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Progress Reports - FAIOLI Gruppo + Rear Link Dept

Oct - Nov 1944

Subject : Weekly Progress Report - Signals - 1st. Italian Combat Group.

50 British Liaison Unit.

M.M.I.A.

7 Nov. 44.

Main A.A.I. X Branch.

A.F.H.Q. Maj. Sanderson. British Signals Section.

G.S.O. I. 50 B.L.U.

(1) Herewith Signals Progress Report for week ending Sat 4 Nov.

(2) The outstanding items are as follows : -

- (a) Appx "A". Drivers - replacement if possible.
Mechanics - replacement if possible.
- (b) Appx "B". Avominors and Ferranti meters.
Telephones Loudspeaking for Arty.
Rheostats for 4 K.W. engine.
Cdn 9 sets for R/L.
- (c) Appx "C". Spare parts for vehicles under repair.
- (d) Appx "D". Vehicles requested for Signals Coy, in
addition to establishment.
Wireless operators for Artillery -
90 required.

3528

C.M.F.
JHG/LGB.

[Signature]
Capt.
S.O. Signals.

Appendix "A".

- (a) Personnel - R/L Detachment. Complete.
- (b) Personnel - Signals Coy. 1st. Italian Combat Group.
There are no actual deficiencies in the Coy, but the following trades are in a poor state : -
- (a) I.M.'s. - 7 are reasonably good but the remaining 8 are very poor.
- (b) Mechanics M.T. Only one out of the six is any good and he only has experience with Italian vehicles.
- (c) Drivers. 30 out of 59 are inexperienced. The only advantage is that they dare not go very fast yet. Maintenance and care of the engine is of course still non-existent. *very*
- (d) D.R.'s. 4 D.R.'s are completely inexperienced, and quite a number more are still in the early stages of training.

Appendix "B".

Deficiencies of Signals Equipment - (incl Arty).

	<u>Est.</u>	<u>Held.</u>	<u>Def.</u>
Telephones Loudspeaking, complete station.	8.	Nil.	8.
Instruments testing Avoninors.	3.	"	3.
" " Ferranti. AC/DC.	8.	"	8.
Batteries Secondary. 12 V. 22 A.H.	114.	"	114.
Bars carrying drum.	26.	"	26.
Instruments testing No. 1.	23.	6.	22.
Pouches tool lineman filled.	16.	Nil.	16.
Chests tool filled I.M.	1.	-	1.
" " " E.S.	1.	-	1.
Switches 3 way R.A.	8.	7.	1.

(a) In view of non availability of Avoninors and Ferranti meters, may a few be obtained from other sources.

(b) 4 Rheostats required for four 4 K.W. charging engines.

(c) Canadian 9 Sets for R/L are not yet available.

Appendix "C".

Vehicles. Signal Coy - 1st. Italian Combat Group.

Following deficiencies : -

3 15 Cwt 4 x 4 Personnel.
2 3 Ton G.S.

Regtl Comdrs recon.
In lieu of T E V and Cipher Office.

(a) All but 4, of 15 Cwts, are without canopies and tools. This is not satisfactory for carrying technical equipment in winter.

(b) Following V's. O.R. : -

+ Bedford 15 Cwt G.S.
Ford 3 Ton.

Smashed (B.L.R.)
Radiator badly cracked.

+ Fordson 15 Cwt Office.

Steering box broken.
Awaiting spare if available.
Awaiting spare part or new engine.
Awaiting new crankshaft or new engine.
Smashed. (not D.R.'s fault) B.L.R.
Spare part (Timing chain).

Morris 15 Cwt W/T.
Dodge 15 Cwt G.S.
Motor Cycle.

+ Vehicles damaged owing to bad driving or lack of maintenance.

There are other vehicles with minor faults which can be remedied without spare parts.

3525

Appendix "D".

(a) Signals Coy. Signals platoons are working satisfactorily with Regts and Gruppo H.Q..

All Officers have had instruction in R/T procedure and Slidex. We must now ensure that it is used properly. The General is very keen and insists on a remote control from the Div Fwd control set being on his desk. The Regtl Commanders are a bit anxious.

Drivers and mechanics are the all important problem, also the additional vehicles requested in separate letter. It will be extremely difficult to move on present scale of vehicles.

(b) Artillery. Satisfactory, except possible for line operators. This will be improved.

They are still short of 80 wireless ops (Maroonistas).

(c) Infantry. Satisfactory. There is some trouble about 5 sets for Regtl Mortar Coy. On their establishment it says 3 sets for Mortar Coy, and 2 sets for the Observation in H.Q. Coy (Regt). I consider that Mortar Coy needs 5 sets.

(d) General. (1) Pliers have arrived for linesman.
(2) 100 more 48 set battle batteries have been released.
I hope the supply will be better up north.

(3) Security. Slidex Ops and unit cards have been collected, and Servizi, Artiglieria and Genio cards expected today.

Subject: Weekly Progress Report - Signals - 1st. Italian Combat Group.

50 British Liaison Unit.

M.C.I.C.
Main A.S.I. X Branch.
A.F.H.Q. Maj. Henderson. British Signals Section.
S.A.S. L. 50 B.I.U.

7 Nov. 44.

File

(1) Herewith Signals Progress Report for week ending Sat 4. Nov.

(2) The outstanding items are as follows: -

(a) Appx "A". Drivers - replacement if possible.
Mechanics - replacement if possible.

(b) Appx "B". Avionics and Personnel return.
Telephones for Army.
Photostat for A.S.I. engine.
Cdr 9 sets for B.I.U.

(c) Appx "C". Spare parts for vehicles under repair.

(d) Appx "D". Vehicles requested for Signals Coy, in addition to establishment.
Wireless operators for artillery - 20 required.

3523

C.M.F.
JED/AN.

J.H. G. H.
Capt.
S.A. Signals.

Appendix "A".

- (a) Personnel - R/L Detachment. Complete.
- (b) Personnel - Signals Coy. 1st. Italian Combat Group.
There are no actual deficiencies in the Coy, but the following trades are in a poor state: -
- (a) I.R.'s. - 7 are reasonably good but the remaining 8 are very poor.
 - (b) Mechanics R.T. Only one out of the six is any good and he only has experience with Italian vehicles.
 - (c) Drivers. 30 out of 59 are inexperienced. The only advantage is that they dare not go very fast yet. Maintenance and care of the engine is of course still non-existent.
 - (d) D.R.'s. 4 D.R.'s are completely inexperienced, and quite a number more are still in the early stages of training.

Appendix III

Deficiencies of Signals Equipment - (Incl Arty).

	<u>Est.</u>	<u>Hold.</u>	<u>Req.</u>
1 Radiophones Loudspeaking, complete station.	8.	Nil.	8.
1 Instruments testing Avometer.	3.	"	3.
1 " " Permitt. AC/DC.	8.	"	8.
Batteries Secondary. 12 V. 22 A.H.	144.	"	144.
1 Cars carrying cam.	25.	"	25.
Instruments testing No. 1.	28.	6.	22.
Touches tool linen filled.	16.	Nil.	16.
Cheats tool filled L.H.	1.	"	1.
" " " R.H.	1.	"	1.
Switches 3 way R.A.	8.	7.	1.

(a) In view of non availability of Avometers and Permitt meters, may a few be obtained from other sources.

1 (b) 4 Rheostats required for four 4 H.W. charging engines.

1 (c) Canadian 9 Sets for H/L are not yet available. (2)

3521

Appendix "C".

Vehicles. Signal Coy - 1st. Italian Combat Group.

Following deficiencies : -

3 15 Cwt 4 x 4 Personnel.
2 3 Ton G.S.

Regtl Centre recon.
In Men of T & V and Cipher Office.

(a) All but 2 of 15 Cwts. are without generators and tools. This is not satisfactory for carrying technical equipment in winter.

(b) Following V's. D.R. : -

+ Reckard 15 Cwt G.S.
Ford 5 Ton.

Crashed (B.L.R.)
Radiator badly cracked.

+ Jackson 15 Cwt Office.

Steering box broken.
Awaiting spare if available.
Awaiting spare part or new engine.
Awaiting new crankshaft or new engine.
Crashed. (not D.R.'s fault) B.L.R.
Spare part (timing chain).

Merrie 15 Cwt W/L.

Dodge 15 Cwt G.S.

Robert Cycle.

+ Vehicles damaged owing to bad driving or lack of maintenance.

There are other vehicles with minor faults which can be repaired without spare parts.

Appendix III.

(a) Signals Coy. Signals platoons are working satisfactorily with Regts and Gruppo H.Q..

All officers have had instruction in R/T procedure and signals. We must now ensure that it is used properly. The General is very keen and insists on a remote control from the Div Hq control set being on his desk. The Regt Commanders are a bit anxious.

Drivers and mechanics are the all important problem, also the additional vehicles requested in separate letter. It will be extremely difficult to move on present scale of vehicles.

(b) Artillery. Satisfactory, except possible for line operators. This will be improved.

They are still short of 60 wireless ops (Marconistas).

(c) Infantry. Satisfactory. There is some trouble about 5 sets for Regt Mortar Coy. In their establishment it says 3 sets for Mortar Coy, and 2 sets for the Observation in H.Q. Coy (Regt). I consider that Mortar Coy needs 5 sets.

(d) General. (1) Plans have arrived for line men.
(2) 100 more 45 set battle batteries have been released.
I hope the supply will be better up north.

(3) Regiment. Signal Ops and unit cards have been collected, and Servizi, Artiglieria and Genio cards reported today.

Subject : Progress Report - Signals.
1st. Italian Combat Group.

British Liaison Unit.

Ref PX/39.

30 Oct. 44.

M.M.T.A.
A.A.I. X Branch
A.P.R.Q. Maj. Sanderson (Brit Sigs Sec.).

- (1) Enclosed is progress report for week ending 28 Oct. 44.
- (2) Confirmation is required on the following : -
 - App. "B". Increase in holding of wireless Batteries.
 - App. "C". Vehicles in lieu of arm'd 15 Cwt for 2 wireless sets.
 - App. "D". Marconistas (wireless ops) for Artillery Regt. They are 90 deficient.
- (3) There is still no reply on proposed increase in W.M. of vehicles and personnel for Signals Coy.
The present vehicle establishment does not appear to be based on the organisation of company.

C.M.P.
JHC/1CB.

[Signature]
Capt.
S.G. SIGS.

[Signature]

APPENDIX "A".

(1) Personnel - R/L Detachment.

Two dvr operators collected from Base Depot.
Two Operators W/L now surplus, one in hospital with jaundice.

(2) Personnel - Italian Signals Coy.

The only deficiencies in actual men are 3 Instrument Mechanics, but the following trades are in a poor state:

- (a) Instrument Mechanics - only 4 out of the 12 held are real tradesmen.
- (b) Mechanics - Only one of the 6 mechanics is any good.
- (c) Drivers - 30 are inexperienced, and have more or less been taught to drive.
- (d) D.R.'s. - only about 6 of the 22 held have previous experience.

If we could get 4 more good Instrument Mechanics and 5 good Motor Mechanics the other difficulties could be overcome in time.

APPENDIX "B".SIGNALS CONTROLLING STOPS.

The following deficiencies are still outstanding :

Item.	Est.	Held.	Def.	Remarks.
Bags carrying Drum.	26.	Nil.	26.	Including Arty Regt.
Telephones loud Speaking complete Stations.	8.	"	8.	For Arty Regt.
Switches 3 way R.A.	8.	7.	1.	" " "
Instruments testing Avonminor.	3.	Nil.	3.	
" " Ferranti AC/DC.	8.	"	8.	
Batteries secondary cell 12 V 22 A.H.	114.	"	114.	
Reception sets 109.	4.	"	4.	On wounded Arty S.E.L.
Batteries 6 V 85 A.H.	10.	"	10.	For 107 Receivers.
Instruments Testing No. 1.	28.	6.	22.	Including Arty.
Voltmeters 250 V pocket No. 2.	10.	Nil.	10.	For Arty.
Pouches tool lineamen.	16.	"	16.	
Chests filled Instrument Mechanic.	1.	"	1.	
Chests tool filled Electricians Signals.	1.	"	1.	

Note : - (a) Four 4.5 K W engines have been collected with defective rheostats.
Ord 13 have promised to replace rheostats this week.

(b) The following reserve of Batteries secondary cell have been suggested : -

10 - 12 V 75 A.H.
10 - 6 V 100/125 A.H.

May these be collected?

(c) The 9 sets drawn for training were both dis.
Understand Canadian 9 sets will shortly be available.
We have been issued with only 4 - 6 V 100 A.H. Batteries per set.
Consider 6 per set minimum required. Please confirm.

APPENDIX "C".

VEHICLES - SIGNALS COY. 1st. GRUPPO DI COMATTIMENTO.

The only deficiencies in vehicles are : -

3 Armoured cars to carry two wireless sets for the three Regimental Comdrs recess.
 Understand that three are definitely not available. Can any alternative vehicle
 be issued in lieu.

Note :- All but 4 of the 15 Ovt G.S. are Class 1 D. i.e. without canopies or
 windscreens, etc.

Add. 3 Ton TEV and 3 Ton cipher office not available,
 Two 3 Ton Gs have been requested in lieu

APPENDIX "D".

TRAINING.

(a) Signal Co. The four PIs have gone out to Regiments and Group Headquarters, and communications have been established in accordance with line and wireless diagrams. The operation of wireless sets is quite good, and the operators procedure is not bad, although they are too longwinded. Battery charging and maintenance appears to be all right, but it early to tell yet.

Line Laying, and maintenance is not up to British army standards due mainly to almost complete lack of organization in the laying and maintenance. This may be an insuperable difficulty, but we are still trying.

D.R.'s have mostly learned to ride bikes, but the Regt D.R.'s are still doing the runs, in accordance with Italian system. We may be able to change this at a later date. The newly fledged D.R.'s, are naturally not yet mechanically minded.

Drivers have mostly been taught to drive, and maintenance is now our problem.

The 16 tank system is now in operation, but until they get some instruction they have been told to leave the ignition system and carburettor.

Mechanics. The one good mechanic in the Coy reached the age limit last week, and has gone home.

(b) Artillery. Wireless is satisfactory, but they are still deficient of operators. They have at present 2 operators per set and the establishment is 4. Are we to get any more personnel stores? Battery charging appears to be satisfactory.

Line Laying. This is still far from organized, but this is partly due to lack of equipment and vehicles until recently.

Officers. R/T procedure is not bad in general, but Fire Orders etc. are still far from satisfactory.

(c) Infantry. Wireless operation on the whole is good, and they are certainly very keen.
Line Laying. Reasonable.

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Officers. R/T procedure is not bad in general, but Fire Orders etc. are still far from satisfactory.

(c) Infantry. Wireless operation on the whole is good, and they are certainly very keen. Line Laying. Reasonable. Officers. They have been taught single call procedure, and have spoken on the air, but I have not heard the results yet.

(d) Security. Still suffering from lack of Slider Vocab, which should arrive at A.F.H.Q. from the printers any day now.

(2) General. (1) Still no pliers for linesmen, spent from 50 diagonal cutting issued in lieu. 250 pliers for silencing still required, (or equivalent).

(2) No battle battery replacements for 40 sets. This makes night working very difficult, also working on the move.

Subject : Progress Rep - 50 B.I.U.

5 British Liaison Unit.

H.M.I.A.

Main A.A.I. X Branch C II Trg.

24 Oct. 44.

Maj. Sanderson, Brit. Signals Section, AFHQ.

(1) Attached is progress report as at 20 Oct. 44.

(2) Main problems at present are : -

- 10 n/w
10 6-1/2
5 n/w
- (a) No reserve of wireless batteries yet authorised. Also no scale of batteries for 107 Receivers. Impossible to work operationally on present scale of 2 x 12 V per 22 set and 4 x 6 V per 19 set, with no reserve
 - (b) Items of signals controlled stores not yet issued are urgently required. (See Appendix "B").
 - (c) Teaching drivers and D.R.'s. to maintain vehicles.
 - * (d) Recommendations for increases in transport, and Personnel have been submitted. No authorisation received yet.
 - (e) No pliers for linemen. 300 required
 - (f) Can 600 ft run 9" x 4" timber be released to build signal office furniture in 3 Ton G.S.. No 3 Ton offices available.

C.M.F.

[Signature]
Capt.
S.O. Sig.

* For Lige. Coy.

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APPENDIX "E".Signals Co. Collected Stores - 1st. Gruppo di Abattimento.

All Signals Controlled Stores have now been collected with exception of following :

	<u>Est.</u>	<u>Held.</u>
Bars Carrying Drum.	4.	Nil.
Batteries Secondary Portable		
12 V 22 A.H.	114.	Nil.
Charging sets 4 K W.	4.	Nil.
Instruments Testing Avomminor.	3.	Nil.
" " Ferranti.	8.	Nil.
E.S. Cases Tool filled	6	Nil. ✓
Chisel's Tool filled I.M.	1	"
Pouches Tool Lineman filled	16	"

APPENDIX "A".(1) Personnel - Signals Coy. 1st. Gruppo di Combattimento.

On existing establishment only the following personnel are deficient :

Wireless Operators.	8.
Instrument Mechanics.	3.
D.W.'s.	4.

(2) Personnel - 50 B.L.U. Rear Link Signals Section.

Personnel now complete.

APPENDIX "C".Vehicles - Signals Coy. 1st Gruppo di Combattimento.

	<u>W.E.</u>	<u>Held.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
Motor Cycles, Solo.	35.	12.	1 D.L.R.
Trucks 15 Cwt. 4 x 2.	16.	11.	
Trucks 15 Cwt. W/T.	20.	20.	
" " Office.	1.	1.	
" " 4 x 4. Personnel.	3.	Nil.	None available.
Lorry 3 Ton G.S.	17.	19.	2 in lieu of 3 Ton
" " Cipher Office.	1.	Nil.	None avail. (Offices.
" " T.E.V.	1.	Nil.	" "
Trailers 15 Cwt. Water.	1.	1.	" "

Vehicles - Rear Link Signals 50 B.L.U.

Truck 15 Cwt. 4 x 2 G.S.	1.	1.
" " W/T.	2.	Nil.
Lorry 3 Ton G.S.	1.	Nil.

APPENDIX "E".STATE OF TRAINING.

<u>Detail.</u>	<u>State of Training.</u>
Despatch Riders.	Still learning to ride bikes. 6 good ones.
Vehicle Mechanics.	3 fairly good. Remainder need a lot of training.
Electrician Signals.	3 good. Remainder need a lot of training.
Electrician Signals. (Battery).	3 good. 2 more have been trained.
Instrument Mechanics.	4 good. Remainder need much training.
Linemen.	Progress slow. Until recently no Jack-knives and still no pliers. Vehicles arrived a week ago. Artillery line men are most backward at present.
Operators. W/T.	Satisfactory all arms. R/T procedure good, but not yet perfect.
T.S.B.O.'s.	Satisfactory. Procedure still very bad. Time seems to be no object.
Drivers.	All but 4 have been taught to drive but maintenance for the majority is a closed book. It will take a long time to teach them.

Subject: Weekly Progress Report.

"A" British Liaison Unit.

PG/14.

11 Oct 44.

HQ MMIA.
X Branch Main AAI.
Major Sanderson, Brit Sigs Sec AFHQ.

1. Horewith Progress Report on lines laid down in AAI letter 232 XG of 4 Oct.
2. Report made out for Monday 9 Oct., since the above letter did not arrive in time for Saturday.
3. May the necessary action be taken on recommendations in attached report under the following headings:

Appendix "A" (1) Driver Ops to replace 2 OWLs.
(2) Deficiency in Italian drivers.

Appendix "B" (1) Cable deficiency.
(2) Replace 4 KWs (not available) with 2 1260-w Charging Engines. Total 8
(3) Authorise reserve of wireless batteries.

Appendix "D" (1) "A" BLU Wireless sets.
(2) Special Equipment List for Rear Link Sigs Section.

Transport Increases in WE.

OMF

J.H. Gurn
Capt
SO Sigs

3510

Appendix "A" to SSRLS of 4 Oct 44

SIGNALS PERSONNEL LIST 9 Oct 44

- (1) 1st Gruppo di Combattimento
 (2) "A" British Liaison Unit

	Net	Held	Remarks
<u>Rear Link Sigs Section:</u>			
Sgt	1	1	
Opis OWL	4	2	
Operators OWL	7	11	
Driver Ops	2	-	Two Dr/Ops or Dr/I.C. required to replace two OWLs, none of whom can drive.
Driver Mech	1	1	
Driver I.C.	1	1	
R. S.	1	1	
Opis Cipher	5	1	
<u>Italian Engineers Sigs Coy:</u>			
Instrument Mechs	15	10	
R.S. (Line Instruments)	5	2	
Drivers	50	51	Only 10 good drivers. Another 15 have been trained to drive. D.R. situation also bad.
D.R.s	22	8	
Wireless Operators	78	78	
Line Operators	23	20	
M.T. Mechanics	5	4	
Electricians (Charging)	5	5	
Switchboard Operators	11	11	Only 2 are good
Officers and N.C.O.s are complete.			

Appendix "B" to 233186 of 4 Oct 44Signals Controlled Stores - 1st Gruppo di Combattimento - 9 Oct 44

NOTE: All Signals Stores for whole Gruppo on Eng Bn Sigs Coy
Special Equipment List.

Item	Est	Held	Remarks
Cable D.3	86	NA	} 20 miles of old cable collected from ASD for training
Cable D.8	102	NA	
Barrows, drum	4	NA	Urgently required
Bars, carrying, drum	14	NA	Urgently required
Ladders, field telegraph	10	NA	
Superposing Units Coils 191	28	10	
Test sets, Portable, No 2	6	NA	
Batteries, secy, portable			
25 volt 22 a.h.	114	NA	
Charging sets, 4 kw	4	NA	May we have 2 x 1260 watt Eng in line each 4 kw
Hydrometers	40	34	
Instruments, testing, Avoninor	3	NA	Urgently required
Instruments, testing, Ferranti, AC/DC	8	NA	Urgently required

Remainder of Signals controlled stores are complete.

NOTE: Each No 19 set has been issued with 4 x 125 a.h. batteries, and each No 22 set has been issued with 2 x 12-volt 75 a.h. batteries. There is, therefore, no reserve. Suggest additional 10 x 6-volt 125 a.h. batteries, and 10 x 12-volt 75 a.h. batteries be held. May these be released.

Appendix "C" to E82 PK6 of 4 Oct 44Deficiencies of Signals Vehicles - 1st Gruppo di Combattimento
9 Oct 44

Type of Vehicle	Est	Held	Remarks
<u>Italian Engineers Sigc Coy:</u>			
3-ton Civilian Office	1	-	
" T.E.V.	1	-	
" 4 x 4 G.S.	7	7	
15-cwt G.S.	20	2	
" W/T	20	20	
" Office Truck	1	-	
Motor Cycles	25	10	
15-cwt Armal (to carry 2 sets)	3	-	For Regtl Orders' Recce
<u>Artillery Regt:</u>			
15-cwt F.F.W.	23	20	15-cwt W/T in lieu
15-cwt Line Trucks		4	
<u>Rear Link Sigc Sec:</u>			
No vehicles held yet.			

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Appendix "D" to 2821X8 of 1 Oct 441. TRAINING:

- (a) Wireless: Sign Coy: Vehicles just arrived. Sets are now being installed, and wireless exercises will start forthwith. Progress satisfactory.
- Artillery: As above. Officers having difficulty with procedure for Regimental Shoots. Otherwise satisfactory.
- Infantry: Progress good.
- (b) Lines: Artillery and Sign Coy: A.C.L. 3 installed in 15-cwts, and progress satisfactory. One squad is being trained on Mechanical Layer.
- Infantry: Progress good.
- (c) Cipher: Complete instructions for use of cipher collected on 9 Oct. Previous instructions issued not complete. Operators have no previous experience of cipher, but are making good progress.

X

2. PERSONNEL:

No provision made on Italian Sign Coy for Signal Office personnel, i.e. superintendent, and WLS clerks. Suggest an additional officer on Coy HQ for Signalmaster at Div HQ, and 4 Maresciallos, one per platoon to run and organize Signal Offices. Wireless Operators can be used for WLS clerks duties.

The Signal Office is a new venture for Italians.

3. TRANSPORT:

See separate note.

4. EQUIPMENT:

- (1) No pliers available in Naples or Bari Depots, thus Linemen training is made rather difficult, 850 are required. Knives clasp are not now issued on G. 1098-1000. Have asked for 400.
- (2) There is no cable available: RED cable is not very satisfactory.
- (3) Several items of Sign Controlled Stores are urgently required, and are not available - see list App "B".

3506

- (4) There are no nuts and bolts or screws of suitable size for mounting Wireless Sets in vehicles in Naples area.
- (5) Additional 12 - A.C.L. 3 required on Artillery Special Equipment List, i.e. 3 per 25-pdr Bty. Recommendation submitted.

5. DRIVERS:

All local resources for training drivers have been tried. The situation is serious - can no drivers be obtained from other sources?

6. "A" BLJ REAR LINK SIGNALS SMO:

*Settled
9 sets
wired*

- (1) It is understood from AFHQ ORD 13 that Wireless Sets will not be available before the end of the month. Probably Canadian Type 9 sets.
- (2) No Special Equipment List has appeared yet from MMIA. One has been prepared here, and will be submitted for approval.
- (3) None of the 13 operators can drive. May w 2 Drivers i.e. be posted in 11st, 11' Driver Ops not available.
- (4) Operators will need training when Canadian Type 9 set arrives.
- (5) Cipher personnel not yet arrived.

7. SLIDEX:

*Brace
with
1*

No further news of Slidex Vocab strips translated into Italian by MMIA. AFHQ are waiting for these before they go to press.

Recommendations for Signals Coy. W.B.1 TRANSPORT:

- (a) The vehicle establishment does not provide for 3 x 15-cwt Arad to carry two wireless sets. These are for Regtl Comdr's Recce.
- (b) There is no vehicle for O.O. Signals Coy., except his Office Truck. The O.O. of the Coy needs a 2-str or a Jeep.
- (c) The Signal Office vehicle in each Regtl Sigs Platoon is also the cipher office. This does not work. Suggest additional 15-cwt G.S. for each Regtl Platoon. Total 3 x 15-cwt G.S.
- (d) Additional 3-tonner required for Gruppo HQ Platoon to transport personnel. There are 20 surplus bodies after distributing in existing transport.
- (e) Each Regtl Platoon has a 15-cwt for personnel, to carry 15 bodies and kit. This should be a 3-tonner.

Reamer: Change 3 x 15-cwt G.S. for 3 x 3-tonners G.S.

- (f) Additional motorcycle per platoon for Lineman Sergeant. The Detachment Comdr must be able to carry out recce of line routes. Total of 4 additional motorcycles.
- (g) Additional 3-tonner for Line Stores in Gruppo HQ Platoon. One 3-tonner is not sufficient, especially now that Poles Fir are being issued in lieu of Poles Tele 37.

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