

2058

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

ACC

10000/120/1121

SEL

Open

Oct.

2059
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

10000/120/1121

SE/29/34 DISCIPLINE

opened Oct. 10, 1944 - closed Jan. 13, 1945
Oct. 1944 - Jan. 1945

2060

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

LRKE V LAEE NR23 "P"

FM 51 BLU 231530A

TO MMIA

QQX GR15 PT

GA . RESTRICTED . YOUR SS 540 OF 11 . NO IDENTITY CARDS HAVE SO FAR
ARRIVED

BT231530A

✓
SENT NR23 23/2031A VG BB

RCD NR23 23/2031A HRA BE

IMPORTANT

0/9098

20/34 53/23

See N 93/23

24/1

461

232120

12061

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

SUBJECT:- Identity Documents - Italian GRUPPI.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
CR/354/1/G1(HR)
13 Jan 45

M.M.I.A.

Reference 15 Army Group letter 3149/11/A(0) dated 5 Jan 45 (copy to you).

Will you please ensure that identity documents as referred to in Para 4 are issued without delay.

HQ AAI letter AAI/1412/2/AG1(b) of 1 Jul 44 also refers.

John H. Stumpp
Major-General, DAG.
G.1(HR).

✓ Copy to:- G-2 (CI)

460

2062

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

MMIA

56 BLU

29/34

13/539

74

SS 549

RESTRICTED

MINISTRY OF WAR REPORTS SAME VEHICLE DEPARTED 13 JAN FOR MANTOVA WITH
10,000 IDENTITY CARDS FOR OTHERS, RANES AND 500 FOR OFFICERS

459

W. Pidsley - Colonel.

IMPORTANT

12063

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

FONOGRAMMA

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

27/13

29/34

BG/mi

ROMA

73

GUERRA CABINETTO N° 100899 /I ALT GIORNO 13 GENNAIO 1945 AT ORE 6,30
PARTIRA' PER COMANDO GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO MANTOVA AUTOCARRO DELLO STATO
MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO CON INCARICATO DI QUESTO MINISTERO CHE PORTA
DIECIMILA SCHEDE RICONOSCIMENTO PER SOTTUFFICIALI ET TRUPPA ET 500 TES-
SERE RICONOSCIMENTO PER UFFICIALI ALT D'ORDINE CAPO CABINETTO.....18.30.120145

13 Jan

IL CAPO DI CABINETTO
(Col. Ezio De Michelis)



[Handwritten signature]

45c

2064

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

MMIA

11 1550 A

51 BLU

19/24

SS 540

CONFIDENTIAL

10 JAN

MINISTRY OF WAR REPORTS SHRE VEHICLE DEPARTED FOR CREMONA WITH
10,000 IDENTITY CARDS FOR OTHER RANKS AND 500 FOR OFFICERS

457

IMPORTANT

8/G/29/34

✓
W R - Hardy an 4

12065

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

BG/ot

29/34

= FONOGRAMMA URGENTE =

8/Sec

11 Jan

DA MINISTERO GUERRA = GABINETTO
AT LAND FORGES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (M.M.I.A.)

GUERRA GABINETTO N° 100833 / I ALT ORE 19 DEL 10 CORR. N° PARTITO
PER COMANDO GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO "CREMONA" AUTOCARRO DELLO STATO
MAGGIORE REG IO ESERCITO CON INCARICATO DI QUESTO MINISTERO CHE
PORTA 10.000 (DIECIMILA) SCHEDE PER SOTTUFFICIALI E TRUPPA E
500 PER UFFICIALI ALT CAPOGABINETTO ... 100145 456

Consegnata al tel. bade per ufficio e HCO's di Cremona per lat. per



IL CAPO DI GABINETTO
(Colonnello G. De Michelis)

2066

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

TKS

LEKE V LRAH NR S148 IMMEDIATE QVR 1
FROM MMIA DEAR EIGHT ARMY 122130A
TO HQ MMIA BONE
INFO 51 D L U
BT

MM/297 . CONFIDENTIAL.

G S I ARMY REPORT THAT G R S OF G R E M O N A G P
HAVE NO DPT NO IDENTITY DOCUMENTS AND REQUEST URGENT STEPS
TO PROVIDE THESE FORTHWITH

BT
SENT NR S148 2325 PM E1 K
GR AFTER G R S PLS IMI K

SORI
ORS OF IMI OF
RECD NR S148 2325A J O E K

9/7343

29/31 N130/10

8/sec

16/11

NFA

HEAT
450

12067

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

10000

29/
34

10000 A

50 BLU

101230

DISTONE

SS 537

RESTRICTED

10000 SOLDIER'S IDENTITY CARDS FOR FRIULI SIGNED FOR BY
COL VEDOVATO 2 JAN (.) PLEASE CONFIRM IF THESE HAVE BEEN
DISTRIBUTED

454

IMPORTANT

John Major

12068

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

SUBJECT: Identification Papers.

CONFIDENTIAL

1544/4/G(SD)

8 Jan 45

HQ MMIA.

1. It is apparent that many of the personnel of the FRIULI Gruppo are without Italian Army Identification Papers.
2. Control is not possible without these papers.

May immediate steps be taken for the correct identity papers to be issued.

C.M.F.
/JF

COPY TO: 50 BLU.

Maj Gen
Comd No. 1 District

12069

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

MMTA

file
29/34

66

091757 A

51 BEN

SS 535

RESTRICTED

REFERENCE YOUR O4 OF 8 NOV (*) 10000 ORs IDENTITY CARDS AND 500
OFFICERS IDENTITY CARDS ARE TO BE DESPATCHED TO CREMONA 11 JAN

452

IMPORTANT

29/34

Print my

12070

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

Maja Dokho.

Please check up folio 44 and
send a reply to 54 B.L.U. early.

W.P.

29/29

10/06

LROF V MWRU NR 6/34
FROM 51 BLU
TO HQ MMIA
BT

G4. MY LETTER AND SIGNAL EVEN NO DATED 14 NOV AND 22 DEC.
NO REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED. PLEASE EXPEDITE

BT
V MWRU GF 0231 BB KKK
RD 0231
MTH BBB

451

2071

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

SUBJECT : Security

SECRET
50 Brit Liaison Unit

(HQ 1 District
HQ MIA
HQ PRIME ICS

G/1

6 Jan 45

Attached herewith, copy of the report of a Brit PMS Sgt who has been working in the Gp area for about a week.

"I" action taken on attached
13/1 *[Signature]*

[Signature]
Lt Col
G/1

CMD
ARCS/SYB

450

Copy to : G(I) Brit 15 Army Gp - ref conversation 6 Jan Brig(I) - GI 50 BLU

2072

SECRET

COPY

To: GSO I
From: Sjt BULLER PSS

SUBJECT: General Security in the FRIULI Division.
Sir,

According to your instructions I have contacted a few Italian units in this area.

- 88 Inf Regt (Maj BELLUMINI
(Capt CAMPANOCCHI)
- Eng Bn (Ten-col DEL PRATE
(Capt BUCCHETTI)
- Div CC RR (Ten CRISTIANI)

also the local Carabinieri in CASTELINA, RADDA, MONTIVARCHI, as well as the nearest Fd Security, the SOUTH AFRICAN Reserve FSS, MONTIVARCHI, (Lt VAN DER HORST).

The following points seem to be of security interest:

1. Identity Papers of Italian Army Personnel

A number of offrs and the majority of tps have no identity papers whatsoever. This would make it comparatively easy for any outsider or agent to get into the div, at the same time preventing guards and sentries to exercise any real control.

The best place for issuing all ranks with proper identification papers would seem to be PRANO or other depots, as I am told that a number of desertions occur in the batches of men on their way to join this div, and substitution would be easy.

2. Control of Residence

With the possible exception of MONTIVARCHI, the control of strangers and travellers passing through the country is very loose. The local Carabinieri do not fully realize that all arrivals should be reported immediately to them.

3. Control of Traffic

A better use could be made of the check points on the road. At present they confine themselves to checking on work tickets of Italian drivers. They should be made to stop civilian traffic, as well as Brit military cars and trucks.

449

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With the possible exception of MONTENAPOLI, the control of strangers and travellers passing through the country is very loose. The local Carabinieri do not fully realise that all arrivals should be reported immediately to them.

3. Control of Traffic

A better use could be made of the check points on the road. At present they confine themselves to checking on work tickets of Italian drivers. They should be made to stop civilian traffic, as well as Brit military cars and trucks.

No control would be of much use as long as the word "Inglese" is sufficient to get through it.

4. Morale

My stay here has been too short to ascertain directly the morale of the tps. Although there is the usual grumbling and occasional outbursts of anti-Brit feeling (as shown by the recent incidents in MONTENAPOLI). Italian offrs and Carabinieri do not believe in the existence of any organised propaganda for concerted desertions.

5. Relations between Army Staff Offrs and the Carabinieri

are not good. Offrs do not conceal their dislike of the Police. Carabinieri complain they are not given the necessary freedom of action.

6. Other Points

88 Inf Regt (GASTALINA) could do with a few more strong boxes for documentation. Maps (of the AREA type for talks to tps on current affairs are also required.

(sgd) 1091014 Sjt RJ Butler, 418 788

449

2074

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

SECRET

Subject :- Identity Documents for ITALIAN Tps

To :-
HQ
MMIA

51 British Liaison Unit

G 4

29/29 S/sec

- 1 Now that ITALIAN Tps are dressed in BRITISH uniform it seems likely that they will become the subject of attention from Allied C M P.
- 2 Officers carry an official identity card with which they can establish their bona fides. ORs on the other hand appear to have no equivalent to our AB 64. Identity discs which could be used as an alternative are reported to be in short supply and CREMONA is deficient of over 6000.
- 3 It is therefore requested that
 - (a) The Italian Officers' Identity card be brought to the notice of all Allied Military Police, if they have NOT already been informed
 - (b) Some means of identity is provided for ORs and this again promulgated to all concerned with security.

Field
14 Nov 44
RWH/RGT

[Signature]

Lt Col
General Staff

I have spoken about this to Col CHIAPARINO who says the many soldiers have neither identity cards nor discs owing to lack of paper for cards and metal for the discs. 428

✓ Maj Dobho. There is no shortage of paper or metal. Tell SMARF to get this done at once & let us know. It will be that AM: can be told. W.D.

SECRET

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP,

Tel: - FOXGLOVE 224;

3149/11/2(0);

5 Jan 45.

SUBJECT: - Identity Docs - Italian GRUPO.

ATHQ (G-1 Br) - (2)

Copy to: - CG FIFTH Army (for "A" Br. Ins) (2)
"A" Main IN. BRIGHT ARMY (2)

M.M.I.A. (2)
CSL (H)
Pr.

File 3074/5/2(0).

1. As a result of a recent visit of a representative of CSL (B) HQ 15 ARMY GROUP, to CHENONA GRUPO, it has been ascertained that the vast majority of ITALIAN OR personnel of this GRUPO are not in possession of identity documents.

2. It is believed that a similar state of affairs exists in the FRIULI GRUPO.

3. It will be appreciated that the existence in forward areas of a large number of ITALIAN ORs without any means of identification presents a serious danger to security.

4. It is therefore requested that you will issue instructions to M.M.I.A. to ensure that identity documents are issued without delay to all ITALIAN OR personnel of the CHENONA and FRIULI GRUPO; and also to ensure that in future all personnel of ITALIAN GRUPO are in possession of identity documents before being sent forward to army areas.

447

12 0 7 5

28

34

W. K. H.

Pr.
File 3074/9/A(G).

1. As a result of a recent visit of a representative of CSI (B) HQ 15 Army Group, to CREMONA GRUPPO, it has been ascertained that the vast majority of ITALIAN OR personnel of this GRUPPO are not in possession of identity documents.
2. It is believed that a similar state of affairs exists in the FRIULI GRUPPO.
3. It will be appreciated that the existence in forward areas of a large number of ITALIAN ORs without any means of identification presents a serious danger to security.
4. It is therefore requested that you will issue instructions to M.M.I.A. to ensure that identity documents are issued without delay to all ITALIAN OR personnel of the CREMONA and FRIULI GRUPPI; and also to ensure that in future all personnel of ITALIAN GRUPPI are in possession of identity documents before being sent forward to army areas.

TDC/CB.

For Commanding General.

W. T. C. W. W.

447

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

12076

12077

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

25

Subject:- Italian Army - Absentees and Deserters.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.I.I.)
H.O. A
12/11/3

MINISTRY OF WAR.

2 Jan 45.

1. The attached lists show particulars of Absentees and Deserters from Friuli Combat Group for the periods 1st - 10th November (total 172) and 1st - 24th December (total 430).
2. You are required to take strong and urgent measures to effect the apprehension of these men.
3. You will forward to this H.Q. on 31st Jan/45 a return showing against each man's name whether or not he has been apprehended, and returned to his unit for disciplinary action to be taken.
4. A copy of this letter has been forwarded to Public Safety Sub Commission A.C. as it is anticipated that active cooperation of GCRK will be required to effect the apprehension of these Absentees and Deserters.
5. The lists placed together and marked "X" will be returned to this H.Q.

446

W. Pidsley
W. PIDSLEY, Col. Colonel
for Major General,
M.I.I.

Copy to:- Public Safety
Sub Comm. A.C.
Spec. Sec. M.I.I.A.

SPA/sb

2078

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

RESTRICTED

Subject :- LEGNANO Convoy.

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

S/G/29/34.

23 Dec.. 44.

To :- 52 B.L.U.

1. Attached is a copy of C.M.P.'s report on incidents which occurred during the LEGNANO move.
2. Please bring this report to the attention of the Commander LEGNANO Group and let me know his reaction.

*Copy (2nd)
given to Capt. Jackson 25/12/44*

W.P. Shirley *Colonel*
Major General.
M.M.I.A.

*On second thoughts this should have been passed
to 'A' - let Dept Archer see WP*

2079

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

23

52 BLU

COPY

Officer Commanding,
75 Coy. C.M.P. (T.C.).

Sir,
I have to report that at FERENTINO TRAFFIC POST on 19 December 1944 at about 0855 hrs, I was on duty when a convoy of the Legnano Combat Group, Flight "B", of 69 vehicles, proceeding from BRACCIANO and going to PIEDIMONTE, Convoy Serial No 12/NA/16 was passing, and the following bad points of March and Road Discipline were observed and checked by me :-

1. VTM was not maintained in the first part of the convoy, and the vehicles had to be respaced.
2. MIM was exceeded by the rear part of the column, and vehicles had to be slowed down.
3. Drivers of the following vehicles were checked for carrying unauthorised civilian passengers, and the civilians were ordered to dismount :

At FERENTINO : L.5321235, 3 Ton Dodge.
L.5412927, 3 ton Dodge.
L.5338254, 3 ton Ford.

At FROSINONE : L.5689385
L.5412921.
L.5689065.

The civilians found on the vehicles at FROSINONE were the same as those who were ordered to dismount at FERENTINO.
The check at FROSINONE was carried out by the DR on escort duty 5888822 Pte Hicken. E, who stated that an officer who was travelling with the convoy was also checking the drivers.

Field.
19.12.44.

(sgd) 5685011 L. G. Wych. Sgt.
i/c T.P. Ferentino.
75 Coy. C.M.P. (T.C.).

444

Certified true *[Signature]*
Capt.
Cmdg 75 Coy. C.M.P. (T.C.)

Pass to 52 BLU.

To ensure that G.O.C Legnano is informed and his reaction recorded.
23 Dec *[Signature]*

Subject: Discipline - Loss of Vehicles.

29/34

22

Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.
(M. M. I. A.)
R O N E
AQ/S

19 Dec 44.

All British Officers, HQIA

1. Enclosed are extracts from R.A.A.C. routine orders No. 329 of 12 Dec 1944, with necessary additions from this HQ.

QUOTE. "1. Numbers of WD vehicles continue to be lost through being left unattended, contrary to the orders in force.

2. In the case of vehicle losses occurring on or after 1 Dec 44 disciplinary action will be taken against the person or persons responsible in all cases where an offence under the Army Act has been committed. Financial contribution will in such cases be effected by the award of stoppages rather than by agreements to pay. Trial will be by PCM unless the authority having power to convene the court authorises summary trial.

3. (a) In all cases where vehicles are lost the responsibility of the CC of the unit or the officer to whom the vehicle is assigned will be considered and evidence on this point will be taken by any Court of Inquiry.

4. The degree of negligence required to constitute an offence under Sec 24(2) or Sec 49 of the Army Act is not always understood. This is explained in the notes to those sections. The degree of negligence required is less than that commonly understood to be signified by the phrase "gross negligence" employed in KA para 769(b).

5. The following GRCs refer:-

- AFHQ GRC 113 of 1944 - Guarding of WD Vehicles
- AFHQ GRC 157 of 1944 - Courts of Inquiry - Loss of WD Property
- AFHQ GRC 244 of 1944 - Losses by Theft (Procedure). " UNQUOTE.

6. Whenever a vehicle is lost the officer concerned will immediately notify by signal, the HQ to which he is attached. In the case of "out station" officers, this signal will be repeated to HQ HQIA. The message will contain a description of the vehicle, its WD number, and date of loss. The forwarding of this information does NOT absolve the unit from informing Provost etc, or taking action to find the vehicle.

443

disciplinary action will be taken against cases where an offense under the Army Act has been committed. Financial contribution will in such cases be effected by the award of stoppages rather than by agreements to pay. Trial will be by court unless the authority having power to convene the court authorizes summary trial.

3. (a) In all cases where vehicles are lost the responsibility of the CC of the unit or the officer to whom the vehicle is assigned will be considered and evidence on this point will be taken by any Court of Inquiry.

4. The degree of negligence required to constitute an offense under Sec 24(2) or Sec 43 of the Army Act is not always understood. This is explained in the notes to those sections. The degree of negligence required is less than that commonly understood to be signified by the phrase "gross negligence" employed in AR para 769(b).

5. The following GAOs refer:-

AFHQ GAO 113 of 1944 - Guarding of WD Vehicles

AFHQ GAO 157 of 1944 - Courts of Inquiry - Loss of WD Property

AFHQ GAO 244 of 1944 - Losses by Theft (Procedure). "UNQUOTE."

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2. All officers will immediately make themselves acquainted with the paras in AR, The Army Act and the GAOs to which reference is made.

3. Attached is a receipt form acknowledging receipt of this letter. This will be signed by the addressee and returned to HQ MIA.

A. Branch:

Please let me

refer my memory up

DSLG/wk

F. J. HOAKES, Col,

DA & GAO,

M. I. A.

DISTRIBUTION: See Sheet #2

2082

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

- 1 Colonel F.J. NOAKES
- 2 Colonel W.S. PIDSLEY
- 3 Lt Col S.A. INGLEDEW
- 4 Lt Col B.L. PERCIVAL
- 5 Lt Col H.A.C. HOWARD
- 6 Lt Col G.H. MORIARTY
- 7 Major L.J.E. STANTON
- 8 Major J.A. DOWES
- 9 Major C.F. SAUNDERS
- 10 Major F.H. COLE
- 11 Major J. HEAD
- 12 Major D.S.L. GREGSON
- 13 Major E.F. SYATT
- 14 Major S.W. CANN
- 15 Major O.C. PAPINEAU
- 16 Major W.A. HEGGIE
- 17 Major F.W. SUYS
- 18 Major C.A. HALL
- 19 Major W. CAVELEY
- 20 Major R.C. CORLESTON
- 21 Major M. FIELDMAN
- 22 Major R.M. EGBERTON
- 23 Major C.F. MURCHILL
- 24 Major J.B. MONICO
- 25 Major H.E.P.F. THRUPP
- 26 Major E. HUBBARD
- 27 Major A.M.G. GILANDY
- 28 Major J.G. BIRD
- 29 Capt. T.A. YEARSLEY
- 30 Capt. F.R. SELBY
- 31 Capt. S.P. ARCHER
- 32 Capt. J.M. CRAIG
- 33 Capt. E.L. MONCK-MASON
- 34 Capt. The Lord WESTBURY
- 35 Capt. MAXWELL.
- 36 Capt. E.O'DONNELL
- 37 Capt. CRAWFORD
- 38 Capt. K. FREELAND
- 39 Capt. J.A. BOWNE
- 40 Capt. A.M. NEWTON
- 41 Capt. P. HERBERT
- 42 Capt. V.C.J. THRUPP
- 43 Capt. R.J. BAXTER
- 44 Capt. G.C. FOX
- 45 Capt. C.W.D. CLAYTON
- 46 Capt. G.F. HYDE
- 47 Capt. EDWARDS
- 48 Capt. CLARA
- 49 Lieut. A.W.J. COOPER
- 50 Lieut. J.J. MORLICK
- 51 Lieut. W.R. TRIVELYAN
- 52 Lieut. H.A. STEPHENS

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

SUBJECT: AFH Q Overall Order of Battle file No 922.5
Part 1 dated 3 Dec 1944. US-ITI Service Units.
Part 2(A) " 14 Nov 1944. BFI-ITI Combat Units.
Part 2(B) " 17 Nov 1944. BFI-ITI Service Units.

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

G/11
18 DEC 44

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION.

Addressees are requested to forward amendments to and/or
recommendations for the above parts of AFHQ Order of Battle as soon
as possible to GSD NMIA for consolidation.

Deane
for Lt. Col.
G.S.O.1
Capt

Dist:
S/Sec
RE
X
AQ
S/T
Med
Ord
Lab
Reme

441

12024

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

20

29/34

1911A

18 1500

A

50 BLU

pe

19

AQ 2399

RESTRICTED

NEVER 1/6/11 OF 14 DEC (.) FORWARD NOMINAL ROLL AND ADDRESSES
EARLIEST

pe

400

88

Handwritten signature

2085

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

Subject : Discipline - Italian Army.

50 British Liaison Unit.

Ref A/6/11.

14 Dec. 44.

M.M.I.A.

Ref 1st Italian Combat Group letter No. 11454/PS dated 12 Dec, copy attached.

I am in complete agreement, and urge that most immediate and drastic action be taken on the lines suggested.

No delay should be accepted.

A.Q. I think we should ask S.M.A.E. what they are doing about it. If you agree

C.M.F. would you do so.

W.P.
16 Dec

yes in principle
16/12/44

Lt Col.
G.S.

439

2086

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

C O P Y .

COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "FRIULI"
Ufficio del Capo di Stato Maggiore
Sez. 2 - Personale e Segreteria.

No. 11454/PS. di pret.

P.M. 79. December 12th 1944.

TO H.E. CHIEF OF THE S.M. REGIO ESERCITO.- P.M. 151.
and for information, TO THE 50 B.L.U.

In Tuscany there are still in hiding, notwithstanding warrants issued, a good number of soldiers, belonging ^{to} units of the "Friuli", who have not returned after their leave has expired or that are absent without leave. This covers the period September 1st to November 30th.

This fact has been particularly emphasised by my own soldiers, whom during the present time I have been sending regularly on leave, to enable them to see or at least have news of their families and their homes.

These soldiers, when pointing out the above, have underlined with certain irony the fact that their ex - comrades, absent without leave from their units, are at present happy and unpunished, in their homes.

This type of talk, although generally it is given out in good faith, cannot fail to have harmful effects on the morale of the Combat Group at my orders. It is therefore necessary and also urgent, an immediate action on the part of the Allied and Italian Authorities to apprehend all, or a good part of the men at large, who should be given without any delay the deserved punishment.

Such an action would give my soldiers the impression that in Italy there is still Justice, and above all, it would act as a deterrent to those who may be at present inclined to run away from their units.

I will furnish you with a detailed report of the absent men and their addresses.

IL GENERALE COMANDANTE.

Arturo Scattini.

438

2087

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

SP

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO SERVIZI
Sezione Automobilismo

N. 8922

di prot./Serv.

P. M. 2800 / 2 dicembre 1944

Risposta al foglio N.

del

Allegati

OGGETTO: Automezzo della "Friuli".-

117.4
Al LA LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (MMIA)

(Rif.f.S/G/29/34 in data
6 dicembre c.a.)

ROMA

La "Jeep" di cui al foglio in riferimento è stata condotta a Roma dall'ufficiale del Gruppo di Combattimento "Friuli" destinato al collegamento con questo S.M.

Al passaggio del predetto Gruppo da Roma la "Jeep" di cui trattasi è stata restituita al reparto di provenienza.-

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
- Alessandro Santi -

437

2088

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

17

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Responsibility for Veh Maint

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. S/G/29/34 ✓
10. Dec 44

TO : Comd 1 Dist

Attached copy of 50 BLU letter A/6/13 dated
2 Dec 44 is passed to you for information.

W.P. Lu
f.

Major General
M. M. I. A.

436

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

785020

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Responsibility for Veh Maint

50 Brit Liaison Unit

A/6/13

Chief of Staff (for Div Comd)

2 Dec 44

1. The responsibility of comds of units and sub-units even now do not appear to be appreciated.
2. My A/6/13 dated 10 Oct 44 set out very clear details on this matter.
3. I am informed that in spite of this:
 - (a) It is extremely rare for an officer to attend Daily Maintenance Parade, let alone to take charge and act as detailed in my above mentioned letter. I would add to my previous notes that this officer should always be accompanied by the MT NCO.
 - (b) No records of maintenance tasks performed on each vehicle are being kept in a very large number of cases.
 - (c) ABs 412 issued for every vehicle have been lost or deliberately burnt, and in practically no case are completed or kept up to date.
 - (d) As far as I can ascertain no unit comd has made any attempt to carry out the weekly inspection of Maintenance Records or ABs 412 as requested in my above mentioned letter.
4. No monthly inspections are being carried out or recorded.
5. This state of affairs becomes more serious and less excusable with every occasion on which I am obliged to call your attention to it. I must once again request drastic and EFFECTIVE action to remedy this, failing which I shall be obliged to make an appropriate report to my superiors.

(Sgd)

Lt Col
GS

430

CMF
ARCS/SYDCopy to: MMIA
DADST
RASC Offrs att (4)

12090

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

SUBJECT: Return of Vehicle.

R E S T R I C T E D

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

S/G/29/34
6 Dec 44.

To: Ministry of War.

During a visit to the FRIULI Group by a representative of MMIA it was reported that one vehicle - a jeep - the property of 26 Medical Section had been taken to ROME presumably by an officer of the Ministry of War or SMR.

Will you please ascertain if this is so and in the event of it being no longer required, arrange to have this vehicle returned to its proper duty.

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

434

SU 4202 : Responsibility for Veh Maint

Chief of Staff (for Div Comd)

50 Unit Liaison Unit

4/6/13

2 Dec 44

1. The responsibility of comds of units and sub-units even now do not appear to be appreciated.

2. W 4/6/13 dated 10 Oct 44 set out very clear details on this matter.

3. I am informed that in spite of this it is extremely rare for an officer to attend Daily Maintenance Parade, let alone to take charge and act as detailed in my above mentioned letter. I would add to my previous notes that this officer should always be accompanied by the WO.
- (a) No records of maintenance tasks performed on each vehicle are being kept in a very large number of cases.
- (c) Also 442 issued for every vehicle have been lost or deliberately burnt, and in practically no case are completed or kept up to date.
- (d) As far as I can ascertain no unit comd has made any attempt to carry out the weekly inspection of Maintenance Records or 442 as requested in my above mentioned letter.

4. If monthly inspections are being carried out or recorded.

5. This state of affairs becomes more serious and less amenable with every occasion on which I am obliged to call your attention to it.
I must once again request drastic and IMMEDIATE action to remedy this, failing which I shall be obliged to make an appropriate report to my superior.

433

103/STN

2092

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

File

letter. I would add to my previous notes that this officer should always be accompanied by the ITMCC.

(a) No records of maintenance tasks performed on each vehicle are being kept in a very large number of cases.

(c) The 412 issued for every vehicle have been lost or deliberately burnt, and in practically no case are completed or kept up to date.

(d) As far as I can ascertain no unit comm has made any attempt to carry out the weekly inspection of Maintenance Records or 412 as requested in my above mentioned letter.

4. No weekly inspections are being carried out or recorded.

5. This state of affairs becomes more serious and less knowable with every occasion on which I am obliged to call your attention to it.

I must once again request drastic and IMMEDIATE action to remedy this, failing which I shall be obliged to make an appropriate report to my superiors.

433

File
1001
(8)

GP
1003/523

Copy to : MEMO
DADST
RASC offrs att (4)

Send Copy to Comms + Relief
WSP

✓

Subject : Discipline - Loss of W.D. Vehicles.

50 British Liaison Unit.

Chief of Staff,
No. 1 Italian Combat Group.

Ref A/6.

2 Dec. 44.

Camp Commandant
50 B.L.U.

S/Sec. *1/12*

The following orders will be read by or to all ranks and initialled by ALL officers both British and Italian.

(1) A.A.I. R.O. No. 299 of 10 Nov. 44.

- (a) Many vehs continue to be lost, usually through being left unattended.
- (b) When this occurs adequate disciplinary action is often not taken because of lack of appreciation by C.Os of the seriousness of this offence, and of their responsibilities for vehs on their charge.
- (c) In the case of veh losses on or after 15 Nov 44, disciplinary action will be taken against the person or persons responsible in all cases where an offence has been committed. Financial contributions should in such cases be effected by the award of stoppages of pay. Trial will be by F.G.C.M. or Military Tribunal unless the authority having power to convene a F.G.C.M. (i.e. Div Comd or Italian equivalent) authorises Summary trial.

432

- (d) In all cases the responsibilities of the C.O. will be considered and evidence on this point taken at any Court of Enquiry.

(2) A.F.H.Q. G.R.O. 113 of Feb 44.

- (a) Govt. vehs will never be left unattended except :
(i) When essential on operational grounds.
(ii) On account of urgent necessity.
- (b) All units having M.T. on charge will have their Vehicle Parks guarded day and night.
- (c) When on duty it is the divs responsibility to ensure that arrangements are made for his veh to be safe - guarded at all times. He must ensure that any veh pk in which he leaves his vehicle is authorised and guarded.
British Military Police at Veh pks are there for traffic duties and

432

- (b) When this occurs adequate disciplinary action is often not taken because of lack of appreciation by C.O.s of the seriousness of this offence, and of their responsibilities for vehs on their charge.
- (c) In the case of veh losses on or after 15 Nov 44, disciplinary action will be taken against the person or persons responsible in all cases where an offence has been committed. Financial contributions should in such cases be effected by the award of stoppages of pay. Trial will be by F.G.C.M. or Military Tribunal unless the authority having power to convene a F.G.C.M. (i.e. Div Comd or Italian equivalent) authorises Summary trial.
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(i) When essential on operational grounds.
(ii) On account of urgent necessity.
- (b) All units having M.T. on charge will have their Vehicle Parks guarded day and night.
- (c) When on duty it is the dvr's responsibility to ensure that arrangements are made for his veh to be safe - guarded at all times. He must ensure that any veh pk in which he leaves his vehicle is authorised and guarded.
British Military Police at Veh pks are there for traffic duties and are NOT to be considered as guards.
- (d) The practice of immobilising vehs often leads to mechanical injury and will NOT be used, except when ordered by Divisional or higher HQ in an operational area.
- (e) Disciplinary action will be taken against all dvr's who leave their vehs unattended except as in 2 (a) : and where, as a result the veh or any Govt. property in it, is lost, the offender will normally be tried by Court Martial or Military Tribunal.
- (f) Particulars of Govt vehs lost will be immediately reported to the B.L.U. who will notify Dist or fm A.F.M. and A.F.H.Q. (Q.AS).

SHEET 2.(5) A.A.I. R.O. 181 of June 44.

(a) Small detachments of units in operational areas are sometimes unable to provide veh guards.

(b) Men will sleep in such vehs.

(4) A.A.I. R.O. 250 of Sep 44.

Loss of vehs both govt and requisitioned will be reported to A.P.M. or D.A.P.M. of District or fnn according to following pro-forma. In the case of vehs lost by the Gruppo this pro-forma will be completed and forwarded to the B.L.U.

APPENDIX "A" to AAI RO 250 of 1944.

RESTRICTED

LOST/FOUND VEHICLE REPORT.

AAI/DAFM Formation/Area/Sub Area

I have to report the following particulars of missing/found vehicle.

1. PARTICULARS.

Make,
Chassis No.
Unit on charge to -
Location of Unit -
Driver's No.
Date lost/found
Place last seen/found
Serial or Unit Markings, etc.
Particulars of any Property in vehicle.

Type
Engine No.

WD No.
Contract No.

Rank
Time lost/found

Tel. No.
Name

421

2. Any further information available.

(5) A.F.H.Q. G.S.O. 329 of 1943.

(a) No person, other than the following, will at any time be permitted to

RESTRICTED

LOST/FOUND VEHICLE REPORT.

APN/BNM Formation/Area/Sub Area

I have to report the following particulars of missing/found vehicle.

421

1. PARTICULARS.

Make.	Type	WD No.
Chassis No.	Engine No.	Contract No.
Unit on charge to -		
Location of Unit -		Tol. No.
Driver's No.	Rank	Name
Date lost/found	Time lost/found	
Place last seen/found		
Serial or Unit Markings, etc.		
Particulars of any Property in vehicle.		

2. Any further information available.

(5) A.P.H.Q. G.R.O. 329 of 1943.

(a) No person, other than the following, will at any time be permitted to drive any govt veh except in an urgent operational emergency.

(i) The properly appointed dvr or dvrs.

(ii) Offrs and NCOs of the unit responsible for the maint of the veh on charge.

(iii) Those duly appointed to testing, inspecting and instructional duties.

(iv) Men under instruction on journeys specially authorized for that journey.

(b) When owing to fatigue or other reasons the dvr is not in a fit state to carry out his duties, vehs may be driven on duty journeys by Offrs, other than those referred to above, provided that :-

(i) Such Offrs are fully qualified to drive.

(ii) The dvr allotted to the veh always accompanies his veh.

SHEET 3.(6) A.T.H.S. G.R.O. 248 of 44e.

- (a) The maximum speed in all towns, villages and built-up areas, will be 25 mph for 4-wheeled and half-tracked vehicles, 20 mph for vehicles over 4-wheels and full-tracked vehicles, provided that these speeds are not in excess of those laid down in sub para (c) below.
- (b) Local speeds as shown by notice boards at sides of rds will be observed.
- (c) The max speeds in areas other than those laid down in para 2 (a) and (b) above are as follows :-

Staff Cars.	55
Motor Cycles	40
Cars 2-str (utility) including Cars 5-cwt (Jeeps)	40.
Trucks, Lorries and Vans (up to and including 1-ton)	35
Lorries (over 1-ton and up to and including 3-ton), including troop-carriers	30
Half-tracked vehicles	30
Tractors (wheeled)	25
Lorries (over 3-ton) including semi-trailers	20
Lorries with trailers	20
Full-tracked vehicles (except tractors)	20
Full-tracked vehicles (tractors)	15
Transporters	15

438

- (2) The maximum permissible speed for each vehicle, as stated above, will be painted in red on the tail board, rear panel or equivalent position as shown below :-

20
M.P.H

The figures will be 4 inches high and the letters 2 inches high, the width of each part of each figure and letter being 1 inch and 1/2 inch respectively.

- (c) The above speed limits are imposed not only in the interests of road safety, but also in order to preserve the maximum effective life of vehicles and their engines and tyres, and to prevent unnecessary damage thereto.
- (f) Disciplinary action will be taken against drivers who exceed the authorised

12098

Trucks, Lorries and Vans (up to and including 1-ton)	35
Lorries (over 1-ton and up to and including 3-ton), including troop-carriers	30
Half-tracked vehicles	30
Tractors (wheelod)	25
Lorries (over 3-ton) including semi-trailers	20
Lorries with trailers	20
Full-tracked vehicles (except tractors)	20
Full-tracked vehicles (tractors)	45
Transporters	15

430

(d) The maximum permissible speed for each vehicle, as stated above, will be painted in red on the tail board, rear panel or equivalent position as shown below: -

20
MPH

The figures will be 4 inches high and the letters 2 inches high, the width of each part of each figure and letter being $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch respectively.

(e) The above speed limits are imposed not only in the interests of road safety, but also in order to preserve the maximum effective life of vehicles and their engines and tyres, and to prevent unnecessary damage thereto.

(f) Disciplinary action will be taken against drivers who exceed the authorised speed limit.

(g) Para 6 (a) to 6 (f) will be re-published in all fin and unit orders monthly.

C.M.F.
FIVE/LGE.

Copy to : M.M.I.A.
55 Area (for A.P.M.)
D.A.A. & S.M.C.
G II Trg (for Trg Team) 4
File 2.

William H. Hester
Lt Col.
G.S.

2099

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

15 Nov 44
A-1

To:- MMIA IO, c/o Rear EIGHTH ARMY
and for info HQ Land Forces Sub Comm, AC

From:- MMIA IO, POLCORE

Subject - Discipline - Shooting of a Polish Soldier

1. Ref your MM/105 of 26 Sep 44.
2. I attach copy of dossier regarding Sjt Mario DAL PORTO from which you will note that case has been passed to Italian PGCM.

T. H. Philip
Capt.

429

Subject : Security

To: G.O.C. MANTOVA GP

Infm: Military Mission Italian Army
ROME.

TOP SECRET

Liaison Officer
Military Mission Italian
Army

c/o HQ MANTOVA GROUP
G I

17 Nov 44

S/Sgt

19/11

1. During the course of my recent visit to the various units under your command I noticed that on two occasions junior officers were culpable of gross breaches of security in public places. On the first occasion I was asked, with civilians present, upon what date the GP was due to move, and on the second in a hotel lounge also with civilians present, I was told about the recent disbandment of an Italian Division.

2. The Allies, as you are no doubt aware, after some early disasters due to leakage of information, have now reached a high standard of security, partly owing to the extremely severe measures taken against offenders and partly owing to good propaganda concerning the danger of careless talk.

3. I should be grateful if you would ensure that all officers NCO's and men under your command realise that from now on no military subjects whatsoever, (other than those already released by the GP) will be discussed with civilians present and that the greatest secrecy will be observed when talking to military personnel not forming part of the MANTOVA GP over such questions as operations, movements, degree of training and equipment.

4. I feel furthermore that all ranks should understand that it is their duty to report careless talkers and that offenders will receive the maximum punishment which can be awarded for offences against security.

H. A. C. Howard

Lt. Col. G S O I (L)
MMA IO MANTOVA GP

disasters due to leakage of information, have now reached a high standard of security, partly owing to the extremely severe measures taken against offenders and partly owing to good propaganda concerning the danger of careless talk.

3. I should be grateful if you would ensure that all officers NCO's and men under your command realise that from now on no military subjects whatsoever, (other than those already released by the press) will be discussed with civilians present and that the greatest secrecy will be observed when talking to military personnel not forming part of the MANTOVA GP over such questions as operations, movements, degree of training and equipment.

4. I feel furthermore that all ranks should understand that it is their duty to report careless talkers and that offenders will receive the maximum punishment which can be awarded for offences against security.

H. A. C. Howard

Lt. Col. G S O I (L)
NMIA LO MANTOVA GP

W.P.

12102

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

TRANSLATION

From Ministry of War

Ref: 105200/1

To Circular

Date: 1 11 44

Subject: Authority, qualifications and duties of officers

Col Pilsley 24/3/44
this is the outcome of recent conversation
9
11

^{recognition}
The ~~power~~ repeatedly given by the Allies to Italian units both operating and mobilized is well known.

But, while the army, purest expression of a people which renovates itself in the democratic atmosphere, labours along a difficult and bloody path towards the rebirth of its martyred Country, a small minority of officers, owing to incapacity or ill-will, have proved themselves unable to fulfill the high mission entrusted to them by the nation, which consists merely of giving a constant example, of carrying out orders meticulously, exactly and immediately in order to be able, with the necessary authority, to educate, instruct and lead in operations.

their own men

This is no time for softness nor is there room in the Italian Army in these days for loungers and idlers.

Therefore, while I appeal to every officer to think about his duties in order to meet in thought and deed the responsibilities entrusted to him, I call upon all commanders to follow closely the behaviour of their officers so as to bring the callous and indifferent back to the straight path of duty.

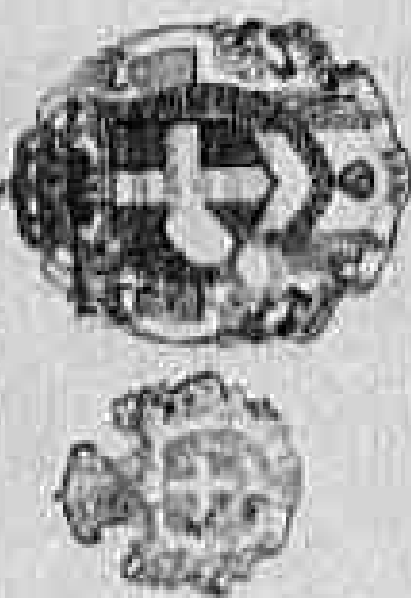
Nevertheless, when a reprimand and later a punishment do not have the desired effect, incapable and negligent officers must be eliminated immediately and without hesitation, applying the procedure set forth in Art. 36 and 37 bis of Act n. 368 of May 9th, 1940 regarding status of officers of the Italian Army.

The elimination of a few unworthy ones will give faith to the nation and will constitute a guarantee for the Allies.

S/Sgt *de* Juan

The Minister
A. CASATI

Discipline File P 13/11



VE/ps

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

Gabinetto

Ord. N° 3039/10/C.A. Allegato

Roma, 10 novembre 1944

Risposta al f. del

Dir. S. M.

OGGETTO: Disciplina automezzi.

Trasporto Descriptoria

L. Sec

11 n

Al

LA M. M. I. A.

ROMA

Riferimento foglio S/G/29/34 del 31 ottobre.

Questo Ministero, nell'intento di assicurare la più efficace collaborazione con le Forze Alleate, non ha mancato di dare disposizioni per una accurata scelta del personale e per una vigilante e salda azione di comando nei reparti impiegati alla dipendenza degli alleati.

Tali disposizioni sono state in questi giorni ribadite, prescrivendo ai comandanti di seguire da vicino l'opera dei dipendenti, colpire con severità chi manchi al proprio dovere, e procedere anche alla eliminazione dal servizio degli elementi scadenti.

Tosco assicurare codesta Missione che tutte le mancanze saranno adeguatamente punite, a norma delle leggi e dei regolamenti italiani - compreso il codice penale militare - che non sono inadeguati ad assicurare l'obbedienza ai superiori e l'esecuzione degli ordini.

Nel mio precedente foglio n. 3002709/C.A. pregavo codesta Missione di fare opportunamente modificare il punto 2 delle direttive del Comandante del B.L.U. presso il gruppo di combattimento "Triuli", direttive che questo Ministero di massima approva.

che mi permetto di rinnovare, era suggerita

AL LA M. M. I. A.

ROMA

Riferimento foglio S/G/29/34 del 31 ottobre.

Questo Ministero, nell'intento di assicurare la più efficace collaborazione con le Forze Alleate, non ha mancato di dare disposizioni per una accurata scelta del personale e per una vigilanza e supervisione da azione di comando nei reparti impiegati alla dipendenza degli alleati.

426
Tali disposizioni sono state in questi giorni ribadite, prescrivendo ai comandanti di seguire da vicino l'opera dei dipendenti, colpire con severità chi manchi al proprio dovere, e procedere anche alla eliminazione dal servizio degli elementi scadenti.

Fosso assicurare codesta Missione che tutte le mancanze saranno adeguatamente punite, a norma delle leggi e dei regolamenti italiani - compreso il codice penale militare - che non sono inadeguati ad assicurare l'obbedienza ai superiori e l'esecuzione degli ordini.

Nel mio precedente foglio n. 3002709/C.A. pregavo codesta Missione di fare opportunamente modificare il punto 2 delle direttive del Comandante del B.L.U. presso il Gruppo di combattimento "Friuli", direttive che questo Ministero di massima approva.

La mia richiesta, che mi permetto di rinnovare, era suggerita dal fatto che al punto 2 della lettera e delle direttive in parola (traduzione italiana) si prescrive che la punizione normale per tutte le infrazioni sia la retrocessione o la rimozione per gli ufficiali, la rimozione per i sottufficiali e la detenzione per la truppa.

././.

Questi provvedimenti - che se sono equi per mancanze di parti colare gravità, appaiono esagerati per le infrazioni di minore entità - possono, secondo la procedura italiana, essere adottati solo su decisione di un Consiglio di disciplina o di un Tribunale Militare a cui i Comandi competenti dovranno deferire i responsabili.

IL SOTTOSGREGARIO DI STATO ALLA GUERRA
(generale G.B. Oxilia)

G. Oxilia

*Transmesso
al
Comando*

12106

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

IL SOTTOSGREGARIO DI STATO ALLA GUERRA
(generale G.P. Oxilia)

G. Oxilia

Tamara Oxilia

1/1

SECRET & URGENT.

Subject : Discipline - Italian Forces.

50 British Liaison Unit.

Ref A/6/11.

1. Sub Area.

8 Nov. 44.

Ref Map ITALY 1/200000 Sheet 19.

(1) Between 1 - 5 Nov there were 150 absconcees from No. 1 Italian Gruppo di Combattimento. As the soldiers of this Gruppo are clothed in British Battle Dress it is comparatively easy for them to "hitch hike" in Allied vehs, and so their absconcing themselves becomes a simple matter.

(2) In order to try to put a stop to this, CCRH posts are being established forthwith at the following points :

- (a) Rd junct. B 6662.
- (b) " " B 7973.
- (c) " " N 7266.
- (d) " " B 6566.

As, however, CCRH have no jurisdiction over Allied personnel or vehs., it would assist very materially if you could arrange for G.M.P.'s to augment the posts established at (a), (b) and (c). It is considered that practically no Allied vehs will normally pass post (d). If you could see your way to do this, would you kindly send a rep to G II 50 B.L.U. at SAN GIORGIO N 7274 at your earliest convenience.

(3) Further, could you issue an order so that Allied dvr's might be warned to check on people to whom they are giving lifts in this area. It is realized that dvr's cannot be expected to look at the documents of every soldier to whom they give a lift, but it is normally not difficult to recognise an Italian soldier even though he may be in British Battle Dress. In addition, soldiers of this Gruppo will be wearing appropriate signs (already notified to you) or NO signs at all and in the latter case all soldiers should be viewed with suspicion.

425

G.M.P.
FITCH/LGB.

Lt Col.
G.S.

Copy to : E.M.I.A.
3 DIST.
56 Area.
P.M. A.F.H.Q.

Capo di S.I.

Subject:- Discipline

URGENT

8
Military Mission Italian Army
R O M E

AQ/6
21 Oct 44

A.F.H.Q. for GI(B)

1. I am sending you the attached C.M.P. report as it raises a question of principle on which I should like your guidance.

2. The Italian Brigadier General MORO is the Deputy Commander of the FOLOUKA Combat Group which is now receiving British equipment and vehicles in the FLEDMONTES D'ALIFE Area. He recently asked M.M.I.A. for a pass to bring his family down to HOME from the forward area, but this could not be given by M.M.I.A.

3. Orders have been issued to the Ministry of War prohibiting (among other things) the carrying of civilians in W.D. vehicles, particularly in the case of the Combat Groups now forming.

4. The following courses appear to be open:-

- (a) A Court Martial under Italian Military Law for disobedience of orders and/or
- (b) Removal from his command by Allied C in C
- (c) A warning expression of displeasure
- (d) Disregard of the incident.

5. The question is important and will be remembered, and probably quoted, in relation to similar charges against other Italian officers and soldiers.

6. I am not asking for a statement or explanation from the officer concerned pending direction from you on the degree of seriousness and severity in which this matter should be viewed.

424

2109

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

and vehicles in the PIEDMONT DRAINAGE AREA. He recently asked M.M.I.A. for a pass to bring his family down to ROSE from the forward area, but this could not be given by M.M.I.A.

3. Orders have been issued to the Ministry of War prohibiting (among other things) the carrying of civilians in W.D. vehicles, particularly in the case of the Combat Groups now forming.

4. The following courses appear to be open:-

(a) A Court Martial under Italian Military Law for disobedience of orders and/or

(b) Removal from his command by Allied C in C

(c) A warning expression of displeasure

(d) Disregard of the incident.

424

5. The question is important and will be remembered, and probably quoted, in relation to similar charges against other Italian officers and soldiers.

6. I am not asking for a statement or explanation from the officer concerned pending direction from you on the degree of seriousness and severity in which this matter should be viewed.

L. Downing

Major General,
M.M.I.A.

c/

Internal Dist: Spec Sec.

2110

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

C O P Y
R E P O R T

DPM No 1 District.

OC 75 Coy CMP (IC)

Sir,

I have to report that at NARNI, M.R. A.730370/16 on the 17.10.44 at about 0900 hrs I was on duty in the company of 7405292 Pte. GREGORY, W., 75 COY CMP (IC), when I had occasion to stop a WD Vehicle No 56204771 DODGE 3-ton, carrying two unauthorised civilian passengers, whom I ordered out from the vehicle.

On taking the ITALIAN driver's particulars, an Italian Officer, GENERALE FREDERICO MARO, Vice Commander of the FOLGORE DIVISION, intervened and said he would take full responsibility as he had ordered the driver to take them.

I obtained his particulars and allowed him to proceed.

FIELD
17.10.44

(signed) 5573809 L. Widgey, Cpl
75 COY CMP (IC)

Sir,

I have read over and corroborate the above statement.

FIELD
17.10.44

(signed) 7405292 W. Gregory, Pte
75 COY CMP (IC)

423

SUBJECT: Discipline MT and Traffic Accidents

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E

File No. S/O/29/34 ✓

3/ Oct 44

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

Ref your 302709/C.A. of 21 October 44.

1. I concur entirely in principle with the memorandum A/6/13 dated 10 Oct 44 on Discipline sent by the Officer commanding the RLJ to the Commander Friuli Division.

2. If Italian Military regulations are inadequate to enforce obedience to orders they must be changed or disregarded. Officers who repeatedly fail in their duty to command obedience of their men and who cannot be adequately punished under ~~the~~ present regulations so as to prevent repetition of their delinquencies are of no use to the Allied War Effort and will have to be demobilised.

3. I require the firmest possible handling of this matter in order to secure efficiency and avoid waste and I rely on you to support me in this to the fullest possible extent.

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

Copy to: 50 RLJ

2112

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

FROM 131A

TO 50 BLU

SS 211

21

A 29/15

CONFIDENTIAL

Your A 147 of 19th (.) PAREN NAME AREA _____ PAREN (.)
Italian Military Law which does not permit reduction of officers
to ranks is the difficulty we are trying to overcome (.) Meanwhile
carry on your campaign and adopt extreme measures in blatant or
persistent cases (.) New Comd should help you

PRESIDENCE _____

AUTHENTICATED _____

421

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

ARMY FORM C-2129

MESSAGE FORM

MESSAGE FORM
~~CRYPTER SECRET~~

Serial No. 4714

Office Date Stamp

No. of Groups

RE

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

to

M M A

FROM

50 BLU

Copyright Number

A147

Date: / /

19th

Integrating to Finance

CONFIDENTIAL Subject MT discipline @ Majority offences still involve offrs and NCO's @ Present punishment still only fine or 30 days detention @ This is considered ineffective @ Ref. recent conference General BROWNING - General OKUMA at which C/SGT 50 BLU was present @ When may S.M.R.E. be expected to make matter and authorize adequate punishment @ Reductions in rank or to ranks considered only effective

This Message may be sent AS WRITTEN
by any means
& (except)

This Message must be sent IN CIPHER if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

Time of Origin

125A

T.H.1

1945A 420

T.O.R

Author: _____
 Date: _____

Signature ADP IMMEDIATE

4- Originator may delete "Except" and insert "Including." **BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.**

[illegible]

URGENTSUBJECT: IT - Discipline and Traffic Accidents "A" Brit Madison Unit

A/6/13

10 Oct 44

Coma. Gruppo di Combattimento "FRIULI"

In view of the continued disregard of IT discipline and the alarming high rate of traffic accidents in the Group, it is requested that the following instructions be promulgated and enforced forthwith.

1. IT DISCIPLINE

That All unit commanders be required to render within 48 hours to Divisional HQ a certificate to the effect

(a) that every officer NCO and man under their command has been warned personally by a senior officer that it is forbidden

(i) to carry or permit to be carried any civilian in any MD vehicle in any circumstances whatever,

(ii) to carry or permit to be carried in any circumstances whatever more than twenty-two persons including the

(iii) driver in a lorry 3 ton GS or more than nine persons including the driver in a truck 15 cwt GS.

to use, or permit to be used any MD vehicle for any purpose other than a military duty, performed on the orders of a superior, and with a work ticket properly made out and signed by an officer.

(b) that it has similarly been explained to all ranks that the driver, the NCO and the officer will alike be held responsible individually and collectively for any disobedience to these orders.

(c) that any officer or NCO who sees or is aware of any disobedience to these orders, and fails to take appropriate action, whether or not he is in charge of the vehicle or party and whether or not he belongs to the same unit as the offender, will automatically be held equally responsible.

2. DISCIPLINARY ACTION IN ABOVE CASES

(a) Any disobedience whatever to these orders will be reserved as an offence which can only be disposed of by the Divisional

**CALL
AND
INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

To

M M A

FROM

50 B + 16

MESSAGE FORM

MESSAGE FORM

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

Origins: Number

A147

19 10

Date 1/6/81

Serial No. 46716

Office Data Sheet

CONFIDENTIAL Subject MT discipline @ Majority of fencies still involve ofrs and NCOs @ Present punishment still only 30 or 60 days detention @ This is considered ineffective @ Ref. recent conference General BROWNING - General OXLEY at which CSO1 to BLU was present @ When may SMRE be expected to move matter and authorize adequate punishment @ Reductions in rank or to ranks considered only effective

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WITNESS
BY ANY MEANS

REFERENCES

Figure 1. A. Schematic of the experimental design. B. Schematic of the experimental design.

This Message must be sent in CIPHER if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

Time of Origin

1415 A

SIGNATURE

Supplemental Data

IMMEDIATE

THE

1945A 420

T.O.R

[illegible][illegible]

2118

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

Reply 50 Blue

you

Italian Military Law is the
difficulty. We are trying to
overcome. Meanwhile carry on your
campaign and adopt extreme
measures in blatant or persistent
cases. New combs should help you.

Lane H.C.

which has no power
to make decisions
to make

URGENT
SUBJECT: IT - Discipline and Traffic Accidents "A" Brit Liaison Unit

4/6/43

10 Oct 44

Comd. Gruppo di Combattimento "TRIUMF"

In view of the continued disregard of IT discipline and the alarming high rate of traffic accidents in the Group, it is requested that the following instructions be promulgated and enforced forthwith.

1. IT DISCIPLINE

That ALL unit commanders be required to render within 48 hours to Divisional HQ a certificate to the effect

(a) that every officer NCO and man under their command has been warned personally by a senior officer that it is forbidden

(i) to carry or permit to be carried any civilian in any MD vehicle in any circumstances whatever.

(ii) to carry or permit to be carried in any circumstances whatever more than twenty-two persons including the driver in a lorry 3 ton GS or more than nine persons including the driver in a truck 15 cwt GS.

(iii) to use, or permit to be used any MD vehicle for any purpose other than a military duty, performed on the orders of a superior, and with a work ticket properly made out and signed by an officer.

(b) that it has similarly been explained to all ranks that the driver, the NCO and the officer will alike be held responsible individually and collectively for any disobedience to these orders.

(c) that any officer or NCO who sees or is aware of any disobedience to these orders, and fails to take appropriate action, whether or not he is in charge of the vehicle or party and whether or not he belongs to the same unit as the offender, will automatically be held equally responsible.

2. DISCIPLINARY ACTION IN ABOVE CASES

(a) Any disobedience whatever to these orders will

That All unit commanders be required to render within 48 hours to Divisional HQ a certificate to the effect

- (a) that every officer NCO and man under their command has been warned personally by a senior officer that it is forbidden to carry or permit to be carried any civilian in any WD vehicle in any circumstances whatever.
- (ii) to carry or permit to be carried in any circumstances whatever more than twenty-two persons including the driver in a lorry 3 ton GS or more than nine persons including the driver in a truck 15 cwt GS.
- (iii) to use, or permit to be used any WD vehicle for any purpose other than a military duty, performed on the orders of a superior, and with a work ticket properly made out and signed by an officer.

(b) that it has similarly been explained to all ranks that the driver, the NCO and the officer will alike be held responsible individually and collectively for any disobedience to these orders. **449**

(c) that any officer or NCO who sees or is aware of any disobedience to these orders, and fails to take appropriate action, whether or not he is in charge of the vehicle or party and whether or not he belongs to the same unit as the offender, will automatically be held equally responsible.

2. DISCIPLINARY ACTION IN ABOVE CASES

- (a) Any disobedience whatever to these orders will be reserved as an offence which can only be disposed of by the Divisional Comd in person.
- (b) Offenders will be placed in close arrest, and remanded for the Divisional Comd by Company, Battalion, and Regimental Commanders.
- (c) The normal punishment for disobedience to these orders, which amounts to deliberate defiance of authority, will be
- (i) reduction in rank or reduction to the ranks for officers.
 - (ii) reduction to the ranks for NCOs
 - (iii) Detention for rank and file.
- (d) Report of all such offences will please be made within 12 hours of the occurrence to GSO I of the BII, who will also please be informed when and how the case was disposed of by the Divisional Commander.

...../ 3.

3. TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

- (a) At present the vast majority of traffic accidents are due to gross negligence by drivers, particularly when moving individually or in small parties, or to the gross lack of supervision by officers and NCOs.
- (b) Every unit will therefore make a return to Divisional HQ by 0800 hours daily (consolidated copy, in English, to GSO I of the BLU by 0900 hours daily, please) reporting
 - (i) All accidents to vehicles of the unit, or to vehicles driven by men of the unit, during the 24 hours ending 2359 hours the previous night. Place and time of the accident will be shown. Such accidents will be numbered serially by each unit until further notice.
 - (ii) Within 36 hours of the accident, a short statement of the circumstances in which the accident took place, with the opinion of the unit commander as to responsibility for the accident.
 - (iii) Disciplinary action, which will invariably be taken against the driver, NCO, and officer concerned.

NOTE: Reports under (ii) and (iii) above will similarly please be rendered to GSO I of the BLU, in English, by 0900 hours daily.

4. VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

- (a) Orders with regard to vehicle maintenance by the tank system are perfectly clear.
- (b) Every unit and sub-unit to which vehicles are on charge will order forthwith a Daily Maintenance Parade at a set hour.
- (c) Maintenance Parades will invariably be under command of an officer.
- (d) Disciplinary action will invariably be taken against any driver or NCO who is absent from parade.

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Place and time of the accident will be shown.

Such accidents will be numbered serially by each unit until further notice.

(ii) Within 36 hours of the accident, a short statement of the circumstances in which the accident took place, with the opinion of the unit commander as to responsibility for the accident.

(iii) disciplinary action, which will invariably be taken against the driver, NCO, and officer concerned.

NOTE: Reports under (ii) and (iii) above will similarly please be rendered to GSO I of the BIU, in English, by 0900 hours daily.

4. VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

- (a) Orders with regard to vehicle maintenance by the task system are perfectly clear.
- (b) Every unit and sub-unit to which vehicles are on charge will order forthwith a Daily Maintenance Parade at a set hour.
- (c) Maintenance Parades will invariably be under command of an officer.
- (d) Disciplinary action will invariably be taken against any driver or NCO who is absent from parade.
- (e) No driver will be dismissed from parade until the task for the day, TOGETHER WITH ANY OUTSTANDING TASKS FROM PREVIOUS DAYS, has been completed AND RECORDED by the officer commanding the parade.
- (f) The officer himself will not leave the parade until the maintenance of the last vehicle is complete up to day and has been recorded as such by him.
- (g) The 'task for the day' will be prominently displayed in all IT lines.
- (h) Maintenance of his vehicle is the primary military duty of the driver. Drivers will in no circumstances be taken for any other duties or instruction until AFTER daily maintenance has been carried out and brought up to date.

...../(3)

(j) No excuse whatever will be accepted from drivers, NCOs or officers concerned for failure to complete the daily tasks by the end of each week, when the vehicle records will be inspected by unit commanders.

(k) Any failure whatever to complete and record all maintenance tasks by the end of the week will invariably be the subject of disciplinary action against both the driver, NCO, and officer concerned.

(l) Such cases will only be disposed of by the Regimental Commander or his equivalent, and a report of all such cases will be made to Divisional HQ (copy in English, to GSO I of the EIU) by 0900 hours on Mondays.

5. RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT DISCIPLINE

It must be clearly understood that responsibility for IT discipline, including maintenance, lies directly and personally with each commander, whether of a formation or of a unit or of a sub unit.

Failure to enforce and keep up a first-class standard in these respects can only be taken to indicate that the commander concerned is unable to ensure obedience to the orders which he gives, and is therefore lacking in the qualities essential to a commander on any level.

417

Atkinson

Lt Col
CS

CLF
ARCS/STB

Copy to : HQ, MIA

2122