEPOT (.) ISSUE ALSO ANCILLARY STORES FOR ABOVE 25-PRS AS FOLLOWS (.) (I) STORES FOR ONE BATTERY (II) GUN STORES (.)

MMIA 11/10

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0315

3-INCH MORTARS (EX 3 SUB-DEPOT)	10	A/40/75	39/44
2-INCH MORTARS (EX 3 SUB-DEPOT)	10	A/39/113	[illegible]

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SECOND (.) FOR 3 SUB-DEPOT (.) ISSUE ALSO ANCILLARY STORES FOR ABOVE 25-PRS AS FOLLOWS (.) (I) STORES FOR ONE BATTERY (II) GUN STORES (.) RELEASE NOS FOR CONTROLLED ITEMS ARE AS FOLLOWS (.) READ (A) ITEM (B) QTY (C) RELEASE NUMBER (D) Q(AE) AUTHORITY (.)

	(B)	(C)	(D)
DIRECTORS ARTY NO 7 OR 7 B	7	A/46/80	63/54
STANDS INSTRUMENT NO 17A	7	A/162/153	-
CLINOS FIELD MK VI	2	A/32/75	-
CLINOS SIGHT MK IV	10	A/51/100	-
PERISCOPES NO 14A	4	A/86/16	-
TELESCOPES SIGHTING NO 41	5	A/73/26	-
TELESCOPES SIGNALLING	2	A/77/42	-
STANDS INSTRUMENT NO 21	2	A/163/58	-
TELESCOPES STEREOSCOPIC 1B	1	A/80/20	-
STANDS INSTRUMENT NO 18	1	A/157/29	-

THIRD (.) UNIT COLLECTING (.)

BT

SENT HA 2242 B K

RPT NR AFTER TELESCOPES SIGNALLING
RECD NR 2242 AT 09/2245 A AAA B5

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(29/28

SECRET

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(MMIA)
DO/H
26 Feb 45

Subject: MANTOVA Combat Group

To: Colonel W. Pidsley, DSO, MC
Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(MMIA)

My Dear Col Wilfred

1. This is just a very brief recorded impression of my recent visit to the following MANTOVA units: 76 and 114 Infantry Regts, 155 Arty Regt, 104 Sup and Tpt Coy, 79 Engineer Coy.

2. There appear to be three main problems facing the MANTOVA which are (i) the shortage of drivers and other specialists at this stage of training (ii) the considerable numbers of young untrained volunteers who have been posted to the group to make up its numbers (iii) the shortage of coy comds.

I shall get a better picture of how (i) and (iii) can be put right when I see the Group again next month (see also BLU signal re shortage coy comds) and will discuss these points with you. (ii) is a disadvantage which cannot be righted but which is already having a delaying effect on training and which may I believe prove an embarrassment in battle.

3. Discipline, Morale and standards of Interior economy are good for 114 and 155. If the remainder of the Gp were up to this standard I should say things were going well. As it is, I think that the other units inspected were either only just average or below average. However taken all round things are quite obviously getting better day by day and the change which has taken place since I last inspected the MANTOVA in CALABRIA is astonishing.

The trouble is that it is now a fight against time.

4. I saw too little training to be able to judge its progress but as you know BIU and Increment are by and large satisfied.

5. I believe that two senior officers need changing but I will deal with this matter on my return to RCME by which time Aubrey Gibbon will either have agreed or disagreed with my views.

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6. The HQ and Training Increment are, I consider excellent. They both work very hard and relations with the Italians are most cordial. They all tend perhaps to be a bit too optimistic and I have been endeavouring to curb this tendency.

Gibbon sometimes has difficulties with Bologna who can as you know be both awkward and petty and whom I consider he handles very well.

7. In conclusion I believe that the MANTOVA has made great progress. But I rather doubt whether it is sufficiently advanced to keep pace with the programme laid down (I understand) for releasing the C109E and bringing it into battle. This state of affairs can and I hope will be remedied. Again I will discuss when in Rome.

8. Other minor problems for discussion when I am next in Rome are:

(i) Shortage of NCO's
(ii) Desertion
(iii) Leave
(iv) Welfare

A stinking cold has been sabotaging my enjoyment of this pleasant climate but I'm bearing up and tomorrow I leave for Hall's chateau.

Yours ever

Henry

Lt Col The Hon HAC HOWARD
Coldstream Guards
MMIA.

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CONFIDENTIAL 29/28

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
DO/3
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
56 MLU,
CMF.

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29/28

Personal and Confidential

Lt Col A.W. Gibbon
56 BLU
CMF.

4 Mar 45.

Dear Colonel

Thank you very much for your letter of yesterday's date. I am very glad that you and the General are coming to see us shortly.

I enclose a report on General Bologna. He has his faults, but I do not think they damn him, and we get on well together. If the ministry can provide a real Divisional Commander I would welcome him, but I feel very shy of a change for the sake of a change, especially now that Bologna has agreed to so much reorganisation in accordance with our views. It is perhaps irrelevant to add that I am fond of the old man in spite of his limitations, and it might be less easy to work in with his successor, especially if he should be an ambitious man with one eye on his post war career.

Thank you very much for backing my application for leave. I hesitated about asking, but I feel perfectly happy leaving things in the hands of Howard, Gadson and Moore, and I feel that after six years I have a duty to my Mother as well as to MANTOVA. If the leave should come through at an awkward time I will cancel it.

On the whole I think things are going fairly well. We hope to be equipped by 31 March and to move in mid April. If things go well I hope that our further training in the NORTH will not take long. The move of the infantry, fine weather and receipt of equipment have helped enormously, but much remains to be done. Our outstanding difficulties are :-

(a) Officers who have been posted but have not joined. Three out of the six infantry battalions are seriously handicapped by this.

(b) Lack of specialists, particularly drivers. We are struggling hard with this, but any contributions, however small, would be welcome.

(c) Certain unsatisfactory senior officers. Bologna is dealing with this, and I think it will be settled all right.

(d) An uneven standard in the infantry battalions and field companies. 76 Infantry Regiment is not yet up to the standard of 114.

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(b) Lack of specialists, particularly drivers. We are struggling hard with this, but any contributions, however small, would be welcome.

(c) Certain unsatisfactory senior officers. Bologna is dealing with this, and I think it will be settled all right.

(d) An uneven standard in the infantry battalions and field companies. 76 Infantry Regiment is not yet up to the standard of 114.

(e) A small number of really bad characters in all units.

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see our 29/28 of 10 Mar.

Yours ever,

Col W. PIDSLEY DSO MC
NMIA.

Lindsay Pidsley

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0322

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TO : Spec Sec.

1. The undermentioned courses are now being held at the Italian Signal School at NOCERA. All the OCs under training were received from CESANO on 1 Feb 45.

Signal Trade	Number in Training	Duration of course.
Instrument Mechanics	13	17 weeks
Wireless Operators	25	17 "
Line Operators	27	13 "
Electrician Signals	5	8 "
Despatch Riders	11	4 "
Switchboard Operators	4	4 "
Regtl Operators Wireless & LIne (Inf)	49	13 "
" " " " (Arty)	27	13 "
Regtl Switchboard Operators (Inf)	9	4 "
" " " (Arty)	9	4 "
	179	

On completion of courses personnel will be returned to CESANO.

2. ALTAVILLA Signal School is run by R.Signals Training Team and Italian Signal Instructors who have been on courses at R.Signals School of Signals. Only MANTOVA personnel attend Signal courses at this School.

Courses held at ALTAVILLA Signal School are as under:

Artillery Regimental Signallers	2 offrs 200 O.Rs.	) 1st series of
Infantry " "	2 " 320 "	) courses completed by end of FEB 45.
Artillery Regimental Signallers	1 offr 57 O.Rs	) These courses will
Infantry " "	5 " 95 "	) be completed by middle of MAR 45.

On completion of courses personnel are returned to their units.

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5 Mar 45.

29/28

56 BLU

SECRET

TRAINING INSTRUCTION NO. 5

10 G

28 Feb 45.

1. SIGNAL TRAINING.

(a) ALTAVILLA Signal School.

(i) The first course for Infantry operators has already finished and personnel have returned to their Regiments.

(ii) Courses as under will finish at the end of February.

First course for Officers, WO's and Sgts (approx number 34)
First course for Artillery operators (approx number 120)
First course for Infantry Fullerphone operators (approx number 24)

(iii) The second series of courses will continue until the middle of March.

(b) Regimental Schools.

All courses at Regimental Line Schools will finish in the first week of March.

(c) Training within Regiments.

(i) The training given at ALTAVILLA and Regimental Schools is intensive technical training in the operation and working of signal equipment.

(ii) Thus it will be necessary to begin applied Signal Training within units when personnel return from the Signal Schools. This training should take the form of Signal exercises combined with Artillery and Infantry training.

(iii) The need for continuous Signal training cannot be emphasised too highly. If signallers are to be efficient they must have constant practice. All signallers should have at least two days applied Signal Training per week.

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First course for Officers, WO's and Sgts (approx number 54)
First course for Artillery operators (approx number 120)
First course for Infantry Fullerphone operators (approx number 24)

(iii) The second series of courses will continue until the middle of March.

(b) Regimental Schools.

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(iii) The need for continuous Signal training cannot be emphasised too highly. If signallers are to be efficient they must have constant practice. All signallers should have at least two days applied Signal Training per week.

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(iv) The responsibility for this training lies with Regiments, assisted by British officers of the Training Increment. The number of officers trained at NOCERA and ALTAVILLA Signal Schools will provide one signal officer per Infantry Bn and Artillery Bty (Group). These officers should be responsible for organizing the Signal Training within their respective units.

(v) Further Signal Equipment has been issued to Regiments. It should therefore be possible to begin applied Signal Training in the first week of March.

(vi) All officers of the Combat Group should be trained in RT procedure and the use of the British message form.

2/.....sheet

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(d) Signal Company.

(i) Intensive training of the Signal Coy, is due to be completed by the middle of March. The Signal Coy will then be split into its Platoons, which will then join their respective Regiments.

(ii) All Signal Coy personnel should therefore be ready for full scale exercises after the middle of March.

2. DRIVING AND MAINTENANCE.

The two schools at present run by the Group have ceased. The training of the remaining drivers will now become the responsibility of Regiments and Units.

On the receipt of new vehicles the present training vehicles will be re-alloted to enable Regiments and Units to form their own schools.

Great attention must always be paid to the teaching of maintenance, it is never sufficient to teach a man solely to drive. The standard to be aimed at is that each driver takes a pride in the running of his vehicle and his skill in handling it, and regards the fact that his vehicle is off the road as a reflection on himself.

It is important that all officers, if not actually taught to drive, should undergo a short maintenance course during which they actually carry out the maintenance tasks themselves. This is the only way in which they can be taught how to ensure that the maintenance of the vehicles which will eventually be on their charge is adequately carried out.

Driver and maintenance training should be organised under the direct supervision of Regimental or unit AT officers.

3. MEDICAL.

(a) Stretcher Bearers.

All Regimental stretcher bearers should attend a four day course, which should include instruction in :-

(i) Elementary Anatomy and Physiology.
(ii) Arrest of haemorrhage.
(iii) Application of bandages.
(iv) Application of splints.

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(i) Elementary Anatomy and Physiology.
(ii) Arrest of haemorrhage.
(iii) Application of bandages.
(iv) Application of splints.
(v) Various ways of carrying a wounded person.

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Details of this course have been arranged by Major Lodugus in in conjunction with Lieut Thomas.
Following are the dates for these courses :-

26 Feb - 1 Mar.	114 Inf Regt.	1 Bn.
2 Mar - 5 Mar.	"	2 Bn.
6 Mar - 9 Mar.	"	3 Bn.
10 Mar - 13 Mar.	76 "	11 Bn.
14 Mar - 17 Mar.	"	2 Bn.
18 Mar - 21 Mar.	"	3 Bn.
22 Mar - 25 Mar.	155 Arty Regt.	1 & 2 Gruppo (Arty)
26 Mar - 29 Mar.	"	3 & 4 Gruppo (Arty)
30 Mar - 2 Apr.	"	5 & 6 Gruppo (Arty)

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(b) Nursing Orderlies.

Combat Group, MANTOVA should arrange courses for Regimental Nursing Orderlies. The duration of the courses will be five days and they should be given by the staff of, and at the Group Field Hospitals.

Instruction should include :-

(i) Routine observation of cases.
(ii) Bed making.
(iii) Medicines.
(iv) Baths.
(v) Surgical cleanliness.
(iv) Infectious diseases.

(c) Water Duty Men and Water Truck Drivers.

Courses in Water Duties should be arranged as soon as water vehicles become available.

The instructors should be drawn from personnel who attended the Water Duty Course at the School of Hygiene, BELVEDERE on 13 - 21 Feb 45. When all Water Duty men and Water Truck Drivers have received instruction a 100% reserve should be trained.

(d) Sanitary Orderlies.

Owing to the great importance of this subject courses should be arranged to form a hundred per cent trained reserve of Sanitary Orderlies.

These courses should follow the same form as the Hygiene Course of 27 Jan - 1 Feb 45.

(e) Malaria Squads.

The Combat Group should arrange to form Anti-malaria Squads in all units. Where possible the squads will be drawn from existing stretcher bearer groups.

The scale should be not less than one corporal and two men for every unit with a strength of 10 - 150 men.

Courses will be arranged for these squads. Training will be the responsibility of the medical officer of the unit who will be advised by the Anti-Malaria Section of the Sezione di Sanita.

(f) Driving Instruction, Medical Units.

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(c) Water Duty [illegible] water [illegible]

Courses in Water Duties should be arranged as soon as water vehicles become available.

The instructors should be drawn from personnel who attended the Water Duty Course at the School of Hygiene, [illegible] TO on 19 - 21 Feb 45. When all Water Duty men and Water Truck Drivers have received instruction a 100% reserve should be trained.

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(f) Driving Instruction, Medical Units.

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Courses of driving instruction should be held for medical unit drivers. Unit vehicles will be used. Instructors should include, Transport Officer 104 Sezione di Sanita and Transport NCO's selected by him.

(g) Small Arms Instruction.

Instruction should be arranged for all medical and medical driving personnel in small arms. All personnel under instruction should be given firing practice at least once every two weeks.

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4. TRAINING IN INFANTRY BATTALION.

(a) Shortage of Trained Officers.

Under ideal conditions the sub units should be trained by the officers who will lead them in battle. Where the officers are capable, this should be done now. Where they are not, other methods must be adopted. Sub units must be trained by "experts", and steps must be taken to bring partially trained officers up to standard.

The following are required for this purpose :-

(i) A demonstration sub unit.
(ii) A training team.
(iii) A cloth model.

(b) Method of Instruction.

It is suggested that the platoon attack might be taught as follows :-

(i) The training team plan an attack.
(ii) The attack is taught to officers on the model.
(iii) It is then carried out as a TEWT.
(iv) It is then demonstrated to the troops.
(v) It is then carried out by successive platoons, under the direction of the training team.
(vi) Other attacks are then carried out on the model, as TEWT's, and with troops. As soon as the platoon commander is trained, he should be put in full command and made responsible for training.

NOTE. It all sounds rather laborious, but a platoon exercise is such a small affair that several platoons can be put over the course in a day.

Other operations; patrols, defence, night operations can be taught in a similar manner.

(c) Platoon in Attack.

(i) For an attack supported by platoon weapons, the platoon should be organised into a "fire group" and an "assault group". The fire group may be composed as follows :-

Pl Sgt.

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(b) [illegible].

It is suggested that the platoon attack might be taught as follows :-

(i) The training team plan an attack.
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(i) For an attack supported by platoon weapons, the platoon should be organized into a "fire group" and an "assault group". The fire group may be composed as follows :-

Pl Sgt.
One Section complete.
Pl HQ. 1 L G Gp.
2" Mortar.
PIAT.

The Sgt will command this party, and will also act as fire controller for the 2" mortar.

(ii) If possible the fire group will not move during the attack. When the assault group is firm on the objective it will move up.

(iii) The weapons will be sited according to their characteristics. The mortar may be some distance away from the L G's.

(iv) Tasks of the rifle group :-

(a) To seize the fire group position and provide local protection.
(b) To deal with surprise targets, especially to a flank.

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(c) To thicken up the fire of the "heavy weapons" on their targets.

(d) General battle duties, including ammunition supply.

(v) During the attack the Pl Sgt will support the assault group by "playing the piano" with his various weapons in accordance with his "reading of the battle".

(vi) In a perfect platoon attack the assault group will walk the whole way from the start to within a few yards of the objective without stopping, crawling, running or firing their weapons. Except for a "partridge"shot at a surprise target, firing is the job of the fire group. Crawling should only be resorted to when absolutely necessary. Running is only necessary when crossing an open space (+). Stopping and lying down means the failure of the attack.

(vii) In the final assault the men should fire their weapons from the hip, throw smoke grenades and shout at the tops of their voices. Apart from the moral effect the object of firing in the assault is to take the place of the fire group who will have to "switch" at this stage.

(viii) The assault should be at right angles to the line of fire.

(+) It is good training exercise to carry out the whole attack at the double.

5. INTELLIGENCE TRAINING.

All IO's in the Artillery and Infantry Regiments have completed courses at the Intelligence Training Centre.

The training of intelligence sections should now be started, each IO training his own section under the supervision of the Regimental IO's. Commanders should realise the value of a good intelligence section to the efficient working of their Bde and pay particular attention to the selection of personnel for these.

IO's must be allowed to devote their time to training and should not be employed on miscellaneous staff duties at Regiment or Battalion Hqs.

The training of infantry intelligence sections should cover the following subjects.

(a) Regimental Intelligence Sections

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open spaces (+). [illegible] and lying down during the failure of the attack.

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IO's must be allowed to devote their time to training and should not be employed on miscellaneous staff duties at Regiment or Battalion HQs.

The training of Infantry intelligence sections should cover the following subjects.

(a) Regimental Intelligence Sections

General principles of intelligence.
Information required in the field.
Sources of information in the field.
Examination, recording, and transmission of information.
Deductions.
Reconnaissance.
Observation.
Treatment, examination, and disposal of prisoners' documents and material.
Organisation of enemy army up to division.
Enemy tactics, weapons, and tactical signs.
Liaison with Artillery OPs.
Situations maps.

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Report and Message Writing.
Topographical information.
Map reading.
The use of the compass.
Field sketching and enlargements.
Office work at Regimental Headquarters.
Intelligence organization in the Group.
Operational role of Regiment Intelligence Section.
Conventional signs, symbols and abbreviations.
Elementary tactical instruction.

It is essential that the Regiment intelligence section should be exercised in the practical application of the above subjects.

(b) Battalion Intelligence Section.
Lectures:-
Principles of intelligence org.
Information required and sources.
Organization of an infantry battalion, regiment, artillery regiment.
Military vocabulary and abbreviations.
Message writing.
Map reading.
Field sketching.
Situations maps at unit headquarters.
Reports and messages.
The use of the compass.
Treatment etc of prisoners.
Office work at unit headquarters.
Organization of enemy army, especially enemy units and brigades.
Elementary enemy tactics.
Disposal of captured documents and material.
Unit in attack.
Unit in defence.
Operational role and deployment of section.

Practical work :-
Use of ground and cover.
Camouflage and concealment.
Use of field glasses, compass etc.
Judging distance.
Map reading and location of map references on the ground.
Description of ground.
Recd and topographical reports.
Compass marches.

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Principles of intelligence work.
Information required and sources.
Organisation of an infantry battalion, regiment, artillery regiment.
Military vocabulary and abbreviations.
Message writing.
Map reading.
Field sketching.
Situations maps at unit headquarters.
Reports and messages.
The use of the compass.
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Elementary enemy tactics.
Disposal of captured documents and material.
Unit in attack.
Unit in defence.
Operational role and deployment of section.

Practical work :-
Use of ground and cover.
Camouflage and concealment.
Use of field glasses, compass etc.
Judging distance.
Map reading and location of map references on the ground.
Description of ground.
Road and topographical reports.
Compass marches.
Night operations and patrols.
Selection and siting of observation posts.
Simple field sketching and map enlargements.
Observation.
Writing of reports.
Message writing.

6555

It will be found that simple "telephone battles" give good training to I sections and signallers at the same time.

6. STAFF DUTIES

Commanders at all levels should now give detailed thought to the functioning of their HQs in the field. Responsibilities of staff officers must be fixed and the HQ practised by means of skeleton exercises so that it works as a smooth machine and all personnel get the maximum amount of rest.

7/.....sheet

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

A skeleton exercise will be organised by 56 HAU at a date to be notified later which will be designed to strain to the ut ost the HQ organisation throughout the Group.

In the Field.
AG/ec

Lt-Col,
GS.

Distribution :-

HQ Combat Group ANTOVA
G I
G II
DAQ
RA
RE
SIGS
ST
ORD
[redacted]
Camp
Try Inc 7 copies
DAT 2 "
MMLA
Lt-Col Howard
War Diary 2
RTC ICP

6554

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

In the Field.
AG/ec

LV-351.
3S.

Distribution :-

HQ Combat Group ANTOVA
G I
G II
DAQ
RA
RE
SIGS
ST
ORD
RAME
Camp
Trg Inc 7 copies
D.T 2 "
MHA
Lt-Col Howard
War Diary 2
RTC ICF

6554

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

10337

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

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Mantova Gruppo

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.L.A.)
3/G/28/28
26 February 45

TO : 56 BLU
BLU MTC TCF CMSANO

Enclosed herewith find copy of AMF letter AMF/G442/C(AE)
dated 21 Feb 45, subject :- Mantova Gruppo.

R.G.A. Grover-Rawes
for Major General
M.M.L.A.

Capt
6552
6553

ek

0338

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

(COPY)

SUBJECT :- Mantova Gruppo

Allied Force Headquarters

Tele No. Freedom 518

AFHQ/642/Q(AE)

21 Feb 45

Ord (Br)

The completion date for equipment of the 5th (Mantova) Gruppo has been fixed at 31 Mar 45.

Will you please arrange that between now and 15 Mar 45 Depots meet demands from the B.L.O. on a priority next below Armies.

From 15 Mar 45 to 31 Mar 45 remaining unsatisfied indents from the Gruppo are to receive first priority.

(Sgd) J.J. SLOAN, Lt. Col.,
for Brigadier,
Q(AE).

SGG/MH

Copy to : MMLA
G-3

6552

10339

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

Subject:- Issue of Training Ammunition.

56 BLU
12 ST

000 16 BAD

25 Feb 45.

MMLA
DMT
Combat Group MANTOVA } for information.

6551.

1. Herewith signed and receipted copies of vouchers for training ammunition issued to 'MANTOVA' Combat Group under authority AFHQ/16/243 dated 16 Dec 44.

2. After the items have been priced may a copy of the voucher be returned please for onward transmission to HQ Combat Group Mantova.

Ste Mantova

In The Field.
RCM/mh

R C Miles
Major.
Lt Col,
GS.

0340

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Q (AE) BRANCH

VEHICLE RELEASE NOTE

Ref. VR/ 1510

Date 23 Feb. 45

To: No. 3 District for No. 3 Italian Combat Group (Thro' 56 MLU)

Release of the undermentioned vehicles is authorised.

Quantity	Serial	Description of Vehicles	
100	6003/10	M/Cycles Solo 500 cc Cl 1	6 Veh Gp Park
6	6010/10	Cars Lt Utility 4 x 2 Cl 1	" "
40	6095/00	Trucks 15 cwt 4 x 2 W/T Cl 1	9 Veh Pk Capua
3	6095/00	Trucks 15 cwt 4 x 2 W/T Cl 1 D	14 Veh Pk Rome
2	6095/00	" " " " Cl 1	6 Veh Gp Park
1	6095/00	" " " " Cl 1 D	" "
4	6060/00	" " " Air Compressor Cl 1 D	" "
1	6067/00	" " " Mechy ML Cl 1	9 Veh Pk Capua
1	6069/00	" " " " 9 KW Cl 1	" "
2	6470/10	Lorries 3 ton 4 x 4 W/S RASC Cl 1	6 Veh Gp Park
1	6355/00	Lorry 3 ton 6 x 4 Type "X" Cl 1	9 Veh Pk Capua
1	6341/00	Lorry 3 ton Mechy Type 130 Cl 1	" "
1	6321/10	Lorry 3 ton Mechy Type D 1 Cl 1	" "
20	6412/00	Lorries 3 ton 4 x 2 Stores Cl 1 (In lieu 1336 ton 3 Stores)	14 Veh Pk Rome
9	6665/00	Tractors A/Tank 4 x 4 Cl 1	9 Veh Pk Capua
20	6670/10	Tractors FA 6 x 4 Cl 1 D	6 Veh Gp Park
6	6685/00	Tractors LAA 4 x 4 Cl 1	9 Veh Pk Capua
13	6768/00	Trailers 15 cwt Water Cl 1	6 Veh Gp Park
1	6785/00	Trailer 15 cwt Gas Welding Cl 1	" "
7	6070/00	Trucks 15 cwt 4 x 2 Office Cl 1	9 Veh Pk Capua
Remarks : 2	6285/00	Lorry 3 ton 4 x 2 Maintenance Cl 1	" "
20	6200/00	Lorries 3 ton 4 x 2 GS Cl 1	6 Veh Gp Park
40	6200/00	" " " " Cl 1 D	" "

RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS

1. On receipt of this release authority, the unit or formation will await release instructions from Ord (Br).

2. AFHQ Q (AE) release and Ord (Br) release will both be handed to the Vehicle Park at the time of collection. The Vehicle Company have been instructed that release will not be made unless both copies of release voucher are presented.

Brigadier,
Q (AE)

6550

DISTRIBUTION :
Ord (Br)
File
MEXA
AC Wap

FILE
MANTOVA

Army/1002/534/1-45

10341

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

0 = 29/28

SECRET

Subject :- Mantova Gruppo

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Tele No. Freedom 218

AFHQ/6442/9(AK)

21 Feb 45.

Ord (Br)

The completion date for equipment of the 5th (Mantova) Gruppo has been fixed at 31 Mar 45.

Will you please arrange that between now and 15 Mar 45 Depots meet demands from the B.L.U. on a priority next below Armies.

From 15 Mar 45 to 31 Mar 45 remaining unsatisfied indents from the Gruppo are to receive first priority.

J.J. SLOAN, Lt. Col.,
for Brigadier,
Q(AK).

SGG/NH

Copy to : MMIA
G-3

Send a copy to 56 B.L.U.
R.T.C. (Cesena) BLU.
Q.(SO.)
A.Q
DADOS

Mantova

4548
6549

4452

10342

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

QVR 3 ○ AFHQ ≡ 29/28 ○ D/2793 E965

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

INCOMING MESSAGE

32/2V

MSG Center No : NMS121
Classification : SECRET
Precedence : ROUTINE
From : AFHQ
To Action : DISTHREE info 56 BLU MMIA 15 ARMY GROUP
MAIN & ARMY HQ 38 VEHICLE COY 4 GROUP
38 VEHICLE COY for 12 VP 37 VEHICLE COY attached
38 VEHICLE COY for 5 VP

Date / Time ~~Rec'd~~ : 21/1230
Date / Time Sent :
Reference NR : FX30366
Cite : FHQQE FHQRB

SECRET ○ Signed SACMED ○ Initial release of A vehicles to you for MANTOVA ITALIAN combat groups ○
1 ○ Under serial AVR 8401 ex 5VP ○ Universal carrier quantity 33 ○ Carriers 3 inch mortar quantity 16 ○ Carriers tracked towing quantity 27 ○ Trucks 4x4 armed personnel quantity 9 ○ all with complete kit ○
2 ○ Under serial AVR 8402 ex VP ○ light recce cars 4x4 GMC quantity 6 with (one except group) units 1 2 and 3 ○
3 ○ Vehicle Coy will advise DISTHREE when vehicles ready for collection ○
4 ○ DISTHREE will arrange unit drivers to collect vehicles on receipt of information para 3 ○

W.P.
23 Feb.

6548

CIPHER

10345

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

29/20

56 HAA
20 Q
13 Feb 45

AFHQ G-3 (Org 4)
Q(AE)
MMT
Land Forces Sub Commission AC M.M.L.A.
Q 3 District

NT NT

Ref AFHQ 9195 Q(AE) dated 10 Dec 44 and our 20 Q dated 20 Jan 45.

1. As at 10 Feb there are the following amendments to our report for week ending 24 Jan.

Under 1 (e).

Item	Entitlement	Releases	Drawn
Motorcycles Solo	370	6	-
15 cwt GS	311	23	3
Lorries 3 ton GS 4 x 2	321	26	6
Cars 2 Ltr 4 x 2	72	2	-

Under 2

Item		
CLOTH	Towels Hand.	9,300
	Socks worsted.	27,900
	Shirts, Angola, Drab	9,600
	Greatcoats	8,800 (Class XX issued)
	Drawers, woollen	9,600
	Vests, woollen.	9,600

65:7

Lt-Col.
GS.

In The Field.
JRM/cwf

0344

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

Subject: Arrival of Reinforcements for Combat Group "MANTOVA".

56 BLU
4 AG
2 Feb 45

M.M.I.A.

Ref visit of Col. PIDSLEY. M.M.I.A. to 56 BLU.

1. The return showing arrival of Reinforcements for Combat Group "MANTOVA" during the month of January is at appendix 'A' attached.

In The Field.
JRM/cwf

Lt. (P) Sup

Lt. 6576

G. (S.D) Ref. attached

Will you please instruct Warrington that Mantova is NOT to be looked on as a reinforcement centre for the records of misc personnel who, if fit on return, should go to CESANO, to be graded, equipped & trained before being posted on to any group

17 Feb.

4 Feb.

APPENDIX 'A'

DATE	PLACE OF ORIGIN	Number of Rfts
16 Jan 45	Cerseti - Rome	79
"	Teramo District	
"	Chieti District	
17 Jan 45	Cesano Depot	13
18 Jan 45	Rome District	12
19 Jan 45	Cerseti, Rome	101
20 Jan 45	47 Art Lecce	1
21 Jan 45	Avellino District	1
"	Cerseti, Rome	60
22 Jan 45	" "	27
"	Cosenza District	2
"	Cesano Depot	1
"	19 Inf Regt	1
"	Chieti District	6
"	Transit Camp, Afragola	578
"	11 Medical unit	1
23 Jan 45	Various units	27
24 Jan 45	Chieti District	10
"	Cesano Depot	5
"	Rest Camp Taranto	1
"	Information office for soldiers in transit, Naples	8
"	Military Hospital, Pagani	2
"	Salerno District	2
"	Cosenza District	2
"	Stationary HQ Carabinieri, Mesorace	3
25 Jan 45	Cerseti, Rome	115
26 Jan 45	" "	80
"	Chieti District	5
"	Transit Camp, Trani	3
"	Transit Camp, Naples	2
"	Various units	31
"	Teramo District	15
27 Jan 45	Transit Camp, Afragola	2
"	Information office for soldiers in transit, Naples	6
"	Rest Camp, Taranto	1
"	Cesano	3
"	Teramo District	1
"	R. Calabria District	3
"	Cosenza District	1
"	Salerno District	1
"	Chieti District	1
"	Various units	11
"	Information office for soldiers in transit, Naples	4
"	R. Calabria District	11
"	Information office for soldiers in transit, Naples	4
"	Cerseti, Rome	2

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

"	Information office for soldiers in transit, Naples	8
"	Military Hospital, Pagani	2
"	Salerno District	2
"	Cosenza District	2
"	Stationary HQ Carabinieri, Mesorace	3
25 Jan 45	Cerseti, Rome	113
26 Jan 45	" "	80
"	Chieti District	5
"	Transit Camp, Trani	3
"	Transit Camp, Naples	2
"	Various units	31
"	Teramo District	15
27 Jan 45	Transit Camp, Afragola	2
"	Information office for soldiers in transit, Naples	6
"	Rest Camp, Taranto	1
"	Cesano	3
"	Teramo District	1
"	R. Calabria District	3
"	Cosenza District	1
"	Salerno District	1
"	Chieti District	1
"	Various units	11
"	Information office for soldiers in transit, Naples	4
"	R. Calabria District	11
"	Information office for soldiers in transit, Naples	4
"	Cerseti, Rome	2
"	Various units	26
"	Rest Camp, R. Calabria	96
"	Cerseti, Rome	8
28 Jan 45	Transit Camp, Afragola	1
"	Various units	32
29 Jan 45	Various units	146
30 Jan 45	59 Inf Regt	13
"	13 Medical unit	5
"	Various units	141
"	Voluntary Group, Iglesias	70
31 Jan 45	Various units	7
	TOTAL	1786

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10347

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

1

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Q (AE) BRANCH

109

VEHICLE RELEASE NOTE

Ref. VR/ 1397

Date 16 Feb 45

To: No.3 District (for No.5 Italian Combat Group (Thru 56 MIB)

Release of the undermentioned vehicles is authorised.

Quantity	Serial	Description of Vehicles
25	6050/00	Trucks 15 cwt 4x2 GS Class 2 or 5 #
60	6200/00	Lorries 3 ton 4x2 GS Class 2 or 5 #
15	6212/00	Lorries 3 ton 4x4 A Dr Portee Class 1D 6 Veh Gp BAFF

DA 803
17/2
17/1 Kellermann 29/28

Remarks :

To be released from vehicles handed in to 409 EVP by Eighth Army

RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS

1. On receipt of this release authority, the unit or formation will await release instructions from Ord (Br).

2. AFHQ Q (AE) release and Ord (Br) release will both be handed to the Vehicle Park at the time of collection. The Vehicle Company have been instructed that release will not be made unless both copies of release voucher are presented.

D H Belson Capt 6544
Brigadier,
Q (AE)

DISTRIBUTION :

Ord (Br)
File
56 MIB
PENZA

GHQ1/882/Sal/1-45.

0348

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

O O

29/56

ORD(S)

ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

(AAI) Form 2

Feb. 43. PRESIDIO 1967

10 Feb 1945

RELEASE NOTE

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item Sights Dial No. 9. Qty 8

To whom released XXX District for MANTOVA Italian Combat Gp

Release No. (AE) 50/29

Remarks

Special Instructions From Base Stocks.

Capt.,

for Brigadier, O.C.

Copy to:-

HQ XXX District
5th AGRU
MMLA

6543

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

107

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

(AFHQ)

TEL. NO. [illegible]

...7.8... Feb ...1945

OLD(F5)

RELEASE NOTE

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores in Italian theatre

Item	Qty
Rangefinders No. 2.	1

To whom released XII District for MANTOVA Italian Combat Group

Release No. (F5) 82/16

Remarks

Special Instructions From Base Stocks

Capt.,

65:2

Copy to:-

HQ XII District
54 ELU
MMLA

0350

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

29/28 106

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Field Artillery Section

353.0-19(Br) FREEDOM 489

SUBJECT:- Training equipment

To:- IRT 13 Feb 45

Copy to:- Hq Military Mission, Italian Army
CC 56 BLU
Q(AF)

1. During the course of a recent visit to MANTOVA GRUPPO it was reported that there were insufficient vehicles in the formation to permit personnel of the artillery regiment to receive instruction in driving, and that unless sufficient training vehicles could be made available at once this unit would be unable to move forward as scheduled.

2. It is considered that, in order that sufficient drivers may be trained within the specified time, that 40 vehicles, runners but of any type, should be issued to the artillery unit at once.

3. Arrangements have been made for driving instructors to be provided from RA Training Depot as soon as the vehicles have been received by the unit.

J.M. Gordon Lt. Col.
for Major General,
Chief, Field Artillery Section.

/wsjt

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Q (AE) BRANCH

2/1/24 105

VEHICLE RELEASE NOTE

Ref. VR/ 1268

Date 5 Feb. 43

To:

No. 3 District for No. 5 Italian Combat Group.
(Through 56 B.L.U.)

Release of the undermentioned vehicles is authorized.

Quantity		Description of Vehicles	
6003/10	6	M/Cycles Solo 500cc. Class I	9 Veh Pk, Cayan.
6010/10	2	Cars 2 str 4x2 Lt. Utility Class 5.	15 FVP, Naples.
6050/00	20	Trucks 15-cwt 4x2 GS Class 2,	ex Gandar Vehs. 14 Veh Pk, Rome.
6200/00	20	Lorries 3-ton 4x2 GS Class 2.	ex Gandar Vehs. 14 Veh Pk, Rome.

Remarks :

Part Scale of Maint. Vehicles.

Veh. Inventory Item Appx. No. 6540

RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS

1. On receipt of this release authority, the unit or formation will await release instructions from Ord (Br).

2. AFHQ Q (AE) release and Ord (Br) release will both be handed to the Vehicle Park at the time of collection. The Vehicle Company have been instructed that release will not be made unless both copies of release voucher are presented.

D.H. Loom
Brigadier, Asst.
Q (AE)

DISTRIBUTION :

Ord (Br)
File

AMOS/AG2/Sal/1-45 56 BLU MAIA

10352

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

I General State of Organization by Arms of MANTOVA Group as at 31 Jan 45.

(a)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Headquarters	31	119	35	150	46
76 Infantry Regt (incl LAD)	114	2584	95	2367	90
114 Infantry Regt (incl LAD)	114	2584	102	2346	90
155 Artillery Regt (incl LAD)	93	1457	108	1322	99
104 Engineer Bn (incl LAD)	25	831	39	839	36
104 Medical Section	14	237	12	133	12
248 Field Hospital	6	44	6	39	6
501 Field Hospital	6	44	6	43	6
104 Supply and Transport Coy	13	294	18	271	17
104 Ordnance Field Park	4	69	6	64	6
Mech Engineer Wksps	6	168	3	117	3
Mech Engineer Platoon	1	39	1	32	1
99 Carabinieri Section	1	50	1	52	1
151 Carbinieri Section	1	50	1	52	1
	429	8570	433	7827	414

+ This colum shows postal state of loan personnel

0353

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

...ns of MANTOVA Group as at 31 Jan 45.

							Officers (i)	O.R.s (ii)
	31	119	35	150	46	190	113%	126%
	114	2584	95	2367	90	2191	83%	92%
	114	2584	102	2346	90	1973	98%	91%
	93	1457	108	1322	99	1180	116%	92%
	25	831	39	839	36	774	156%	101%
	14	237	12	133	12	121	85%	56%
	6	44	6	39	6	38	100%	89%
	6	44	6	43	6	37	100%	98%
	13	294	18	271	17	263	138%	91%
	4	69	6	64	6	53	150%	92%
	6	168	3	117	3	108	50%	70%
	1	39	1	32	1	32	100%	82%
	1	50	1	52	1	46	100%	104%
	1	50	1	52	1	50	100%	104%
	429	8570	433	7827	414	7056	101%	92%

+ This column shows postal strength less personnel in hospital, on leave and A.W.O.L.

PART II Specialists and Tradesmen as at 31 Jan 45.

Serial Number	Type of Personnel	W.E.	Personnel Held on Posted Strength	Deficiencies of Personnel
1	Drivers	1012	643	369
2	Smiths	38	23	15
3	Bricklayers	56	51	5
4	Draughtsmen	11	9	2
5	Motor Mechanics	27	19	8
6	Electricians	46	22	24
7	Pump Operators	-	-	-
8	Sappers	24	24	-
9	Artists	-	-	-
10	Plumbers	8	2	6
11	Driver Mechanics	139	63	76
12	Boatmen	8	8	-
13	Motor Cyclists	316	234	82
14	Telephone Engineers (Q)	-	-	-
15	Radio Mechanics (Q)	15	6	9
16	Linesmen (Q)	43	64	-
17	W/T Operators (Q)	78	74	4
18	Telegraphists (Q)	28	30	-
19	Exchange Operators (Q)	15	28	-
20	Cipher Operators (Q)	8	8	-
21	Director Operators	-	-	-
22	Telephonists	-	-	-
23	Tracked Vehicle Drivers	229	85	144
24	Armourers	4	4	-
25	Armourer Mechanics	62	5	57
26	Carpenters	82	58	24
27	Mechanics	15	12	3
28	Signallers (X)	735	572	163
29	Engineers	-	-	-
30	Artificers	8	-	8
31	Medical Orderlies	59	49	10

(X) Unit Signallers of Arty and Inf Regts irrespective of trades. e.g. W/T Operators - Linesmen etc.

(Q) Personnel of Signals Coy in Engineer Bn only.

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

11	Driver Mechanics	139	63	76
12	Boatmen	6	8	-
13	Motor Cyclists	316	234	82
14	Telephone Engineers (Q)	-	-	-
15	Radio Mechanics (Q)	15	6	9
16	Lineman (Q)	43	64	-
17	W/T Operators (Q)	78	74	4
18	Telegraphists (Q)	28	30	-
19	Exchange Operators (Q)	15	28	-
20	Cipher Operators (Q)	8	8	-
21	Director Operators	-	-	-
22	Telephonists	-	-	-
23	Tracked Vehicle Drivers	229	85	114
24	Armourers	4	4	-
25	Armourer Mechanics	62	5	57
26	Carpenters	82	58	24
27	Mechanics	15	12	3
28	Signallers (X)	735	572	163
29	Engineers	-	-	-
30	Artificers	8	-	8
31	Medical Orderlies	59	49	10

(X) Unit Signallers of Arty and Inf Regts irrespective of trade, e.g. W/T Operators - Lineman etc.

(Q) Personnel of Signals Coy in Engineer Bn only.

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

10356

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

PART I Ground Elements of Organization by Arms of Service attached "SATOVA" Group as at [illegible]

	Unit (b)	Posted Strength Officers (c)	Posted Strength O.Rs (d)	Posted Strength Officers (e)	Posted Strength O.Rs (f)	Officers with Unit + (g)
1	Field Park Company	5	129	4	122	4
2	331 Field Hospital	7	58	7	52	5
3	318 Field Bakery	1	31	1	73	1
4	318 Provost Section	1	50	1	50	1
5	113 Mobile X-Ray Unit	1	6	1	4	1
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						

+ This colum shows posted strength less personnel [illegible]

10357

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

By Arm of Service and Type of Unit "A/TOV" Zone as at 31 Jan 45.

	Establishment		Posted Strength		Strength present with Unit +		Column (c) and (d) as % of Column (a) and (b)	
	Officers (a)	O.Rs (b)	Officers (e)	O.Rs (f)	Officers (g)	O.Rs (h)	Officers (i)	O.Rs (j)
	5	129	4	122	4	99	80%	98%
	7	58	7	52	5	37	100%	89%
	1	31	1	73	1	73	100%	235%
	1	50	1	50	1	48	100%	100%
	1	6	1	4	1	4	100%	67%

+ This column shows posted strength less personnel in hospital, on leave and A.W.O.L.

6537

PART II Specialists and Tradesmen as at 31 Jan 45.

Auxiliary Units,

Serial Number	Type of Personnel	W.E.	Personnel held on Postal Strength	Deficiencies Personnel
1	Drivers	50	39	11
2	Smiths	3	2	1
3	Bricklayers	2	1	1
4	Draughtsmen	1	-	1
5	Motor Mechanics	3	2	1
6	Electricians	2	1	1
7	Pump Operators	1	1	-
8	Sappers	2	2	-
9	Artists	2	2	-
10	Plumbers	4	2	2
11	Driver Mechanics	54	19	35
12	Boatmen	-	-	-
13	Motor Cyclists	-	-	-
14	Telephone Engineers (a)	-	-	-
15	Radio Mechanics (a)	-	-	-
16	Linesmen (a)	-	-	-
17	W/T Operators (a)	-	-	-
18	Telegraphists (a)	-	-	-
19	Exchange Operators (a)	-	-	-
20	Cipher Operators (a)	-	-	-
21	Director Operators	-	-	-
22	Telephonists	-	-	-
23	Tracked Vehicle Drivers	-	-	-
24	Armourers	-	-	-
25	Armourer Mechanics	-	-	-
26	Carpenters	-	-	-
27	Mechanics	-	-	-
28	Signallers (X)	4	4	-
29	Engineers	-	-	-
30	Artificers	-	-	-
31	Medical Orderlies	1	1	-

(X) Unit Signallers of Arty and Inf Regts irrespective of trades.

(a) W/T Operator - Linesman etc.

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| | | |

10360

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

FIL COMBAT GROUP MANTOVA.

01/995 di prot

P.M. 104 6 Feb 45

Subject :- Training Officers of "PICENO" Combat Group.

To :- SMRE Training.

Reference your telegramme 548/C/4/Add dated 5th inst.

I perfectly realise the necessities of the Training Centre at CESANO and the actual necessities of this Group. I then suggested to the General to exchange some officers in order to keep good instructors who are at the same time good commanders, meanwhile those who have attended the Special Infantry Courses will be kept, and actually they are fit as instructors and not as commanders.

The change would be as the attached letter.

The Officers Commanding 56 BLU and Training Increment agree to such arrangements because they are convenient for the organization and the training of the personnel.

I will await the decision to execute the order as the above telegramme.

Signed Guido Bologna., General.

6536

0361

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

Officers of the Combat Group PICENO whom it is desired to transfer to the Combat Group MANTOVA

Capitano	MASIA	G	76 Inf Regt.
S Ten	GASPERINI	G	
Capitano	SIBILIA	E	114 Inf Regt.
S. Ten	BONINI	G	
S. Ten	DE VECCHI	G	
S. Ten	DA RE	G	
S. Ten	DANIELI	F	
S. Ten	FLORIDI	O	

Officers of the Combat Group MANTOVA whom it is desired to transfer in exchange to the Combat Group PICENO.

S. Ten	FANTINI E	76 Inf Regt.
S. Ten	CAMMARATA.A	
S. Ten	DONISOTTI.E	114 Inf Regt.
S. Ten	SOLARI W	
S. Ten	BAZZOCCHI.U	
S. Ten	MONTALBERTI.C	
S. Ten	SACCHI G	
S. Ten	DI PUMPO S	

6537

101

"MANTOVA" Combat Group. H.Q.

Office of the Chief of Staff - 1st Section

N. 01/988 of prot

Feb 5th 1945

Subject: Dislocation of Combat Group.

File Mantova

agreed with OC 56 BLU that Telese move be off a local dispersal like its place - G3 Ltd WP 6 Feb

To:- Lt Col. GIBSON. B.L.U.

My dear Colonel,

In reference to our exchange of views concerning the possible dislocation of the "MANTOVA" Combat Group during the current period before its transference north of ROME, I would like to make the following considerations.

The preference by me expressed for a solution which merely envisage billeting of the two Infantry Regiments now under canvas, instead of moving the entire Combat Group to the TELESE area was based essentially on the advisebility of eliminating a long critical period for all units and services, entailing a notable interruption in training activities which are for us the primary consideration. Moreover this same preference was linked up with the possibility of reaching a more satisfactory solution than would be possible even in the TELESE area

The above view is taken also with an eye to the very limited transport at present available, not only for moving the Group but for the functioning of services in the TELESE area, which possesses, as you know, a very poor road network with scant accesses to same, (e.g. only one bridge for all vehicles coming from NAPLES).

1. My proposal for a solution in the area now occupied offers the following advantages:-

(a) Movements limited to the two Infantry Regiments and to two units of the Engineer Bn.

(b) Shorter distances to be covered on foot by untrained troops. The majority of the units of the two Infantry Regiments could cover the distance in one day's march.

(c) Billets are, on the whole, comfortable, and better than those at TELESE.

These billets are in fact distributed, for the most part, in schools Camp buildings. Buildings of the E.C.A., out-of-use Railway Stations,

6534

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...vantage billeting of the two Infantry Regiments now under canvas, instead of moving the entire Combat Group to the TELESE area was based essentially on the advisability of eliminating a long critical period for all units and services, entailing a notable interruption in training activities which are for us the primary consideration. Moreover this same preference was linked up with the possibility of reaching a more satisfactory solution than would be possible even in the TELESE area

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(b) Shorter distances to be covered on foot by untrained troops. The majority of the units of the two Infantry Regiments could cover the distance in one day's march.

(c) Billets are, on the whole, comfortable, and better than those at TELESE.

These billets are in fact distributed, for the most part, in schools Camp buildings. Buildings of the E.C.A., out-of-use Railway Stations, big empty houses, monastries etc. The principle services would benefit from the choice: good road network, and railway stations at BENEVENTO and AVELLINO ; breadbaking on location; good water everywhere etc

(d) Good terrain for training

(e) Advisability of a choice speedily and easily carried out by Infantry in view also of a transference shortly forthcoming of the entire Combat Group to a location north of ROME

Good parking facilities for all vehicles.

2. From summary recces made , and from information gleaned from Officers of " FOLGORE" Combat Group, it is learned that the TELESE area presents the following drawbacks:-

(a) Excessive breaking up of billeted units, in some cases, soldiers and civilians mixed together.

(b) Scant facilities for parking transport which in many cases has to be lined up along the roads inside built up areas.

In order to take up quarters in the TELESE area it would be necessary to move ALL units and services of the Combat Group thus placing a much bigger load on transport and subtracting a much longer time period from training.

In closing I wish, however, to comfirm what I told you in our conversation that our one desire remains that of achieving full training as rapidly as possible in order to speed the day in which we can take our place in the War of Liberation.

We will therefore accept with good cheer any solution which relieves the Infantry from it's current predicament. On the other hand, as I also mentioned to you, we would be even happier if the foreseen move to [redacted] area North of ROME could take place as soon as possible

Signed: General. BOLOGNA.

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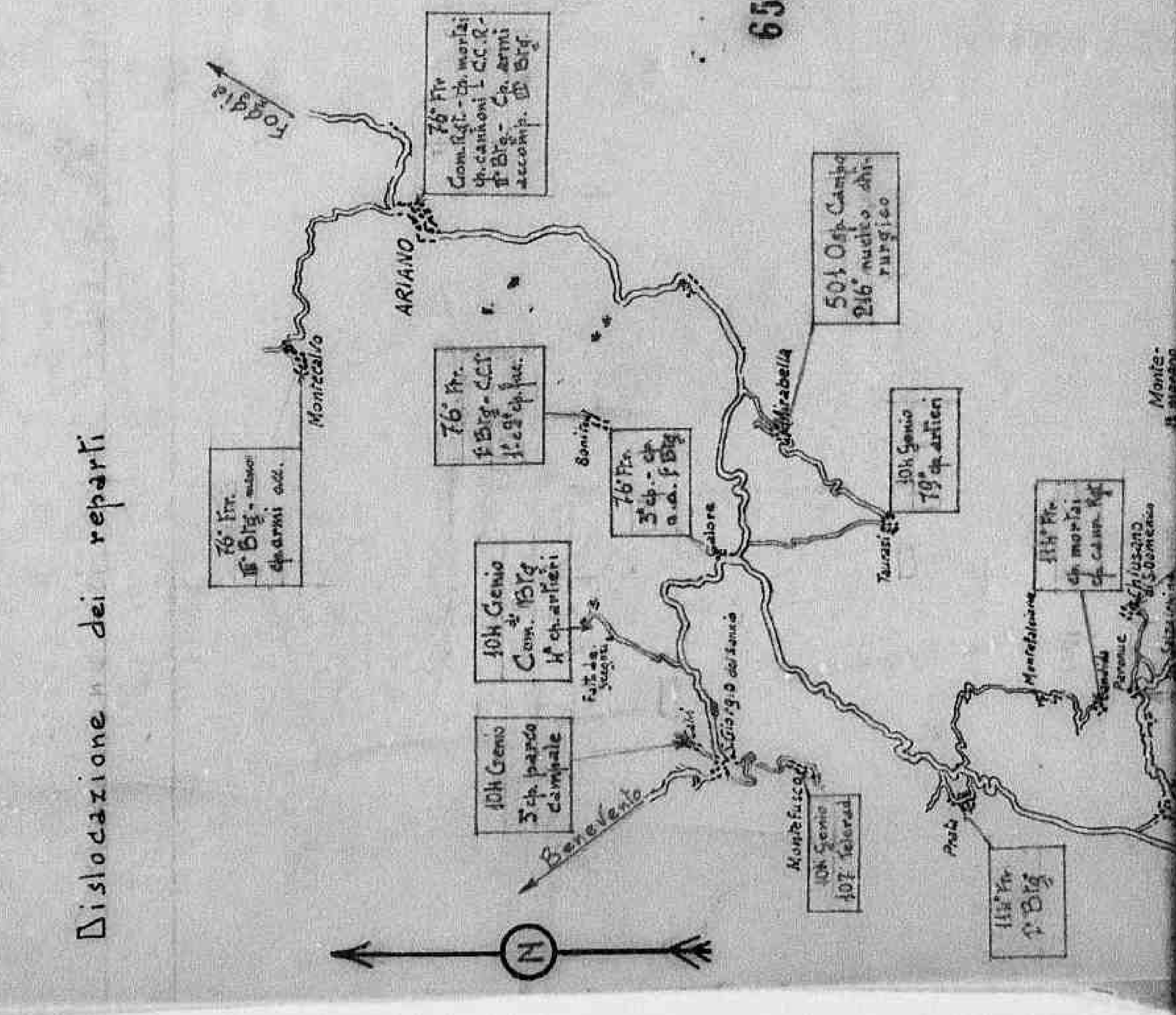
Dislocazione dei reparti



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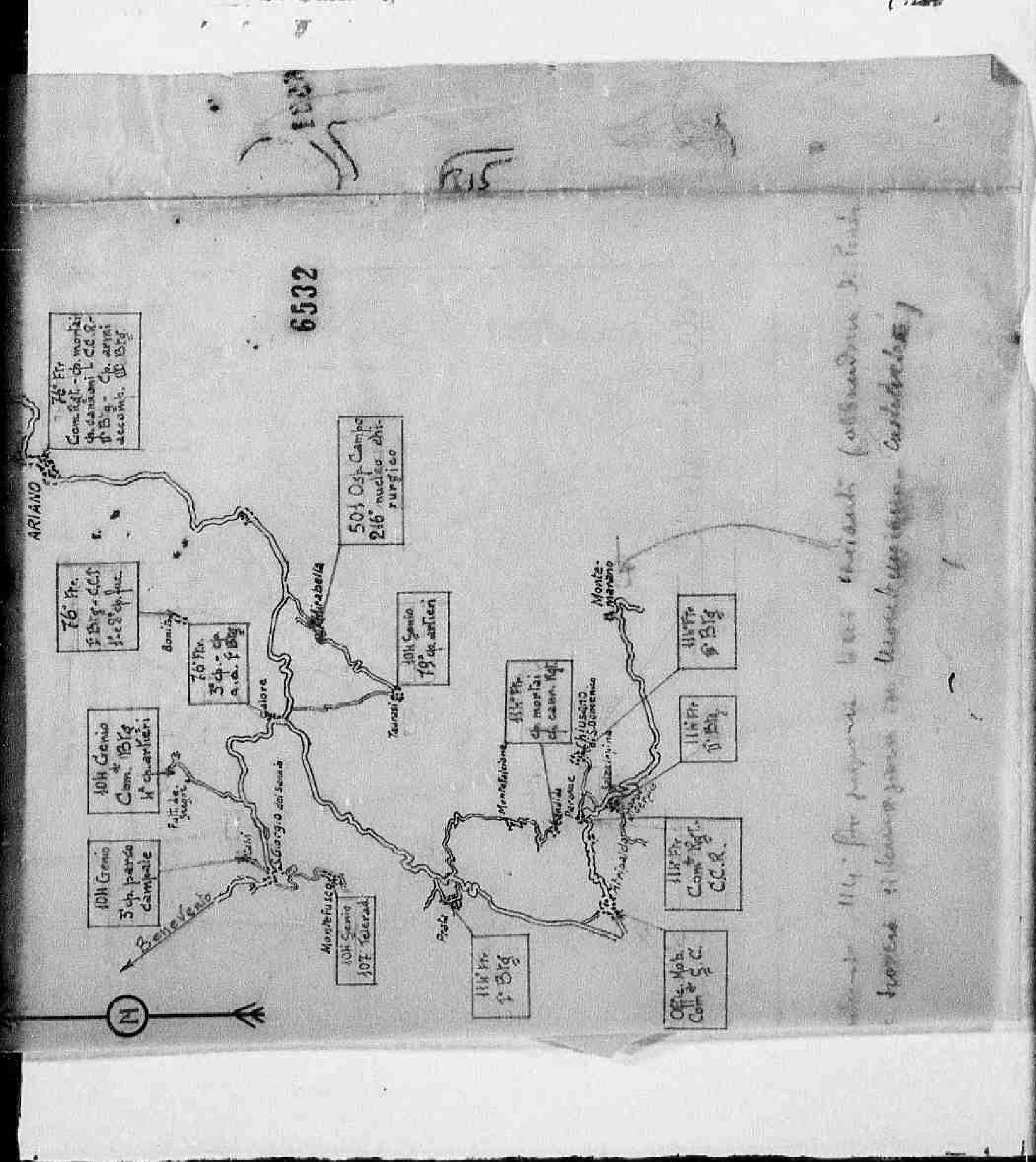
6532



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

100

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Q (AE) BRANCH

VEHICLE RELEASE NOTE

Ref. VR/ 1258

Date 4 Feb. 45

To: MET AHQ for No. 5 Italian Combat Group Through 56 HLU.

Release of the undermentioned vehicles is authorised.

Quantity	Description of Vehicles			
		MAKE	WD NO.	CLASS
3 Tons x 2 GS		Ford	L 4726280	V
4 x 4		"	L 4963849	V
"		"	L 4965563	V
"		"	L 450493	V
"		"	L 4722175	V
"		"	L 4522633	V
"		Chev	L 1304455	V
15 cwt 4 x 2		Ford	Z 4845209	V
Tractor LAA 4 x 4		Bedford	4921782	V
Motor Cycles		Ariel	G 5361208	III
"		"	5361062	III
"		Norton	4596923	III
"		Matchless	G 4843210	III
"		"	4841339	IV
"		"	4996882	III
"		"	4843215	III
"		"	4992586	III
"		"	4993703	III
		FRAME NO	7631	III

Remarks :

REMARKS: TRAINING VEHICLES.

RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS

1. On receipt of this release authority, the unit or formation will await release instructions from Ord (Br).

2. AFHQ Q (AE) release and Ord (Br) release will both be handed to the Vehicle Park at the time of collection. The Vehicle Company have been instructed that release will not be made unless both copies of release voucher are presented.

D. H. Cowan
Brigadier,
Q (AE)

DISTRIBUTION :

Ord (Br)
56 HLU.

Q(AE)/BR2/3M/1-45.

0368

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

This Can be filled

MANTOVA COMBAT GROUP. 31 DEC 1944

2

PART I. General state of organization by arms.

Serial	Unit	W.E.		Posted Strength		Strength present with unit. *	
(a)	(b)	Offrs. (c)	OR's (d)	Offrs. (e)	OR's (f)	Offrs. (g)	OR's (h)
1.	Headquarters	31	119	32	119	31	119
2.	76 Infantry Regt (incl LAD)	114	2584	79	2139	74	1617
3.	114 Infantry Regt (incl LAD)	114	2584	102	2326	70	1625
4.	155 Arty Regt (incl LAD)	93	1457	102	1360	82	923
5.	104 Engineer Regt (incl LAD)	25	831	33	726	23	497
6.	104 Med Bde	14	237	12	89	12	76
7.	248 Field Hospital	6	44	5	42	5	37
8.	501 Field Hospital	6	44	5	42	5	37
9.	104 Supply and Transport Coy	13	294	19	257	17	244
10.	104 Ordnance Field Park	4	69	4	69	4	52
11.	Mech Engineers Shops	6	165	2	101	2	90
12.	Mech Engineer Platoon	1	39	1	31	1	31
13.	99 Carabinieri Section	1	50	1	54	1	43
14.	151 Carabinieri Section	1	50	1	52	1	49
	TOTAL	429	8570	399	7407	323	5440

Posted Strength = 7806 Deficiency (Posted) = 1194

Fighting Strength = 5768 Deficiency (Fighting) = 3232

* This column shows posted strength less

Reinforcements Despatched since this Return = 600 c

10369

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

MANTOVA COMBAT GROUP. 31 DEC 1944

29/28

cation by arms.

W.E.		Posted Strength		Strength present with unit. *		Posted Strength as percentage of W.E.	
Offrs. (c)	OR's (d)	Offrs. (e)	OR's (f)	Offrs. (g)	OR's (h)	Offrs (i)	OR's (j)
31	119	32	119	31	119	103%	100%
114	2584	79	2139	74	1617	69.30%	82.85%
114	2584	102	2326	70	1625	90%	90%
93	1457	102	1360	82	925	107%	93%
25	831	33	726	23	497	132%	85%
14	237	12	89	12	76	85%	38%
6	44	5	42	5	37	100%	95%
6	44	5	42	5	37	83%	95%
13	294	19	257	17	244	145%	87%
4	69	4	69	4	52	100%	100%
6	163	2	102	2	90	33%	60%
1.	39	1	31	1	31	100%	80%
1	50	1	54	1	43	100%	100%
1	50	1	52	1	49	100%	99%
429	8570	399	7407	323	5440	23%	88%

= 1194

= 3232

* This column shows posted strength less personnel in hospital, on leave and [illegible].

Reinforcements Despatched since this Return = 600 ex Afragola

WO 23

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

PART I General state of Organisation by arms of Auxiliary Units attached "MANTOVA" Group.

Serial (a)	Unit (b)	W.E. Offrs (c)	W.E. OR's (d)	Posted Strength Offrs (e)	Posted Strength OR's (f)	Strength Present with unit Offrs (g)	Strength Present with unit OR's (h)
1.	3 Field Park Company	5	129	5	160	4	1
2.	331 Field Hospital	7	58	7	53	6	
3.	53 Combat Gp Transit Camp	6	105	7	112	7	1
4.	318 Field Bakery	1	50	1	36	1	
5.	318 Carabinieri Section	1	50	1	50	1	
	TOTAL	20	392	21	411	19	3

This column shows posted strength less on leave and AWOL.

0371

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

tion by arms of Auxiliary Units attached "MANTOVA" Group.

W.E.	Posted Strength		Strength Present with unit #		Column (e) and (f) as a % of colums (c) and (d)	
Offrs (c)	OR's (d)	Offrs (e)	OR's (f)	Offrs (g)	OR's (h)	Offrs (i)	OR's (j)
5	129	5	160	4	149	100%	124%
7	58	7	53	6	42	100%	90%
6	105	7	112	7	112	117%	105%
1	50	1	36	1	36	100%	72%
1	50	1	50	1	49	100%	100%
20	392	21	411	19	388	-	-

this column shows posted strength less personnel in hospital, on leave and AWOL.

10372

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PART II Specialists and Tradesmen.

Serial Number	Type of Personnel	W.E.	Mod. M.E.	Personnel Held on Posted Strength	Deficiencies of Personnel	
					According to M.H.A.	W.E.
1.	Drivers	1041	1204	759	170 Acctg Tank & Veh Drvrs 375	282
2.	Smiths	38	38	20	18	18
3.	Bricklayers	56	56	46	10	10
4.	Draughtsmen	11	7	10	3 surplus	1
5.	Motor Mechanics	17	91	11	80	6
6.	Electricians	40	35	18	17	22
7.	Pump Operators		14			
8.	Sappers	24	24	23	1	1
9.	Artists (Draftsmen)		2			
10.	Plumbers	6	8	1	7	5
11.	Driver Mechanics	109	171	57	114	52
12.	Boatmen	8	8	7	1	1
13.	Motor Cyclists	295	277	227	50	68
14.	Telephone Engineers #		7			
15.	Radio Mechanics #	2	16	1	15	1 #
16.	Linesmen #	43	43	44	1 surplus	#
17.	W/T Operators #	76	89	43	46	33 #
18.	Telegraphists #	268	39	80	41 surplus	188 #
19.	Exchange Operators #	39	15	35	10 surplus	4 #
20.	Cipher Operators #	13	13	13		#
21.	Director Operators	81	95	60	35	21
22.	Telephonists	94	1	93		1
23.	Tracked Wheeled Drivers	218	See Drivers	70	See Drivers	148
24.	Armourers	6	78	6	57	
25.	Armourer Mechanics	70		15		55
26.	Carpenters	80	82	46	36	34
27.	Mechanics	51	37	32	5	19
28.	Signallers *	749		333		416 *
29.	Engineers	140		140		
30.	Artificers	13	13	10	3	3
31.	Medical Orderlies	86	123	72	51	14

* Unit Signallers of Arty and Inf Regts irrespective of trades, e.g. W/T operators - Linesmen, etc.

Personnel of Sig Coy in Engineer Bn only.

† Incl Tracked Veh Drivers

Θ Plus 32 other arms

Ⓓ Plus 367 other arms

X Plus 18 other arms

T Plus 40 other arms

N.B. Figures in pencil are in accordance with new Mod "A" W.E.

10373

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Q (AE) BRANCH

VEHICLE RELEASE NOTE

Ref. VR/ 1244

Date 3 Feb 45

To: No.3 Dustrict (for 5 Italian Combat Group
Through 56 BLU)

Release of the undermentioned vehicles is authorised.

Serial	Quantity	Description of Vehicles	
NK	1	Trailer 8 ton Low Loading Class 1	9 Vehicle Park Capua
6663/10	1	Tractor 6 ton 6x6 Mack Gun Tower Class1	" " "

Remarks :

6528

RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS

1. On receipt of this release authority, the unit or formation will await release instructions from Ord (Br).

2. AFHQ Q (AE) release and Ord (Br) release will both be handed to the Vehicle Park at the time of collection. The Vehicle Company have been instructed that release will not be made unless both copies of release voucher are presented.

Brigadier,
Q (AE)

DISTRIBUTION :

Ord (Br)
File
MMIQ
5t BLU

0374

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

SECRET

SIGNAL

Q 1111 96

FROM MAIA 03 A

TO AFHQ FOR G3 (OPG)

INFO 3 DIST
56 BLO
56 AREA FOR D M T

SD 2233

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION SECRET

REF CONVERSATION BRIG A N D E R S O N (.) IN VIEW OF EFFECT ON MORALE AND TRAINING OF LACK OF ACCOMODATION IN S G I O R G I O AREA STRONGLY RECOMMEND IMMEDIATE MOVE OF M A N T O V A COMBAT GROUP TO BILLETS IN T E L E S E AREA VACATED BY FOLGORE GROUP (.) INF COULD MARCH IN TWO STAGES IF NECESSARY

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

W Pidsley
AUTHENTICATED Colonel

S/C/29/26
Circ
B/B (2)

ok

6527

0375

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

SUBJECT: Mantova Combat Group

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
T.E. M. PERIOD 127.
AFHQ/3123/2(AG).
27 Jan 45.

M.G. 5 District

1. Authority is given for the issue of personal clothing and personal equipment to the scale laid down in 2(AG) Admin Instruction No. 3 to the MANTOVA Combat Group. Will you please proceed with this, not on a priority basis, but progress should be made so that the Group is complete as regards clothing and personal equipment as soon as availability permits.

2. Authority is also given for this Group to commence drawing G.1098 stores and equipment in accordance with scales issued. It should be made quite clear, however, that this Group is not on priority for equipment at present, and issues should be made only of items which are in reasonably good supply, and can be supplied without prejudice to current operational and priority needs. The object of authorising issue of 1098 equipment now is to avoid the Group being burdened suddenly at the last minute with an overwhelming amount of Ord stores.

3. Release of controlled stores will be made by this HQ as they become available.

4. Will you please arrange for a report to be rendered weekly on the same lines as that rendered by other Groups.

R.W. Scarbrough

R.W. SCARBROUGH, Major,
for Major-General G-4(Br)

RWS/WPI

Copy to: Ord(Br)
16 TELU
MMLA

6523
6526

10376

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

SECRET

56 RMJ
7 Q

SUBJECT:- Vehicles - Maintenance Scale.

HQ 3 District.

25 Jan 45.

Reference AFHQ Q(AE) Administrative Instruction No.3 dated 17 Sept 44.

1. Under the a/m letter the Combat Groups were entitled to receive the following scales of transport as a maintenance scale :-

Lorries 3 ton GS 4 x 2	40.
Trucks 15 cwt water 4 x 2	10.
Trucks 15 cwt GS 4 x 2	40.
Ambulances	4.
Cars 2 str 4 x 2	4.
M/C's	6.

2. Owing to the fact that the date for equipping Mantova Battle Group was unsettled the release of the maintenance scale was deferred until it was certain that the Group was not to be equipped immediately. MGF have now informed this HQ that it is not proposed to complete equipping this Group till 15 Apr 45.

3. This Group has as yet only received the following :

Lorries 3 Ton GS 4 x 2	6.
Trucks 15 cwt water	6.
Trucks 15 cwt GS 4 x 2	3.

Further the condition of the few Italian vehicles held by the Group is very bad and once a vehicle goes off the road it is well nigh impossible to find the spares to carry out the necessary repairs.

4. In view of the above would it be possible to release sufficient vehicles to complete the maintenance scale of transport for the Group and thus enable it to function as an independent formation. At present frequent demands have to be made on 94 Sub Area for large numbers of vehicles in order to draw clothing stores and ammunition etc, and though every possible assistance is given by the Sub Area they are often very hard pressed to meet the details requested.

Lt Col,
GS.

In The Field.
RJM/mh.

Copy to:- MMIA
94 Sub Area

SUBJECT:- Mobilisation of LAD's

SECRET

56 BLU
2 Q
Jan 45.

HQ 3 District.

MA4. (SS)

1. The following units of the 'MANTOVA' Combat Group are now in possession of stores and weapons in fairly large quantities :-

Arty Regt	-	24 x 25 pr Guns 12 x 17 pr Guns 12 x 40 mm Bofors
Infantry	-	45 x 6 pr Guns 22 Carriers Numerous 2" and 3" Mortars.
Signals	-	90% of C1098 stores.

2. The immediate and serious problem is the maintenance and repair of these weapons, vehicles, stores etc especially in view of the fact that none of the LAD's in the Group are mobilised or have any equipment whatsoever.

3. The Group has a Mechanical Engineers Workshop, a Mechanical Engineers Platoon and Six LAD's which will operate as follows :-

1 to each Inf Regt	-	2
1 to Engr Bn	-	1
1 to Sigs Coy	-	1
2 to Arty Regt	-	2
TOTAL		6

4. It is requested that the Mechanical Engineers Workshops and three LAD's be mobilised forthwith, in order that they may carry out very necessary duties with the following units :-

Mechanical Engineer Workshops for Divisional Troops.

1 LAD	-	Arty Regt
1 LAD	-	Inf Regts
1 LAD	-	Signals Coy

5. The a/m LAD's are on WE MA/540/1 - SEL 130/1.
The Mechanical Engineers Wksps - WE MA/538/1 - SEL 129/1.

6. The mobilisation of the a/m units is especially necessary as previous experience has shown that if the workshops are not mobilised early, British equipment issued to the Group falls into very bad condition as immediate

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	TOTAL	6

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Mechanical Engineer Workshops for Divisional Troops.

1 LAD	-	Arty Regt
1 LAD	-	Inf Regts
1 LAD	-	Signals Coy

5. The a/m LAD's are on WE No/540/1 - SEL 130/1.
The Mechanical Engineers Wksps - WE No/538/1 - SEL 129/1.

6. The mobilisation of the a/m units is especially necessary as previous experience has shown that if the workshops are not mobilised early, British equipment issued to the Group falls into very bad condition as immediate minor repairs cannot be carried out.

In The Field,
JRM/mh.

Lt Col,
GS.

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0379

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

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. S/G/29/28
23 Jan 45

92

MEMO FOR G.C.C.

MANTOVA GROUP

1. General BOLOGNA'S Letter

I sopke to Lt. Col. GIBSON GSO1 56 HLU yesterday, 22 Jan. He states that all the points outstanding in General BOLOGNA'S letter have now been pretty well cleared up.

2. Move to TELESE

His latest proposal to General BOLOGNA is that the Infantry should move to the TELESE Area as soon as possible, to be followed later by the rest of the Group.

3. Reinforcements

Deficiencies in the Group against posted strength are about 1600. Against these 600 volunteers for combat have been sent to MANTOVA from AFRAGOLA on 22 Jan (500 ex SICILY Call-up, 100 ex SARDINIA). SMRE plan to send another 400 by the end of the month. 56 HLU state that they have the equipment and accomodation for these.

A further 1000 volunteers are being sent to MANTOVA as soon as equipment is available. Col. NOAKES is looking into this at AFHQ today, and supporting 56 HLU's indent for a further 1500 complete sets of clothing and equipment.

AB / 23/1

SP

6523

Subject :- Brief Report on Combat Group, MANTOVA.

SECRET

56 HLU
1 G

22 Jan 45

DMT.

Copy to :- MMIA.

Reference verbal request by DMT.

1. PERSONNEL STATE.

The Group is deficient of approximately 26 officers and 1153 other ranks, a deficiency of 6% and 12% respectively.

2. SPECIALISTS.

A considerable number of trained specialists of various types are deficient, the principal deficiency being drivers, 730 or 62% of W.E. Training is proceeding, but is limited by a shortage of vehicles.

3. OFFICERS.

The majority of senior officers are keen, willing to co-operate, and competent, though by British army standards their military knowledge is out of date.

4. QUALITY OF PERSONNEL.

An assessment is difficult without previous experience of Italian troops, but the keenness displayed in spite of bad weather and poor living conditions is very encouraging.

5. TRAINING.

At present this mainly consists of weapon training, and of courses for instructors and specialists. Sub-unit training is planned to begin in February. Training is handicapped by bad weather, and lack of indoor accommodation.

6. EQUIPMENT.

MT is badly needed both for training and maintenance. A number of other items are needed to facilitate training.

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

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The majority of senior officers are keen, willing to co-operate, and competent, though by British army standards their military knowledge is out of date.

4. QUALITY OF PERSONNEL.

An assessment is difficult without previous experience of Italian troops, but the keenness displayed in spite of bad weather and poor living conditions is very encouraging.

5. TRAINING.

At present this mainly consists of weapon training, and of courses for instructors and specialists. Sub-unit training is planned to begin in February. Training is handicapped by bad weather, and lack of indoor accomodation.

6. EQUIPMENT.

MT is badly needed both for training and maintenance. A number of other items are needed to facilitate training.

7. COMFORT OF TROOPS.

Living conditions are very severe. Bivouacs, poor clothing, 5522 rations and bad weather combine to make the troops most uncomfortable. Battle dress has been issued for the complete group and is much appreciated.

8. CONCLUSION.

There is good material in the Group, and, on the whole, a good spirit. They will never compare with Allied troops, but given reinforcements and reasonable opportunities, it is thought that they will be of considerable value in a defensive role.

Lt-Col.
GS.

In the Field.
ANG/ec

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

0382

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

RESTRICTED

90

SUBJECT:- Specialists from "CALABRIA" Division

LAND FORCES SUB COM A.C.
(MMIA)
S/0/29/28
23 Jan 45

Ministry of War

Reference your 11465/Mob of 17 Jan.

1. Your proposal that 77 specialists now in the CALABRIA Div, as detailed in your above letter, should be transferred from SARDINIA to the RTC ICF, CESANO, as rfts for the Combat Cps, is agreed.

2. Please arrange for these men to be replaced from call-ups and advise MMIA LO SARDINIA who will arrange shipment in the group of personnel moving to CESANO from SARDINIA call-up vide MMIA SD/53/1 of 18 Jan 45.

Major General
M M I A

Copy to:- MMIA LO SARDINIA (please arrange shipment as above)
MMIA LO FENSOUTH
MMIA LO RTC ICF

6528-11

0383

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

CONFIDENTIAL

56 B.L.U.
D.O.
19 Jan 45.

M.M.I.A.

Herewith copy of a letter received from G.O.C. Combat Group "Mantova" and the reply thereto.

Lt.Col.
G.S.

In the Field
ARS

" MANTOVA Combat Group
Office of the Chief of Staff - 1 Section

St. 01/355 of prot

Military Posto 104 -17 Jan 45

To:- Lt-Col GIBBON. Commander of ELU 56

I feel called upon to submit to your attention a number of urgent and important questions in regard to the training of my Combat Group.

The inclement and exceptionally rigid weather prevailing in this area plusthe limited availability of transport at the disposal of my Combat Group have placed the dependant Units in a very critical situation which reflects adversely on their morale and technical preparation.

Difficulties which must be daily faced are numerous and due basicly to the following conditions:-

(a) Serious lack of transport
(b) Poor state of Equipment
(c) Lack of suitable living accomodation.

A. Lack of sufficient transport for the needs of the Combat Group is the cause of many failures to operate on the part of the Units and constant worries on the part of the various Commands. The latter, in spite of every expedient they may devise, are obliged to place undue burden of work on the few vehicles available, and in most cases to cancel the execution of even important services.

As an example:-

Often the various units are unable to buy food needed to improve the basic rations because local markets are poor or depleted and a search further afield can not be carried out for lack of transport. Often, therefore the preparation of the second daily meal is insufficient or incomplete.

Sick Men - often seriously ill with lung trouble - have to be transported in hastely adapted lorries for lack of proper Ambulances.

It is practically impossible for me to dispatch Staff Officers on duty jobs for lack of cars.

I myself, my Second in Command, and my Chief of Staff are frequently obliged to for lack of transport, to remain in our offices when our presence at the various Units would be much more useful.

B. This Combat Group is due to receive British clothing covering it's scheduled strength and in order that the quantity of clothing should remain unvaried, every soldier who, for whatsoever reason, leaves the Group should hand back garments already consigned to him.

Granting that, as a general principle, this withdrawal of clothing sa

6519
6520

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

(c) Lack of suitable living accomodation.

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Granting that, as a general principle, this withdrawal of clothing can and should be carried out, nevertheless there are many cases in which the procedure appears impossible.

In fact the Italian Uniforms already withdrawn or in course of withdrawal are in very poor condition of wear and dirty: many of them are, alas, infested by lice and their disinfestation appears impossible, not only because of lack of adequate equipment and soap, but also because in the majority of cases, the garments are in such poor condition as not to warrant the effort.

2/.....sheet

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

For hygienic reasons it is not possible to devest a parting soldier in order to cloth him in soiled garments. In some particular cases, such as the departure of the large Group PACK TROOP men which is apparantly due in a few days it is inconceivable that a body of 550 men can be shorn of their uniforms and reclothed in torn, lousy and unclean garments.

In this particular case it would appear advisable to authorise the departure of the Group in their present uniforms and assign as many new uniforms and boots to build up the numbers again. Alternately the 550 men could be issued before their departure with 550 dark green uniforms (and accompanying short overcoat) in order that they may leave in a seemly condition.

In conclusion, even though precise and stringent orders have been issued to the effect that all articles of uniforms must be recuperated in case of departure, the loss of several uniforms still appears inevitable and this loss, with the passing of time, is bound to be felt in the sum-total assigned to the Group.

I take the occasion to bring to your attention the fact that articles which have already been issued to the troops, and those which are being currently issued, are in the majority used articles ; this is a fairly serious matter especially with regards to the boots which are thereby limited in their future duration.

Such a result is in fact already apparent in regard to boots distributed when the Group reached this area(my Chief of Staff has shown one of the Officers of the BLU the extremely bad condition obtaining in the case of two pairs of boots already issued).

Moreover the issue of only one uniform (either Allied or Italian) a head results in the fact that, when training is carried out under the rain, the men are left with wet clothing on their backs and no means of changing.

It would therefore appear urgent that waterproofs should be issued as soon as possible.

C. The living accomodations of the Unit are well known to you: extremely bad conditions prevail in the areas where the tents are set up; many men are still in pup-tents; many of these are in poor state of use.

The assignment of 28 sheds even though it has brought some relief; has not materially bettered the conditon of the camps because, owing to the lack of transport and the limited possibilities and difficulties of construction ; only a very small number of sheds have been erected to-date.

6519

Currently 30 big assigned tents are in course of arrival. This assignment, while bringing some relief, will not do away entirely with the serious lack of proper living accomodations, because the fact remains that almost the entire stock of our canvas sheets have holes in them and should be considered out of use.

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

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3/.....sheet

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

The result is that the men of my Group are spending the worse span of winter in exceptionally bad conditions with serious consequences to their health(the average rool-call for men affected by bronchial trouble is high and the numbers admitted to hospital also high- on average of 18 men per day).

This state of things has it's bearings on the morale of my men and consequently their training.

While your BLU, based it's Directive No 2 with regard to Training on the assumption that all issues of equipment, munitions, uniforms and sundry material would beissued by December 31st, in point of fact this first stage of training is being carried out under material conditions substantially different from those which had been forseen.

In the last conference with Gen. BROWNING mention was made of a transfer of this Combat Group to the area of TELESE wherethe units might find regular billeting accomodations.

I have sent my Second in Command accompanied by a Staff Officer to make contact with the "FOLGORE" HQ and to proceed to a summary reconnaisance of the area.

This change of location, with the attending possibility of billeting all men will prove to be, in my veiw, a notable improvement for all units concerned.

The journey, however, from the San Giorgio to the Telese area, should be carried out by means of motor transport, the men not being at present in the material conditions suitable for such a long march(90 Kilometres approximately).

On the other hand, the transport now available for the Group is inadiquate for such a movement. Many more vehicles will be needed, their number depending on the speed with which the tranference is expected to take place.

The possibility of moving the men on foot should be ruled out. They are far from being all well shod, and they lack the necessary march training which has had to be omitted as a consequence of the lack of proper equipment prevailing up to now.

In regard to what I have written above, I shall be extremely grateful to you for anything you can do with the aim of eliminating or at least bringing some measure of relief to their inconveniences which I have touched upon, especially for what pertains to speeding up the issues of transport and clothing, issues which will certainly improve the present training stage. Lacking this, it is obvious that a longer time than what was forseen will elapse before the preparation of the Combat Group reaches completion.

Knowing that - as in the past - I can count on your personal, friendly and cordial understanding of which I have already had many proofs, I tender my best and most heartfelt thanks.

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

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The General Commanding.

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

CONFIDENTIAL.

56 BLU.
DO

19 Jan 45.

General Bologna,
G.O.C., Combat Group, MANTOVA.

My dear

1. Thank you for your letter PM 104 dated 17 Jan 45. I am very grateful to you for making so frank and clear a statement of your difficulties. As I think you realise, I and my officers are aware of the situation, and are doing all in our power to help. I will try to answer each of the points you have raised. If my answers are unsatisfactory, it is due to the world situation, and not to any fault which can be remedied by us. In regard to the comfort of the troops; I know that the present standard is low, but I think this should be compared with conditions at the battle front, and not with peace time quarters. I am sending a copy of your letter, and of this reply to MMIA.

2. TRANSPORT.

The situation has slightly improved this week with the receipt of 2 Ambulance cars, 10 motor cycles and 5 other vehicles from Combat Groups LEGNANO and FOLGORE. It is hoped that some more vehicles will arrive shortly, but a substantial improvement cannot be hoped for until the Division is fully equipped. A car for yourself has now been released.

3. CLOTHING.

Whenever possible men who are drafted out of the Group should wear Italian clothing, but in cases when this is not available an exception may be made and British clothing may be worn.

4. BOOTS.

Unserviceable boots may be exchanged. This has been done in a number of cases. Materials for the repair of boots are now available.

5. DRY CLOTHING.

3200 suits of denims have been issued. These will be available for work in dirty conditions, and on wet days. British troops in this theatre are issued with one suit of battle dress only.

6. WATERPROOFS.

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

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6. WATERPROOFS.

The question of a release of gas capes and ground sheets is at present under negotiation.

7. LIVING ACCOMODATION.

It is agreed that living accomodation is very poor. This is a matter of serious concern to the officers of the HLU, but it is thought that apart from the construction of FLAMBO huts and the issue of 30 EPIP tents little more can be done to improve matters except a move to the TELESI area, for which plans are being made. Every request so far made to 56 HLU for tentage has been met and over 1000 British bivouacs are in use.

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

10392

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

8. ISSUES BY 31 DEC.

In spite of training and maintenance scales not being complete by 31 Dec., training has made a very good start, and in most respects the standard so far reached is thought to be satisfactory.

9. PROPOSED MOVE TO TELESI.

TELESI is some 44 kilos from S.GIORGIO. Efforts are being made to obtain M.T., but it is doubtful if these will be successful. It is thought that if M.T. cannot be obtained it would be practicable to move by march route, provided the following conditions are fulfilled. It is also thought that a march would be useful training for the troops.

(a) A good pair of boots to be issued to each soldier at least one week before the march.

(b) A good pair of socks to be issued to each soldier.

(c) Preliminary training in marching to be carried out.

(d) The march to be made in two stages, with a night's rest en route.

I will be very grateful if you will give me your views as to whether a move by march route would be practicable under the above conditions.

10. GENERAL.

I wish to end this letter by assuring you that, however difficult things may be, I and the officers of the HLU are always at the service of Combat Group MANTOVA, and that we all regard your troubles as our own.

Yours

6315

6516

Copy to :- MMLA.

0393

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

88

89/A

21 1726

MMIA

AFHQ for Q (AE)

56 B.L.U.

XXXXXXXXXXXX SS 584

CONFIDENTIAL.

FOR NOAKES (*) PROPOSE MAKING MANTOVA UP TO WE STRENGTH EARLIEST WITH COMBAT VOLUNTEERS (*) 56 BLU ARE SUBMITTING INDENTS ACCORDINGLY FOR 1500 SETS CLOTHING C&A EQUIPMENT CAM BLANKETS AND TENTAGE TO SCALE (*) UEGE RELEASE EARLIEST AS WE ARE READY AND CANNOT BE SENT UNTIL ABOVE EQUIPMENT IS AVAILABLE

6315

IMPORTANT

0394

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

-1.

Translation.

From. SM RE
To. MMIA.

Ref No. 11465/MOB.
Date - 17 jan. 45.

Specialised troops of the AOSTA SABAUDA and CALABRIA. divisions.

Ref letter S/6/29/28 dated 14 Nov 44 from MMIA.

Among the personnel of the Internal security Div. CALABRIA there is the following specialised personnel of the 1915 and younger class.

Fitter	7
Blacksmith.	4
carpenter.	3
Drivers	23
electricians	2
M/c riders.	8
lathe workers	4
Cabinet makers.	6
plumber.	3
armourer.	3
armourer.	1
General mec.	4
Artificer	651
W/T operator.	2
welder.	3
total	77.

We beg you to authorise the transfer of these troops to the Reinforcement training

0345

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

camp of CESANO

They could be replaced by a similar no
of troops to be selected from the Military & be
recalled shortly in SARDEGNA

Specialist personnel in AOSTA a.c. 821
civil Report.

821

SANTI

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
UFFICIO ORDINAMENTO E MOBILITAZIONE
- Sezione Mobilitazione -

SEGRETO

29/38

N° 11465 /Mob. di prot. P.M.3800, li 17 gennaio 1945

OGGETTO : Militari specializzati delle divisioni "Aosta" - "Sabauda" e "Calabria".

Specialisti of Aosta, Sabauda, Calabria Div's Ofgen

ALLA LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (M.M.I.A.) ROMA

e, per conoscenza:

AL MINISTERO GUERRA - Gabinetto - Ufficio C.A. P.M.3800

191

****

Riferimento foglio S/G/29/28 del 14 novembre u.s. di cotesta M.M.I.A.-

1. - Presso la divisione sicurezza interna "Calabria" esistono i seguenti militari specializzati delle classi 1915 e più giovani :

- aggiustatori meccanici	7
- fabbri	4
- carpentieri	3
- autieri	23
- elettricisti	2
- motociclisti	8
- tornitori	4
- falegnami	6
- tubisti	3
- barcaioli	3
- armaioli	1
- meccanici generici	4
- artificieri	4
- marconisti	2
- saldatori	3
Totale	77

6513

Pregasi autorizzare il loro trasferimento al centro addestramento complementi di Cesano.

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

A, per conoscenza:

AL MINISTERO GUERRA - Gabinetto - Ufficio C.A. P.M.3800

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- armaioli	1
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- artificieri	4
- marconisti	2
- saldatori	3
Totale	77

6513

Pregasi autorizzare il loro trasferimento al centro addestramento complementi di Cesano.

Potranno essere sostituiti con altrettanti militari da trarre dal prossimo richiamo da effettuare in Sardegna.

2. - Militari specializzati esistenti nelle divisioni "Aosta" e "Sabauda": segnalazione negativa.-

S. M. R. E. UFF. ORD. MOB.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(Alessandro Santi)

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

10398

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

CIPHER SECRET

ARMY FORM O 2136 (Small) MESSAGE FORM Register No. 4113

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY — Office Date Stamp

FROM (A) Originator: 56 BLU — Date-Time of Origin: 131130

For Action: 14 M 1A

To: (W) For information (INFO)

—Message Instructions— | —CR—

Originator's No. 0073 CONFIDENTIAL H29 and 519

Hospitals are NOT/p.t NOT (pe Requipped?) to move.

Each has vehicles outstanding & certain whether Bale & Complete complements of vehicles will be arriving expedited.

This Message May Be Sent in 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.
			TH or TOR 1312		6512
Encrypted	Signed RDCP		Time cleared 1320		

P.S.—Please Type/Write Clearly

2a/28.

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT:- Personnel trained under British arrangements.

56 BLU

8 G

Gruppo Di Combattimento, MANTOVA.

2 Jan 45.

1. In certain cases Italian officers and other ranks who have been trained as instructors by the British army have been assigned to duties where they have been unable to pass on their knowledge to the Italian army. For instance :-

(a) Officers who have completed a course at the R.A.T.D on the Bofors gun have been posted to 25 pr batteries.

(b) Officers who have been trained as signal instructors have been placed in charge of mules in CALABRIA.

2. It is requested that if in the future it should be necessary to assign a trained instructor to any duty which will prevent him from giving instruction in his own subject a report may be forwarded to 56 BLU.

6511

In The Field.
MH

Lt Col,
GS.

All officers of 56 BLU and Training Increment

Copy to:- MMLA
DMT

Reference above:- This letter confirms an amicable conversation with the Chief of Staff. Addressees will keep lists of trained instructors and will ensure that they are correctly employed.

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

(b) Officers who have been trained as signal instructors have been placed in charge of mules in CALABRIA.

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Lt Col,
GS.

In The Field.
MH

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

0401

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

030438

- 4004 84

ROUTINE

031215A

FROM 55 BEU

INFO NMIA

AG 4 (.) RESTRICTED (.) REF

4AG DATED 2 (.) FURTHER ORDERS FROM S N R E CLEARS

MATTER UP (.) LETTER FOLLOWS

BT 1305

~~PTTR 16 031215 17 96 AG 4~~

~~RESTRICTED 4 AG 2 SNRE~~

1305

~~SENT NR 16 APD AR~~

6510

10402

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

93

CONFIDENTIAL

4 AG
2 Jan 45.

SUBJECT:- Organisation - MANTOVA Gruppo

MMIA ✓

1. A few days ago a draft of some 500 Italian soldiers from the BALKANS arrived at TEANO as reinforcements for the MANTOVA Gruppo.

On 22 Dec, General BELLETTI, Inspector of Artillery, visited 155 Artillery Regiment and gave verbal orders to the Regimental commander, Colonel LEONARDI CATTOLICA, that the majority of other ranks at present in the 17pr groups were to be drafted elsewhere and to be replaced by a block of reinforcements ex BALKANS. He also ordered that the present Group Commander Lt Col PASQUALINO, an experienced regular officer should be replaced by a Capt D'APOLLONIO, a regular officer who had served in the BALKANS with these men, and who is junior to the two present troop commanders.

2. This proposal is common knowledge in the group, and has caused dispondency among all ranks. If put into effect, it would nullify the training carried out up to date, which has already achieved satisfactory results. It is therefore requested, purely on the grounds of military effinciency, that the verbal of General BELLETTI may be cancelled.

In the Field
ARS

Lt Col,
GS.

/

6509
6918

10403

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

CIPHER SECRET 29/28 82

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No. 611

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
			SECRET 3.

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY — OFFICE DATE STAMP — 31 Dec

FROM (A) Originator: G B Hall — Date Time of Origin: 31 1145 D

For Action: DMT

TO _____ (W) For information (INFO)

Message Instructions — OR —

Originator's No. S-3/9 — Ltrs DMT/620 & 30 Dec 20 reflected and majority other training-scale equipment are being packed over to LIANTAVA group ctr Dec 20 & will be on hand delivery at Ud Dabt by 12th Vrsn time to L.R. with clothes for main ctr. Ltrs sent to CHQ HQ.

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 TH or TOR	Systems	Op.
Signed	Signed		6508		

P S S / B / D-0 10M-100 6-44

10404

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

LRKB

301695

QVR

Land Forces 81

DMT 56 AREA

52 BR LIAISON UNIT

55/14 QQX

301235 A

56 BR LIAISON UNIT : MMIA

HEADQUARTERS
1 JAN 1945

DMT/669.

RESTRICTED (.) ESSENTIAL FOLLOWING TRG EQPT IS HANDED OVER TO 56 BLU BEFORE 12 JAN 45 (.) 3 IN MORTARS SIX CARRIERS UNIVERSAL SEVEN CARRIERS LLOYD SIX TRUCKS 15 CWT CHE LORRIES 3 TON EIGHTEEN (.) CONFIRM DELIVERY WILL BE EFFECTED BY THIS DATE (.) REMAINING TRAINING VEHICLES AND STORES NOW MOST URGENTLY REQD BY 56 BLU AND MUST BE HANDED OVER WITH LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY

IMPORTANT

301815A

011345

10405

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

LRKB / MEDT

EMT 56 AREA

53 BR LIAISON UNIT

56 BR LIAISON UNIT : MMIA

EMT/ 670

RESTRICTED (.) ESSENTIAL FOLLOWING TRG W/PT IS HANDED OVER TO 56 BLU BEFORE 12 JAN 45 (.) 3 IN MORTARS SIX CARRIERS UNIVERSAL SIXTEEN CARRIERS LLOYD NINE TRUCKS 15 CWT SEVEN LORRIES 3 TON THIRTY TWO (.) CONFIRM DELIVERY WILL BE EFFECTED BY THIS DATE (.) REMAINING TRG VEHS AND STORES NOW MOST URGENTLY REQD BY 56 BLU AND MUST BE HANDED OVER WITH LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY

IMPORTANT

10406

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

P 6003

8/28. 1.90

N26/31

19/31

LROF V NEDY IMPORTANT M QVR 1 NR 300691
FROM DMT 56 AREA 301235 A
TO 52 BR LIASION UNIT
INFO 56 BR LIAISON UNIT MMIA
QQX GR-- BT
EXIT/669 RESTRICTED .ESSENTIAL FOLLOWING TRG EQPT IS HANDED OVER
TO 56 BLU BEFORE 12 JAN 45 . 3 IN MORTARS SIX MMM CARRIERS
UNIVERSAL SEVEN CARRIERS LLOYD SIX TRUCKS 15 CWT ONE LORRIES 3 TON EIGHT
EEN . CONFIRM DELIVERY WILL BE EFFECTED BY THIS DATE . REMAINING TRAINING
VEHICLES AND STORES NOW MOST URGENTLY REQD BY 56 BLU AND MUST BE HANDED
OVER WITH LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY
BT THI 301815 A
SENT CH EB
RD 691 0220A HTH VA AR K

DEC 1944

6507

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

10407

2a/28 19

#30 1850 A

MMTA

Ministry of War. 56 BLU.
AFHQ (G3)Org. 3 Dist for MMIA LO.
RAAC.

SD 2029

RESTRICTED

Subject is move of Medical Units (.) Following units will move on Jan 2 by road in own tpt from SAN GIORGIO to VIRGILIO Hospital MOVE for necessary repairs to medical equipment (.) 133 Mobile X-Ray Unit strength 1 offr 6 ORs 2 vehicles (.) 113 Mobile Dental Unit 1 offr 3 ORs 2 vehicles (.) For 56 BLU (.) Complete clothing deficiencies before move

6905

6906

IMPORTANT

Int: Med
Spec Sec
SD/13
SD/12
SD/50 (2)
Mov (2)

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

SUBJECT:- Liaison visit.

29/28

56 BLU
15 G.
26 Dec 44.

MMIA (By hand of Major Duffy).

Reference conversation Dobbs - Gadson of even date.

1. The DMT has recommended that an officer of this unit should make a liaison visit to FRIULI GRUPPO for the purpose of obtaining information which will help MANTOVA Gruppo in training. He suggested FRIULI as they trained in the area now occupied by MANTOVA.

2. Major Duffy. 56 BLU Training Increment, is accordingly reporting to you. It is requested that arrangements may be made for him to continue his journey to FRUILI Gruppo.

Lt Col,
GS.

In The Field.
MH

Copy To:- DMT.
Major Duffy (2).

Ref. Mantova. I have arranged visit etc by phone WP 28 Dec 6505

Send one Copy to GSO through WP

Genl 77

56 B.L.U.

SECRET.
10 G

TRAINING INSTRUCTION No.1.

4 Dec 44.

1. **OBJECT.**

The object of this instruction is to state some of the tasks which confront GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO [illegible]TOVA and to assist officers in thinking ahead and making plans for training. The draft has been seen by the GOC GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO [illegible]TOV[illegible], he is in agreement with it.

2. **TASK OF THE GRUPPO.**

The task to be achieved is to fit the GRUPPO by 15 Mar 45 for the following operational roles :-

(a) To take over a defensive sector on the Italian front, and carry out an active defence.

(b) After experience in that role to participate in attacks in conjunction with Allied troops.

3. **SUBDIVISION OF PERIOD.**

(a) Preliminary 16 - 31 Dec 44.
(b) Individual and Sub unit Training 1 Jan - 15 Feb 45.
(c) Move to forward training area 15 - 20 Feb 45.
(d) Higher training
(e) Move to operational area } After 20 Feb 45.

All Dates are approximate.

4. **PRELIMINARY PERIOD.**

Tasks.

6504

(a) Assembly of personnel and organisation of HQ's and Units.
(b) Assembly and organisation of BLU and Training Increment.
(c) Issue of training and maintenance scales of equipment, ammunition, clothing and stores.
(d) Preparation for individual and elementary collective training.
(e) Elementary training.

5. **INDIVIDUAL AND SUB UNIT TRAINING.**

Tasks.

Other Ranks.

(a) [illegible]

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(b) After experience in that role to participate in attacks in conjunction with Allied troops.

3. SUBDIVISION OF PERIOD.

(a) Preliminary 16 - 31 Dec 44.
(b) Individual and Sub unit Training 1 Jan - 15 Feb 45.
(c) Move to forward training area 15 - 20 Feb 45.
(d) Higher training) After 20 Feb 45.
(e) Move to operational area)

All Dates are approximate.

4. PRELIMINARY PERIOD.

Tasks.

6504

(a) Assembly of personnel and organisation of HQ's and Units.
(b) Assembly and organisation of MT and Training Increment.
(c) Issue of training and maintenance scales of equipment, ammunition, clothing and stores.
(d) Preparation for individual and elementary collective training.
(e) Elementary training.

5. INDIVIDUAL AND SUB UNIT TRAINING.

Tasks.

Other Ranks.

(a) Instruction in technical battle duties including:-
Use of Weapons.
Driving.
Signal Training.
Specialist Training.

(b) Physical preparation for battle including:-
Digging.
Marching.
Hill Climbing.
Development of Night sense.

(c) Mental and Psychological preparation for Battle, including:-
Discipline in Camp.
Battle Discipline.
Battle Inoculation.

2/.....Sheet.

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Junior Leaders.

(d) Development of ability as instructors.
(e) Instruction in administrative duties including man management.
(f) Instruction without troops in duties in the field, including RT training and map reading.
(g) Sub unit exercises.

Senior Officers.

(h) Organisation and supervision of individual and sub unit training.
(i) Instruction without troops in duties in the field.
(k) Preparation and direction of Headquarters Signal Exercises, TEWT's, Adm Exercises and Cloth Model Discussions.

Sub Units.

(l) Simple tactical exercises up to and including Battery and Company level.

Headquarters Staffs.

(m) H.Q. Signal Exercises and Deployment Drills.

Engineers Signals and Services.

(n) Normal Adm duties.
(o) Training for specialist duties in the field.
(p) Weapon and elementary battle training.

Miscellaneous.

(q) Drawing up of G.1098.

6. HIGHER TRAINING PERIOD.

During this period the Division will undergo final training under an Allied formation before going to battle. 6503
Instructions will be issued later.

7. ASSISTANCE FROM BRITISH SOURCES.

Assistance in training is being provided by officers of 56 HLU and Training Increment, and by the ATC and other training establishments.
The presence of British Officers in the new military Commanders of

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

Sub Units.

(l) Simple tactical exercises up to and including Battery and Company level.

Headquarters Staffs.

(m) H.Q. Signal Exercises and Deployment Drills.

Engineers Signals and Services.

(n) Normal Adm duties.
(o) Training for specialist duties in the field.
(p) Weapon and elementary battle training.

Miscellaneous.

(q) Drawing up of G.1098.

6. HIGHER TRAINING PERIOD. G503

During this period the Division will undergo final training under an Allied formation before going to battle.
Instructions will be issued later.

7. ASSISTANCE FROM BRITISH SOURCES.

Assistance in training is being provided by officers of 56 BLU and Training Increment, and by the ..C and other training establishments.
The presence of British Officers in no way relieves Commanders of the responsibility for training their formation and units.

8. PRINCIPLES IN TRAINING.

(a) Urgency.

Time is very short, and not an hour can be wasted.
It is essential that Commanders inspire their subordinates with a sense of the urgency of their task.

(b) Preparation of Training.

Every period of instruction must be thoroughly prepared beforehand by the instructors. This means that instructors must work longer hours than personnel under instruction.

(c) Concentration on Essentials.

Non-essential matters however useful, must be ruthlessly cut out of the programme. In the time available, we must concentrate on the barest essentials for battle.

3/.....sheet.

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(d) Maintenance of Interest.

Training is useless if it is dull. Instructors must exercise their ingenuity to maintain interest.

(e) Training of Officers.

No one can train an officer unless he also trains himself. In their spare time officers should constantly study and discuss military problems, with particular reference to their tasks in the forthcoming battle.

9. MT TRAINING.

This is one of our biggest tasks. Every effort must be made throughout the Division to achieve the highest possible standard of driving and maintenance.

10. RT TRAINING.

A modern battle depends to a very great extent on good communications. Commanders and Staff Officers must train themselves thoroughly in the use of RT.

11. MISCELLANEOUS POINTS FOR OFFICERS.

(a) Insistence on punctuality.

(b) Decentralisation down to platoon scale of responsibility for their men and kit.

(c) Inculcation of Adm routine incl:-

(i) Automatic refilling of petrol tanks.

(ii) Daily maintenance and inspection of weapons and vehs. 6502

(iii) Officers to see to men's comfort before their own.

(iv) Strict sanitary discipline.

12. DETAILED TRAINING ARRANGEMENTS.

A further instruction will be issued shortly dealing among others, with the following matters:-

(a) Allotment of British personnel

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and maintenance.

10. RT TRAINING.

A modern battle depends to a very great extent on good communications. Commanders and Staff Officers must train themselves thoroughly in the use of RT.

11. MISCELLANEOUS POINTS FOR OFFICERS.

(a) Insistance on punctuality.

(b) Decentralisation down to platoon lds of responsibility for their men and eqpt.

(c) Inculcation of Adm routine incl:-

(i) Automatic refilling of petrol tanks.

(ii) Daily maintenance and inspection of weapons and vehs.

(iii) Officers to see to men's comfort before their own.

(iv) Strict sanitary discipline.

6502

12. DETAILED TRAINING ARRANGEMENTS.

A further instruction will be issued shortly dealing among others, with the following matters:-

(a) Allotment of British personnel.

(b) Training areas.

(c) Courses.

(d) Training periods, - Leave - Festivals.

(e) Allotment of equipment and ammunition.

(f) Training programmes and Progress reports.

In The Field.
8/

Lt Col.
GS.

4/.....Sheet.

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0415

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-1-

Distribution:- Gruppo di Collettamento, Mantova. 9 copies.

G I	
G II	
DMA & QMG	
SO RA	
SO RE	
SO Sigs	
D/DST	
MADOC	
MESS	
Camp	
Training Increment.	7 copies.
PRO	2 "
MIA	2
Lt-Col FORBES.	2 "
War Diary.	

6501

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76

MESSAGE FORM

From : MMIA Date - Time

To : 55 BLU, 50, 51, 52,53 BLUS. 10 1600 A
56 Area for DMT PENSCUTH for MMIS LO
207 Sub Area MMIA LO 54 AREA
3 District MMIA LO 56 BLU
RAAC

SS 456 RESTRICTED

E BLU for MANTOVA Group is designated 56 BLU not repeat not 54 BLU (.) Authority AFHQ CR/1160/G-1 (Br)(Ser 1141) of 1 December (.) All informed

Precedence ROUTINE

Authenticating Officer

Internal:
G
AQ
ST..
MED
LAB
REME

207 Sub Area
3 District
RAAC

MMIA LO 54 AREA
MMIA LO 56 BLU

SS 456

RESTRICTED

E BLU for MANTOVA Group is designated 56 BLU not repeat not 54 BLU (.) Authority AFHQ CR/1160/G-1 (Br)(Ser 1141) of 1 December (.) All informed

Precedence ROUTINE

Authenticating Officer

Internal:
G
AQ
ST.
MED
LAB
REME
ORD
MOV LO
SIGS
RE
Sigs Office

2a 2g.

6500

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

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

29/28 14

NEUP V LAEE NR 37 QVR 2

FROM ORD BRIT AFHQ 041210

TO OO REAR GUN PARK 557 BOD ::: OO 3 SUB DEPOT 557 BOD

INFO DDOS 3 DISTRICT ::: MMIA ::: 54 BLU

FD ARTY SECTION

QQX GR-- BT

OS2/1105 (.) FIRST FOR GUN PARK (.) ISSUE TO 3 DISTRICT FOR NO 5 (MANTOVA) ITALIAN COMBAT GROUP FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT (.)

READ (A) EQUIPMENT (B) QTY (C) Q(AE) AUTHY (D) RELEASE NUMBER (.)

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
6 PDR	15	6/11	A/8/24
17 PDR	4	7/11	A/9/21
25 PDR	8	1/18	A/1/30
40 MM BOFORS	6	8/9	A/13/23

SECOND FOR OO 3 SUB DEPOT (.) ISSUE COMPLETE SETS OF ANCILLARIES FOR THE ABOVE EQUIPMENTS EXCEPT (A) BATTERY AND REGT STORES (B) CONTROLLED STORES OTHER THAN THOSE RELEASED IN OUR THIRD BELOW (.)

THIRD (.) ISSUE CONTROLLED STORES AS FOLLOWS (.)

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
CLINOS SIGHT MK IV	8		A/51/5

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

OS2/1105 (.) FIRST FOR GUN PARK (.) ISSUE TO 3 DISTRICT FOR NO 5 (MANTOVA) ITALIAN COMBAT GROUP FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT (.)

READ (A) EQUIPMENT (B) QTY (C) Q(AE) AUTHY (D) RELEASE NUMBER (.)

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
6 PDR	15	6/11	A/8/24
17 PDR	4	7/11	A/9/21
25 PDR	8	1/18	A/1/30
40 MM BOFORS	6	8/9	A/13/23

SECOND FOR OO 3 SUB DEPOT (.) ISSUE COMPLETE SETS OF ANCILLARIES FOR THE ABOVE EQUIPMENTS EXCEPT (A) BATTERY AND REGT STORES (B) CONTROLLED STORES OTHER THAN THOSE RELEASED IN OUR THIRD BELOW (.)

THIRD (.) ISSUE CONTROLLED STORES AS FOLLOWS (.)

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
CLINOS SIGHT MK IV	8	-	A/51/51
TELESCOPES SIGHTING NO 22C	8	-	A/62/28
TELESCOPES SIGHTING NO 22D	15	-	A/63/17
TELESCOPES SIGHTING NO 51	4	-	A/76/15
STANDS INST. NO 17A FOR DIRECTORS NO.7.	3	-	A/162/79

UNIT COLLECTING (.) GUN PARK TO NOTIFY ALL CONCERNED AS EQUIPMENTS BECOME AVAILABLE

0498

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0421

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

63/18 73.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

Q(AE) BRANCH.

TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.

..... 6th Nov 44.

ORD (B)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item Directors Arty No. 7. Qty. 5

To whom released. III District for No. 5 (MANTOVA) Italian Combat Group

Release No. Q(AE) 63/18

Remarks. To be held by "Z" RA Trg Team under directions of Fd Arty Sec during trg and then returned to MANTOVA Gp as part of their equipment.

Special Instructions.

For, Major,
Brigadier, Q(AE).

7/11

6497.

Copy to:- HQ III District
MMIA
54 MU
Fd Arty Sec

10422

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
G(AG) BRANCH.
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.
1 Nov 44

ORD (E)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorized.

Item Rifles No.4 Qty. 4500

To whom released. No. 3 District for No. 3 (Mantova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. G(AG)25/31

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Major.

To,
Brigadier, G(AG).

Copy to:- HQ 3 District
MMLA
5th MAU
S.M.T.

6496

10423

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

G(AF) BRANCH.

TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.

1 Dec 44

.....

CMD (B)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item **2.2.H.C.** Qty. **2500**

To whom released. **No 3 Dist. for No. 5 (Manitoba) Italian Combat Group.**

Release No. G(AF) **30/52**

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Major.

for,
Brigadier, G(AF).

6495

Copy to:- **No 3 District.**
MRA
E. ELO
D.M.T.

10424

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

G(AG) BRANCH.

TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.

2 Dec 44.

.....

OIRD (B)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item Bren LMG Qty. 60

To whom released. No. 3 District for No. 5 (Montova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. G(AG) 31/44

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Major.

for,
Brigadier, G(AG). 6494

Copy to:- HQ 3 District.
M.M.L.O.
M.L.O.
D.M.T.

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69

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
Q(AF) BRANCH.
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.
3. Dec 44

OFD (H)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item PIAT Qty. 24

To which released. No. 3 Dist. for No. 5 (Mantova) Italian Com bat Group.

Release No. Q(AF) 44/21

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Major,
for,
Brigadier, Q(AF).

6493

Copy to:- HQ 3 Dist.
ENIA
5h B.L.O.

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68

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
Q(AD) BRANCH.
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.
1 Dec 44

ORD (E)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item 6 Pdr (Complete with accessories) Qty. 15

To whom released. No. 3 District for No. 5 (Mantova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. Q(AD) 6/11

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Major.
for,
Brigadier, Q(AD).

6492

Copy to:- No. 3 District
H.M.I.sch.
S.B.I.V.
34 Arty Coy.

0427

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67

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
Q(AF) BRANCH.
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.
3 Dec 44

CIRC (B)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item 17 Pdr. (Complete with accessories) Qty. 4

To whom released. No. 3 Dist, for No. 5 (Mantova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. Q(AF) 7/11

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Major,
for,
Brigadier, Q(AF).

6/9/11

Copy to:- No. 3 District
M.M.I.A.
54 D.A.D.O.
78 Arty Bde

G 428

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66

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
Q(AF) BRANCH.
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.

1 Dec 44

OiD (E)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item 25 Pdrs. (Complete with accessories) Qty. 2

To whom released. HQ 3 District for No. 5 (Mantova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. Q(AF) 1/18

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

6490

Major.
Brigadier, Q(AF).

Copy to:- HQ 3 Dist.
HMLA
5A HQ
24 Arty Bde

10429

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68

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
Q(AL) BRANCH.
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.
1 Dec 44

OMD (B)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item 40 mm Bofors. (Complete with accessories) Qty. 6

To whom released. No. 3 District for No. 5 (Reserve) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. Q(AL) 6/9

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

6489

Major,
for,
Brigadier, Q(AL).

Copy to:- No. 3 Dist.
MMIA
5A. HQ
FA Army Gp

10430

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64

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
G(AL) BRANCH.
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 120.
3 Dec 44

OTD (B)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item Directors No. 7 Qty. 3

To whom released. No. 3 District for No. 5 (Mantova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. G(AL)63/16

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

6488

Major.
For,
Brigadier, G(AL).

Copy to:- No. 3 Dists. MMIA
5A HQS 2d Art y Gro

0431

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63

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
G(AL) BRANCH.
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.
1 Dec 44

ORD (B)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorized.

Item Compasses Prismatic Qty. 40

To whom released. HQ 3 District for No. 5 (Mantova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. G(AL) 53/34 6487

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Major,
for,
Ord Officer, G(AL).

Copy to:- HQ 3 District.
ASCIA
5A HQ

10232

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62

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

Q(AL) BRANCH.

TEL. NO. FREEDOM 4267.

....2 Nov 44.....

OHD (E)

PLEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item Rings No. 2 Qty. 25.

To whom released. No. 3 District for No. 5 (Mantova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. Q(AL) 80/48 6486

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Major.
for,
Brigadier, Q(AL).

Copy to:- No. 3 District.
MAIA
2. NAB

10435

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61

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
Q(AF) BRANCH.
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.

1 Dec 44

OMD (B)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item Watches GS Qty. 25

To whom released. No. 3 District for No. 5 (Mantova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. Q(AF) 55/69

6485

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Major,
for,
Brigadier, Q(AF).

Copy to: HQ 5 District
[illegible]
5A Sub-Dist.

10434

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60

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

Q(AF) BRANCH.

TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.

1 Dec 44

O1RD (F)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item Pistols signal. Qty. 24

To whom released. No. 3 District for No. 5 (Rentova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. Q(AF) 22/27

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Rec'd Dec. 6484

Major,
for,
Brigadier, Q(AF).

Copy to:- No. 3 District.
M.M.I.A.
54 1227

0435

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59

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

Q(AE) BRANCH.

TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427.

1 Dec 44

.....

ORD (E)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item Mine Detectors (American) Qty. 10

To whom released. No. 3 District for No. 5 (Sicatora) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. 93/25 Q(AE)

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

Major,

for,
Brigadier, Q(AE).

6483

Copy to: HQ No. 3 District.
No. 5 Sqn.
No. 4 Sqn.

10436

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ORD (E)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

Q(AL) BRANCH.

TEL. NO. FLEDON 428.

.....

1 Doc 4

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item	Qty.
2 Inch Mortars	10

To whom released. 6482

No. 3 District for No. 5 (Bombers) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. Q(AL)

53/25

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

for Major,
Brigadier, Q(AL).

Copy to:-

No 3 District — D.M.T.
ENCA
WA MED

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

57

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
Q(AE) BRANCH.
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 1267.

2 DEC 45

ORD (E)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item	Qty.
3 Inch Mortar	3

To whom released.

No. 3 District for No. 5 (Mantova) Italian Combat Group.

Release No. Q(AE) 39/11 6481

Remarks.

Special Instructions.

for Major,
Brigadier, Q(AE).

Copy to:-

HQ 3 District
ASCA
5A ZCO
XXX

0432

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

LROF V LRLC SR147 OVR 1

FROM 53 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT 291245 A

TO MMA

INFO HQ [redacted] COMBAT GP FOLGORE

QCX GR 43

AQ/A19-2 REF YOUR S/6/29/26 OF 25 NOV (.) 316 SECTION CC NR MOVED FROM THIS AREA AM TODAY WITH STRENGTH 1 AND 50 (.) PREVIOUS PERSONNEL DEFICIENCIES WERE MADE UP BY COMBAT GP F O L G O R E (.) PRESENT DEFICIENCY OF ONE OR DUE TO MAN LEFT IN HOSPITAL

DO 011800

SENT 47 2305 DSC BB

RD BMM MM47 2305

6/2 52

6429

6479

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

MIA 29
COMLIT CALABRIA per MMIA. Lo MANTOVA GRUPPO.

SD 1.858 CONFIDENTIAL

Advise exact number and location of all mules and horses now available to Italian Govn't from MANTOVA Div when disposal instructions will be issued by MMIA in conjunction with AC (.) Advise also total number of mules and horses already released to AC for civilians

7a/y8

6480

IMPORTANT

Sym Sec
A/C
S/T
SD/50

File 58

28/28.

MESSAGE FORM

From : MAIA Date - Time

To (For action) : Ministry of War. 28 1710 A
51 BLU for 54 BLU

To (For info) : HQT ADMAP
ATHQ for G3 (Org) rptd Q(AE)
AAI
3 District

SS 414 RESTRICTED

6477
6478

For Ministry of War (.) 58 Combat Group Transit Camp passes to under command MANTOVA Group who will act as parent unit (.) for 54 BLU (.) Please contact above unit at BENEVENTO station and ensure equipped according to WE NA/599/1 cma standing camp scales cma and Normal Equipment Lists (.) Detachment at VAIRANO will be included (.) If no copy of Establishment hold signal IO Publications Depot

Precedence IMPORTANT

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

For Ministry of War (.) 56 Combat Group Transit Camp passes to under command MANTOVA Group who will act as parent unit (.) for 54 BLU (.) Please contact above unit at BENEVENTO station and ensure equipped according to WE NA/599/1 cma standing camp scales cma and Normal Equipment Lists (.) Detachment at VAIRANO will be included (.) If no copy of Establishment held signal 10 Publications Depot

Precedence IMPORTANT

Authenticating Officer

G } Lane copies
A/G }

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

Translation.

Secret 53

From:- M of W.
To:- MMIA

Ref:- 305068/1 C.A
Date:- 26.th Nov. 44

Subject:- Specialists of Mantova Combat Group.

25

Ref. S/C/29/28 dated 14.th inst.

1/ To fill up vacancies of specialized personnel existing in Mantova Combat Group, the transfer of men specialized from Aosta & Sabauda Div. will be arranged.

In the meantime, HQ Sicily has been asked for the number of specialist men in those two Divisions.

2/ But such arrangements to fill up vacancies, is not sufficient and it is thought necessary to adopt the measures already proposed to MMIA which are, in resumé, as follows:-

a/ Calling up being carried out in Campania:- 6477
-send to Mantova & Pisano all surplus personnel recruited in excess to the requirement of the Friuli, Cremona Legnano & Folgore.

b/ Send to Mantova & Pisano all available personnel 637
existing in the ~~Reserve~~ Reinforcement Regt. - about 150 specialized men.

c/ Get the drivers from 212 Italian HH which has a number of drivers double to the amount of vehicles actually in possession.

d/ Replace specialized men from Italian Rimen units working under American HQs, with non specialized men.

e/ ~~Keep~~ Keep in reserve a certain number of specialized men from those being recruited for Combat Groups requirements.

3/ Ref. my 304869/C.A dated 18.th inst. in respect of wireless operators, wireless mechanics and telephone operators which is being dealt with the M. of Air & M. of Navy.

As soon as agreements are taken in respect of the above, I shall inform MMIA of the results.

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

Send to Mantova & Piceno all surplus personnel recruited in excess to the requirement of the Brnch, Genova Lepanto & Folgore.

b/ Send to Mantova & Piceno all available personnel existing in the ~~Reggimento~~ Reinforcement Regt. – about 150 specialized men.

c/ Get the drivers from 212 Italian Hq which has a number of drivers double to the amount of vehicles actually in possession.

d/ Replace specialized men from Italian Rincer Units working under American Hqs, with non specialized men.

e/ ~~Keep~~ Keep in reserve a certain number of specialized men from those being recruited for Combat Corps requirements.

3/ Ref. my 304849/C.A dated 18th inst. in respect of wireless operators, wireless mechanics and fullerphone operators which is being delt with the M. of Air & M. of Navy.

As soon as agreements are taken in respect of the above, I shall inform M.M.I.A of the results.

(Sgd) Gen. C. Oxilia.

Sgd. Ehrke

O.K
WP

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

TU!ba.

SEGRETO

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

29/28

N. di prot. 305065/1/C.A. 317-111-27 P.M.151 li 26 novembre 1944

OGGETTO: Specializzati gruppo combattimento Mantova -

Specialisti di Mantova Cat. f. Gruppi

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

ROMA

8/Sec

21/11

5435 6476

Riferimento S/G/29/28 del 14 corrente.

1. Per contribuire al ripianamento delle deficienze di specializzati nei gruppi di combattimento, compreso il "Mantova", sarà provveduto al trasferimento del personale specializzato delle divisioni S.I. "Aosta" e "Sabauda".-

Per intanto sono stati richiesti dati numerici dei militari specializzati delle 2 divisioni al Comando Militare della Sicilia.

2. Ma tale provvedimento non è sufficiente a colmare i vuoti, per cui ritengo sia necessario adottare i provvedimenti già proposti a codesta Missione e che qui di seguito riepilogo:

a) richiami in corso in Campania: avviare al "Mantova" e "Piceno" il personale richiamato esuberante alle necessità dei primi quattro gruppi (Friuli - Cremona - Legnano - Folgore);
b) avviare al "Mantova" ed al "Piceno" tutto il personale disponibile al reggimento complementi, tra cui esistono ancora alcuni specializzati (circa 150);
c) trarre autieri dai reparti del comando italiano ZI2 che ne ha un numero pari a più del doppio di quello degli autoez-

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

317-111-27

OGGETTO: Specializzati gruppo combattimento Mantova -

Specialist of Mantova Combat Group

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

ROMA

8/Sec

27/"

5435 6476

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b) avviare al "Mantova" ed al "Piceno" tutto il personale disponibile al reggimento complementi, tra cui esistono ancora alcuni specializzati (circa 150);
c) trarre autieri dai reparti del comando italiano 212 che ne ha un numero pari a più del doppio di quello degli automezzi in dotazione;
d) sostituire specializzati dei reparti italiani lavoratori a disposizione di comandi americani, con militari non specializzati;
e) riservare per le esigenze dei gruppi di combattimento una maggiore aliquota di specializzati provenienti dai richiami in corso o futuri.

3. Per quanto riguarda i marconisti i radiomontatori ed i fulerfonisti, ho già informato (lettera 304049/C.A. del 18 corr.) delle trattative in corso con i Ministeri dell'Aeronautica e della Marin

./.

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

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

AFHQ

J[illegible] signed SAC cite FHQCT 241818A

TP BLU, 'E' BLU through 50 BLU

MMLA

FX 57404/923 (*) RESTRICTED (*) Your GS 402 of 23 (*) 519 Fd Hospital 113 M Xray unit 113 M Dental unit will remain present location passing to under command 'E' BLU until called forward

6475

6473

10447

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

J V LAEE NR37 "ON OP" IMMEDIATE Land Forces SI
QVR 3
FROM LAEE 241818A
TO TP BLU , 'E' BLU THROUGH 50 BLU
INFO MMIA
GR 12 BT

RESTRICTED
REFERENCE YOUR GEORGE SUGAR FOUR ZERO TWO OF TWO THREE X
SIGNED SAC CITE FHGCT FX57404 SLANT NINE TWO THREE X
FIVE ONE NINE FOX DOG HOSPITAL ONE ONE THREE MOB XRAY UNIT
ONE ONE THREE MOB DENTAL UNIT WILL REMAIN PRESENT LOCATION
PASSING TO UNDER COMD 'E' BLU UT// UNTIL CALLED FORWARD
BT 241818A

241930

SENT NR37 1845A AAN (AR) -K-
RCD 1845A HRA AR
TNX B C N U

10448

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

50

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: 316 Section Carabinieri

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. M/3/29/28
25 Nov 44

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

Copy to: AFHQ
AAI
353 ELU
30 ELU

1. It is understood that 316 Section CC RR has at present a strength of 1 officer and 34 ORs against an establishment of 1 officer and 51 ORs.

2. You will arrange for Carabinieri to be posted to make up this deficiency forthwith.

3. 316 Section CC RR is moving from TARANTO to RADDA on 26 November, and the reinforcements concerned should be sent to RADDA. If no other means are available movement should be requested through this HQ in the usual way.

6473

6472

W. Pidsley Colonel
for Major General
M. M. I. A.

10449

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

file 49

29/28

MMIA

25 1940

51 BLU for 54 BLU

SG 396

Restricted

Following signal received from AFHQ addressed to DISTHREE (.) QUOTE (.) Your QQ 3478 dated 21 Nov (.) Following released you for MANTOVA nucleus from 15 RVP NAPLES (.) Our release number 541 of 24 Nov refers (.) Qty trucks 15 cwt 4x 2 GS GS II Qty 6 lorries 3 ton 4 x 2 GS GS II (.) UNQUOTE

6472

6431

Important

a Staff major

0450

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

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

31/25

4 8

CALL	CIRCUIT No. NR	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
C	3661	Important	QVR 2 3

SPACES BELOW RESERVED FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY 5/6/29/58

	DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN
FROM (A) AFHQ SIGNED SACMED CITE FHQAE	241900 A

TO (FOR ACTION) DISTHREE

TO (FOR INFORMATION) NMIA HQ 38 VEH COY 4 GROUP 38 VEH COY

Message Instructions	CR

(REF. No.) FX57513 (SECURITY CLASSIFICATION) SECRET S/Sec

25/11

SECRET

YOUR QG3478 DATED 21 NOV.

FOLLOWING RELEASED YOU FOR MANTOVA NUCLEUS FROM 15 RVP NAPLES.

OUR RELEASE NUMBER 541 OF 24 NOV REFERS.

QTY 3 TRUCKS 15 CWT 4 x 2 GS CL II QTY 6 LORRIES 3 TON 4 x 2 GS CL II

CYPHER

6471

DECIPHERED 250030 HAB

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

10431

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

LRKB V LAEE NR 20

FROM AFHQ 231835A

TO MMIA

GR 80 BT

F56900 RESTRICTED

YOUR SS367 OF 20 NOV (.) SIGNED SACMED CITE FHQAE (.) ON (.)
MANTOVA COMBAT GROUP NOT DUE FOR EQUIPMENT UNTIL AFTER NEW YEAR (.)
PHRASED PROGRAMME AS AGREED DEPANDENT ON AVAILABILITY OF STORES FROM
ORDNANCE (.) SUPPLY POSITION PRECLUDES ADVANCING EQUIPMENT OF THIS
GROUP (.) TWO (.) GROUDSHEETS NOT PART OF SCALE LAID DOWN BY CCS(.)
THREE (.) ORD WILL ISSUE FOLLOWING PD GRADE III 2000 UNDERCLOTHES
3000 BOOTS 5000 (.) GREATCOATS AND BLANKETS NOT AVAILABLE (.)
BT 231835A

SENT NR20 0243A RC BB

RECD NR 20 0243A USA KKKK

HEADQUARTERS
24 NOV 1944
A. C.

10452

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

1 copy

Allied Forces

8/Sec.

21/11

29/10/6469

LRKB V MEDY NR 534 QVR1
FROM DMT ADNAP 201800A
TO MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
INFO 54 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT CMF
QQX GR 30 ---BT ---
DMT /194. REETRICTED. REF YOUR S/G/29/10 OF 2 NOV PAA 2. RELEASE OBTAINED
70 RIFLES 12 BRENS 12 TSMGS 6 PIATS FOR SPECIAL COURSES. MORTARS NOT
AVAILBAXX AVAILABLE. CAN 54 BLU COLLECT. ---BT ---
CCTN LAST LINE WA 54 BLU IMI BLU 0 SENT NR 534 20-1922A CB B 20 19 D.

RCD 20/9// 1922A HRA AR

10453

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

44

SUBJECT: Posting of personnel to MANTOVA Group.

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/0/29/28
26 Nov 44

Ministry of War.

Copy to: MEIA LO MANTOVA.

Reference our S/0/29/28 of 14 Nov.

It is emphasised that if it is decided to post any personnel from SICILY or SARDINIA to MANTOVA Group they must have 7 days leave before posting, as there is unlikely to be an opportunity for such leave for some time afterwards.

6408

W. Pidsley. Colonel
Major General
M.M.I.A.

10454

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

July 43

29/28

MAIA

20 1721 A

AFHQ

SS 367

RESTRICTED

Reference Clothing for MANTOVA Combat Group (.) Eighty percent of the nine thousand men are in civilian garments, rags, or Italian cotton clothing and fifty percent have useless boots (.) Few have greatcoats and more have groundsheets or more than two thin Italian blankets (.) Kessing equipment is inadequate (.) Anticipate considerable and understandable discontent on arrival in the colder S. GIORGIO area about 29 Nov unless some token issues are made and followed by installments when full scales are available (.) Recommend imediate release of Battledress 2000 underclothes 3000 Boots 5000 Greatcoats 8000 Groundsheets 9000 Blankets 9000 (.) Would appreciate full scale Battle dress earliest possible (.) As you know I cannot issue Italian articles as these men are BRITISH.

29/11

NB: Signals and letters to which this refers is IMPORTANT

in 8/0/29/32-

Progress Reports file

W Robertson Colonel

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

SECRET

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

G-3 SECTION

17 November 1944

FILE NO : ESD/81/3

SUBJECT : Equipment Training Scale for "MANTOVA" ITALIAN Combat Group.

MEMO TO : G-3 (AF)

Reference the attached DMT letter DMT/184/MT2 of 14 Nov 44.

1. Authority is granted for the immediate release of as much of the equipment shown in para 1(A)(B)(C) and (D) of the letter under reference as can be made available.

2. It is further requested that additional items to complete to scale authorised in para 1 above be issued as soon as such items become available.

3. All equipment released will be regarded as part issue of the G1098 scale eventually to be issued to the MANTOVA group.

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

AAH/acn.

Copy to : HQ A.A.I.
Fd Arty
Engrs
Sigs
Med (B)
DMT)
MMIA) less copies of DMT letter under reference.

SECRET

0456

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

180618

LRKB
NEDY V ROUTINE

SQX CR30

FROM AMALO FRUILI 161700A

TO AMIA ROME

M2/38 RESTRICTED . FOR COL PEISLEY

A-1 FOR A/DNAG FOR BLU . WOULD APPRECIATE

IF AMALO MANTOVA BE INSTRUCTED TO REPORT

HERE TO TAKE OVER MANTOVA

NUCLEUS . IN VIEW

OF NEARBY MOVES .

TNT ---

TRH+S+

24/20 H

29/28.

28/41

6465

181839

MANTOVA

0457

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

P 57/19 N 106/19 (5)

LRKB V MEDY IMPORTANT QVR 2 SR NR 190327

FROM MMIA LO FRU FRUILI 191100

5/Sec.

TO DISTHREE

26/n

INFO MMIA ROME

QQX GR --- BT

MF/40 . RESTRICTED.,CONVERSATION FIELDMAN- SEATTON REFERS. IMMEDIATE REQUIREMENTS FOR MANTOVA VEHS ARE . FIRST . MT TRUCKS 15 CWT WATER QTY 3. LORRIES 3 TON QTY 6 SECOND . REQUIPMENT . BLANKETS QTY 500 BIVOUACS QTY 250 WATER BOTTLES QTY 250 SPOONS QTY 250 MESS TINS QTY 250

THI 191330

CKG

CRTS PSE READ REQUIREMENST FOR MANTOVA VEHS ARE. FIRST IMI REQUIREMENTS FOR MANTOVA VEHS AREA. FIRST REQUIPMENT AS PER COPY

SENT NR 190327 WJC AT 19/1900A AR K

6465

RECD NR 190327 A AAA 19/1900 A AA A AR

MODELLO II

959

O ROMA DA COSENZA 22[illegible] 102 17/11 1300+=+

= FROM DUE PUNTI M.M.I.A. LO MANTOVA GP TO COMILIT CALABRIA PM.11=

INFM DUE PUNTI M.M.I.A. HQ MANTOVA GP M.M.I.A.-

Indice del collegamento.

RESTRICTED QI/-/ REFERENCE MY QI OF 125 9/GV AND CONVERSATIN CASTAMAGIC[illegible]
OF VIESTRDV I PLEASE ISSUE FOLLWING TO HQ MANTOVA GP FROM DEPOTS UNDER
YOM COMMAND /-/ONE/-/ COPERTE 3157/-/ TWO TELI DA TENDA 2800/-/ THREE/-/
PARTI DA BASTONE 10123/-/ FOUR /-/ PICHETTI 14715 /-/ FIVE /-/
PAGLIERICCI 2500/-/ ABOVE ISSUES WILL BE CONSIDERED AS ON LOANM TO BE
RESTORED TO ITALIAN WAN MINISTRY DEPOTS ON ISSUES OF BRITSH EQUIPMENTM

TESTO

S/Sec
1911

+=+=+= TRS BONZANO DSP 226 0035181144F RCV PANI SUD ..

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

ICO MILITARE 1418

Roma.

l in partenza. 9/1325

(1) _____

Consegnato al messaggero alle ore _____

Ora di recapito _____

(1) Telegramma, fonogramma, fototelegramma, fotofonogramma, marconigramma e fonomarconigramma

SERVIZIO TELEGRAF

Indirizzo (1) M. M. I. A

Primo lembo da piegare

6463 5363

Ordinativo 380 dell'1-10-1940-XVIII - (50.000 x 100)
Antonio Casciani - Cartotecnico e Legatoria - Roma

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

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

28

2 on 28

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Subject: Controlled Stores for Training.

TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427

AFHQ/9159/4(AG)

8/Sec

16 Nov. 44

19/11

DMT.

Reference your DMT/134/MT.2 dated 12 Nov. 44.

1. Release notes are attached in respect of

Rifle No. 4	Qty 70
Bren LMGs (c/w mags)	12
TSMGs	12
Plats	6

2. It is regretted that mortars are not available.

3. These issues will be treated as being in part satisfaction of the 1998 entitlement of No. 5 (MANTOVA) Italian Combat Group.

6462

6461

RMB/DX.

R.W. BRADLEY, Major,
for Brigadier, Q(AF).

Copy to: ORD (B).
MMIA.
54 BLU

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

37

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Q(AE) BRANCH

TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427

16 Nov 1944

ORDER

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item. PIATS Qty 6

To whom released D.M.T.

Release No. Q(AE) 41/14

Remarks

Special Instructions

Major,
for
Brigadier, Q(AE).

Copy to :-
D.M.T. - Your DMT/184/MT2 dated 12 Nov 44 refers.
No. 54 BLU
MMIA

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

36

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Q(AE) BRANCH

TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427

14 Nov 1944

ORD(H)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item. T.S.M.G. Qty 42

To whom released D.M.T.

Release No. Q(AE) 39/44

Remarks

Special Instructions

Major,
for
Brigadier, Q(AE).

Copy to :-

D.M.T. - Your DMT/184/MT2 dated 12 Nov 44 refers.
No. 54 BLU
AMTA

0463

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

35

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Q(AE) BRANCH
TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427
16 Nov. 1944

ORD(H)

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item. Bren L.M.G. c/w Mags Qty 12

To whom released D.M.T.

6659

Release No. Q(AE) 31/33

Remarks

Special Instructions

Major,
for
Brigadier, Q(AE).

Copy to :-

D.M.T. - Your DMT/184/MT 2 dated 12 Nov 44 refers.
No. 54 BLU
MMIA

0464

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Q(AE) BRANCH

TEL. NO. FREEDOM 427

14 Nov 1944

ORD(B)

6458

RELEASE NOTE.

Release of the undermentioned controlled stores is authorised.

Item. Rifles No. 4 Qty 70

To whom released D.M.T.

Release No. Q(AE) 25/24

Remarks

Special Instructions

Major,
for
Brigadier, Q(AE).

Copy to :-

D.M.T. Your DMT/184/MT2 dated 12 Nov 44 refers.
No. 54 BLU
MMLA

10465

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

COPY

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA
Direzione Generale Motorizzazione
Divisione II

19/38 33

SITUAZIONE AUTOMEZZI "DIVISIONE MANTOVA" AL I OTTOBRE 1944

Tipo automezzo	Efficienti	Inefficienti
Autovetture Motor cars	4	5
Autofurgoncini P.U. 15 Cwt	=	1
Autocar i leggeri Light weight lorry	155	62
" " pesanti Heavy weight lorry	27	18
Auto officine Workshop	3	=
Autocarri diversi Various types of lorry	1	=
Trattori Tractors	43	7
Rimorchi Trailers	9	=
Motocarri Small lorry with M.C. engine	=	2
Motocarrozzette Motor tricycles	3	5
Motocicli Motor cycles	50	45
Totali	295	145

6457

IL DIRETTORE CAPO DIVISIONE
(Col G. Balanzino)

10466

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

29/28 32

S/Sec.

16/11

LIAISON OFFICER
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
NAPLES
AQ/4/SR

14 November 1944.

SUBJECT : Combat Group "Mantovia".

TO : Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C. ←
(M.M.I.A.)
COPY TO : Comando Militare della Campania

1. Forwarded herewith for your information and necessary action a copy of telegram from Comando Mil. Calabria and letter of transmittal (N. 13865/CO) from Comando Mil. Campania to this office.

George D. Smith Jr.

GEORGE D. SMITH, JR.
Major, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer.

Already dealt with

16/11

6450

1

0467

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

20

COMANDO MILITARE DELLA CAMPANIA

PC/ UFFICIO SERVIZI

N.13865/CO Di prot. P.M.120,li 2/11/1944.=

OGGETTO = Gruppo Combattimento "Mantova"

ALL'ARMY SUB COMMISSION NAPOLI

^^^^^^^^^^

Si trasmette, per il caso non fosse pervenuto, copia del telescritto n.02/4307/Serv. in data 28 ottobre u.s. diretto a questo Comando dal Comando Militare della Calabria.

d'ordine
IL SOTTOCAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
Capo dell'Ufficio Servizi
Ten.Col.di S.M.Enrico Cocco

6435

COPIA

/O/: TRE DEST. DA CZARO 219 281/O 1930
DA COMILIT CALABRIA
ET PER CONOSCENZA AT STAMAGGIORE SERVIZI AT GUERRA COMMISSARIATO
P.M.151 NR° 02/4370/SERV. ALT PRESENTE EST DIRETTO AT COMILET
CAMPANIA ET UFFICIALE COLLEGAMENTO MMIA ET PER CONOSCENZA STAMAG=
GIORE SERVIZI ET GUERRA COMMISSARIATO ALT PRESSO REPARTI GRUPPO
COMBATTIMENTO MANTOVA SI SONO TUTTORA DUECENTOSETTANTA MILITARI
IN ABITO CIVILE ALT POICHE' PARTENZA PREDETTO GRUPPO EST RIMAN=
DATA ET A OLTRE DIECI NOVEMBRE VIRGOLA CONSIDERATO INCLEMENZA
STAGIONE AUTUNNALE ET INOPPORTUNITA' ELEMENTI ABITO CIVILE NEI
REPARTI PREGO CORTESE INTERESSAMENTO POICHE' M.M.I.A. AUTORIZ=
ZI PRELEVAMENTO FABBISOGNO VESTIARIO RIATTATO PROVENIENZA ITA=
LIANA PRESSO MAGAZZINI DIPENDENTI ALT GENERALE COMANDO

...C...C.
IL CAPITANO ADDETTO
Pietro De Gennaro

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

COMBATTIMENTO MANTOVA SI SONO TUTTORA DUECENTOSETANTA PERSONE
IN ABITO CIVILE ALT POICHE' PARTENZA PREDETTO GRUPPO EST RIMAN=
DATA ET A OLTRE DIECI NOVEMBRE VIRGOLA CONSIDERATO INCLEMENZA
STAGIONE AUTUNNALE ET INOPPORTUNITA' ELEMENTI ABITO CIVILE NEI
REPARTI PREGO CORTESE INTERESSAMENTO POICHE' M.M.I.A. AUTORIZ=
ZI PRELEVAMENTO FABBISOGNO VESTIARIO RIATTATO PROVENIENZA ITA=
LIANA PRESSO MAGAZZINI DIPENDENTI ALT GENERALE CORONATI

C...C.
IL CAPITANO ADDETTO
Pietro De Gennaro

6154

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

10470

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

P. M. 120 - 2/11/44

Subject: Fighting Group "Mantova"

To: Army Sub-Commissariat Naples

In case that it has not been received it is
remitted Copies of Telescript N. 02/430Z/Serv. dated
28 october last addressed to this Command by the
Military Command of Calabria -

See order etc.

Copy - O/i Three from Catanzaro 219 28/10 1930
From Military Command Calabria
and for information to Services H.Q War Commissariat to
P.M. 151 No. 02/430/Serv. Stop present is addressed to
Military Command Campania and Liaison Officer
M.M.I.A and for information to Services H.Q and
War Commissariat Staff at Units Fighting Group
Mantova there are still 270 military in civil clothes
Stop Cause of absence said Group is attributed by the
10th. November, considering the inclement autumn
season and inadvertunity elements wearing at the
Units civil clothes request kind interest toward
M.M.I.A. to authorise release necessary required
italian clothing at dependent Dept Stop General
Command

6453

SECRET

SUBJECT : Equipment Training tools for "SFORZA" Italian Combat Group.

S/Sec.
10/4

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 512

Ref : 11/56

AFHQ/AG.2

AG Ltr 44.

Ja/58

G-3 (SS (A) AFHQ(3)

1. Dy a release please be authorized for the following training tools of equipment (Appendices "A" and "B" to G(AG) Administrative Instruction No.3 dated 17 Sep 44 refers) urgently required by "SFORZA" Italian Combat Group who are now forming.

A. Vehicles.

Motor Cycles	30
Cars 4 str 4 x 2	6
Trucks 15 cwt GS 4 x 2	6
" 15 cwt 4 x 2 WPB	2
" 15 cwt 4 x 2 Airplane Tow	2
Lorries 3 ton GS 4 x 2	4
Lorries 2½ ton 16 Recovery	2
Tractors A/T	6
" MA	
" LAA	
Carriers Universal	
" Light	
" Mortar	

B. G(SI) Controlled Stores.

Rifles No.4	4500
Tommy's	2800
LMG Bren	60
BSAP	15
6 pr }	4
17 pr } Complete with: ammunition and	3
25 pr } ancillary stores according to	6
4.2" } AE & I Scales	15
Directors No.7	15
Compasses Prismatic	50
Binoculars No.2	25
Periscopes GS	24
Pistols Signal	12

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A. [illegible]

Motor Cycles	30
Cars 2 str 4 x 2	5
Trucks 15 cwt GS 4 x 2	8
" 15 cwt 4 x 2 WOT	3
" 15 cwt 4 x 2 Wireless Cars	5
Lorries 3 ton GS 4 x 2	2
Lorries 7½ ton LS Recovery	2
Tractors A/T	4
" 9A	12
" 9AA	12
Carriers Universal	6
" Lloyd	
" Morris	

B. [illegible] Controlled Stores.

Rifles No.4	4500
Sten's	2500
LMG Bren	60
PIAT	13
6 pr }	4
17 pr } Complete with associated and	6
25 pr } ancillary stores according to	12
4.2in } AB & S Tables	6
Directors No.7	35
Compasses Prismatic	35
Binoculars No.2	25
Weapon QB	42
Electric Signal	15
Fire Detectors Mortars	6
2 in. Mortar	
3 in. Mortar	

C. [illegible]

Boards Artillery No.3	6

2. It was originally intended to [illegible] mules of transport and controller groups should pass from one Depot Group to another as each Group completed its training. [illegible] Depot Group under these arrangements would have received their training equipment from "TRAINED" Depot Group, but owing to the alteration in the phased programme of issue of Unit Entitlement mules to equipment to "TRAINED" Depot Groups this is now impossible. At the present moment "TRAINED" Group are in possession of a limited key scale of equipment which is fully in use and cannot possibly be handed over to "TRAINING" Group until certain scales of equipment are issued which it is understood will not be until the end of December 1944.

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3. As "PETROVA" carbon group are now in a position to take over the equipment and sufficient trained instructors are available, if at all possible, any a waiver for the above action please be authorized immediately to enable a start to be made on essential repairs and [illegible] training.

4. It is suggested, for your consideration, that the equipment be issued as part of the G.[illegible] assault overhauls to be issued to "PETROVA" carbon group as the nucleus of a new training unit for [illegible] collaboration with the first four carbon groups.

[illegible]

RC/Mrs

Copy to [illegible] (SIS).

767

10-474

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

File

ARMY FORM C 2166 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No.

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

29/28

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: MMIA — Date-Time of Origin: 15 1210 — Office Date Stamp: 27

For Action

TO ~~AAA~~ JO B&V

(W) For Information (INFO)

—Message Instructions— | —GR—

Originator's No. SS 332

Restricted O Reference your MF 35 of 14 Nov 0
The enclosed was received by 2 Armored Cav Regt O Our
SS 265 of 14 Nov was 0.

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.
			THI or TOR		
			Time cleared		
Signed	Signed				

0475

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

ARMY FORM C 2156 (Smsh) MESSAGE FORM Register No. 39/4

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
S			

47926

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: M M I A LO FRIULI | Date-Time of Origin: 141730A

— Office Date Stamp —

Correction incorrect A

For Action

TO: M M I A ROME

Sec. Sec.

18/11

(W) For Information (INFO)

—Message Instructions— —OR—

Originator's No. MF 35 (Confidential 237 men arrived here en MT from PIEDMONTE without uniforms and. or blankets © Men are reinforcements for 2/119 Regt MANTOVA Main-tenance Territorial request authority for Collection of tentage and. blankets

DESIGNATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS AS TO NUMBER OF PRIORITY: IMMEDIATE

Time THE or TOR: 141900A

Time cleared

System

Op.

SIGNED

SIGNED Depo

P.S.S./B/D:2:e/M x M/1M/1944

SUBJECT: Specialists - MANTOVA Group

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.G.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. S/G/29/28
14 Nov 44

WO : MINISTRY OF WAR

Copy to: MEIA LO MANTOVA GROUP

1. I am informed that MANTOVA Division is in a worse position as regards Specialist personnel than FRIULI was last August. To avoid the delay and trouble which we have had in FRIULI Group, it is necessary to begin immediately transferring or training Specialists for MANTOVA.

2. It is estimated that the MANTOVA Group are short of the following Specialists:

Telegraph Operators	100
Radio Mechanics	250
Lorry Drivers	1000
Track Vehicle Drivers	250
Motor Cyclists	200
Motor Mechanics	150
Armourer Mechanics	25

It is suggested that at least a proportion of the above deficiencies could be filled by transfers to the MANTOVA Group of men from the ADSTA and SARAUDA DIVS; or possibly from other sources at your disposal.

3. Please give this matter your immediate attention and forward your proposals, stating the number of men (by Special-

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It is suggested that at least a proportion of the above deficiencies could be filled by transfers to the MANTOVA Group of men from the ADSTA and SABAUDA DIVS; or possibly from other sources at your disposal.

3. Please give this matter your immediate attention and forward your proposals, stating the number of men (by Specialist Categories) which you can make available so that arrangements for their transfer can be made.

W. Pidsley. Colonel
for Major General
M. M. I. A.

6451

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

Subject: Report 2, 6 Nov

TOP SECRET 24

Liaison Officer
Military Mission Italian Army
c/o HQ MANTOVA GP
Q 2
8 Nov '44

To: Military Mission Italian Army
ROME.

Infm 54 BLU (No Appendices)

1. Herewith my initial report on the GRUPPO COMBATTENTE MANTOVA.

2. LIAISON LOG

2 Nov. Arrived SAN GIORGIO. Conference with G C 50 BLU and AGMG
3 Nov. Discussed problems of take over from FRIULI with Lt. Col. SABRE i/c MANTOVA advanced party.
To BENEVENTO. Discussed take over FRIULI area by MANTOVA with Quatering Cmdt. On to LAGONEGRO for night.
4 Nov. Arrived COSENZA. General BROWNING and Capt. CHAYTOR arrived pm.
5 Nov. Conference with General CORONATI (GOC COMILIT CALABRIA) and General BOLOGNA (GOC MANTOVA GP).
6 Nov. General BROWNING leaves am for PALERMO.

3. Conference 5 Nov.

(i) General CORONATI outlined the necessity for 2 gd bns in CALABRIA once MANTOVA go. General BROWNING stated that the whole question was under review at AFHQ but that the solution prefered by MMIA was that the present bn of the SABAUDA Div. now in CALABRIA should return to SICILY and that 2 bns of the CALABRIA Div. should be shipped across from SARDINIA. This would take place if possible before the MANTOVA left. At any rate General CORONATI would not be left with less than the one gd bn already under his command.

(ii) M.T. posn COMILIT CALABRIA to be discussed by General CORONATI and Lt. Col.HOWARD and reported by latter to MMIA

(iii) Question of MANTOVA leaving CALABRIA with sufficient tentage, blankets, palisses and gas masks to cover organic strength to be dealt with direct by General CORONATI and Lt. Col.HOWARD. General BROWNING approved the principle that any items of clothing equipment issued from Calabrian depots surplus to present strength MANTOVA GP should be considered

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G(SD) is copying. G.

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A ofs to note

(iv) General BROWNING outlined program for equipping and training Italian combat groups and laid particular stress on:
(a) elimination unsuitable officers
(b) maintainence of British equipment

SS

4. Order of Battle and Strength Return as at 4 Nov 44 is attached as appendix A. The following points should be noted: -

WP

(i) Organic strength shown as 435 offs and 8712 OR's, whereas App. A to MMIA Letter noted above lays it down as 428 offs 8476 OR's. I will examine reasons for the difference and rectify before GP moves.

SS

(ii) The MANTOVA GP is in four main blocks:
(a) 76 Inf. Regt. REGGIO CALABRIA
(b) 114 Inf. Regt. services and Div. HQ COSENZA
(c) 155 Arty Regt. CROTONE
(d) 2 Bn 119 Inf. Regt. & 120 Indipendent Bn) NAPLES-VAIRANO area (reinforcements for MANTOVA GP)

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(iii) Hardly any of the workshops have been formed owing to lack of personnel and equipment.

(iv) The strength deficiency as shown 87 offs and 2624 OR's will be [redacted] offset when the 2 bns in the NAPLES area total 52 offs and 1310 OR's reinforce the Group.
The remaining deficiency will have been made up entirely of specialist personnel (see para 6). There will however also be a large number of non specialists filling specialist appointments.

5. For reorganization of MANTOVA Gp see Appendix B

6. Deficiency of Specialists. The data given me by HQ MANTOVA GP dates from 24 sep 44 and is therefore out of date. The most important deficiencies were then, however,

W O's :	Armourers	12
Senior NCO's :	M T Personnel	16
	Truck vehicle drivers	8
	Mechanics	5
OR's :	Drivers	1034
	Signals operators	360
	Mechanics	136
	Despatch riders	209

SS
SS is looking this up.

The total deficiency of specialists was given as 2314.

7. Personnel on Leave courses sick etc. is shown in Appendix C.
The rather unsatisfactory column called "Cause Varie" is said to be made up of inter divisional postings, special duty and deserters.

A/S
The figure for the latter is not however high, having been given me as 69 as at 28 Oct. The leave figure, which as shown is large, will be reduced to 5% of the present strength by 10 Nov.
I believe that when the MANTOVA finally moves to its training area it is likely to leave behind in CALABRIA approximately: -

Leave	300
Sick	250
Deserters	150
Cause Varie	100
	800 Total

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

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Sick	250
Deserters	150
Cause Varie	100
	800 Total

8. Clothing and Boots.

A/S

Be advised what should be done re.

From the 5 Units already inspected it is likely that 50% of the present strength of the MANTOVA in CALABRIA will have to be issued with new boots. Between 20% and 30% are urgently in need of other clothing. As I see it, no training of any kind will be possible for the GP as it is at present clothed and the first task of the BLU will be to get clothing released for them in the following priority:

(i) Boots 5/7000
(ii) Overcoats For total strength of GP
(iii) Antigas capes " " " " "
(iv) Remainder of clothing scale for total strength of GP

9. Readiness to move. A weeks warning should suffice to enable the MANTOVA to move its units at present in CALABRIA to the training area.

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10. Advance Party. An advance party of the GP already exists in the SAN GIORGIO area and this will be further strengthened by representatives of the staff and services as soon as a date is fixed for the move. Lt. Col. SABRE is in charge of the advance party and is billeted in SAN GIORGIO. Capt. GENTLE SORE now with MMIA LO 50 BLU knows where he lives.

11. Italian Service Pl for 54 BLU. I have asked HQ MANTOVA GP to form a temporary unit as laid down in MMIA letter TS/G/29 of 28 Aug 44, Appendix C in case the properly constituted unit is not ready in time.

SS. SMRE to forward

12. I still believe that the MANTOVA has the makings of a Combat GROUP. The main points are as follows:

(i) The Calabrian elements now about 40% to 50% should not be allowed to exceed 20%. This can be arranged later on.

(ii) Morale should be raised as soon as possible by the issue first of clothing and boots to scale and secondly of training equipment.

(iii) It would be disastrous if the GP were allowed to remain clothed and equiped as at present in the SAN GIORGIO area for longer than two weeks. Morale would break as they expect a great deal from the move.

(iv) It is essential that at least sufficient tentage, blankets, palliasses, be brought by the GP to its training area to cover the period before the clothing scale is issued. 90% of the men are in KD and 30% in rags and tatters or civilian dress. 50% are either without or with completely unserviceable boots.

A/G.

Recommendations.

✓ (i) As much warning as possible of the date of movement should be given to HQ MANTOVA GP.

✓ (ii) The BLU should be in situ in the training area at least a week before the main body of the Division arrives.

(iii) If there is any difficulty on the part of British Ordinance in supplying boots and winter clothing, MMIA should seriously consider the issue on loan of both to the MANTOVA once it reaches the training area. I repeat morale is not high now and may break if the GP reaches SAN GIORGIO and remains in its present state and unable to train for lack of clothing.

A/G.

(iv) PRIULI does not move before 18 Nov. GP and Regimental Commanders should pay it a brief visit in order to get first hand information of the problems from the Italian side about the area they will occupy.

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A/G.

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S S. (iv) FRIULI does not move before 18 Nov. GP and Regimental Commanders should pay it a brief visit in order to get first hand information of the problems from the Italian side about the area they will occupy.

S S. (v) MMIA should call for a War Ministry return of specialists surplus to the requirements of the Internal Security Divisions AOSTA and SABAUDA.
This personnel should be made available to the MANTOVA before individual training begins.

H.AC. Howard

Lt. Col. G 3 G/48(L)
MMIA LO MANTOVA GROUP

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23

Liaison Officer
Military Mission Italian Army
C/O HQ MANTOVA GP
DO/H/22
9 Nov 44

TO: Colonel W Pidsley VSOMC
Military Mission Italian Army

ROME

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

My Dear, Colonel: This has been typed by an Italian Sgt of HQ MANTOVA GP who doesn't speak a word of English. I think it is rather gay!!

reference my initial report on the Mantova here are some afterthroughts.

2. BLU - Southby tells me that the following points are the most important:

(i) - I should get a copy of the formation order as soon as possible so that if the BLU takes some time to gather I can goto QAE AFHQ (Major little tpt) and get the release order for BLU tpt. May I please be sent a copy as soon as it is issued ? - if I can collect for BLU so much the better (guards IRTD will I'm sure help with Drivers etc.) trasportation is a SINE QUA NON for the BLU.

(ii) - A/Q BLU wants to get his DAVOS craching right away on:

a)- clerks ~~classis~~ and interpreters from QAE

b)- GI098 and special equipment for BLU from QAE statisties (capt. Norman)

c)- GI098 and special equipment for GP AFHQ adm instruction n° 3 will help

(iii) - I will try a fix a camp cmd- ~~credit~~ on loan from Guards IRTD. Southby has one and tells me he is invaluable.

(iv) - I will discuss all this with you by phone when I visit REGGIO. But if the time table is'nt completely changed I should be able to help the BLU considerably during its growing pains.

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

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3. ACCOMODATION SANGIORGIO

Quartering crudt BENEVENTO is looking after interests GP, BLU and Lo.

4. PERCENTAGE OF CALABRIANS IN GP

I think I have been an alarmist and there are libely to be fewer than I first thought (see my report) and oncle GP is reinforced by 2/119 and 120 bn the % is not libely tobe much more than 15% 6%?

5. Movements HOWARD:

Crotone	9-10 novembre
Catanzaro	night 10-11 novembre
Reggio C.	" 11-12 " to night 13-14 novembre
Cosenza	14 novembre

Subject to confirmation when completed !

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6. GENERAL

My lecture to junior officers has not yet been passed by general Bologna but as there is a flap on with Coronati and Berardi all tuorning CALABRIA together in different directions I have'nt pressed it.

I have asked hq GP to divide its specialists into:

(i) - those it can train it self with the help of personnel returnes from courses

(ii) - those thar must be posted to it from elsewhere and to let me have the results.

7. Please llok after my NAAFI interests in ROME abd amars a huge quantity of drink ans cigarettes against my return !

Yours very sincerely

Henry Howard

Lt.col. the hgn H.R.C. Howard
Coldstream guards
Military Mission Italian Army

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

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Coldstream guards
Military Mission Italian Army

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FROM MMIA

TO AFHQ (for G3 org; foreign)

INFO MINISTRY OF WAR FOR SIGS
WAR MINISTRY for CAMILLI CALABRIA FOR MMIA LO

SD 1779 Security Classification ~~RESTRICTED~~

Ref your F 50496 of 9 (.) War Ministry pressing completion of screening of horses of MANTOVA Div soonest (.) 340 by horses left sickening for lack of fodder (.) War Ministry propose handing these over to farmers (.) Your agreement or otherwise requested

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

Copy to Spec Sec

0489

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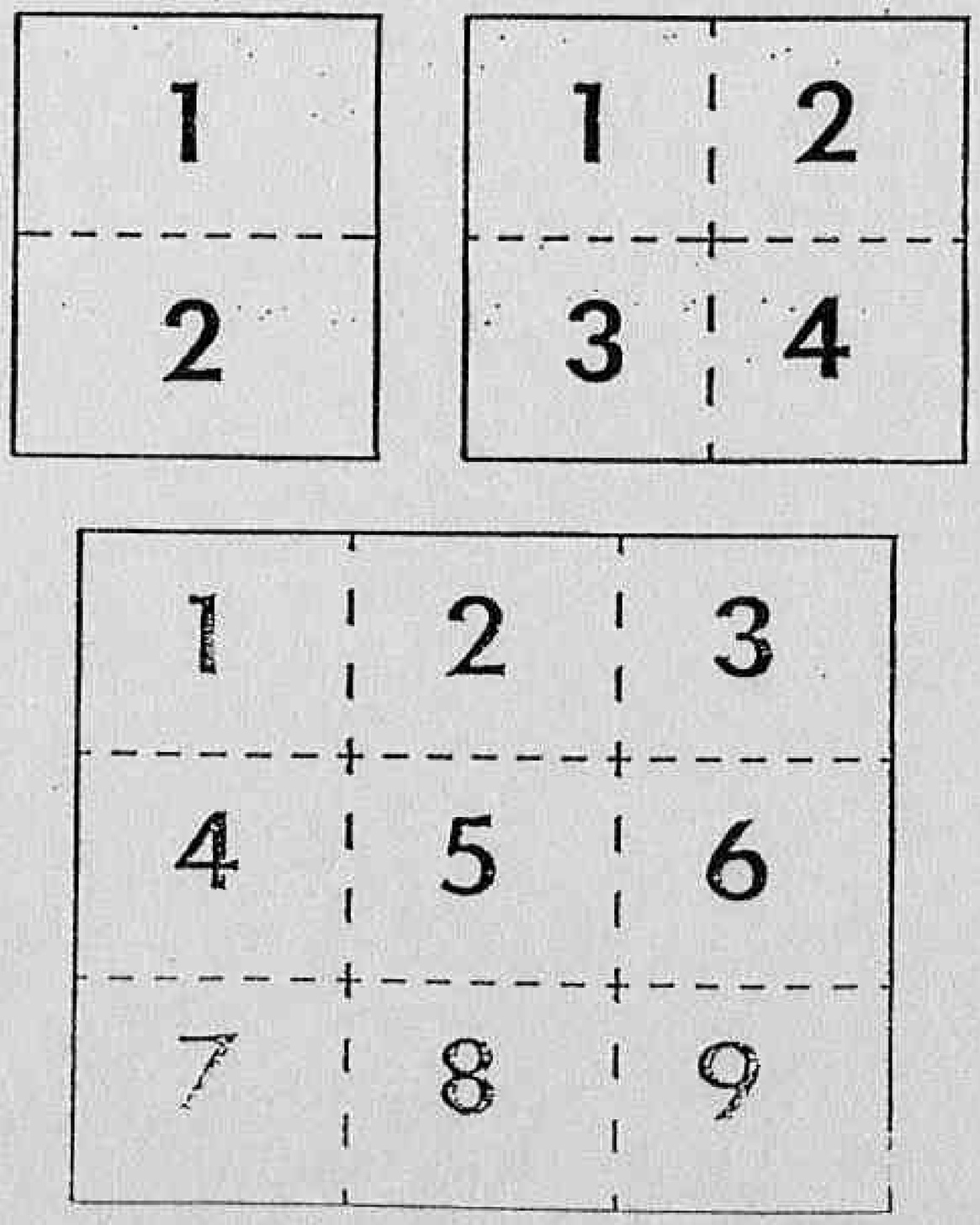
MAPS AND CHARTS TOO LARGE TO FILM
ON ONE EXPOSURE ARE FILMED CLOCKWISE
BEGINNING IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER,
LEFT TO RIGHT, AND TOP TO BOTTOM.

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.



0490

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Reparto	Se costituito o in corso di costituzione	Dislocazione attuale	Organico Ufficiali	Organico Sottuf. e Trup.	Forze effettive Ufficiali	Forze effettive Sottuf. e trup.	Def. Ufficiali Def.	Def. Ufficiali Esub
Quartier Generale	Già costit.	Cosenza	28	113	30	152	-	2
76° rgt.ftr."Napoli"								
- cdo e cp.cdo rgt. ..	"	Reggio Cal.	15	101	21	165	-	6
- cp. mortai da 76 ...	"	"	3	95	3	107	-	-
- cp. cannoni	" (3)	"	6	162	4	125	2	-
- I btg.	"	"	31	742	17	470	14	-
- II btg.	"	"	31	742	16	402	15	-
- III btg.	"	"	31	742	27	762	4	-
			117	2584	88	2031	35	6
114° rgt.ftr. "Mantova"								
- cdo e cp. cdo rgt.	"	Cosenza	15	101	20	193	-	5
- cp. mortai	"	"	3	95	2	90	1	-
- cp. cannoni	"	"	6	162	2	70	4	-
- I btg.	"	Castrovillari	31	742	30	556	1	-
- II btg.	"	Cosenza	31	742	31	659	-	-
- III btg.	Non costituito	(1)	31	742	-	-	31	-
			117	2584	85	1568	37	5
155° rgt.art. "Emilia"								
- cdo e rep. cdo rgt.	Già costituito	Crotone	11	74	13	77	-	2
- I gruppo da 25 lib.	"	"	15	239	18	200	-	3
- II gruppo da 25 lib.	"	~~Bonglio~~ Catanzaro	15	239	14	245	1	-
- III gruppo da 25 l.	"	Cutro	15	239	10	240	5	-
- IV gruppo da 25 l.	"	Crotone	15	239	13	185	2	-
- V gruppo da 17 lib.	"	"	9	172	18	351	-	9
- VI gruppo da 40 m/m.	"	"	13	231	12	140	1	-
			93	1433	98	1438	9	14
104° btg.misto genio								
- comando	"	Cosenza	6	16	2	5	4	-
- 79ª cp. artieri	"	Cerisano	5	227	4	153	1	-
- 4ª cp. artieri	Non costit.	-	5	227	-	-	5	-
- 107ª cp. tele R. ...	Già costit.	Cerisano	7	327	4	229	3	-
			23	797	10	387	13	-
104ª cp. trasp. e rif.	"	Cosenza	13	294	11	148	2	-
104ª sez. sanità	"	"	14	236	9	101	5	-
248° osp. da campo ...	"	"	6	44	6	39	-	-
501° osp. da campo ...	"	Crotone	6	44	5	42	1	-
104° depos. mobile ...	"	Vibo Valentia	4	73	4	73	-	-
151ª sez. CC.RR.	"	Cosenza	1	45	1	55	-	-
99ª sez. CC.RR.	"	Napoli	1	45	1	55	-	-
3ª cp. parco campale officine meccaniche .	In corso cost.	- (2)	5	129	-	-	5	-

10491

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

5/XI 2th corps col Hoen -

Forze effettiva		Deficienze ed esuberanze								Da portare al seguito						
		Ufficiali		Sottuffic. e truppa		Totali Ufficiali		Totali Sottuff. e truppa								
Uffic.	Sottuf. e trup.	Def.	Esub.	Def.	Esub.	Def.	Esub.	Def.	Esub.	Quadrupedi	Carreggio	Trattori	Autocarri	L/39	Motocicli	Autovetture
30	152	-	2	-	39	-	2	-	39	8	1	1	12	13	9	4
21	165	-	6	-	64											
3	107	-	-	-	12											
4	125	2	-	37	-											
17	470	14	-	272	-											
16	402	15	-	340	-											
27	762	4	-	-	20											
38	2031	35	6	649	96	29	-	553	-	166	29	-	5	21	-	2
20	193	-	5	-	92											
2	90	1	-	5	-											
2	70	4	-	92	-											
30	556	1	-	186	-											
31	659	-	-	83	-											
-	-	31	-	742	-											
85	1568	37	5	1108	92	32	-	1016	-	53	6	-	2	33	10	1
13	77	-	2	-	3											
18	200	-	3	39	-											
14	245	1	-	-	6											
10	240	5	-	-	1											
13	185	2	-	54	-											
18	351	-	9	-	179											
12	140	1	-	91	-											
98	1438	9	14	184	189	-	5	-	5	354	24	7	37	-	12	2
2	5	4	-	11	-											
4	153	1	-	74	-											
-	-	5	-	227	-											
4	229	3	-	98	-											
10	387	13	-	410	-	13	-	410	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	-
11	148	2	-	146	-	2	-	146	-	-	-	-	7	-	1	-
9	101	5	-	136	-	5	-	136	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
6	39	-	-	5	-	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5	42	1	-	2	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	73	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	55	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	10	-
1	55	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	5	-	129	-	5	-	129	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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- 107ª cp. vers n. ...	Da costit.	Cerisano	1	321	9	603	3	-
			23	797	10	387	13	-
104ª cp. trasp. e rif.	"	Cosenza	13	294	11	148	2	-
104ª seg. sanità	"	"	14	236	9	101	5	-
248° osp. da campo ...	"	"	6	44	6	39	-	-
501° osp. da campo ...	"	Crotone	6	44	5	42	1	-
104° depos. mobile ...	"	Vibo Valentia	4	73	4	73	-	-
151ª sez. CC.RR.	"	Cosenza	1	45	1	55	-	-
99ª sez. CC.RR.	"	Napoli	1	45	1	55	-	-
3ª cp. parco campale .	In corso cost.	- (2)	5	129	-	-	5	-
Officine meccaniche								
- off.mob. per gr.C.	Da costituire	- -	6	168	-	-	6	-
- off.mob.legg. 76° ftr.	"	- -	-	14	-	-	-	-
- off.mob.legg.114° ftr.	"	- -	-	14	-	-	-	-
- off.mob.legg.155° art.n. 2	"	- -	-	28	-	-	-	-
- off.mob.legg.104°genio n. 2	"	- -	-	28	-	-	-	-
- pl.off.per cp. t. e r.	"	- -	1	39	-	-	1	-
TOTALE Officine meccaniche			7	291	-	-	7	-
TOTALE GENERALE			435	8712	348	6089	114	27
								Defic

(I)- Sarà costituito non appena il Gr. di Combattimento si trasferirà nella zo
bettaglioni :

- II/119° ftr. - uff. nr. 25 - sottuff. e truppa nr. 630 } Non si
- 120° btg. autonomo - uff. nr. 27 - sottuff. e truppa 680 } corpor

(2)- Della trasformazione della 21ª cp.artieri attualmente in trasferimento ne
la forza.

(3)- Personale delle cp. provvisorie del 119° ftr. che devono rientrare a sost

- Ufficiali nr. 1
- Sottuff. e tr. nr. 101

10493

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

[illegible]	[illegible]	3	–	98	–											
10	387	13	–	410	–	13	–	410	–	–	–	–	4	–	4	–
11	148	2	–	146	–	2	–	146	–	–	–	–	7	–	1	–
9	101	5	–	136	–	5	–	136	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–
6	39	–	–	5	–	–	–	5	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
5	42	1	–	2	–	1	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
4	73	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1	55	–	–	–	10	–	–	–	10	–	–	–	–	–	10	–
1	55	–	–	–	10	–	–	–	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	5	–	129	–	5	–	129	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	6	–	168	–	6	–	168	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	14	–	–	–	14	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	14	–	–	–	14	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	28	–	–	–	28	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	28	–	–	–	28	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	1	–	39	–	1	–	39	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	7	–	291	–	7	–	291	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
348	6089	114	27	3060	436	94	7	2688	64	581	61	8	68	67	46	9
			Deficienze effett.			87		2624	(I)							

i trasferirà nella zona di Benevento dalla trasformazione di uno dei seguenti

a nr. 630 } Non si hanno dati sul personale che da questi btg. si potrà in-
truppa 680 } corporare nel Gr. di Combattimento.

e in trasferimento nella zona di S.Giorgio del Sanio della quale non si conosce

vono rientrare a sostituzione avvenuta nei servizi territoriali :

– – – – – – – – – – –

10494

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

MODELLO TF
§ 35 dell'Istruzione sui collegamenti Vol. II
(Categ. 3309 - ediz. 1940 - XVIII)

N. 2927 del Catal.

(1) Milfenle

Indi

TR DSP NR 196 CAMPUS ORE 0020101144RCVLO STERZO SOD -

del collegamento.

(1) Indicazione e bollo del comando mittente.
(2) Indice della stazione destinataria o indirizzo del comando destinatario.
(3) Indice della stazione mittente.

Le ore si contano sul meridiano medio dell'Europa Centrale e di seguito da una mezzanotte all'altra.

Ricevuto il ..... 19 .... alle ore	Trasmesso il ..... 19 .... alle ore .....
dalla stazione (3) ..... Ricevente	alla stazione (2) ..... Trasmittente .....

Parole (p) O ROMA M.M.I.A. DA COSENZA 196 39 9/11 1140
Gruppi (gr.) .....

FROM M.M.I.A. LO MANTOVA PM 104

GI SEGRETO INITIAL REPORT ON MANTOVA CP. WITH GENERAL BROWNING (.) WILL INSPECT 155 REQUIMENT AT CROTONE 10 AND REQUIMENT ARTILLERY AT CROTONE 10AND 11 NOVEMBRE (.) WILL PHONE YOU ON 12 NOVEMBRE FROM G.REGGIO CALABRIA WHERE WILL INSPECT 71 REQUIMENT INFNTRY H/A/C HOWARD

6443

10495

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

(1) _____

Consegnato al messaggero alle ore _____ *Ora di recapito* _____

---

(1) Telegramma, fonogramma, fototelegramma, fotofonogramma, marconigramma o fonomarconigramma.

Spazio lasciato da riempire

Ordinativo 360 dell'1-10-1940-XVIII - (50.000 x 100)
Antonio Casciani - Cartotecnica e Legatoria - Roma

10496

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

MODELLO TF
(Ediz. 1960 - XVIII)

N. 2927 del Catal.

(1) Mittente

TR DSP NR 200 CAMPUS ORE 00300101144RCV' LO STERZO SOD -

(1) Indicazione e bollo del comando mittente.
(2) Indice della stazione destinataria o indirizzo del comando destinatario.
(3) Indice della stazione mittente.

Le ore si contano sul meridiano medio dell'Europa Centrale e di seguito da una mezzanotte all'altra.

Ricevuto dalla staz. O M.M.I.A. DA COSENZA 200 79 9/11 ORE 1400 19 alle ore

alla stazione

Trasmittente

FROM M.M.I.A. LO MANTOVA

INFM COMILIT CALABRIA CATANZARO HQ MANTOVA GP KBFFIDENTIAL QI (.) FOR SPECIAL SECTION FROM HOWARD (.)I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT NR.2 MOABILE ARTY WORKHOPS NOW AT MARCELLINARA BE PASSED FROM UNDER COMMAND COMILIT CALABRIA TO UNDER COMMAND HQ MANTOVA GP (.) THAY ARE NUCLEUS ROUND WHICH CROUP MOBILE WORKSHOPS CAN BE BUILT UO (.) I HAVE NOT UET COMUNICATED THESE CIEWS TO GOC COMILIT CALABRIA OR GOC MANTOVA GP AT (THEY ARZ BOTH ON TOURBUT WILL DO SO AT FIRST OPPORTUN ITY (.)MEAN-TIME PLEASE TAKE UO WITH MINISTRY OF WAR H/A/C/

HOWARD LT COL' G/S/O/ I /L/

0497

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

MODELLO TF
§ 35 dell'Istruzione sui collegamenti - Vol. II
(Ediz. 1799 - ediz. 1940 - XVIII)

N. 2927 del Catal.

(1) Mittente

TR DSP NR 200 CAMPUS ORE 003001011144RCV' LO STERZO SOD - gemelli

(1) Indicazione e bollo del comando mittente.
(2) Indice della stazione destinataria o indirizzo del comando destinatario.
(3) Indice della stazione mittente.

Le ore si contano sul meridiano medio dell'Europa Centrale e di seguito da una mezzanotte all'altra.

Ricevuto l' O M.M.I.A. DA COSENZA 200 79 9/11 ORE 1400 19 alle ore
dalla sta... alla stazione ... Trasmittente

FROM M.M.I.A. LO MANTOVA

INFM COMILIT CALABRIA CATANZARO HQ MANTOVA GP KBFFIDENTIAL QI (.) FOR SPECIAL SECTION FROM HOWARD (.)I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT NR.2 MOABILE ARTY WORKHOPS NOW AT MARCELLINARA BE PASSED FROM UNDER COMMAND COMILIT CALABRIA TO UNDER COMMAND HQ MANTOVA GP (.) THAY ARE NUCLEUS ROUND WHICH CROUP MOBILE WORKSHOPS CAN BE BUILT UO (.) I HAVE NOT UET COMUNICATED THESE CIEWS TO GOC COMILIT CALABRIA OR GOC MANTOVA GP AT THEY ARZ BOTH ON TOURBUT WILL DO SO AT FIRST OPPORTUN ITY (.)MEAN-TIME PLEASE TAKE UO WITH MINISTRY OF WAR H/A/C/

HOWARD LT COL' G/S/O/ I /L/

6442

0498

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

GRAFICO MILITARE

(1) _____

Consegnato al messaggero
alle ore _____

Ora di recapito _____

(1) Telegramma, fonogramma, fototelegramma, fotofonogramma, marconigramma e fonomarconigramma

Primo foglio da piegare

Ordinativo 360 dell'1-10-1940-XVIII - (50.000 x 100)
Antonio Cesaroni - Cartotecnica e Legatoria - Roma

0499

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

Lib 29/38

17

FROM MILA 09 1730 A

TO WAR MINISTRY

INFO 52 BIB
FAB FOR MILA
64 GARRISON FOR GHARDI

NO 1760 RESTRICTED

Arrange to despatch 300 rfts from Rft Depot ALIFE
in LEGGAIR tpt to AFRICALA Camp 12 Nov for 2 Bn
119 Regt (.) Ack

PRESIDENCE

AUTHENTICATED

Internal Spec Sec
'G'

6141

0500

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

S/Sec 1K
29/27

From MMIA LO LEGNANO 081625A

To HQ MMIA ROME

A514 RESTRICTED

From PIDSLEY (*) Ref LEGNANO LO MMIA signal A510 Of 03 (*)
ONE (*) Arrange with SHAE for MANTOVA Battalion 113 Regiment
AFRAGOLA to receive approximately 300 reinforcements from
reinforcement Depot D'ALIFE on 12 Nov in LEGNANO transport (*)
TWO (*) Am informed no Brit'sh mess-tins available anywhere
(*) 2500 needed for reinforcement Depot (*) Arrange issue
ITI or requisitioned substitutes (*) Inform GELARDI details
of collection

A/Q have replied later
- "not immediately available" fm
9/11

6149

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

LRC V LRLC NR 67

FROM MMIA LO LEGNANO 081625

TO HQ MMIA ROME

QQX GR62

A514. RESTRICTED. FROM PIDSLEY. REF LEGNANO LO MMIA SIGNAL A510 OF 03.

ONE . ARRANGE WITH SMRE FOR MANTOVA BATTALION 113 REGIMENT

AFRAGOLA TO RECEIVE APPROXIMATELY 300 REINFORCEMENTS FROM REINFORCEMENT

DEPOT ALIFE ON 12 NOV IN LEGNANO TRANSPORT.

TOW. AM AM INFORMED NO BRITISH MESS-TINS AVAILABLE ANYWHERE.

2500 NEEDED FOR REINFORCEMENT DEPOT. ARRANGE ISSUE I T I OR

REQUISITIONED SUBSTITUES. INFORM G E L A R D I DETAILS OF

COLLECTION

BT

SENT NR 67 0156 KWJP B

RD 090156A F A AR KKK

0502

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

FROM: MMIA

08 1740

TO : WAR MINISTRY for COMILIT CALABRIA for
MMIA LO MANTOVA GP

SS 292

SECRET

For Lt. Col. HOWARD (.) Regret your proposal reference training not possible (.) MANTOVA move not likely to be delayed beyond 24 Nov (.) Please signal expected date of return

PRECEDENCE X IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

6438

29/28

12

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Move and conc of MANTOVA Group

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. S/SD/30
3 Nov 44

9 Nov

TO : AFHQ (2)

Copy to: AAI (2)
3 Dist (2)
Italian War Ministry (2)
MMIA LO att 50 and 55 HQUs

Ref MMIA letter SD/30 of 12 Oct.

1. It is requested that the above letter, being now redundant, is cancelled for the following reasons.

(a) PICENO GROUP. Separate instructions are being issued by AFHQ which will materially effect this HQ letters SD/28 of 28 Oct and SD/26 of 7 Nov.

(b) MANTOVA Group has, since the above date, reorganised on to new standard gp W.E. with resultant alterations in strengths and compositions of units.

2. It is therefore requested that you move MANTOVA Group vide Appx A att, to SAN GIORGO area as soon as FRIULI Group is called forward by AAI. An advance party of approx 80 all ranks is already in position.

J. M. Inglesby. It-Col.
for Major General
M. M. I. A.

Copy to:- A/Q
Spec Sec

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

0504

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

MOVE AND [illegible] ELEMENTS OF MANTOVA DIVISION

Seniority	Unit	Strength: Offrs	ORs	Animals: Horses (By rail)	Animals: Mules (By rail)	(@) Unit vehs	(+) Baggage vehs	M/cs	Stores Tons	Entraining Station	Destn Stat
1	Divisional HQ.	27	195	9			1	6	95	Cosenza	BE
2	76 Inf. Regt. 'Napoli'										
	Regt and Coy HQs	18	132	4				2	17	Reggio Calabria	
	Mortar Coy	3	71	4					2	Reggio Calabria	
	Support Coy	4	115	2	17				2	Reggio Calabria	
	1 Bn	18	339	11					15	Reggio Calabria	
	2 Bn	16	285	11					15	Reggio Calabria	
	3 Bn	25	806	21	49	14		1	30	Reggio Calabria	
3	11/ Inf Regt 'Mantova'										
	Regt and Coy HQs	20	200	25	5		1	9	15	Cosenza	
	Mortar Coy	3	92	4			1		3	Cosenza	
	Support Coy	2	130						2	Cosenza	
	1 Bn	30	635	16		4		1	23	Castrovillari (Ø)	
	2 Bn	29	615	3					20	Cosenza	
4	155 Arty Regt 'Emilia'										
	Regt and Bty HQs	10	59				4	2	10	Crotone	
	1 Gruppo	7	147	140			5		18	Crotone	
	2 Gruppo	11	170	83			5	1	16	Crotone	
	3 Gruppo	11	118	115	16		6		18	Cutro	
	4 Gruppo	12	124					7	18	Crotone	
	5 Gruppo	6	160					4	13	Crotone	
	6 Gruppo	11	118				4	1	14	Crotone	
5	10/ Mixed Engr Bn	8	387					4*	60	Cosenze	
6	10/ Supply & Tpt Coy	6	89						3	Cosenza	
7	10/ Mobile Stores	1	32						1	Vibo Valentia	
	Carried forward	278	5019	478	87	18	27	38	410		

6-136

0505

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

APPX A to MMIA S/5D/30 of 8 Nov 44.
CONFIDENTIAL

MOVE AND CONCENTRATION ELEMENTS OF MANTOVA DIVISION

Units	OPs	Animals Horses (By rail)	Animals Mules (By rail)	(@) Unit vehs	(-/-) Baggage vehs	Arty/cs	Stores Tons	Entraining Station	Detraining Station	Date required to move	Remarks
	195	9			1	6	95	Cosenza	BENEVENTO		
	132	4				2	17	Reggio Calabria	"		
	71	4					2	Reggio Calabria	"		
	115	2	17				2	Reggio Calabria	"		
	339	11					15	Reggio Calabria	"		
	285	11					15	Reggio Calabria	"		
	806	21	49	14		1	30	Reggio Calabria	"		
	200	25	5		1	9	15	Cosenza	"		3rd Bn to effect lift between AFRAGOLA (on 2 Bn 119 Bde) and VAIRANO
	92	4			1		3	Cosenza	"		
	130						2	Cosenza	"		
	635	16		4		1	23	Castrovillari (Ø)	"		
	615	3					20	Cosenza	"		
	59				4	2	10	Crotone	"		
	147	140			5		18	Crotone	"		
	170	83			5	1	16	Crotone	"		
	118	115	16		6		18	Cutro	"		
	124					7	18	Crotone	"		
	160					4	13	Crotone	"		
	118				4	1	14	Crotone	"		
	387					4*	60	Cosenza	"		
	89						3	Cosenza	"		
	32						1	Vibo Valentia	"		
	5019	448	87	18	27	38	410				

10506

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

MOVE AND CONC FOR ELEMENTS OF MANTOVA DIVISION

Priority	Unit	Strength Offrs	ORs	Animals Horses/Mules By rail		(@) Unit vehs	(+) Baggage vehs	m/cs	Stores Tons	Entraining Station	Detraining Station
	Brought forward	278	5219	448	87	18	27	38	410		
8	10/ Medical Unit	10	199						8	Cosenza	BENEVENTO
9	248 Field Hospital	5	44				1(X)		9	Cosenza	"
10	501 Field Hospital	6	44						10	Crotone	"
11	151 CC P2 Section.	1	56					10	6	Cosenza	"
	TOTAL	300	5263	448	87	18	28	48	443		

Notes :- (@) To be parked in the vicinity of the departure station and to follow by road at a

(#) From Castrovillari to Spezzano Albanese by Calabro-Lucana Rly.

(X) Mobile Kitchen to go by rail.

(+) To be parked in the vicinity of the station (excepting mobile kitchen) and to fol

(*) Incl 1 motor tricycle.

0507

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

CONFIDENTIAL

MOVE AND CONC FOR ELEMENTS OF MANTOVA DIVISION

Strength							Entraining Station	Detraining Station	Date required to move	Remarks
Offs	Animals Horses	Mules By rail	(@) Unit vehs	(+) Baggage vehs	m/cs	Stores Tons				
219 100	448	87	18	27	33	410	Cosenza	BENEVENTO		
44				1(X)		9	Cosenza	"		
44						10	Crotone	"		
56					10	6	Cosenza	"		
5263	148	87	18	28	48	413				

a the vicinity of the departure station and to follow by road at a later date.

lari to Spezzano Albanese by Calabro-Lucana Rly.

to go by rail.

n the vicinity of the station (excepting mobile kitchen) and to follow by road at a later date.

tricycle.

10508

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

Mod. 30 - Telegr. 1938 - XIV

INDICAZIONI DI URGENZA

(P)

33/7

Il Governo non assume alcuna responsabilità civile in conseguenza del servizio della telegrafia.
Le tasse riscosse in meno per errore od in seguito a rifiuto o irreperibilità del destinatario devono essere completate dal mittente.
Il destinatario è invitato a firmare la ricevuta presentata dal fattorino e a segnarvi la data e l'ora della consegna del telegramma. In mancanza di tali indicazioni il destinatario perde il diritto a reclamare in caso di ritardo della consegna.

Ricevuto il ..... 193 .... ore ....
Riceveute
Pel circuito N. .....

Le ore si contano sul meridiano corrispondente al tempo medio dell'Europa centrale, e pei telegrammi interni e con vari paesi esteri di seguito da una mezzanotte all'altra.
Nei telegrammi impressi in caratteri romani, il primo numero dopo il nome del luogo d'origine rappresenta quello del telegramma, il secondo quello delle parole, gli altri la data, l'ora e i minuti della presentazione.

Tip. MASI - PORTICI 4-7-938 X

QUALIFICA	DEST'	DATE ORA E NUMERO PRESENTAZIONE	VIA E INDICAZIONI EVENTUALI D'UFFICIO
FROM	RI /C/ M.M.I.A. DA COSENZA 186 54 6/11 1630		

TO LO MANTOVA GP AT M.M.I.A. INFO LT PER CONOSCENZA AT COMILIT CAMPANIA AT LO MANTOVA GP. GI. SECRET /-/ FOR RIDSLEY FROM HOWARD F/ IF MANTOVA MOVE LIKELY TO BEDELAYED CONSIDER ARRANGIC RELEASE UNSERVICEABLE BRITCH ARMS AND EQUIPMENT TO MANTOVA GP ON SKALE ONE OF EACH /+/ COMILIT CALABRIA WUCLD FIND TRANSPOST NECESSARY. TO BRING MATERIAL TO CALABRIA /-/ WUXX WOULD HAVE EFFECT OF STIMULATING INTEREST ALL RANKS AND PREPARING FOR ULTIMATE ISSUE SERVICEABLE MATERIAL HAC HOUARD GUL. IMPORTANT //

/ TRS PADULA DSPNRº 6/35 ORE 0315671144 RICV-:RC RUSSI SOD KM

FATEVI CORRENTISTI POSTALI - PAGAMENTI E RISCOSSIONI IN TUTTE LE LOCALITÀ DEL REGNO - FRA CORRENTISTI I PAGAMENTI E LE RISCOSSIONI MEDIANTE POSTAGIRO SONO ESEGUITI SENZA LIMITAZIONE DI SOMMA ED IN ESENZIONE DA QUALSIASI TASSA

0509

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39

TELEGRAMM

N. 1225 di recapito - Rimesso al fattorino ad ore _____

Nulla è dovuto al fattorino pel recapito. Il latore rimette una ricevuta a stampa quando è incaricato di una riscossione.

_____ DA M.M.I.A. _____

_____

_____

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

MESSAGE FORM

FROM: XMIA

DATE & TIME OF ORIGIN
05 A

TO (FOR ACTION): SO SLUS

TO (FOR INFO): INFO 3 DISTRICT

REF. NO. SS 213

(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION): CONFIDENTIAL

FR LT/COL HOWARD (.) PLEASE CONTACT 3 DISTRICT REFERENCE OUR SS 266 OF 4 NOV SUBJECT MOVE OF 2 SS 119 INF REGT AND DIVISION UNITS FROM AFRICOLA TO 8 GIORGIO AREA (.) FIELDING HAS COPY

PRECEDENCE: IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATION:

6134

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

9

File

29/38

SIGNAL

FROM: MMIA

TO : 3 DISTRICT

04/1100 A

Info: AFHQ , PBS for MMIA LO
AAI
50 ELU for MMIA LO
56 AREA
MOVWIT
84 GARRISON for GELARDI
MINISTRY OF WAR

SS 265

CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST (.) Object is to establish nucleus of MANTOVA Combat Group in new area near S. GIORGIO which could prepare site for whole group, take group's dependent units under command, and receive its reinforcements thus relieving strain on reinforcements depot (.) SECOND (.) It is requested that 2 Bn 119 Regt undertake this task forthwith (.) THIRD (.) Please confirm if advance party of this Bn can move to new area immediately, main body to follow as soon as you consider Q arrangements satisfactory (.) FOURTH (.) Reference your SD 961 of 1 Nov recommend that 69 Telegrafisti Coy be attached to 2 Bn 119 Regt and move with them and not independently ditto 318 Field Bakery which is to be attached to MANTOVA from tail

FIRST (.) Object is to establish nucleus of MANTOVA Combat Group in new area near S. GIORGIO which could prepare site for whole group, take group's dependent units under command, and receive its reinforcements thus relieving strain on reinforcements depot (.) SECOND (.) It is requested that 2 Bn 119 Regt undertake this task forthwith (.) THIRD (.) Please confirm if advance party of this Bn can move to new area immediately, main body to follow as soon as you consider Q arrangements satisfactory (.) FOURTH (.) Reference your SD 961 of 1 Nov recommend that 69 Telegrafisti Coy be attached to 2 Bn 119 Regt and move with them and not independently ditto 318 Field Bakery which is to be attached to MANTOVA from tail

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

Int. Copy: G
A/Q
Sigs
Lt. Col. HOWARD

6433

→ 13 Nov. Smith (Naples) phoned that 3 Div had moved 600 y Mantova Bn to S. Giorgio today without tents: He later phoned 3 Div had made a "Balls" of it and was taking care of it right away - the OC Bn appeased satisfied - further report follows.

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S/S 30/38. *

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject:- Move and conc of MANTOVA and PICENO Combat Gps

Military Mission Italian Army
R C M E

S/SD/30
14 Oct 44

A.M.I. (2)

Copy to:- AFHQ
3 District
Italian War Ministry (2)
MMIA LO 50 HLU

Ref AMI sig SD 1066 of 9 Oct 44.

Will you please arrange for move and conc of MANTOVA and PICENO Combat Gps vide Appx "A" att. All mules and horses, nos of which will be reported separately are required to accompany.

L. M. Ingleton. Lt-Col
for Major General
M M I A

Internal Distribution:- AQ (2)
Spec Sec
Mov (2)

12/10

* one copy of this also into S/S 30/38 R (Piceno

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

CONFIDENTIAL

Move and conc of MANTOVA and PICENO Combat Gps

MANTOVA Div

U N I T	Move Strength Offrs	OR's	Stores	Entraining Station	Detraining Station	Present Locn	Date Required to move
76 Inf Regt	17	156	15	CROTONE	BENEVENTO	CROTONE	24 Oct 44
1 Inf Bn	17	447	20	"	"	"	24 Oct
2 Inf Bn	15	405	20	"	"	"	
81 mm Mortar Coy	3	103	15	"	"	"	24 Oct
155 Regt	13	78	15	"	"	"	24 Oct
1 Bn	15	202	17	"	"	"	24 Oct
29 & 811 Btys	4	151	9	"	"	"	24 Oct
501 Hospital	7	31	10	"	"	"	24 Oct
3 Bty 155 Regt	13	247	10	"	"	CROTONE	24 Oct
	104	1820	131				
HQ MANTOVA DIV	30	175	15	COSENZA	BENEVENTO	COSENZA	
114 Inf Regt	18	211	20	"	"	"	
2 Inf Bn	32	617	30	"	"	"	
81 mm Mortar Coy	2	89	8	"	"	"	
107 Signal Coy	5	173	10	"	"	"	
104 Med Section	8	104	12	"	"	"	
248 Hospital	8	47	2	"	"	"	
1146 MT Soc	2	38	2	"	"	"	
76 Mobile Wksps	-	13	-	"	"	"	
	105	1467	99				
119 Inf Regt	24	276	15	REGGIO C.	BENEVENTO	REGGIO C.	
1 Inf Bn	29	936	30	"	"	"	
81 mm Mortar Coy	3	127	6	"	"	"	
	56	1339	51				

6431

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CONFIDENTIAL

Appx "A" to MMIA letter
S/SD/30 dated Oct 44

Move and conc of MANTOVA and PICENO Combat Gps

orce	Entraining Station	Detraining Station	Present Locn	Date Required to move	REMARKS
15	CROTONE	BENEVENTO	CROTONE	24 Oct 44	
20	"	"	"	24 Oct	
20	"	"	"		
15	"	"	"	24 Oct	
15	"	"	"	24 Oct	
17	"	"	"	24 Oct	
9	"	"	"	24 Oct	
10	"	"	"	24 Oct	
10	"	"	CROTONE	24 Oct	
131					
15	COSENZA	BENEVENTO	COSENZA		
20	"	"	"		
30	"	"	"		
8	"	"	"		
10	"	"	"		
12	"	"	"		
2	"	"	"		
2	"	"	"		
2	"	"	"		
-	"	"	"		
99					
15	REGGIO C.	BENEVENTO	REGGIO C.		
30	"	"	"		
6	"	"	"		
51					

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

MANTOVA Div (cont'd)

U N I T	Move Strength Offrs	OR's	Stores	Entraining Station	Detraining Station	Present Locn	Date Required to move
35 Signals Coy	11	327	20	CATANZARO SALA	BENEVENTO	CATANZARO	24 Oct
209 Mortar Bn	26	615	25	"	"	PONTEGRANDE	"
155 Arty Regt - 2 Bn	16	281	18	"	"	BORGIA	"
" " " - 4 Bn	14	182	10	"	"	TIRIOLO	"
79 Arty Coy	6	165	10	"	"	NICASTRO	"
	73	1570	83				
Div Rfts	16	1286	40	VIBO VALENTIA	BENEVENTO	V. VALENTIA	24 Oct
114 Inf Regt - 1 Bn	23	547	20	S. ALBANESE	"	CASTRO-- VILLARI	24 Oct
2 Bn 119 Regt	26	691	30	TORRE ANNUNZIATA	"	T. ANNUNZIATA	"
120 Inf Bn	40	707	30	VAIRANO	"	VAIRANO	"
	105	3231	120				
PICENO Div							
235 Inf Regt - 1 Bn	14	115	10	LOCOROTONDO	BENEVENTO	LOCOROTONDO	29 Oct
" " " - 2 Bn	31	381	15	"	"	"	29 Oct
81 mm Mortar Coy	4	113	2	"	"	"	29 Oct
152 Med Section	8	70	4	"	"	"	29 Oct
152 Med Services	4	40	1	"	"	"	29 Oct
252 Fd Bty	1	44	1	"	"	"	29 Oct
	62	763	33				
Div HQ's	23	126	6	MARTINA F.	"	"	29 Oct
235 Inf Regt - 1 Bn	22	381	15	"	"	"	29 Oct
152 Arty Regt	24	118	6	"	"	"	29 Oct
152 Engr Bn	8	192	8	"	"	"	29 Oct
82 mm Mortar Coy	4	76	2	"	"	CISTERNINO	29 Oct
83 Hospital	7	43	4	"	"	"	29 Oct
91 [illegible]	6	49	3	"	"	"	29 Oct
	94	985	44				

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th tores	Entraining Station	Detraining Station	Present Loca	Date Required to move	R E M A R K S
20	CATANZARO SALA	BENEVENTO	CATANZARO	24 Oct	
25	"	"	PONTECORVO	"	
18	"	"	BORGIA	"	
10	"	"	TIRIOLO	"	
10	"	"	NICASTRO	"	
83					
40	VIBO VALENTIA	BENEVENTO	V. VALENTIA	24 Oct	
20	S. ALBAJESE	"	CASTRO-VILLARI	24 Oct	If in operation CASTROVILLARI preferable as entraining station
30	TORRE ANNUNZIATA	"	T. ANNUNZIATA	"	MMIA Sa/1587 of 12 Oct refers
30	VATRANO	"	VATRANO	"	" " " " " "
120					
10	LOCOROTONDO	BENEVENTO	LOCOROTONDO	29 Oct	
15	"	"	"	29 Oct	
2	"	"	"	29 Oct	
4	"	"	"	29 Oct	
1	"	"	"	29 Oct	
1	"	"	"	29 Oct	
33					
6	MARTINA F.	"	"	29 Oct	
15	"	"	"	29 Oct	
6	"	"	"	29 Oct	
8	"	"	"	29 Oct	
2	"	"	CISTERNINO	29 Oct	
4	"	"	"	29 Oct	
3	"	"	"	29 Oct	
74					

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PICENO (cont'd)

U N I T	Move Strength Offrs	OR's	Stores	Entraining Station	Detraining Station	Present Loca	Re ti
20 mm Bty	23	197	15	FERRAVILLA F.	BENEVENTO	FERRAVILLA	2
112 Marconi Coy	4	116	8	"	"	"	2
	27	313	23				
2 Bn 152 Arty Regt	15	230	11	ALBEROBELLO	"	ALBEROBELLO	2
1 Bn 152 Arty Regt	13	219	17	NOCI	"	NOCI	2
HQ 336 Inf Regt	13	199	16	PAGANO	"	PAGANO	2
81 mm Mortar Coy	3	119	14			"	2
	16	318	30				
152 Mortar Bn	9	182	9	OSTUNI	BENEVENTO	OSTUNI	2
3 Bn 152 Arty Regt	18	212	1	"	"	CEGLIE MESSAPICA	2
	27	394	20				
93 Inf Regt	16	141	6		BENEVENTO	MESAGNE	2
1 Bn - 93 Inf Regt	28	367	12		"	"	2
2 Bn - " " "	29	368	17		"	CRISPIANO	2
81 mm Mortar Coy	3	86	10		"	PALAGIANO	2
	76	962	45				
Two Coys 2 Bn - 336 Regt	15	455	15	BRINDISI	BENEVENTO		
" " " " " "	15	455	15	BARLETTA	"		
One Coy 152 MG Bn					"	COLLE SALVETTI	
1 Bn 336 Regt					"		

6 29

0519

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...th Stores	Entraining Station	Detraining Station	Present Loca	Date Required to move	R E M A R K S
15 8	FRANCAVILLA F.	BENEVENTO "	FRANCAVILLA "	29 Oct 29 Oct	
23					
11	ALBEROBELLO	"	ALBEROBELLO	29 Oct	
17	NOCI	"	NOCI	29 Oct	
16 14	FASANO	"	FASANO "	29 Oct 29 Oct	
30					
9 1	OSTUNI "	BENEVENTO "	OSTUNI CEGLIE MESSAPICA	29 Oct 29 Oct	
20					
6 12 17 10		BENEVENTO " " "	MASCHITO " CRISPIANO PALAGIANO	29 Oct 29 Oct 29 Oct 29 Oct	
45					
15 15	BRINDISI BARLETTA	BENEVENTO " " "	COLLE SALVETTI	- - - -	MTL SD1587 of 12 Oct " " " " " AMI SD1069 of 9 Oct Moving later, but 1 Coy moves vide AMI SD1069 of 9 Oct

10520

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C

11/1230A

FROM AMSIA

TO AMSSA

RPTD MAIN AAI

SD 1576

SECRET

Further to our SD1560 dated 9 Oct (.) FARRIM ROME AREA_____FARIM (.) MANTOVA and PICENO Divs scheduled to leave CALABRIA between 25 and 31 Oct (.) Urgently request orders for disposal of animals (.) Our SI24 dated 12 Sept to AAI forwarded to you under cover of AAI 1046/1/Q1 dated 16 Sept refers

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED C. Pick Capt.

Copy for Spec Sec

Col Pidsley to see D 11/10

AFQ Work they be wanted for Mountain Warfare?

WD

To Col Pidsley. GSO I says they now accompany Divs, pending decision 13/10 JF

6428

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5/6/19/18. S

Q10/10.

FROM [redacted]

TO [redacted]

INFO DIETRICH
[redacted] WAR MINISTRY

SD 1570

SECRET

20 11410 A

Request you confirm that DIETRICH is arranging to relieve KANTEN HIV earliest of all its concentrate at any rate not later than 25 OCT (.) PAREN ROOK AREA_____PAREN (.) Italian War Ministry wish if possible to concentrate relieved units of the 14v in [redacted] prior to move northwards to Italian combat Gps some area S DIBRIO/MARVILLA

RELEASED [redacted]

AUTHENTICATED [redacted]

Internal Copy N/A
[redacted] Sec

0522

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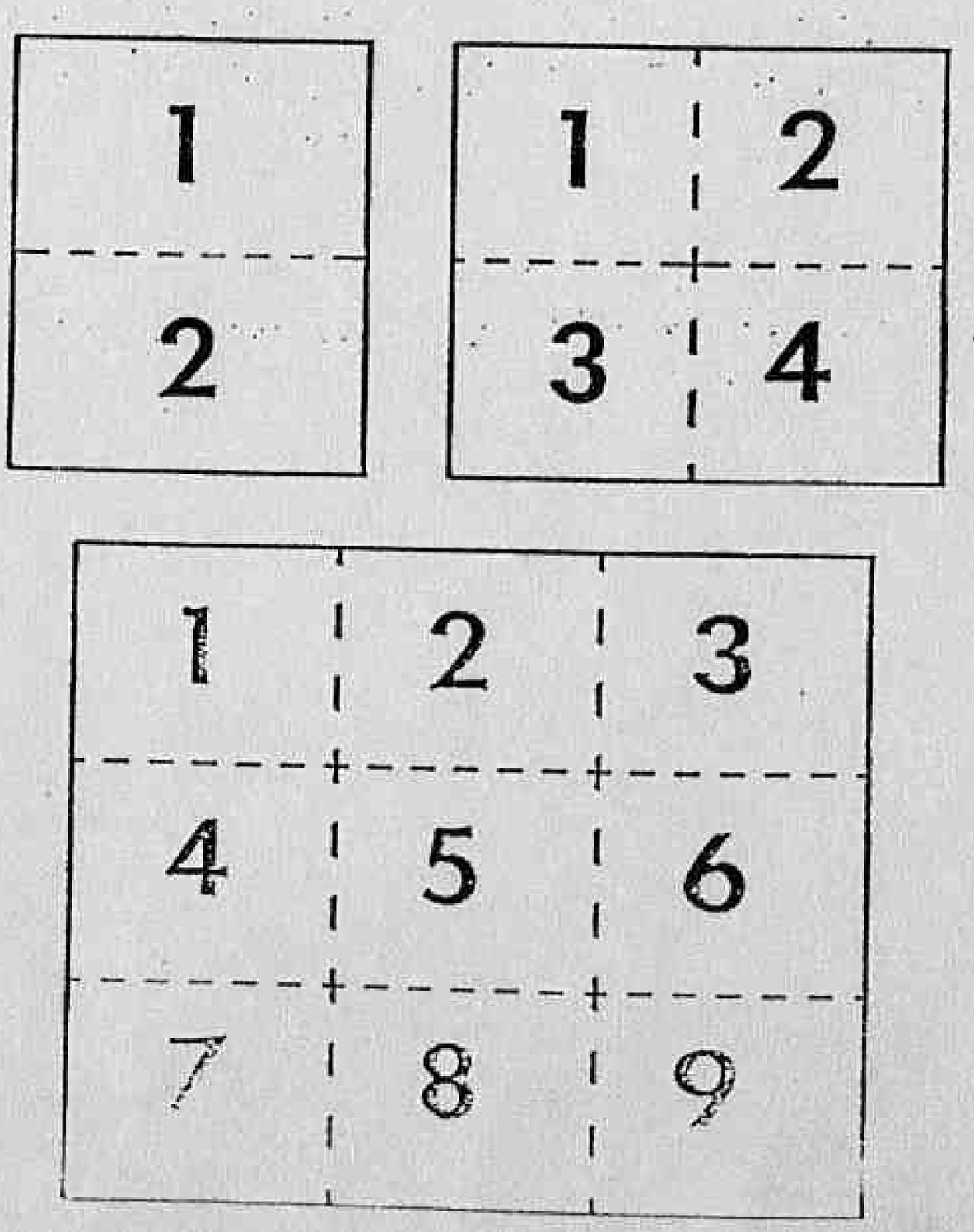
MAPS AND CHARTS TOO LARGE TO FILM
ON ONE EXPOSURE ARE FILMED CLOCKWISE
BEGINNING IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER,
LEFT TO RIGHT, AND TOP TO BOTTOM.

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.



10523

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→ MANTOVA Fald Q 22/9 : 0

4

Alle

PROGETTO DI MASSIMA PER LA TRASFORMAZIONE DELLA DF."MANTO

COSTITUZIONE ATTUALE	ORGANICO DA ASSUMERE	
REPARTI	REPARTI	
Comando divisione - quartier generale - 151^ sez.mot.CC.RR.	Comando gruppo di combattimento - quartier generale - 2 sez.miste CC.RR.	E' state
76° rgt. fanteria (su 2 btg.ed 1 cp.mortai)	76° rgt. fanteria (su 3 btg., 1 cp.mortai,1 cp.cann.)	Saranno mo ftr.
114° rgt.fanteria (su 2 btg.ed 1 cp.mortai)	114° rgt.fanteria (su 3 btg., 1 cp.mortai,1 cp.cann.)	
119° rgt.fanteria (1) (su 2 btg.ed 1 cp.mortai, 2 cp. provv.)		Da scio
209° btg. mitraglieri e 120° btg. autonomo ftr. (2)		
155° rgt.artiglieria (su 5 gr.e 2 btr.da 20[illegible])	155° rgt.artiglieria (su 6 gruppi)	
Genio - 79^ cp.artieri - 107^ cp.mista T.RT.	Genio - C.do btg. misto genio - 79^ cp. artieri - 4^ cp. artieri - 107^ cp. teleradio	La 4^ c toni ar cp.arti telerad te. Co questo
Servizi - 104^ sez. sanità - 102^ sez.sussistenza - 1146^ autosez.pesante	Servizi - 104^ sez. sanità - 2 osp. da campo - 1 cp. trasporti e rif., 1 dep.mob., 1 off.di gr., 6 off. mobili	In ccr Comple sibile

0524

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4

Allegato nº1 al fº 70221 /Ord. del 19 /9-44

AZIONE DELLA DF."MANTOVA" IN GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO

	PROVVEDIMENTI
	E' stata assegnata la 99^ sezione CC.RR. con foglio 6800/Ord.del 12 sett.
nn.)	Saranno completati con il 119° ftr., il 209° btg.mitr.ed il 120° btg.autonomo ftr. da sciogliere.
nn.)	
	Da sciogliere per completare i rimanenti rgt. ftr.
	La 4^ cp. artieri viene assegnata alla div.- Comunicazione a parte.- I plotoni artieri arresto in org. alle nuove cp. saranno forniti dalla 13^ e 164^ cp.artieri arresto. Comunicazione a parte. Per completamento della 107^ cp. teleradio viene assegnata la 35^ cp.mista collegamenti. Comunicazione a parte. Completamento delle tre cp. genio con personale che verrà assegnato da questo S.M. sulla base delle segnalazioni che perverranno.
	In corso di assegnazione il 248° e 501° ospedale da campo. Completamento elementi non specializzati con elementi di ftr. per quanto possibile a cura di codesta div.

10525

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119° rgt.fanteria (1) (su 2 btg.ed 1 cp.mortai, 2 cp. provv.)		Da sci
209° btg. mitraglieri e 120° btg. autonomo ftr. (2)		
155° rgt.artiglieria (su 5 gr.e 2 btr.da 20[illegible]	155° rgt.artiglieria (su 6 gruppi)	
Genio - 79^ cp.artieri - 107^ cp.mista T.RT.	Genio - C.do btg. misto genio - 79^ cp. artieri - 4^ cp. artieri - 107^ cp. teleradio	La 4^ c toni a cp.arti telera te. Co questo
Servizi - 104^ sez. sanità - 102^ sez.sussistenza - 1146^ autosez.pesante	Servizi - 104^ sez. sanità - 2 osp. da campo - 1 cp. trasporti e rif., 1 dep.mob., 1 off.di gr., 6 off. mobili	In cor Comple sibile

(1) - Compreso il II/119°, a disposizione A.A. e di cui sarà disposto il rientro alla
(2) - A disposizione degli A.A. e di cui sarà disposto il rientro.

MHIA

G.2. Any G.S objection? WP 20.Sep.

No G-S objection. 6/27

WCB

G-2

10526

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Da sciogliere per completare i rimanenti rgt. ftr.

La 4ª cp. artieri viene assegnata alla div.- Comunicazione a parte.- I plotoni artieri arresto in org. alle nuove cp. saranno forniti dalla 13ª e 164ª cp.artieri arresto. Comunicazione a parte. Per completamento della 107ª cp. teleradio viene assegnata la 35ª cp.mista collegamenti. Comunicazione a parte. Completamento delle tre cp. genio con personale che verrà assegnato da questo S.M. sulla base delle segnalazioni che perverranno.

In corso di assegnazione il 248° e 501° ospedale da campo.
Completamento elementi non specializzati con elementi di ftr. per quanto possibile a cura di codesta div.

posto il rientro alla div.

o.

27

S.M.R.E. Uff. Op.

10527

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3

SECRET

Subject: Issued Rpt of Military Division.

Military Mission Italian Army.
A O M.
No 18
21 Sep 44.

A.A.A.

Copy to:- Ministry of War.
MMIA 18 Hour 8 Aug.
MMIA 18 5 Ministries.

56/29/78.

Reference our (S)16 of 1 Sep 44, not to War Ministry.

1. As now planned the two Bns of Motorcycle Bde Issued for GI duties (120 Det Bn to 8 Army, 2 Bn 119 Regt to 5 Ministries) will be required to move to the S. (Rome area) by 21 Sep 44.

2. It is presumed that you will be issuing the necessary orders in due course to all concerned.

[signature]
Major General,
Military Mission Italian Army.

Copy to Special Section.

WP 3

Q 22/10.

6:28

0528

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

2.

SUBJECT: Reorganisation - MANTUA Group. SECRET

Military Mission Italian Army.
M.M.I.

S/G/29/28
21 Sept 44.

War Ministry.

I am to inform you that your recommendations for the reorganisation of the MANTUA Division submitted in your letter and speedic No. 7024/Ord di prot dated 19 September, are approved.

The reorganisation should be completed and the Group brought up to strength ready to begin training by 31st Oct 1944.

tvs.MP.

W.P.

Major General,
M M I A.

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
UFFICIO ORDINAMENTO E MOBILITAZIONE
- Sezione Ordinamento -

SEGRETO
Urgente

N° 7024 /Ord. di prot. P.M.151, 19 settembre 1944

OGGETTO: Trasformazione della df. "Mantova" in gruppo di combattimento.-

S/6/89/28

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE DI CONTROLLO PER
L'ESERCITO (M.M.I.A.)

R O M A

M.M.I.A. S/Sez.
FILE
Data Ricev. 19

****

Si trasmettono, per l'approvazione, i seguenti documenti riguardanti la trasformazione della df. "Mantova" in gruppo di combattimento:

- progetto di massima per la trasformazione (allegato 1);
- schema di organizzazione (allegato 2).-

S.M.R.E. 3ª SEZ. ORD.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(Alessandro Santi)

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

L'ESERCITO (M.M.I.A.)

R O M A

M.M.I.A. | S/Sez.
File No. |
Date Rec'd | 19 /

****

Si trasmettono, per l'approvazione, i seguenti documenti riguardanti la trasformazione della df. "Mantova" in gruppo di combattimento:

- progetto di massima per la trasformazione (allegato 1);
- schema di organizzazione (allegato 2).-

S.M.R.E. UFF. ORD. e MOB.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(Alessandro Santi)

Agreed
Open new file for
MANTOVA. Group.
WP
Details to C for appmt

6/25

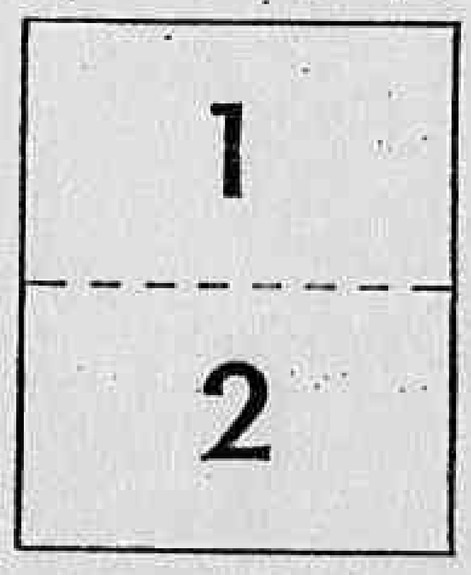
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

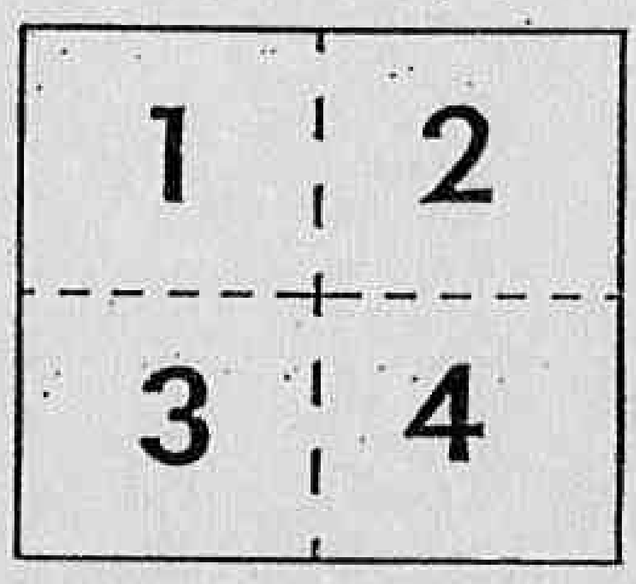
10 5 3 1

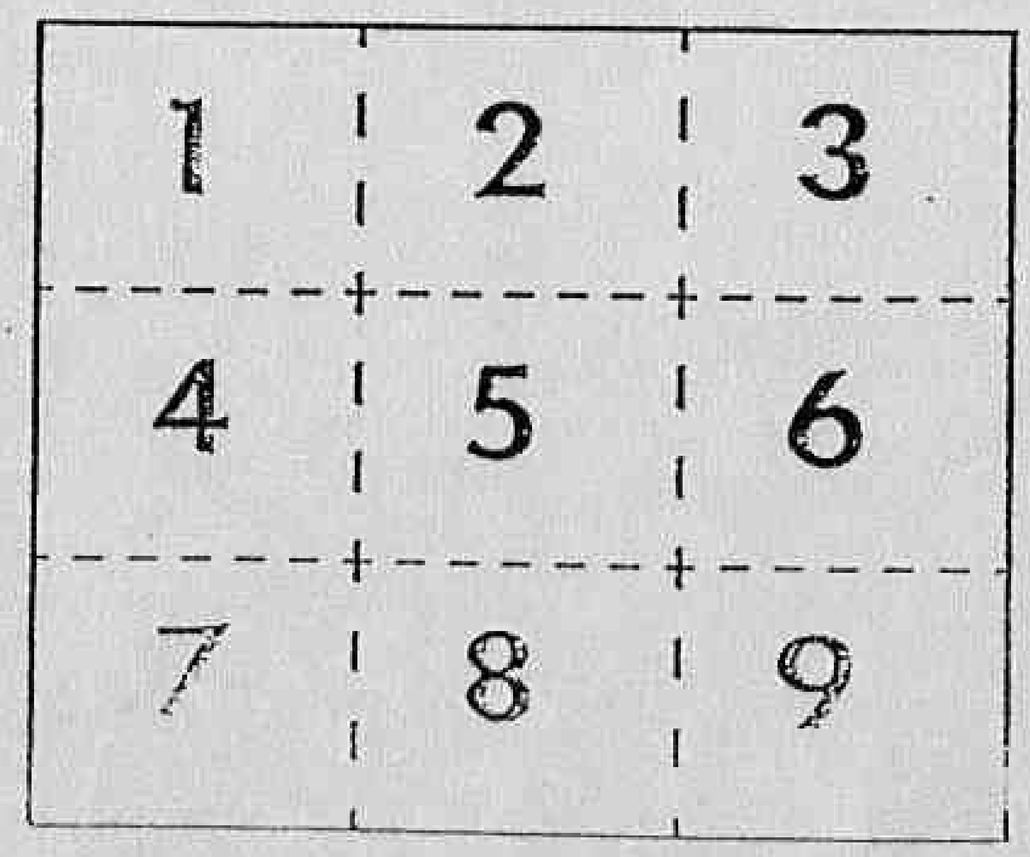
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.







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Gruppo di combattimento

Com.do Gr. di comb.
- Quartier Generale
- 99° e 151 sez. CC. RR

76° rgt. ftr. Col. Salerno Giuseppe

- I btg.
- II btg.
- III btg.
- Cp. mortai da 76
- Cp. cann. da 6 l.

155° rgt. art. Col. Leonardi Cattolica Saverio

- I gr. da 25 l. — 4 p. — 4 p.
- II gr. da 25 l. — 4 p. — 4 p.
- III gr. da 25 l. — 4 p. — 4 p.
- IV gr. da 25 l. — 4 p. — 4 p.
- V gr. c.a. da 17 l. — 4 p. — 4 p.
- VI gr. c.a. da 40 mm. — 6 p. — 6 p.

SERVIZI

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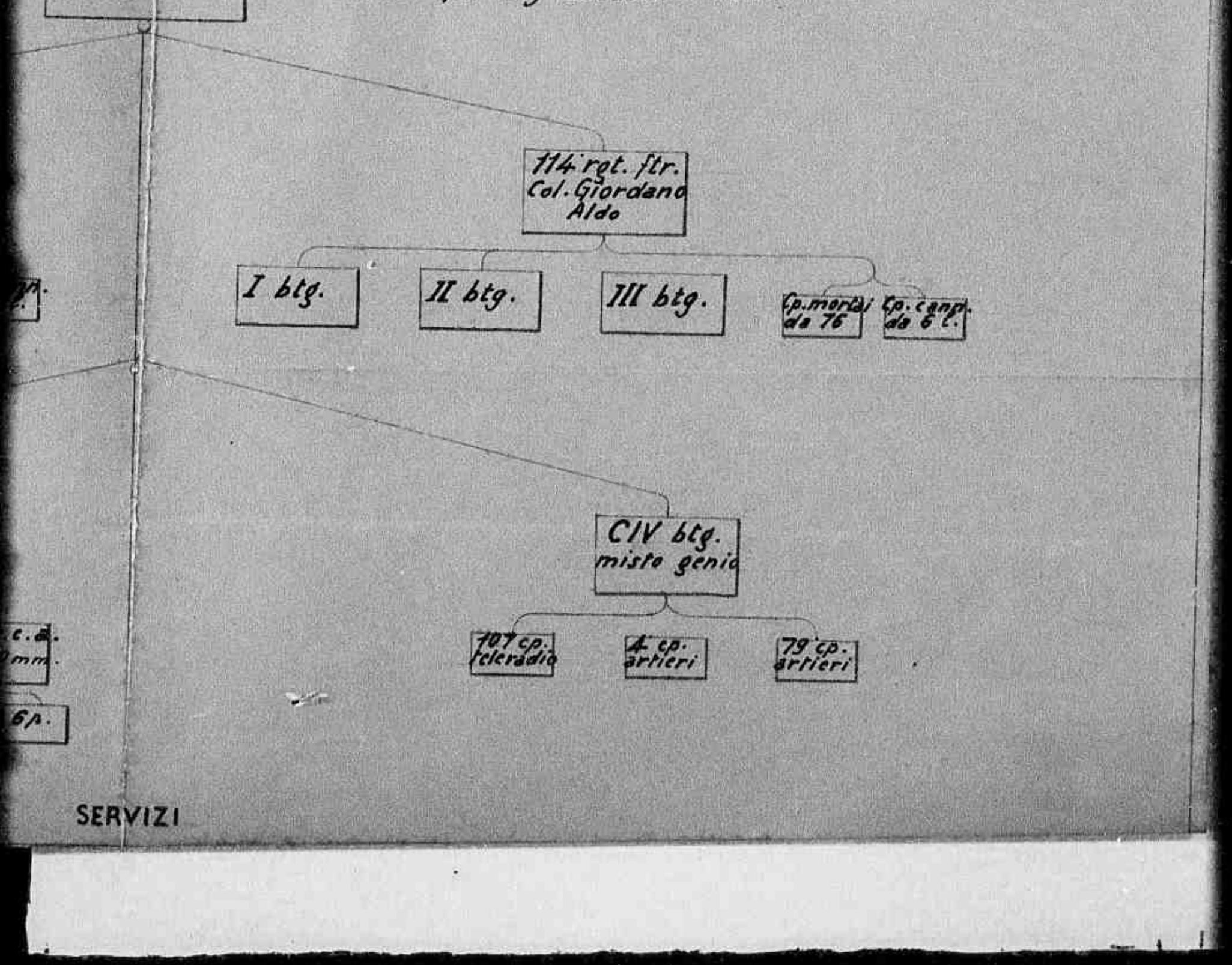
Allegato 2 al foglio 7024/ord del 19/3/44

...battimento "MANTOVA"



10534

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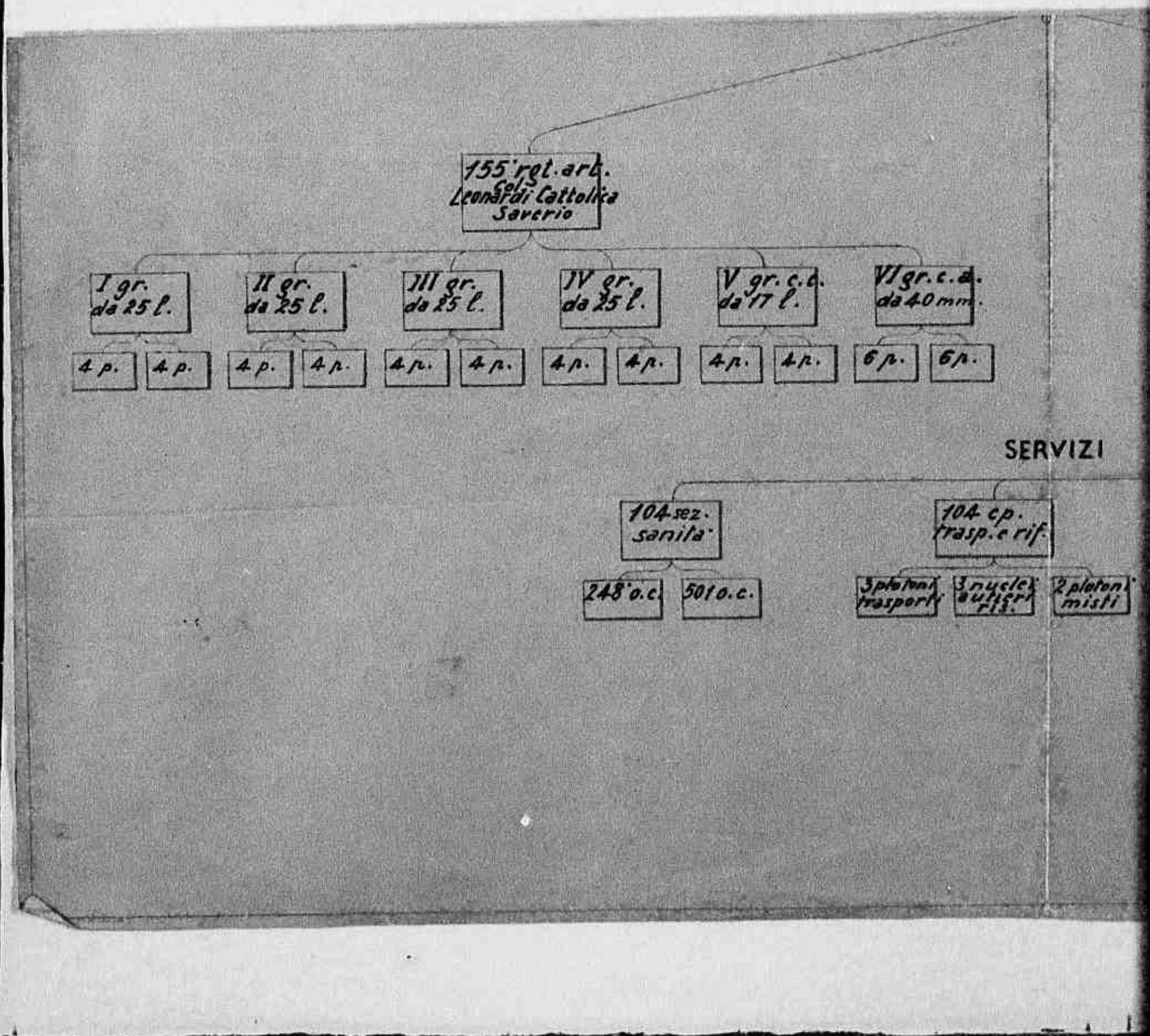
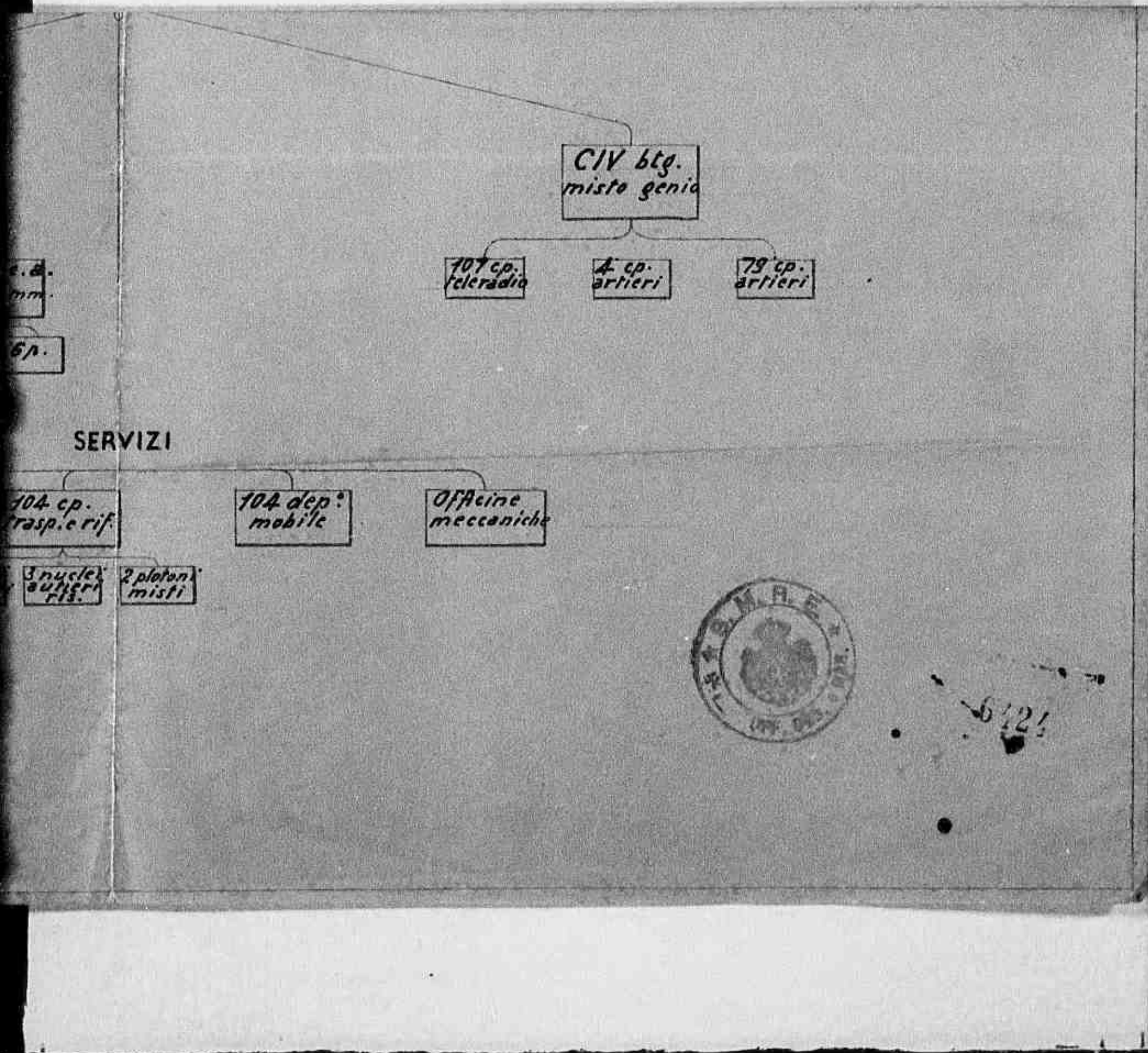


10535

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



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

		HEAD QUARTERS incl. 151 SECTION CC.RR. COMANDO DI DIVISIONE [Q.G. 151 sez. CC.RR.]	75 INFANT 76 RGT. FTR.
PERSONNEL	OFFICERS	25	90
	ENLISTED MEN (OR'S)	240	2100
ARMS	PISTOLS « *Pistole* »	25	90
	RIFLES « *Fucili e Moschetti* »	220	1900
	TOMMY GUNS « *Moschetti Auto.* »	—	130
	LIGHT MGS « *Fucili Mtr.* »	4	78
	HEAVY MGS « *Mitra* »	—	30
	MORTARS 81 « *Mortai 81* »	—	14
ARTILLERY	20 MM DP GUN « *Pezzi da 20 mm.* »	—	—
	A.T. GUNS 47/32 « *Pezzi da 47/32* »	—	8
	GUNS 75/27 » » *75/27*	—	—
	GUNS 100/22 » » *100/22*	—	—
TRANSPORT	CARS « *Autovetture* »	6	1
	COACHES « *Autobus* »	—	—
	LIGHT VAN « *Autocarrette* »	12	26
	LORRIES 3 TON et UNDER « *Aut. legg* »	9	2
	LORRIES OVER 3 TON « *Aut. pes.* »	4	4
	AMBULANCES « *Autoambul.* »	—	—
	TRACTORS « *Trattori* »	—	—
	MOBILE W'SHOPS « *Autoff.* »	1	—
	TRAILORS « *Rimorchi* »	—	—
	MOTOR CYCLES « *Motocicli* »	34	6
	CARTS « *Carri e Carrette* »	1	10
	BICYCLES « *Biciclette* »	8	16
ANIMALS	HORSES « *Cavalli* »	2	—
	MULES « *Muli* »	2	300

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MANTOVA DIVISION

[illegible] DIVISIONE [illegible]	76 INFREGT 76 RGT. FTR.	114 INFREGT 114 RGT. FTR.	119 INF REGT 119 RGT. FTR.	209 MOBILE MG BN 209 BN MITRA AUTOTRASPORTABILE	155 ARTY REGT 155 RGT. ART.	104 ENG BN CIV BTG GENIO	104 MEDICAL SEC 104 SEZ. SANITA'
25	90	90	90	19	81	16	9
40	2100	2100	2100	350	1358	450	150
25	90	90	90	19	81	16	—
20	1900	1900	1900	270	1350	450	—
—	130	130	130	—	—	—	—
4	78	78	78	—	—	—	—
—	30	30	30	36	18	—	—
—	14	14	14	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
—	8	8	8	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—
6	1	1	1	1	—	1	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	26	26	26	—	—	12	—
9	2	2	2	7	6	4	—
4	4	4	4	—	20	6	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	23	—	—
34	6	6	6	4	4	4	—
1	10	10	10	—	3	1	—
8	16	16	16	4	20	8	—
2	—	—	—	—	546	—	—
2	300	300	300	—	—	1	—

PICENO DIVISION

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

MANTOVA DIVISION

[illegible] CC RR DIVISIONE RR.]	75 INFREGT 76 RGT. FTR.	114 INFREGT 114 RGT. FTR.	119 INF REGT 119 RGT. FTR.	209 MOBILE MG BN 209 BN MITRA AUTOTRASPORTABILE	155 ARTY REGT 155 RGT. ART.	104 ENG BN CIV BTG GENIO	104 MEDICAL SEC 104 SEZ. SANITA'
25	90	90	90	19	81	16	9
40	2100	2100	2100	350	1358	450	150
25	90	90	90	19	81	16	—
20	1900	1900	1900	270	1350	450	—
—	130	130	130	—	—	—	—
4	78	78	78	—	—	—	—
—	30	30	30	36	18	—	—
—	14	14	14	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
—	8	8	8	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—
6	1	1	1	1	—	1	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	26	26	26	—	—	12	—
9	2	2	2	7	6	4	—
4	4	4	4	—	20	6	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	23	—	—
34	6	6	6	4	4	4	—
1	10	10	10	—	3	1	—
8	16	16	16	4	20	8	—
2	—	—	—	—	546	—	1
2	300	300	300	—	—	1	—

PICENO DIVISION

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

REGT ART.	104 ENG BN CIV BTG GENIO	104 MEDICAL SEC 104 SEZ. SANITA'	102 QM SEC 102 SEZ. SUSSISTENZA	104 MT SEC 104 AUTOREPARTO	TOTAL
81	16	9	4	3	427
558	450	150	70	70	8988
81	16	—	4	3	418
550	450	—	70	70	8130
—	—	—	—	—	390
—	—	—	—	—	238
18	—	—	—	—	144
—	—	—	—	—	42
8	—	—	—	—	8
—	—	—	—	—	24
12	—	—	—	—	12
24	—	—	—	—	24
—	1	—	—	1	12
—	—	1	—	—	1
—	12	—	—	—	102
6	4	8	3	—	43
20	6	—	—	50	92
—	—	—	—	6	6
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	1
23	—	—	—	—	23
4	4	—	—	4	68
3	1	—	—	—	35
20	8	2	3	—	93
546	—	12	—	—	560
—	1	—	—	—	903

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		HEAD QUARTERS INCL 154 SECTION CCRR COMANDO DI DIVISIONE [Q.G. 154 SEZ CC.RR.]	93 INF REGT 93 RGT. FTR.
PERSONNEL	OFFICERS	25	90
	ENLISTED MEN (OR's)	240	2100
ARMS	PISTOLS «*Pistole*»	25	90
	RIFLES «*Fucili e Moschetti*»	220	1900
	TOMMY GUNS «*Moschetti Auto.*»	—	130
	LIGHT MGS «*Fucili mitr.*»	4	78
	HEAVY MGS «*Mitra*»	—	30
	MORTARS 81 «*Mortai 81*»	—	14
ARTILLERY	20 mm DP GUN «*Pezzi da 20 mm.*»	—	—
	A.T. GUNS 47/32 » » *47/32*	—	8
	GUNS 75/27 » » *75/27*	—	—
	GUNS 100/17 » » *100/17*	—	—
	GUNS 100/22 » » *100/22*	—	—
TRANSPORT	CARS «*Autovetture*»	4	1
	COACHES «*Autobus*»	—	—
	LIGHT VAN «*Autocarrette*»	—	8
	LORRIES 3 TON & UNDER «*Aut. legg.*»	2	1
	LORRIES OVER 3 TON «*Aut. pes.*»	4	4
	AUTOAMBULANCES «*Autoamb.*»	—	—
	MOBILE W'SHOPS «*Autoff.*»	—	—
	TRACTORS «*Trattori*»	—	—
	TRAILORS «*Rimorchi*»	1	—
	MOTOR CYCLES «*Motocicli*»	6	4
	CARTS «*Carri o Carrette*»	—	15
	BICYCLES «*Biciclette*»	8	10
ANIMALS	HORSES «*Cavalli*»	2	15
	MULES «*Muli*»	—	300

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DIVISION

	152 MG BN MOBLE CLII BTG MTR SOMEGG.	152 ARTY REGT 152 RGT. ART.	152 ENG BN 152 BTG. GENIO	152 MEDICAL SEC 152 SEZ. SANITA'	152 QM SEC 152 SEZ. SUSSISTENZA	152 MT SEC 152 AUTOREPARTO	TOTAL
0	21	81	16	9	4	3	429
0	540	1358	450	150	70	70	9178
0	21	81	16	–	4	3	420
0	460	1350	450	–	70	70	8320
0	–	–	–	–	–	–	390
8	–	–	–	–	–	–	238
0	36	18	–	–	–	–	144
4	–	–	–	–	–	–	42
–	–	8	–	–	–	–	8
8	–	–	–	–	–	–	24
–	–	12	–	–	–	–	12
–	–	24	–	–	–	–	24
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1	–	1	1	–	–	–	9
–	–	–	–	1	–	–	1
8	–	–	–	–	–	–	24
1	–	1	1	–	1	–	8
4	–	20	6	–	–	50	92
–	–	–	–	–	–	6	6
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	6	–	–	–	–	7
4	–	12	7	–	–	4	41
15	11	14	–	13	–	–	83
10	6	36	8	2	3	–	93
15	23	544	–	12	–	–	626
300	70	–	–	15	–	–	985

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	152 ENG BN 152 BTG. GENIO	152 MEDICAL SEC 152 SEZ. SANITA'	152 QM SEC 152 SEZ. SUSSISTENZA	152 MT SEC 152 AUTOREPARTO	TOTAL
1	16	9	4	3	429
6	450	150	70	70	9178
1	16	–	4	3	420
0	450	–	70	70	8320
–	–	–	–	–	390
–	–	–	–	–	238
–	–	–	–	–	144
8	–	–	–	–	42
–	–	–	–	–	8
8	–	–	–	–	24
–	–	–	–	–	12
12	–	–	–	–	24
24	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	9
1	1	–	–	–	1
–	–	1	–	–	24
–	–	–	–	–	8
1	1	–	1	–	92
20	6	–	–	50	6
–	–	–	–	6	–
–	–	–	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	–	7
6	–	–	–	–	41
12	7	–	–	4	83
14	–	13	–	–	93
36	8	2	3	–	626
544	–	12	–	–	985
–	–	15	–	–	

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