

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

785020

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

785020

10000 / 120 / 1174

GI TRG / 13/S Training - Italian OR

Opened Mar. 22, 1945. Closed Aug. 27, 1945

Mar. - Aug. 1945

785020

Subject: RECRUIT TRAINING AT CESANO.

'F' British Liaison & Training Unit
R.T.C., I.C.F.

Ref: G/A.2/720

27 August 45.

To: H.Q.

Land Forces Sub Comm. AC (MMIA). (For attention of Lt.Col.S.M.Ingledeu OBE)

1. I refer to my G/A.2/701 dated 17 August and your reply G/Trg/13/8 of 22 August.

2. May I be allowed to express my regrets at the intemperate language used in the third paragraph of my letter. This, as you will probably know, was written subsequent to a telephone conversation between an Officer speaking on behalf of Major Medlam and Major Price of this Unit, and was in no sense intended as a criticism of the Staff or policy of M.M.I.A. I am afraid I allowed my enthusiasm to outrun my discretion and I trust you will accept this apology.

3. Reverting to your reply, the discussions held in your office on Saturday morning appear to cover the whole ground and after the visit of General Ward I shall look forward to a further opportunity of submitting my suggestions for the most suitable location of the various Schools visualised.

Lt Col

Colonel

Comd. 'F' British Liaison &
Training Unit RTC ICF

LHM/ah.

91

I plead not guilty !!

3287

*all OK now
at it now*

*all right
to 2nd FINTO*

2900

2 B 27 Aug

785020

File on 13/8
21VISIT OF MAJOR-GENERAL A.D. WARD, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.Tuesday 28 August 1945.

09.30 hrs	-	Arrive BRACCIANO
09.30 - 10.00 "	-	Visit Artillery School.
10.05 - 10.25 "	-	Visit Engineer School
10.30 - 10.45 "	-	Visit Signal School
10.45 - 11.00 "	-	Move to MANZIANO
11.00 - 11.45 "	-	Visit to All Arms/School ^{Instructors} - See Demonstration Mopping up.
11.45 - 12.45 "	-	Move to CESANO
12.45 - 13.55 "	-	Lunch
14.00 - 14.25 "	-	Visit Driving School and Mechanics School
14.30 - 14.45 "	-	Visit Police School
14.50 - 15.30 "	-	Visit Infantry School

NOTE: Colonel L.H. Mackay C.B.E., will meet Major-General Ward at 09.00 hrs at the point where the obligatory diversion to CESANO makes a 'T' Junction with the VIA CLAUDIA (the main road from Route 2 to BRACCIANO).

Leave "A" Mess at 08.15 hrs.

-----000-----

3286

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

SUBJECT: Visits.

9/13/8
'F' BRITISH LIAISON & TRAINING
UNIT, RTC ICF.

Ref: AQ/1/93

26 August 45.

To: H.Q.
Land Forces Sub Comm. AC (MMIA).

With reference to the visit of Major-General
A.D. Ward, CB. CBE. DSO on 28 August 1945 to this Centre,
herewith please find three copies of the proposed programme.

fm Robert Cape
Colonel.
Commander 'F' British Liaison &
Training Unit RTC ICF

LMR/ah.

Internal.

File.

Float.

3285

C. A. C. F. I. C.
Ufficio Addestramento.

VISITA MAJOR-GENERAL A.D. WARD, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

(28 Agosto 1945).

Ore: 09.30	-	Arrivo a Bracciano	<i>Grande Piazza</i>
09.30 - 10.00	-	Visita Scuola Artiglieria	<i>Unità Art. 10.000</i>
10.05 - 10.25	-	Visita poligono addestramento Scuola Artieri	<i>Unità Art. 10.000</i>
10.30 - 10.45	-	Visita Scuola Collegamenti	<i>Unità Signal School</i>
10.45 - 11.00	-	Trasferimento a Manziana	<i>Unità la Mancia</i>
11.00 - 11.45	-	Visita S.I.V.A. - Dimostrazione rastrellamento di un casggiato.	<i>Unità la Mancia</i>
11.45 - 12.45	-	Trasferimento a Cesano	<i>Unità la Mancia</i>
12.45 - 13.55	-	Colazione	<i>Unità la Mancia</i>
14.00 - 14.25	-	Visita Scuola Autieri e Scuola Meccanici	<i>Unità la Mancia</i>
14.30 - 14.45	-	Visita Scuola Polizia	<i>Unità la Mancia</i>
14.50 - 15.30	-	Visita Scuola di Fanteria.	<i>Unità la Mancia</i>

NOTE: Colonel L.H. Mackay C.B.E., will meet Major-General Ward at 09.00 hrs. at the point where the obligatory diversion to CESANO makes a 'T' junction with the VIA CLAUDIA (the main road from Route 2 to BRACCIANO).

-----600-----

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

785020

Subject: Recruit Training at GSAW.Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.
(S. H. I. A.)

C/28/13/0.

22 Aug 45.

To: British Liaison and Reg Unit, GSAW.

F. 16.

Reference your C/A.2/101 dated 17 Aug 45.

1/ The unfortunate present state of affairs at GSAW is fully appreciated by this S.C., which is anxious as you to get something settled.

2/ We expect the Italian Ministry of War to formulate a proposition shortly and we expect the C.C.S. Washington to announce a policy in the near future. Until you hear from us further I am afraid there is nothing that can be done except keep the present Italian staff from disintegrating and losing interest and to see that reinforcements you have as far as possible.

3/ We will be bringing General WARD of A.P.H.C. to see GSAW on Tuesday 23 Aug and will then be able to discuss the position verbally.

4/ All assistance will be given in rectifying you of advanced movements of both intake and output.

Lt Colonel
G.S.

COPY to "A" Branch

213

23

G.S. 21
 Ref para 3 above. G.S.C.
 wishes to speak to Col MacKay here at
 10.00 on Saturday 26 Aug. Please keep him
 to the hour.

3283

WD

23 Aug.

WD

Spoke Camp Capt FBLO at 15.00 on 23 Aug. He
 will forward message to Col MacKay.

A

Thank you for info.

I should prefer to keep the large try
staff of 5000 odd at CESANO for another
couple of weeks, pending decision on future
of Cesano.

I think it would be best for "A" to reply to this letter (F 16) on the ~~points~~ basis of "input" and "output" adding a para that it is hoped shortly (?) to give them more information on future policy.

[illegible]

785020

to this letter (F 16) on the basis of
 "intake" and "output" adding a para
 that it is hoped shortly (2-7) to give
 them more information on future policy.

If you agree will you please accept
 action.

G-5D
 20 Aug

3:32 PM
 H. CL

not agreed!

MB

G will study on future action

B.

785020

18

Inter - Branch Minute Sheet.

Date	Pass to (section)	Ref Folio	REMARKS.
------	-------------------	-----------	----------

20. Aug. C.(50) of 16. para 1. Is correct and in accordance with orders.

para 2 Is not correct. Many drafts (revisions from Headquarters and other sources) do arrive unannounced but in most case advice of large numbers, even though times a number do not come up to expectation, is given

para 3 Is rather a sore point - none know the answer.

para 4. I agree.

your query

a. Present strength (18 Aug)

(i) Staff 717 x 4794 total 3,511

785020

times a
his expectation, is given
para 3 is rather a sure point - now
know like answer.

para 4. I agree.

your query

a. Present strength (18 Aug)
(i) Staff 717 x 4794 total 5,511
(ii) Rpt. 98 x 3819 " 3,817

(b) Drafts during July. 3201
(i) IN. 98 / 5275, OUT 63 / 1893
Net gain 35 / 3381.

(c) DUTS done. 700
15 - 21 Aug 1,000
21 - 26 Aug
27 Aug - 3 Sept
to 17 - 171.3 1,000

W.P.
20 Aug

SUBJECT: - Recruit Training at CASSANO

T' BRITISH LIAISON AND TRAINING
UNIT, RTC ICF

Ref: G/A.2/701

17 August, 1945

HQ, Land Forces Sub Comm
AC (MIA) ROME

1. For the last month very little useful training has been carried out at CASSANO. This is due to the very rapid turnover of recruits, a man at present staying at the most a fortnight. This time allows little else but the fitting of clothing and the minimum of instruction to be accomplished, and makes any form of specialist training out of the question.

2. Again the arrival of recruits is scarcely satisfactory as the first notice of any arrivals is when a train deposits 200-300 men. These men are of all different types and categories and many have no prospect of ever being useful soldiers.

3. If efficient training is to be carried out and the British Training Staff is to serve any useful function, it is essential that more information is made available as to the number of men to be expected and future draft requirements. At present our training programmes are based on eight week recruit training and plans had been made to increase the period to 12 weeks. It is, however, both ridiculous and dishonest to continue along these lines unless some effort is made to regulate intakes and outputs to achieve this end. At the moment conditions are doing the greatest harm to this Centre.

4. Whilst it is realised that this may be only a temporary state of affairs it is essential that some indication of its duration may be had so that training can be planned to meet the circumstances.

make the
recruit
this

improve
now

more
discuss

have no prospect of ever being useful soldiers.

3. If efficient training is to be carried out and the British Training Staff is to serve any useful function, it is essential that more information is made available as to the number of men to be expected and future draft requirements. At present our training programmes are based on eight week recruit training and plans had been made to increase the period to 12 weeks. It is, however, both ridiculous and dishonest to continue along these lines unless some effort is made to regulate intakes and outputs to achieve this end. At the moment conditions are doing the greatest harm to this Centre.

4. Whilst it is realised that this may be only a temporary state of affairs it is essential that some indication of its duration may be had so that training can be planned to meet the circumstances.

Will speak to Mackay - 'Sincerely' (another's Aug)

3280

14 Mac!

WLP/asj

Colonel,
Commander,
'B' BRITISH LIAISON AND
TRAINING UNIT, RTO IOF

Internal

File
Ficet

*see F 17
F. 18
F. 19
F. 20.*

*make the
first
pass*

*Superb
work*

*111 WA
disclka*

111 WA

Subject: H.C.O. Training.

To: D.M.S., A.P.M.

From: H.M.T./H.M. dated 8 Aug 65 subject.

Land Forces Sub Committee, A.C.
(H.C. L. A.)
6/28/65/B.

13 AUG 65.

1. The Infantry Specialist Training School is assigned to instruct young material from amongst the reinforcements held at H.M.
2. It is therefore more of a Junior H.M. Centre than a school of instruction for fully trained H.M.
3. When from Combat Groups receive their higher training at the All Arms Instructor's School (A.I.V.A.) which is a separate establishment.
4. The situation at present is that the H.M. has lost (due to demobilisation) a large number of its H.M. and the first call on the school is to replace these missing H.M.
5. As you know retraining of the H.M. will be necessary in the near future. Plans have already, to a great extent, been made and establishments worked out for a new layout to cover the changed needs of an army no longer at war. In this projected layout the needs of officer and H.M. training have been treated as the most important item and will cover every conceivable requirement.

H.M. General
H.M.

2. 100 men should receive their higher training at the All India Engineering School (A.E.S.) which is a separate establishment.

4. The situation at present is that the IIT has lost (due to demobilization) a large number of its IITs and the first call on the school is to replace these demobilized men.

5. As you know, replanning of the IIT will be necessary in the near future. Plans have already, to a great extent, been made and establishments worked out for a new layout to cover the changed needs of an army no longer at war.

In this projected layout the needs of officers and IIT training have been treated as the most important item and will cover every conceivable requirement.

(K)

Major General
10/24.

WJH/23.

3279

SUBJECT : NCO's Training

(14) D.M.T. A.F.H.Q. 100/138
C.M.F.

Tel : 16872

DET/87/ATT1

8 Aug 45

HQ Land Forces Sub Commission
A.C. (MIA)

Copy to : 'F' BL & TU, R.T.C., I.C.F.

Ref Progress Report No 8, 'F' British Liaison and
Training Unit.

1. It is noticed in sub para 1 (d) that it is hoped that a large amount of suitable NCO material will in future become available from the Infantry Advanced Training Regt, but no mention is made of training NCOs from units.
2. The material discovered from the Advanced Training Regt will mostly be raw and untried and, in some cases, without sufficient basic foundation on which to build sound NCO training. It is agreed that a proportion of outstanding students, however can be taken from this source.
3. At the same time it is strongly urged that the large proportion of students at this school should be drawn from units. The potential capabilities of this School are such that a constant flow of say, 50 - 60 junior NCOs per every five - six weeks, would be a direct and vital contribution in raising the standard of NCOs throughout the Italian Army.

4. This may be contrary to the established practice in

Ref Progress Report No 8, 'F' British Liaison and Training Unit.

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3. At the same time it is strongly urged that the large proportion of students at this school should be drawn from units. The potential capabilities of this School are such that a constant flow of say, 50 - 60 junior NCOs per every five - six weeks, would be a direct and vital contribution in raising the standard of NCOs throughout the Italian Army.
4. This may be contrary to the established practice in training NCOs, but, if it were backed up by the Gruppi, it could scarcely fail to have some tangible degree of success. Although the results might be meagre at first, the introduction of a small number of better trained NCOs should eventually have the effect of raising the general standard in units.

3278

Prini will write and build them.

S. H. Shoosmith
S.H. SHOOSMITH,
Brigadier,
D.M.T.

SUBJECT :- Physical Training and Sports School - RMC ICF.

171 British Liaison and Training Unit, RMC ICF.

Ref G/G.21/606.

13 July 45.

Commander,
171 British Liaison and Training Unit, RMC ICF.
DME (G4 PT)
GSO II (Inf & Inf Trg)
GSO II (Inf) MIA.
Comando Scuola (Ten Col. SIVO)

1. The Course.

The syllabus for the course is at present being planned by Lt Col. Cox (G4 PT, DME) and will be framed to include PT, Major and Minor Games, Italian Sports, Athletics, Boxing, Close Combat and Refereeing. Final syllabus and programme to be decided between British Staff and Italian PT Officer (Major).

Duration of the course to be 6 weeks for 60 Junior Officer and Senior NCO Students. Students for the first Course to be specially selected from the Gruppi and Ministry of War.

Course to commence about the middle of August.

2. Instructors.

SM MADDISON will supervise the course, working in close liaison with the Italian PT Major who will be responsible for students and discipline. For the first course, the full numbers will be divided into three classes each with its British APTC Instructor. In addition one APTC Instructor will be kept as a spare. After the first Course the whole of the instruction will be handed over to the Italian Instructors selected.

3. Interpreters.

Col. SIVO will arrange for a suitable Italian Interpreter to be made available as from Monday 23rd July. This Interpreter must be carefully selected as suitable, with experience and interest in Sport and Games.

Training Equipment.

programmes to be decided between British Staff and Italian PT Officer (Major).

Duration of the course to be 6 weeks for 60 Junior Officer and Senior NCO Students. Students for the first Course to be specially selected from the Gruppo and Ministry of War.

Course to commence about the middle of August.

2. Instructors.

SMI WADSWORTH will supervise the course, working in close liaison with the Italian PT Major who will be responsible for Students and discipline. For the first course, the full numbers will be divided into three classes each with its British APC Instructor. In addition one APC Instructor will be kept as a spare. After the first Course the whole of the instruction will be handed over to the Italian Instructors selected.

3. Interpreters.

Col. SIVO will arrange for a suitable Italian Interpreter to be made available as from Monday 23rd July. This Interpreter must be carefully selected as suitable, with experience and interest in Sport and Games.

4. Training Equipment.

A useful amount of Training Equipment is now available at the Centre but there is a shortage of Sports Equipment. Attempts to obtain footballs etc are being made through the various sources discussed

3277

5. Accommodation.

The School will be accommodated in the PT block of the No 1 Regt RMG HQ. These buildings must be cleared of all existing Troops and equipment Saturday 21st July, ready to commence re-decorating and improvement during the following week. The floor of the Gymnasium to be recovered with a cement surface.

Sleeping accommodation to be found in the block for all Students. Students to feed and be administered by No 1 Regt.

Accommodation for the British Staff to be found in the PT block.

C.I. to be

HMC/gdj

Internal.

File.

Float.

Major GSO II.
British Liaison and Trg Unit.

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

785020

LRKB V MEDY 09407 P P
FROM DMT 56 AREA 091700B
TO HQ NMIA

QQX BT
DMT:327 . RESTRICTED . REF YOUR G/TRG/3 OF 6 . REP DMT
WILL ATTEND CONFERENCE 1500 HRS 10 JUL

BT 091700B
SENT 1854 WTW BB K

RECD 091354 E AAA AR KKK

3276

SUBJECT: Training of Driver Mechs.

13/8
G. L. H.
'F' BRITISH LIAISON & TRAINING UNIT
R.T.C., I.C.F.

Ref: AQ/6/2/937

5 July 45.

To: H.Q.
Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C. (MMIA).

1. Attached hereto is a report by Major C. Hilton, D.A.D.M.E. to 'F' British Liaison & Training Unit.

2. Particular attention is drawn to paragraphs 3 and 4 of this report. It has been repeatedly urged on everybody concerned that it is quite useless sending illiterate, inexperienced and unintelligent soldiers on a Course which is not only intensive but requires a high degree of intelligence. None the less, this appears to have no effect. In these circumstances it is suggested that the proposals made in paragraph 8 (in spite of the time and delay involved) might well be adopted. May your consideration please be given to this matter.

3. In conclusion, you will note from paragraph 10 that Students who have failed are still being posted to fill War Establishment vacancies. The qualification "Failed B.A." may conceivably carry some weight in India but I submit it is not the slightest value in the Italian Army.

No 3 G.T. Coy is 10/Command
R.T.C. !!!

L. H. H.
Colonel.
Commander 'F' British Liaison
& Trg. Unit RTC ICF

LHM/ah.

3275

Copy to: H.Q., R.T.C., I.C.F.

Internal File.
Float.

SUBJECT: Training.

Ref: RMT/G/1/14

3 July 45.

To: Commander,
'P' Br.Liaison & Trg.Unit RTO ICF.

1. Ninety-four out of an expected number of 326 students have arrived to undergo training at the Mechanics School.
2. Most of these men have certificates stating that they are considered suitable students to undergo training.
3. An oral examination the following talent was found:
- 2 Blacksmiths.
 - 1 Turner.
 - 2 who had a faint knowledge of an I/C engine.
 - 89 Labourers (most of them from farms).

4. None of the students could drive a vehicle.
5. The Instructor position is serious. There are only seven Instructors for the vehicle section. The remainder held on the W.E. are men whom we had hoped might become instructors some day, but their knowledge is pitiful and they will need replacing.
6. Col.Sivo of HQ RTO ICF has always shown extreme interest and has gone to endless trouble to find suitable students.
7. Students as reported in para.3 are NOT THE TYPE that can be trained into Driver Mechanics, which is the lowest grade of vehicle tradesmen.
8. As there appears to be difficulty in finding tradesmen, initially graded as Driver Mechs or Vehicle Mechs, can the following scheme be recommended to Higher Authority, so that the School can always be full to capacity with the most suitable element to train as tradesmen (vehicle trades only).

- (a) Good driver i/c's be posted to the School for up-grading to Driver Mechs.
- (b) These men will attend a 6 weeks' course and then get posted to a Unit as Driver Mechanics, where they should get training under Unit arrangement, and experience.
- (c) After 4 months, if the O.C. unit considers the man suitable for up-grading to Vehicle Mech he should attend a 6 weeks course at the Mechanics School

the vehicle section. The remainder held on the W.E. are men whom we had hoped might become instructors some day, but their knowledge is pitiful and they will need replacing.

6. Col.Sivo of HQ RTC ICF has always shown extreme interest and has gone to endless trouble to find suitable students.

7. Students as reported in para.3 are NOT THE TYPE that can be trained into Driver Mechanics, which is the lowest grade of vehicle tradesmen.

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(a) Good driver i/c's be posted to the School for up-grading to Driver Mechs.

(b) These men will attend a 6 weeks' course and then get posted to a Unit as Driver Mechanics, where they should get training under Unit arrangement, and experience.

(c) After 4 months, if the O.C. unit considers the man suitable for up-grading to Vehicle Mech he should attend a 6 weeks course at the Mechanics School and finally be up-graded, (Class III). This will mean that for the first 5½ months no vehicle mechanics courses would be organised, but approximately 270 driver mechanics will have been trained - many to be potential Vehicle Mechanics.

9. This progressive system, as suggested, may appear somewhat lengthy but I am sure that in the long run it will prove to be the most successful.

10. There is one other point. When I called at No.3 G.T. ³⁰⁷⁴ to vet the tradesmen I found that students failed by the School were posted to fill their W.E. as tradesmen.

11. I am of the firm opinion, after viewing the training and the posting that it is imperative for:

(a) A Senior Technical Officer to control the training.

(b) That before tradesmen be posted, the School be consulted as to ability and suitability. If this is not done the real object and value of the School is lost.

12. The training of Armourers and Fitters will not be affected, though instructors in the Fitters Section are needed.

(Sgd) C.H.C. HILTON. Major REME.
D.A.D.M.E.

CHCH/ah.

785020

SUBJECT : E & ME Rfts for Italian Combat Groups

Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.
(MIA)

3/TG/19

6 May 45

VP BLO

1. DMT states that DMB, AFHQ has made the following rulings in respect of E & ME rfts being posted to Italian Combat Gps :-

- (a) All E & ME rfts will be trade tested at the Mechanics School, RTG ICF, before posting to the GRUPPI.
- (b) Those who fail to qualify as equivalent to British Class III Tradesmen will be retained for further training up to this standard.

2. Please take the necessary steps to ensure that these instructions are carried out.

Mr S

Major General
MIA

3tl

Internal : 'A'
DAVE

3273

M

785020

MMIA - 'G' / 129
FILE: G/129/49..
DATE: 5 MAY 45

9

SUBJECT: E & ME Rfts for Italian Combat Groups.

DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY TRAINING
AFHQ CTF

Tel: 16872

DME/88/3/MT1

3 May 45.

HQ MMIA.

Copy to:- G - 3 Org F AFHQ
G - 3 Trg (Br) AFHQ
DME AFHQ.

1. DME AFHQ has made the following rulings in respect of E & ME Rfts being posted to Italian Combat Groups.

- (a) All E & ME rfts will be trade tested at the Mechanics School RMC ICP before posting to the GRUEPI.
- (b) Those who fail to qualify as equivalent to British Class III Tradesmen will be retained for further training up to this standard.

2. Please take action to implement these instructions.

92 10/11/45
12

N30 10/11/45
w/let
Orig.
D.M.T.

3272

785020

GRAND LANTERN ARCADE HOW IS IT
Public Safety Commission
1944.

MMIA - 'G' / TRG
FILE: 9/189/19
DATE: 2 MAR 1945

10/189/65/18.

10/189/65/18.

10/189/65/18.

10/189/65/18.

10/189/65/18.

1. With reference to the training of 40 drivers of the Italian Carabinieri on Number 4 x 4 armored cars at Portici, Naples; at the conclusion of their training, the Carabinieri should be instructed to report to the Region Commander Carabinieri Headquarters, Naples.

2. The 26 Number 4 x 4 armored cars should be released to the Carabinieri and driven by them to the Region Headquarters, Naples.

3. Your assistance in training these Carabinieri drivers is very much appreciated by the Commanding General of the Royal Carabinieri and by this Commission.

W. H. Cox
for
Colonel W. H. Cox
Colonel, U.S.A.
Director, Public Safety
Commission.

3271

Copy to Commanding General, 04.18.

10/189/65/18.

10/189/65/18
5.5.45

Subject: Italian Group Training of Tradesmen

MMI - 189
FILE: G/100/109
DATE: 1 MAY 1945

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.O.
(M. M. I. A.) H O M
A110/2

20 April 45.

H.Q. 1 District

Ref your 1846/3/3(Ops) dated 21 Apr.

1. The state of affairs you mention is well known to MIA. But:-

(a) I am afraid that these shortages of specialists have been common to all the Combat Groups and that in view of the circumstances and the limited time in which the Groups were formed, it has not been possible to fill up M.I. completely with the appropriate tradesmen.

(b) The Italian Army and call-ups have been combed for such personnel, but they just do not exist in the required numbers.

(c) I need hardly say that the main difficulty in training men in the trades mentioned is the time required for training, which is the case of the more technical trades may be anything up to 18 weeks. However, the effect of this is already beginning to be felt.

(d) With regard to sheet metal workers and welders, these trades would require long training and, since the Mechanician School is now fully engaged training vehicle mechanics, driver mechanics, gun fitters and armourers, they cannot at present extend their scope to include the other specialist MIA trades.

(e) The actual situation in the trades you mention is as follows:-

Present/Ad.

0/1 2270

(a) The Italian Army and Air Corps have been unable to train personnel, but they just do not exist in the required numbers.

(c) I need hardly say that the main difficulty in training men in the trades mentioned is the time required for training, which in the case of the more technical trades may be anything up to 16 weeks. However, the effect of this is already beginning to be felt.

(d) With regard to sheet metal workers and welders, these trades would require long training and, since the Mechanic School is now fully engaged training vehicle mechanics, driver mechanics, gun fitters and armourers, they cannot at present extend their scope to include the other specialist AFM trades.

(e) The actual situation in the trades you mention is as follows:-

	<u>Present</u>	<u>AFM</u>
Arm Art Wireless	0/1	3270
Electricians	9/19	
Inst. Mech.	1/2	
Sheet Metal Workers	4/4	
Storemen	22/24	
Telecom Mech.	0/5	
Welders	7/9	

2. In fact, despite shortages the Groups, in their Italian way, have given a very good account of themselves and Allied formations have helped them out. I have no doubt that the same will occur in respect of MANTOVA.

3. I think we must accept things as they are and that, though, all is not perfect, MANTOVA will yield a very well worth while dividend; particularly taking into account the role it will be used for.

Lb/wk

Copy to 55 ALM

Major General,
M. M. I. S.

SUBJECT :- Report on Training of Tradesmen.

MINIA
FILE: 6/19
DATE: 26/4/5

'G' Training Unit to the Italian Army
C. M. F.

Ref BTU/A/A7/305

25 Apr 45.

Training Branch, MIA.

1. This report is in reply to letter dated 21 April, from Commander No 1 District.
2. The main difficulty in training tradesmen in the trades mentioned, is one of the time required for training. It will be seen from the attached syllabus of the RTC ICF Signal School, that instrument mechanics take 17 weeks training, and as the courses only started at the end of February, the first trained men will not be available until the end of May. However, it will be seen from the syllabus, also the Intake and Output in Appendix "B" that a fair proportion of tradesmen will be available in the future.
3. With regard to the other trades, i.e. Sheet Metal Workers, Welders, etc, the Mechanics School are at present training Vehicle Mechanics, Driver Mechanics, Gun Fitters and Armourers and cannot extend this course to include the other specialist REME trades, which will take 2 - 3 months training at least.
4. The only item, Storemen, are at present undergoing training at this Centre, and should be available next month in small numbers.
5. The best arrangement to ^{produce} ~~have~~ with a plentiful supply of these specialists trades would be to arrange for a proportion of specialists in the next "call up" - they could then be converted to the Italian Army standard.

MIA

2. The main difficulty in training tradesmen in the trades mentioned, is one of the time required for training. It will be seen from the attached syllabus of the RTC ICF Signal School, that instrument mechanics take 17 weeks training, and as the courses only started at the end of February, the first trained men will not be available until the end of May. However, it will be seen from the syllabus, also the Intake and Output in Appendix "B" that a fair proportion of tradesmen will be available in the future.

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HTK/raw

3269

785020

PROJECTED INTAKE AND OUTPUT OF STUDENTS TO ITALIAN SIGNAL TRAINING

Trade	I N T A K E					Fe
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	
Operators, Wireless	25	-	50	-	25	-
Operators, Line	27	-	-	27	-	3
Switchboard Operators	4	-	8	4	4	-
Linesmen	-	-	9	9	9	-
DRs	11	-	11	-	11	-
Instrument Mechanics	16	3	-	-	13	-
Electricians Sigs	5	-	5	-	5	-
Inf Sigs.						
Regtl Opers (Inf)	49	-	98	49	49	-
Regtl Linesmen (Inf)	-	-	22	22	22	-
Switchboard Opers (Inf)	9	-	9	9	9	-
Arty Sigs						
Regtl Opers (Arty)	30	-	60	30	30	-
Regtl Linesmen (Arty)	-	-	18	18	18	-
Regtl Switchboard Opers (Arty)	9	-	9	9	9	-
Totals	185	3	299	177	204	1

NOTE :-

- (a) No intake during March owing to accommodation difficulties
- (b) No intake of linesmen (for signals, Arty and Inf) during

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

785020

LIST OF STUDENTS TO ITALIAN SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE.

Appendix "B" to BTU letter
BTU/A/A7/305 dated 25 Apr 45.

		O U T P U T at end of each month.				
		Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June.
ay	June					
-	25	-	-	-	23	-
27	-	3	-	6	3	3
4	4	3	-	6	3	3
9	9	-	-	8	8	8
-	11	-	10	-	10	-
-	13	-	-	-	18	-
-	5	-	4	-	4	-
49	49	-	-	45	-	90
22	22	-	-	20	20	20
9	9	8	-	8	8	8
30	30	-	-	27	-	54
18	18	-	-	16	16	16
9	9	8	-	8	8	8
177	204	19	14	162	118	207

ing March owing to accommodation difficulties.

linesmen (for signals, Arty and Inf) during Feb on instructions from MMIA.

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

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ITALIAN SIGNALS SCHOOL, RTC ICF.

Name of course.	No of Students.	Duration of course.	
(a) Operators Wireless course.	50	17 weeks	Operating Instruments Batteries Exercises
(b) Operators Line course.	27	13 weeks	Operating Instruments Exercises
(c) Switchboard Operators course.	8	4 weeks	E & M - 7 Instruments UC 10 Lines Operating
(d) Short Courses for Linesmen	9	4 weeks	E & M - e Fullerphone Units, Maintenance
(e) Instrument Mechanics Course.	19	17 Weeks	Knowledge Testing - tools.
(f) Electrician Signals Course	5	8 weeks	Knowledge Electrical Manipulation

3267

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785020

ITALIAN SIGNALS SCHOOL, RTC ICF.

Appendix "A" to BTU letter
BTU/A/A7/305 dated 25 Apr 45.

Duration of course.

Brief Syllabus.

17 weeks

Operating, procedure, E&M wireless theory Wireless
Instruments, - 9, 19, 22 set, fault finding & maintenance
Batteries and charging.
Exercises. Periodical testing.

13 weeks

Operating, procedure, E&M elementary principles.
Instruments - Testing, practical testing & maintenance.
Exercises. Periodical testing.

4 weeks

E & M - Telephones, indicators and switchboards.
Instruments. Telephones D5 & F and Line. Switchboard
UC 10 Line. F & F. Procedure. Signal Security.
Operating - Schemes and phonograms.

4 weeks

E & M - elementary principles. Instruments- Telephones,
Fullerphones, switchboards. Test Set. Superimposing
Units. Cable Laying Drill. Line Testing and
Maintenance.

17 Weeks

Knowledge of Training Manuals, E & M. Instruments and
Testing - wireless and line. Practical bench work with
tools.

8 weeks

Knowledge of Manuals applicable to apparatus in use. E & M
Electrical Testing and Measuring Instruments. Telephones
Manipulative work. Charging engines. Map reading.

SUBJECT: Italian Gruppi - Training of Tradesmen.

MANIA - C

FILE: G/100/100 1546/8/G(Ops)

21 Apr 45

DATE: 23 APR 1945

To: HQ 121A

1. I would invite your attention to the shortages of Mech Engr Specialist tradesmen in the LANTOVA Gruppo, a state of affairs which also occurred in the LEGNANO Gruppo.

2. The position is that from half to none of the ~~VE~~ of the following trades are available :-

- 1 Arm Art Wireless *Reliability taken*
- 7 Electrician *difficult to find*
- 4 Instrument Mechanics *redundant*
- 64 Sheet Metal Workers
- 26 Storemen
- Telecomm Mechanics *Reliability taken*
- 2 Welders.

3. These deficiencies mean that the Gruppo is incapable of carrying out any repairs whatsoever to signal eqpt, wireless sets, optical instruments and watches and greatly handicapped in the repairing of electrical faults on vehs. This results in the diversion of RM3 tradesmen from their proper role of servicing British formations in order to assist Gruppi.

4. Investigations in the past showed that while Reinforcement Training Depots were able to train such specialists, the intake of the requisite trainees was too small.

5. The present serious shortage imposes such delays on training, (and later in operations) that I would appreciate your views on how this handicap can be removed.

Signature *Major MacNess*
CANE *March 1945*

C.A. Hyndman

Maj-Gen,
Comd,

- 1 Arm Art Wireless
- 7 Electrician
- 4 Instrument Mechanics
- 4 Sheet Metal Workers
- CK Storemen
- Telecom Mechanics
- 2 Welders.

3. These deficiencies mean that the Gruppo is incapable of carrying out any repairs whatsoever to signal eqpt, wireless sets, optical instruments and watches and greatly handicapped in the repairing of electrical faults on vehs. This results in the diversion of REE tradesmen from their proper role of servicing British formations in order to assist Gruppo.

4. Investigations in the past showed that while Reinforcement Training Depots were able to train such specialists, the intake of the requisite trainees was too small.

5. The present serious shortage imposes such delays on training, (and later in operations) that I would appreciate your views on how this handicap can be removed.

Agree for Mugg MAGNELL
CARE ACTION 1794

C.A. Hyden

C.M.F.
CCE/JAE

Maj-Gen,
Comd,
No.1 District.

Copies to: Q 1 District
DDE
56 BLU

3266

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

785020

Subject : Training.

Land Forces Sub Com A.C.
(MIA)

G/Ttg/19

To : HQ 54 Area

21 April 45

Ref your 168/1 G3 of 18 Apr 45.

Italian personnel at ERANI are to
receive weapon trg instruction whilst at that
Depot.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

3265

785020

MMTA - 'G' - TRG
FILE: _____
DATE: 20/4
168/1 CS

G. 29

201-

Greenville, N.C.
 2d Brig 3204
 Comd 54 Area.

785020

COPY

Subject:- Weapons

IGTC/182/45

'C' Branch
54 Area.
G.F.

As information has now been received to the effect that the Italian G.M.T. Coys (AC) are to be supplied with full scale of weapons and ammunition, will you please advise this HQ, whether or not the Italian personnel concerned are to be instructed in these weapons before or after leaving this location.

If it is necessary to give instruction before leaving TRANI would you please arrange for suitable instructors to be attached for this purpose.

??????????????

16/4/45.

Major, R.A.
Commanding British Cadre,
804 Italian Base Reinforcements Depot, TRANI.

3263

785020

Subject:- Ammunition training for Italian O.F.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.G.
(M.I.A.)

3/03/20

11 April 45.

D.O.S.

A.F.I.C.

(Ord 4 Ammunition).

It is desired to give ten Italian O.F.s a short course of instruction of say a week or ten days duration on British ammunition in general and in particular

recognition and marking
storage and handling
maintenance.

Will you kindly make the necessary arrangements for them to attend at the R.A.O.C. Training Centre, notifying me of the date upon which you wish them to report.

Should it be necessary for an interpreter to be with the party, it can be so arranged from this end.

P. Greenwood

P.S. GREENWOOD, Major
For Major General,
M.I.A.

Copy to:- G(Trg).

PBG/ab

3262

785020

Subject: Courses for Artificers & Armourers.

Training Centre Increment
Italian Combat Group
HQ Training School

File Ref 1058/

22 March 45

To: B T U - G S O - III (Capt Grasset)

Can the possibility be examined for the instituting of a 10 Day Training Course for the training of Artificers for Artillery and Infantry. The said course will be participated by 8 Artillery ORs and 2 Infantry ORs.

Signed Lt Col U. Sivo

OC Training Centre.

Translation L. Carme. TAOC
7 June 45.

3261

CC/DO

61/100/19
CENTRO ADDESTRAMENTO COMPLEMENTI
FORZE ITALIANE DI COMBATTIMENTO,
COMANDO SCUOLE
Ufficio addestramento

N° 1058/Add. di prot. P.M.92, 11 22 marzo 1945 -

OGGETTO : Corso per artificieri.-

AL R.T.U. - G.S.O. III (Cap. Crasset)

- SUA SEDE -

Pregasi voler esaminare la possibilità di istituire un corso di una decina di giorni per la formazione di artificieri di fanteria e d'artiglieria.

Ha detto corso parteciperebbero 10 militari di truppa di cui 8 di fanteria e 2 di artiglieria.-



d'ordine
IL CAPO UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO
(Ten. Colonn. U. Sivo)

3200

| 1 9 8 6 |