

785020

ACC

10000 | 120 | 2049

Q 006

Feb. - Sept. 1

2049

Q 006

Ministry of Supply Policy ...

Feb. - Sept. 1946

00006

copy
MINISTRY OF

SUPPLY POLICY

WAR MINISTRY

ARAR

ALLIED SURPLUS

-ES

JACKET I

WAR MINISTRY

ARAR

ALLIED SURPLUS
- ES

JACKET II

10000

120 / 2049

Closed 16 Sept 46

000006

THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM FEB-46

TO SEPT-46

CATALOGUE-

0373

re: 557 B.O.D. NAPLES

(52)

Director of Motorisation sent two
officers to Naples on 21st Sept.
Major Catalano & L^t Mancini.
They have contacted Capt Clarke
of 10 BLU and Col. de Angelis, and
together are visiting the dumps
in search of material & equip^t
which interests their department.

Director of Commissariat sent an
officer to Naples on 22nd, L^t Col. Nabari,
who was not able to see anything
because A.R.H.R. informed him he
would not be allowed to visit
557 BOD dumps without special
permission. Another officer will
be sent immediately; L^t Col. Spinelli
with particular instructions to look
out for skins, mountain boots 050.

24/9/46

HE (LD)

Subject: Disposal of Surplus Stores 557 000

Ref. Q 006 of 10th Sept.

Am 50

On 19th Sept two officers
from the Min of War left
for Naples, viz

Major Catalano
Lt Mancini

They will contact Capt Clarke
of 10 DLU and will together
visit the dumps.

J.E. (L.O.)

20/9/46

AQMS

They will need more than this
when the actual transfers begin at approx 58
Sep. I have spoken ADOS, ADME
and other teams are being arranged

W.P.

20/9.

W.P.

TRANSLATION

FROM : M. of W. (S.M.E.)

Ref: 1/3022/Serv

TO : M.M.I.A.

Date: 16/9/46

SUBJECT : Handover 557 B.O.D.

Reference your Q.006 dated 10/9/46.

This office again contacted ARAR and asked the Ministry (General Directorate), in the interest of the Military Administration, for the immediate dispatch of the representatives appointed to assist in the handover of the materials released to ARAR, as per agreements with MMIA and ARAR.

Col. N. Meloni.

898 (50)

TO SEE	
A/Q	WP
Q	
Q. 1	
Q. 2	
ORD	1
REMG	

46
785020
16/9/46
Q.006

48-T

TRANSLATION

FROM: Ministry of War.

REF: 222703/II

TO: M.M.I.A.

DATE: 7 September 1946.

SUBJECT:- Release of British material to the Italian Army.

44

In reply to letter Q.006 of 30 August last.

44A

I have taken due notice of the contents of letter 8255/241/EC, from the Chief of the A.C. addressed to the President of the Council of Ministers, kindly forwarded to me by your Mission.

I am grateful for the interest shown to assure the prompt consignment to the Italian Army of material released by the Allies.

I am pleased to state that further agreement has already been reached between this Ministry and the A.R.A.R. and it is to be hoped that no difficulties will arise as regards the matter.

However, your Subcommittee will be kept informed regarding the progress of the consignment of materials which will be selected by this administration.

sgd. FACCHINETTI

foe ✓

TO SEE	
A/Q	SP
Q	RAB
O 1	
O 2	
O 3	
O 4	
O 5	
O 6	
O 7	
O 8	
O 9	
O 10	

R.A.G.

G.O.C.

A.R.A.R. are much better over the Depot as "conclusions" transfers are not expected to begin before OCT. all is going well. War his. ARAR pulling together W.D.

10/9/46

006

0373

785020

46

W 9-1

Land Forces Sub Commission AC.,
M M I A
R O M E
Q.006

10 September 1946

TO : The War Minister

Further to our letter Q.006 dated 30th. August 1946,
it is now learned that the Chief Disposals officer is taking over
557 B.O.D. immediately.

Although no physical hand over of stores is envisaged
for a week or two, A.R.A.R. representatives are already in the
various sub-depots and it would be appreciated if you could
confirm that the War Ministry representatives are maintaining the
closest liaison with those of A.R.A.R.

W P

Rac.

AJH/cw.

R. A. CURTIS, Lt. Col.,
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

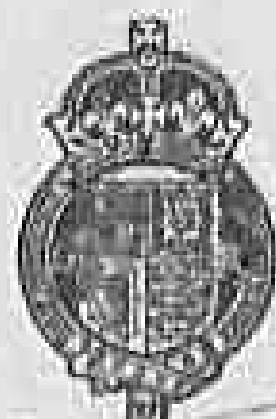
11.00 hours 11 Sept. 46 The above letter was handed to
Col Meloni. Present ADOS - AROAL 7055 It was
stressed that Italian Army MP should go to
6 Nos. 1 and 3 sub-depots immediately -
should contact Apeleau - 10 BCLW

11/9

Telephone: ROME 843041/46

AR/mr.
Our Ref: CDO/P/21

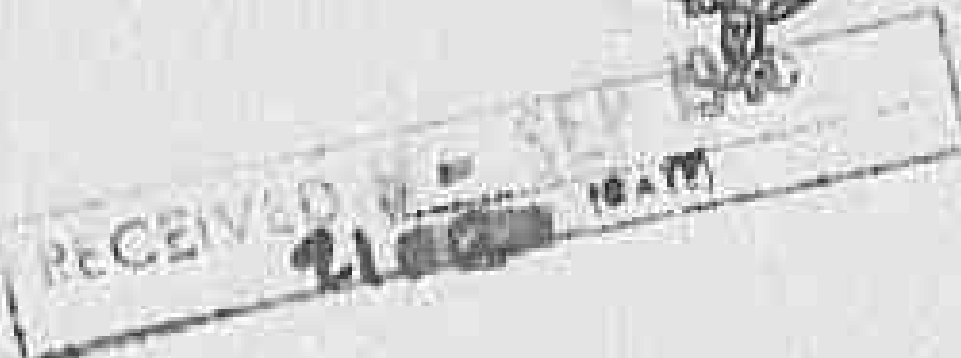
Your Ref:



CHIEF DISPOSALS OFFICER (ITALY)
SURPLUS STORES DIVISION
MINISTRY OF SUPPLY
BRITISH EMBASSY
ROME

A.P.O. C.M.F.

6 September 1946



To: The Director,
Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA),
Headquarters A.G.,
ROME.

Subject: Disposal of Surplus Stores 557 BOD.

With reference to your letter Q.006 of 16 August and further to conversation between Col. Pidsley and Col. Reed of this Mission.

Arrangements have now been made to commence taking over 557 B.O.D. with immediate effect. To this end a representative of the Ministry of Supply has been attached to H.Q. of 557 B.O.D. and it is understood that ARAR representatives will be arriving within the next twenty-four hours to commence taking over depots.

Definite dates for the takeover of each individual area cannot be given in view of the shortness of time before the B.O.D. has to be completely cleared.

It is strongly recommended that you arrange with the Ministry of War to attach representatives to ARAR in Naples in order that stores required for the Italian Army can be transferred with the minimum of delay from ARAR to the Italian Ministry of War.

A. REED, Lt. Col.
Disposals Officer
for Chief Disposals Officer (Italy).

TO SEE	
A/Q	Seen
Q	RAC
Q. 1	
Q. 2	
ORD	
REME	

Inform War Min ✓
10 B.L.O.
root to report progress
RAC

9/9/46
7054

X Q 006

44

Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.,
(M.M.I.A.)
ROME.

G.006.

30th August, 1946.

TO:- The War Minister.

I attach copy of a letter which has been addressed to the President of the Council of Ministers as a result of our meeting here on 23rd August 46, at which you were represented by:-

General Rossi
Colonel Meloni
Colonel Bolassino.

You will note the agreement reached and I shall certainly keep you informed from day to day of the progress made in the hand over of these depots.

I trust you will also keep me informed should any difficulties arise or should you anticipate any failures in keeping to this agreement.

MP/MDJ.

see 48-1 J. H. H. H. H.

Major General,
M.M.I.A.

7053

28 AUG 1946

44A

WP

28 August 1946

Ref: 6225/241/31

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

You will no doubt recall my letter no. 225/239/30 dated 3 June 1946 on the subject of supplies for the Italian Armed Forces.

As a result of discussions between this Commission and various members of your Ministry, a meeting was held on 25 August attended by representatives of:-

President of the Council
Ministry of Re-Construction
Ministry of War
Ministry of Treasury
etc.

to discuss the distribution of surplus military stores now being handed over by the British Army to the Italian Government.

I attach copy of the Proceedings upon which the meeting was based.

I am happy to inform you that the following proposals were unanimously accepted:-

7052

- (a) That representatives of MIRA and of the Ministries of War and Air should be represented at the hand over and should subsequently have access to the Depot (and their schedules of contents) to facilitate the economic transfer of stores required by and allotted to these Ministries.
- (b) That the War and Air Ministries be allowed to mark a claim for such U.S. stores in No. 1 Sub Depot as are needed for the maintenance of special army pattern vehicles as are held by the Italian Government and that such claims (if supported by Allied War Commission) should be favourably considered by MIRA.
- (c) That the War and Air Ministries should be given absolute priority in regard to all material in No. 3 Sub Depot which is essential to the maintenance and employment of weapons held by the Italian Army and Air Force and in of no use in its present form to anyone else.

Q. 006

In conformity with this agreement I have instructed the Allied Services Sub-Committees concerned to do everything possible to obtain all information necessary to ensure the smooth hand over of this vast quantity of material, and hope that this may be achieved, so that the Allied troops may be enabled to leave Italy according to their programme and the Italian Nation may benefit by the receipt of these valuable stores.

I should like to thank you for the ready understanding of your representatives in this matter and would ask you to give appropriate instructions to your Ministers so that the implementation of the details may be achieved as successfully as the agreement in principle.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELDERY W. STONE
Major General, USA
Chief Commissioner

Mr. Alcide De Gasperi,
President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
Rome.

Copy to: Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Air Forces S/C
Land Forces S/C (MIA)

7051

0383

785020

42

SUBJECT : Disposal Surplus Stores - 577 B.C.D.

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C.
M.M.I.A.
R G ME
Q.006

16 August 1946

TO : Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)
25 Corso d'Italia - Rome.

1. Direct release, military to military, of ordnance stores held to 577 BCD to Italian Army has virtually ceased.

It is the expressed policy of G.H.Q. that the Depot shall close as early as possible.

It will contain many items of considerable value to the Italian Army and some in this category will have little commercial value; eg. spare parts for Staghound Armoured Cars, Bicycle tyres (British sizes).

2. G.H.Q. approve and have instructed this Sub Commission to arrange with the Italian Government for the War Ministry to take part in the hand over.

It is understood you will authorise A.R.A.R. to take over the Depot in situ and you are requested to inform this H.Q. as soon as possible of your proposed arrangements in order that the War Ministry may be notified well in advance.

7050

R.A. CURTIS, Lt.Col.
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

Copy to: War Ministry
G.H.Q. for G(SD) (F70093 of 4 Aug refers).

RAC/ra

38

See

0 3 8 4

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/AMDC No. 785020

(4)

Promemoria on Equipment for the Italian Army for
discussion at Allied Commission Meeting - 23 Aug 46

1. Most of the Armament and Weapons of the Italian Army and much of the transport and mechanical equipment are of British pattern and, except for motor transport, will probably remain so for some time.
2. Units of the Italian Army have been reasonably well equipped from this source, but the War Ministry holds practically no reserve equipment, replacements, spare parts or material for maintenance or repair.
3. The Allied intention has been that material for maintenance should be provided from three sources

- (a) British surplus stocks,
- (b) Italian indigenous sources,
- (c) Overseas import programme,

(a) and (b) are the more desirable from every point of view and it is the duty of the Land Forces Sub Commission (M.M.I.A.) to assist the Italian Army to obtain its requirements from the first source. It has now been ruled however that transfers to the Italian Army of all material (except serviceable weapons) must take place through Allied disposal agencies and A.R.A.R.

4. Since last November M.M.I.A. has been endeavouring to obtain the equipment required through these channels but, by reason of the Allies own needs and the unbalanced nature of available surpluses, have hardly been able to keep pace with current needs and have been unable to obtain stocks for future needs when all British Depots will be closed.

5. Now the last remaining British depot is closing immediately and this cannot be delayed. In a few days the complete depot and its contents will begin to be handed to our Disposals agencies who will (after meeting possible U.N.R.R.A. needs) transfer them in toto to A.R.A.R.

6. The subsequent disposal of this material by A.R.A.R. is an Italian Government affair which its representatives are now asked to consider. The hand over gives the War Ministry a last chance of obtaining quickly and on a reasonable economic basis material which it urgently needs and which no other owner could use economically. That which the War Ministry fails to secure from this source it will have to manufacture or import at very high cost - or do without.

7. The British Depot is divided into three sub depots as follows :

- No.1 Sub Depot - Motor Transport Stores (Pontecagnano)
- No.2 Sub Depot - Clothing and General Stores (Naples, S.Giorgio)
- No.3 Sub Depot - Armaments & War Instruments (Pontecagnano)

4. Since last November M.M.I.A. has been endeavouring to obtain the equipment required through these channels but, by reason of the Allies own needs and the unbalanced nature of available surpluses, have hardly been able to keep pace with current needs and have been unable to obtain stocks for future needs when all British Depots will be closed.

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- No.1 Sub Depot - Motor Transport Stores (Pontecagnano)
- No.2 Sub Depot - Clothing and General Stores (Naples. S.Giorgio)
- No.3 Sub Depot - Armaments & War Instruments (Pontecagnano)

Material in No.2 Sub Depot, although originally for military use has also a civilian use and for this we make no special claim for the Italian Army.

Material in No.1 Sub Depot includes some spare parts for military type vehicles such as armoured cars and tracked weapon carriers which would be of no use to any other makes.

Material in No.3 Sub Depot is of no use in its present form to anyone but the Army, although the quantity of some items may be in excess of the army's needs.

2/.....

- 2 -

8. The Supreme Allied Commander has suggested that M.M.I.A. and representatives of the War Ministry should take part in the hand over so as to facilitate identification of stores and to ensure the most economical use of purely warlike equipment in the interest of the Italian nation.
9. This representation would only be effective if the Italian Government instructs A.R.A.R. to give the War Ministry some preference in respect of certain material.
10. The Italian Government is therefore asked to agree to the following three principles :-
- (a) That representatives of M.M.I.A. and of the Ministry of War should be present at the hand over and should subsequently have access to the Depot (and their schedules of contents) to facilitate the economic transfer of stores required by and allotted to the War Ministry.
 - (b) That the War Ministry be allowed to submit a claim for such M.T. spares in No.1 Sub Depot as are needed for the maintenance of special army pattern vehicles as are held by the Italian Government and that such claims (if supported by M.M.I.A.) should be favourably considered by A.R.A.R.
 - (c) That the War Ministry should be given absolute priority in regard to all material in No.3 Sub Depot which is essential to the maintenance and employment of weapons held by the Italian Army, and is of no use in its present form to anyone else.

If agreement in principle is reached as above the detailed method could be left to A.R.A.R. and the War Ministry as advised by M.M.I.A.

7048

Government instructs A.R.A.R. to give the War Ministry some preference in respect of certain material.

10. The Italian Government is therefore asked to agree to the following three principles :-

- (a) That representatives of M.M.I.A. and of the Ministry of War should be present at the hand over and should subsequently have access to the Depot (and their schedules of contents) to facilitate the economic transfer of stores required by and allotted to the War Ministry.
- (b) That the War Ministry be allowed to submit a claim for such M.T. spares in No.4 Sub Depot as are needed for the maintenance of special army pattern vehicles as are held by the Italian Government and that such claims (if supported by M.M.I.A.) should be favourably considered by A.R.A.R.
- (c) That the War Ministry should be given absolute priority in regard to all material in No.3 Sub Depot which is essential to the maintenance and employment of weapons held by the Italian Army, and is of no use in its present form to anyone else.

If agreement in principle is reached as above the detailed method could be left to A.R.A.R. and the War Ministry as advised by M.M.I.A.

7048

Promemoria sull'Equipaggiamento per l'Esercito Italiano
in discussione alla riunione della Commissione Alleata

23 Agosto 1946

1. La maggior parte dell'armamento e delle armi in uso nello Esercito Italiano e gran parte dei mezzi di trasporto e dell'equipaggiamento meccanico sono di tipo Britannico, il che, con l'esclusione del trasporto motorizzato, probabilmente continuerà per un certo tempo.
2. Unita' dell'Esercito Italiano sono state sufficientemente bene equipaggiate in questo modo, ma il Ministero della Guerra praticamente non ha equipaggiamento di riserva, sostituzione, parti di ricambio o materiale per manutenzione e riparazione.

3. Secondo il proposito allato il materiale di manutenzione dovrebbe provenire dalle tre seguenti fonti:

- (a) Materiale britannico in eccesso.
- (b) Depositi indigeni italiani.
- (c) Programma di importazioni dall'estero.

(a) e (b) sono quelle più favorevoli da ogni punto di vista ed è dovere della Land Forces Sub Commission (M.M.I.A.) di assistere l'esercito italiano nell'ottenere quanto necessario dalla prima. È stato però stabilito ultimamente che i trasferimenti dell'esercito italiano di tutto il materiale (fatta eccezione delle armi d'uso) debba avvenire a mezzo delle agenzie alleate di disposizione e dell'A.R.A.R.

4. Dal Novembre scorso la M.M.I.A. ha cercato bensì di ottenere l'equipaggiamento necessario attraverso questi mezzi però, a causa delle necessità stesse degli alleati e della sperequazione nella disponibilità delle dotazioni eccedenti, e' riuscita appena a mantenersi in pari con le necessità correnti ed e' stata incapace di ottenere riserve per le necessità future quando tutti i depositi britannici saranno stati chiusi.

5. Ora l'ultimo deposito britannico rimasto sta per essere chiuso immediatamente senza possibilità di ritardi. Fra pochi giorni il completo deposito ed il suo materiale sarà consegnato alle nostre agenzie di disposizione le quali (dopo aver fatto fronte alle possibili necessità dell'UNRRA) le trasferiranno in massa all'A.R.A.R.

6. La successiva disposizione di questo materiale dall'A.R.A.R. e' questione che riguarda il Governo Italiano ed e' questo quanto i suoi rappresentanti dovranno ora esaminare. Questo cambio di consegna conferisce al Ministero della Guerra un'ultima possibilità di ottenere rapidamente e su una base economica ragionevole il materiale che gli e' urgentemente necessario e che nessuno altro potrebbe adoperare economicamente. Ciò che il Ministero della Guerra non potrà assicurarsi in questo modo dovrà essere o fabbricato o importato ad altissimo costo, oppure farne a meno.

7. Il deposito britannico e' diviso in tre sotto-categorie:

(c) Programma di importazioni dall'estero.

(a) e (b) sono quelle piu' favorevoli da ogni punto di vista ed e' dovere della Land Forces Sub Commission (M.M.I.A.) di assistere l'esercito italiano nell'ottenere quanto necessario dalla prima. E' stato pero' stabilito ultimamente che i trasferimenti dell'esercito italiano di tutto il materiale (fatta eccezione delle armi d'uso) debba avvenire a mezzo delle agenzie alleate di disposizione e dell'A.R.A.R.

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7. Il deposito britannico e' diviso in tre sottodepositi come segue:
Sottodeposito No.1 - Materiale da Trasporto Motorizzato (Pontecagnano)
Sottodeposito No.2 - Vestiario e Materiale Vario (Napoli, S. Giorgio)
Sottodeposito No.3 - Armi e Materiale di Guerra (Pontecagnano).

Il materiale nel sottodeposito No.2 quantunque in origine di uso militare puo' anche essere utilizzato per la popolazione civile, pero' non presentiamo speciale richiesta per l'esercito italiano.

Il materiale nel sottodeposito No.1 include parti di ricambio per veicoli di tipo militare come autocarri, mezzi cingolati per trasporto d'armi che non potrebbero essere adoperati per altri scopi.

Il materiale del sottodeposito No.3 puo' essere adoperato nella sua forma attuale unicamente dall'esercito, quantunque parte del materiale sia forse in eccesso alle necessita' dell'esercito stesso.

2/.....

- 2 -

8. Il Comandante Supremo Alleato ha suggerito che la MIIA ed i rappresentanti del Ministero della Guerra partecipino a questo cambio di consegna così da facilitare l'identificazione del materiale ed assicurare l'uso più economico dell'equipaggiamento nettamente guerresco nell'interesse della nazione italiana.

9. Questa rappresentazione potrà essere effettiva solo se il Governo Italiano darà istruzioni all'ARAR di favorire in certo modo il Ministero della Guerra nei riguardi di una parte del materiale.

10. Il Governo Italiano è pertanto pregato di accettare i seguenti tre principi:

(a) Che rappresentanti della MIIA e del Ministero della Guerra siano presenti alla consegna ed abbiano quindi accesso al deposito (o all'inventario del materiale) per facilitare il trasferimento economico del materiale richiesto e destinato al Ministero della Guerra.

(b) Che al Ministero della Guerra sia concesso di presentare richiesta per quel materiale di ricambio per trasporto motorizzato esistente nel sottodeposito No. 4 necessario per la manutenzione dei veicoli di speciale tipo militare in uso presso il Governo Italiano e che tali richieste (se approvate dalla MIIA) siano favorevolmente accettate dall'ARAR.

(c) Che il Ministero della Guerra abbia una priorità assoluta nei riguardi di tutto il materiale nel sottodeposito No. 3, essenziale alla manutenzione e all'impiego della armi adoperato dall'esercito italiano, e che non può essere di alcuna utilità ad altri nella sua forma attuale.

Se un accordo in principio può essere raggiunto come anzidetto i dettagli potrebbero essere lasciati all'ARAR e al Ministero della Guerra come consigliato dalla MIIA.

7046

per la manutenzione dei veicoli di speciale tipo militare in uso presso il Governo Italiano e che tali richieste (se appoggiate dalla MILA) siano favorevolmente accettate dall'ARAR.

- (c) Che il Ministero della Guerra abbia una priorità assoluta nei riguardi di tutto il materiale nel sottodeposito No.3, essenziale alla manutenzione e all'impiego della armi adoperate dall'esercito italiano, e che non può essere di alcuna utilità ad altri nella sua forma attuale.

Se un accordo in principio può essere raggiunto come anzidetto i dettagli potrebbero essere lasciati all'ARAR e al Ministero della Guerra come consigliato dalla MILA.

7048

From : LC II

TO : 'Q'

NOTES ON ARAR (Azienda Ricupero Alienazione
Residuati) - Ministry of War

S.P.

1. I called upon each of the following Offrs separately to obtain their personal views and comments on actual relations between the Ministry and ARAR :-

Lt-Col SPINELLI (LO War Min - ARAR for Commissariat, Med)
and Vet Services)
Lt-Col PANICRAZI (LO War Min - ARAR for Motorisation)
Lt-Col LAMARINO (LO War Min - ARAR for Engrs)
Capt VARINO (LO War Min - ARAR for Arty)

2. Each one, in somewhat similar terms, expressed himself dissatisfied.

3. Summarising their complaints, the following are the main pts which appear to prevent the practical application of the conditions laid down in the Directive (No 215200/II of 5/6/46) referred to - see para 3 of LO Log 17th - 26th Jul 46 :-

- (a) ARAR's main object appears to be to obtain best price possible for the material they have to dispose of.
- (b) With above object in view it is of course reasonable that before they are willing to negotiate with War Min they wish to know the market price of such material and if possible obtain offers from firms who can pay spot cash.
- (c) ARAR are therefore loth to divulge to the Min the existence in their depots of material necessary to the Army but which can more profitably be disposed of to Civilians. An example :- The Army is badly in need of Messtips, yet ARAR recently sold 60,000 to a firm before ~~they~~ got to hear of their existence.
- (d) It has also happened that although the LO from the Ministry has visited ARAR Dumps immediately upon hearing of the arrival of material needed by the Army, he has been told that the material in question has already been sold.
- (e) The question of PRICE is an important one for the Ministry. Assuming that the Min finds material it wishes to acquire, ARAR is not always prepared to quote a price but stipulates

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3. Summarising their complaints, the following are the main pts which appear to prevent the practical application of the conditions laid down in the Directive (No 215200/II of 5/6/46) referred to - see para 3 of IO Log 17th - 26th Jul 46 :-

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- (b) With above object in view it is of course reasonable that before they are willing to negotiate with War Min they wish to know the market price of such material and if possible obtain offers from firms who can pay spot cash.
- (c) ARAR are therefore loth to divulge to the Min the existence in their depots of material necessary to the Army but which can more profitably be disposed of to Civilians. An example :- The Army is badly in need of Messutins, yet ARAR recently sold 60,000 to a firm before they got to hear of their existence.
- (d) It has also happened that although the LO from the Ministry has visited ARAR Dumps immediately upon hearing of the arrival of material needed by the Army, he has been told that the material in question has already been sold.
- (e) The question of PRICE is an important one for the Ministry. Assuming that the Min finds material it wishes to acquire, ARAR is not always prepared to quote a price but stipulates the payment (or Treasury Credit) of a large sum upon delivery, the price to be fixed at a later date. Obviously the Min cannot agree to such conditions.
- (f) It is suspected that officials of ARAR become interested parties and by various manoeuvres facilitate the purchasing of material by personal friends or relations from whom they get a "Commission". Collusion of this kind is very common in this Country.

TO SEE	
A/Q	
Q	

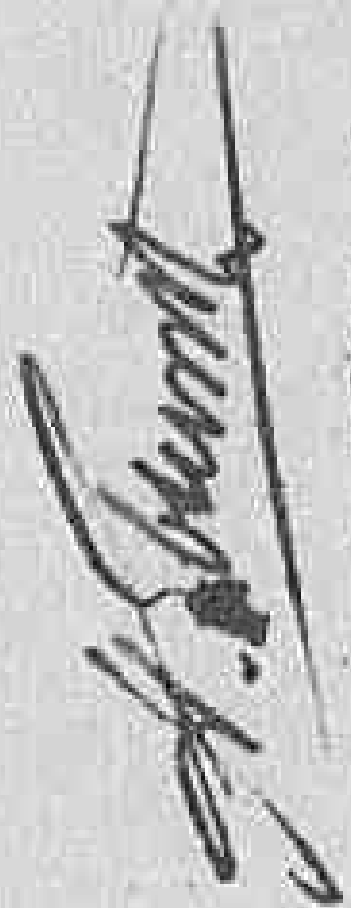
...../2

4. These "Liaison" Officers act independently of each other. I have suggested that they get together periodically to compare notes.

I would further suggest that a Meeting should be arranged at an early date, of all Officers concerned to discuss ways and means of overcoming difficulties in the way of easy acquisition of materials required for the ITALIAN Army.

If no solution is found it may very possibly happen that the Ministry will, in some cases, be obliged to acquire on the open market, material disposed of previously by ARAR, at much enhanced prices of course.

14 August 1946.



Major (L-0342)

17044

Subject: Maintenance Italian Army

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION AC
(M.M. I.A.)

Q.006 ←

10 July 1946.

TO : General Headquarters (3)
C.M.F.

Reference is made to your ESD/81/3D of 6 June 46 (in particular para 2(a)).

1. The Ministry of Supply has again been approached with the object of ascertaining what maintenance items the War Ministry are likely to obtain from that source.

They confirm that the position as outlined in Q.006 of 2 April 46 (copy attached at Appx "A" for easy reference) is unchanged.

2. As your letter under reference makes specific reference to "lethal equipment" it is again urged that this term may be accepted as including all items detailed in para 5 of Appx "A".

3. It is understood to be your policy that military stores "surplus to military requirements" shall be offered to the Italian Government and it is agreed that in theory the needs of the Italian Army should be assessed by the Italian Government and that they should receive a due proportion of the total, the balance going to civilian interests.

In practice, if the efficiency of the Italian Army is to be regarded as of importance to the British Authorities it is considered necessary that the reservation made in the case of "lethal equipment" be applied to the items detailed above.

Copy to: Chief Disposals Officer (ITALY)
Surplus Stores Division,
MINISTRY OF SUPPLY.

A.C. (for Executive Commissioner) - your 9006/309/EC of 21 May refers)

INTERNAL: C(SD)

W.P. Riley - Colonel
for Major General
M.M. I.A. 7043

2 April 46 (copy attached at Appx "A" for easy reference) is unchanged.

2. As your letter under reference makes specific reference to "lethal equipment" it is again urged that this term may be accepted as including all items detailed in para 5 of Appx "A".

3. It is understood to be your policy that military stores "surplus to military requirements" shall be offered to the Italian Government and it is agreed that in theory the needs of the Italian Army should be assessed by the Italian Government and that they should receive a due proportion of the total, the balance going to civilian interests. In practice, if the efficiency of the Italian Army is to be regarded as of importance to the British Authorities it is considered necessary that the reservation made in the case of "lethal equipment" be applied to the items detailed above.

Copy to: Chief Disposals Officer (ITALY)
Surplus Stores Division,
MINISTRY OF SUPPLY.

A.C. (for Executive Commissioner) - your 9006/309/EC of 21 May
refers)

INTERNAL: C(SD)

ORD

REFE

444

W.P. Cheney - Colonel
for Major General
R.H.I.A. 7043

(COPY)

Appendix "A" to
6006 of 10.7.46

SUBJECT:- Equipment for Interim Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub Commission AC.,
M.M.I.A.
R O M E
2.006

2 April 1946

TO : G.H.Q.

Reference GHQ letter ZSD/81/3 of 27 Mar 46 forwarding Minutes of GHQ Conference held 18 Mar 46. The following information is given:-

1. (a) Since the conference this Mission has again contacted the Chief Disposal Officer, Ministry of Supply in Rome. It appears we may expect no active support from this source in spite of para 12 of ATHQ Directive of 2 Nov 45.
- (b) This is due to the fact that the Chief Disposal Officer may deal only with ARAR and in practice no priority is given by ARAR to the needs of the War Ministry.
- (c) In para 8 of the Directive issued by Ministry of Supply HQ Mission on 4 Mar 46 it is stated :-

" The C.D.O. will have nothing to do with any question of equipping the Italian Army. This is the responsibility of M.M.I. and/or the Italian Government. If the C.D.O. intervenes in this field he will be concerning himself with political issues".

2. M.M.I.A. has also interviewed the Director of the Italian Government Disposal Agency (A.R...R.) who states that he cannot permit representation from any Italian Ministry, that neither the Ministry of War nor any other Ministry has any priority.

A.R...R. is a commercial undertaking representing the Italian Government interests and sells Allied surpluses to the best customer. In the case of Government Departments Treasury credit to the required amount is needed before the "sale" is approved.

3. This offers but little chance to a service Ministry to whom funds are not available. It is apparent that the immediate needs of the Italian Army will not be met from this source. Under reference 9006/235/40 dated 16 Feb 46 the Chief Commissioner advised the head of the Italian Government to give such priority as would ensure the Army is properly equipped. No reply has yet been received.

4. In view of the above it is more than ever evident that unless material essential to the Italian Army is provided, the Army will be unable to fight.

(b) This is due to the fact that the Chief Disposal Officer may deal only with ARAR and in practice no priority is given by ARAR to the needs of the War Ministry.

(c) In para 8 of the Directive issued by Ministry of Supply HQ Mission on 4 Mar 46 it is stated :-

" The C.D.O. will have nothing to do with any question of equipping the Italian Army. This is the responsibility of MMIA and/or the Italian Government. If the C.D.O. intervenes in this field he will be concerning himself with political issues".

2. M.M.I.A. has also interviewed the Director of the Italian Government Disposal Agency (I.R.A.R.) who states that he cannot permit representation from any Italian Ministry, that neither the Ministry of War nor any other Ministry has any priority.

I.R.A.R. is a commercial undertaking representing the Italian Government interests and sells Allied surpluses to the best customer. In the case of Government Departments Treasury credit to the required amount is needed before the "sale" is approved.

3. This offers but little chance to a service Ministry to whom funds are not available. It is apparent that the immediate needs of the Italian Army will not be met from this source. Under reference 9006/25/EC dated 16 Feb 46 the Chief Commissioner advised the head of the Italian Government to give such priority as would ensure the Army is properly equipped. No reply has yet been received.

4. In view of the above it is more than ever evident that unless material essential to the Italian Army is provided from British surpluses direct to the War Ministry, there will be little chance of having an Italian Army for some time.

/.....5

5. It is therefore recommended (vide Minute 16) that the definition of lethal equipment should be a wide one to include the following and that these should then be made available in such quantities as are necessary :-

- (a) Weapons, ammunition and explosives.
- (b) All instruments for fire direction and control.
- (c) All Army signals equipment.
- (d) All Field engineering stores and special equipment
- (e) Appropriate specialist tools, gauges and special maintenance stores (including expendable items) for weapons and technical equipment.
- (f) Spare parts & replacements for weapons & equipment.
- (g) All M.T. vehicles (not only A. vehicles previously recorded)
- (h) Makers parts, accessories and associated stores for M.T. vehicles.
- (i) Spares and replacements for the above (including tyres and major assemblies).

6. The earliest possible information regarding the projected "standardisation" of M.T. in the British Army and consequently of the surplus "makes" likely to be available to the Italian Army is required by this Mission in order that an economical distribution may be effected within the Italian Army with a view to standardisation within Italian Formations.

W. PIDSLEY, Colonel,
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

(1) Spares and replacements for the above (including tyres and major assemblies).

6. The earliest possible information regarding the projected "standardisation" of M.T. in the British Army and consequently of the surplus "makes" likely to be available to the Italian Army is required by this Mission in order that an economical distribution may be effected within the Italian Army with a view to standardisation within Italian Formations.

W. PIDSLEY, Colonel,
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

7041

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33

"Q" DUCK SLIP

FILE NO Q006.

DATE	SECTION OR SERVICE		ACTION REQUIRED
	FROM	TO	
10 July.	Q	AQ.	Visited Min of Supply. 1600hr 9 Jul with ADO. Pring NIXON now CDO with Lt Col REED Deputy. Reed confirmed directive as at para 1(c) of (15) holds good. Min of Supply receive lists of surplus stores from End Secretariat, Director of Works etc and immediately send copies to Italian Govt (ARRA) and to UNARRA. The latter have 21 days to claim items on which they are given 1st refusal. 28 days after receipt allocation is made by Min of Supply. Col HUNT is Chief Procurement Officer UNARRA and we could "see" his list or an officially the "Office copy" at Min of Supply CDO's Office. Rae 7040
	AQ.	Q	
	Seen by	W.P.	

No 3 Via Romagna 478338

0402

785020

C O P Y

Tele No. : FREEDOM 254

G(SD) Branch,
CHQ CTFSUBJECT : Maintenance of Lethal Equipment
for ITALIAN ARMY.

ESD/81/3D

6 June 1946

TO : " "

COPY TO : ORD

Land Forces Sub Commission AC, (MILIA)

1. AFHQ policy is to make available to the ITALIAN Government 12 months maintenance for all equipment, etc provided for the Italian Army in so far as it is available from surpluses (AG-091.711 G(SD)-A of 2 Nov 45 refers).

2.

(a) In the case of NON-lethal equipment, no problem arises since all surpluses will eventually be available to the Italian Government through the medium of the Ministry of Supply.

(b)

In the case of lethal equipment however, any maintenance available will either be shipped out of the theatre or demilitarised before handing over to Ministry of Supply unless it is transferred direct to the Italian Army now.

3.

It is understood, unofficially, that the War Office has approved AFHQ policy or standardisation on BRITISH weapons as stated in NAT. 1135.

It therefore follows that in order to avoid the necessity for shipment into this theatre at a later date, maintenance for lethal equipment should now be transferred direct as far as available from global surpluses in this theatre.

4.

Attached at Appendix "A" is a table showing in coln (e) the requirement for 12 months maintenance at FFC Quiet Rates based on the latest edition of the Staff Tables for the Italian Army.

It is emphasised that this requirement is quite separate from, and additional to any previous requirement.

Will you please investigate availabilities of weapons in PART I - coln (e) and earmark for issue, after completion of initial issues outlined in ESD/81/3B of 25 May 46.

7039

(b)

In the case of lethal equipment however, any maintenance available will either be shipped out of the theatre or demilitarised before handing over to Ministry of Supply unless it is transferred direct to the Italian Army now.

3. It is understood, unofficially, that the War Office has approved AFHQ policy or standardisation on BRITISH weapons as stated in MAT. 4155.

It therefore follows that in order to avoid the necessity for shipment into this theatre at a later date, maintenance for lethal equipment should now be transferred direct as far as available from global surpluses in this theatre.

4. Attached at Appendix "A" is a table showing in coln (e) the requirement for 12 months maintenance at RFC Quiet Rates based on the latest edition of the Staff Tables for the Italian Army.

It is emphasised that this requirement is quite separate from, and additional to any previous requirement.

Will you please investigate availabilities of weapons in PART I - coln (e) and earmark for issue, after completion of initial issues outlined in ESD/81/3B of 25 May 46.

7039

for

M.W.M. MACLEOD
Major General,
Chief of General Staff.

Q006

TRANSLATION

31AT

REFERENCE: 215200/11
DATE: 5/6/46

FROM: M. of W.
TO: Mil. Terr. HQ. Turin
Mil. Terr. HQ. Genova
Mil. Terr. HQ. Milan
Mil. Terr. HQ. Bolzano
Mil. Terr. HQ. Udine
Mil. Terr. HQ. Bologna
Mil. Terr. HQ. Florence
Mil. Terr. HQ. Rome
Mil. Terr. HQ. Naples
Mil. Terr. HQ. Palermo
Mil. Terr. HQ. Bari.
Mil. Health Dir. HQ.
Comm. and Admin. Serv. Gen. Dir. HQ.
Art. and M.T. Gen. Dir. HQ.
Eng. Gen. Dir. HQ.
Vet. Service Gen. Inspectorate HQ.
(for info.)
Home Office Rome
S.M.R.E. HQ.
CC.RR. Gen. HQ. Rome
R.G.F. Gen. HQ. Rome
To all other M. of W.
Dir. and Independent offices HQs.
A.R.A.R. Gen. Dir. Rome.

TO: HQ	
A/Q	
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Q	
Q	

SUBJECT: War Materials Released by the Allies.

Further to circular 202600/11 dated 4 Feb. and 207400/11 dated 24/3.46.

1 - Recovery of Military Stores and Eventual Purchase.

Further to arrangements made with the A.R.A.R. Directorate, the following instructions will be observed:

- a) Inspection of military administration material in A.R.A.R. dumps and any purchases of same will be made by Mil. Terr. HQ. representatives.

Said representatives will visit these dumps after arrangement has been made with A.R.A.R. branches (Milan, Bolzano, Leghorn, Naples, Jesi, Bari);

- 2 - Mil. Terr. HQs will report to local A.R.A.R. representatives any non military stores which may be in their possession and which

7038

Q000

- 2 -

come under the A.R.A.R. management in order that the latter may take it over;

- 3 -For the purpose of maintaining a continuous liaison between this Ministry and the A.R.A.R. gen. Directorate two liaison officers have been appointed: one for the Art. and M.T. Directorate who will deal with any Art. M.T. or Eng. stores, the other for the Comm. and Admin. Gen. Serv. Dir. who will deal with any comm. Medical, animal or veterinary stores.
- The main task of these officers will be to inspect A.A.R. list of Allied released materials and report to the competent Directorates of this Ministry any stores which are of presumable military origin or for purchase.
- Following these reports Gen. Directorates will invite Mil. Terr. HQs or Terr. Service Directorates direct to forward a list of the materials which they have chosen and request the A.R.A.R. representative to hold the materials pending the conclusion of agreements for the return or purchase.
- The above does not substitute, but completes the instructions laid down in para 1) of circular 202600/II dated 4 Feb. 1946, i.e. that Mil. Terr. HQs as soon as they informed that a dump has been released by the Allied to the A.R.A.R. will, of their own initiative, visit the depot, after arrangements have been made with the local A.R.A.R. branch, and report to the competent military Directorates of their Ministry any stores which have been recognised as military, for which question of ownership arises and stores which it is considered are worth buying.
- 4 -Mil. Terr. HQs are to ^{be} requested to collaborate with the A.R.A.R. in order to obtain the necessary publications to enable the contents of crates, M.T., Radio, etc. to be identified; from the Allies HQs concerned;
- 5 -A.R.A.R. representatives when making a preliminary request ^{for} the purchase of specified material for Mil. Terr. HQs will report;
- a) price of each item;
 - b) the number of days said materials will be held.
- Since the maximum period laid down by A.R.A.R. after expiry of which the material can be offered to other prospective buyers, is 15 days, Mil. Terr. HQ will immediately inform the competent ^{Gen.} Directorates the latter settling agreements as soon as possible with central A.R.A.R. offices.
- This Ministry has requested that this period be extended to 30 days, which according to A.R.A.R. agents cannot be reduced, but in the meantime it will be necessary to deal with these matters as soon as possible.

- 3 -

I request Mil. Terr. HQs to refrain from partial or total "freezing" of dumps. Identification and possession of material will be obtained in accordance with arrangements with A.R.A.R. representatives "Freezing" will only be put into effect if agreements drawn up are not observed, Mil. Terr. HQs will then take steps to safeguard the interests of the Mil. Admin. Gen. Directorates to whom former military stores are returned will reimburse the A.R.A.R. the expenses met by them for recovery, transport, guard, storage, of said materials (actual expenses) the amount of these actual expenses will be, as each case occurs reported by A.R.A.R. these reimbursements will not constitute a reason for the A.R.A.R. to hold up the return of the material.

- 7 - Gen. Directorates under our command will settle the question of payment concerning materials received or being received as soon as possible.

Giovanni MANFREDONIA, at the Central A.R.A.R. offices, has been appointed to deal with the above matters;

- 8 - The Min. of Treasury will shortly issue instructions for paying the A.R.A.R. the sums corresponding to the materials purchased.

- 9 - As already laid down in the a/m circular 202600/11, in cases where the ownership of a specified item is doubted or disputed, identity will be confirmed by the Gen. Directorate of this Ministry at the Central A.R.A.R. offices.

11 - Guarding of Stores.

In circular 207400/11 dated 24 May 1946 you were once again reminded that troops may be used to guard Allied released material, but their employment will be limited to an absolute minimum.

I would point out that Mil. Terr. HQs must not divert all troops to this important service, but limit them to the more important depots. In particular: Troops available will be employed, together with special CC.RR. R.G.F. companies for ammunition dumps. Consequently; sworn in guards will be mainly used to guard store dumps; Army personnel R.G.F. and CC.RR. personnel will be used to guard stores containing valuable material and ammunition dumps.

Sgd. BROSI0

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

A P O 394

Ref: 9006/309/BC.

21 May 1946.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

RECEIVED 22 MAY 1946

I have to acknowledge receipt of your 685/12060.441/19.8 of 3 May 46.

I fear that I cannot consider the position as satisfactory. From correspondence between A.R.A.R. and the War Ministry dated 29 March 46 (reference ARAB/18/8307/Eng) and 23 April 46 (reference War Ministry 208960/II) it would appear that the War Ministry is not receiving sufficient material aid from this source.

It appears that the War Ministry will obtain nothing from A.R.A.R. unless Treasury approval is first obtained and further that A.R.A.R. refuse to "freeze" material considered by the War Ministry of value to them pending a Treasury decision.

I agree that my suggestion to include in the A.R.A.R. organisation direct War Ministry representation would not longer appear desirable.

I would ask, however, for an assurance that the needs of the Italian Army will be given the consideration justified by their importance so that the efficiency of the Italian Army may be maintained.

It is a matter of concern to see a deterioration of the Army resulting from lack of maintenance.

I will give one example. On 8 Nov 45 the War Ministry under reference 25134/12 requested the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to allocate a proportion of tyres and tyre repair facilities to the Army. In spite of frequent reminders no results have been achieved.

The transport of both Army and C.O.B.R. is reduced to a dangerously low level and lack of tyres is a serious contributory factor.

The percentage of tyres received by A.R.A.R. from Allied surplus stocks which have been released to the War Ministry are insufficient to remedy the present position.

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O. 100	☒

The War Ministry require:

- (a) adequate repair facilities;
- (b) the release of tyres listed at Appendix "A".

May I have your assurance that this assistance will be given and a copy of any instructions which may be issued to the Department concerned.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Alcide De Gasperi,
President of Council of Ministers,
Italian Government, ROME.

Is/ Ellery W. Stone
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Copy to: Land Forces S/C (Ref 9.006 of 17 May 46)

APPENDIX "A" to Ref: 9006/500/100
dated May 1946.

THOSE PROVIDED BY WAR MINISTRY FOR ARMY AND CC. RL.

<u>Size.</u>	<u>Current</u>		<u>Revised</u>	
	<u>Now</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Now</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
325 x 19	900	50	500	50
350 x 19	2000	200	2000	200
400 x 15/425 x 15	500	50	500	50
500 x 15	2500	250	2300	230
550 x 15	1800	180	1800	180
400 x 17/425 x 17/ 450 x 17/430 x 40	1600	160	1600	50
600 x 16/440 x 40	500	50	500	50
140 x 40/165 x 400	500	50	500	50
14 x 45	100	10	100	10
700 x 18	1000	100	1000	100
32 x 6/34 x 7	3600	360	3600	360
270 x 20	8000	800	8000	800
270 x 20/35 x 9/1050 x 20	3500	350	3500	350

SUBJECT:- Maintenance Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C.,

M.M.I.A.

R.O.M.E.

Q.006

17 May 1946

TO : Allied Commission (for Executive Commissioner).

Reference is made to (SFOA/12060.441/19.8 dated 3 May 46 received by you from the Prime Minister in reply to your 9036/235/40 dated 16 Feb 46.

1. This does not give you the full facts nor represent the situation as it exists today.

The letter from the War Ministry referred to (206458 dated 9 Mar) was followed by correspondence copies attached at Appendices "A" and "B". Note reply at "1" comes from the offices of A.R.A.R. The War Ministry wrote again on the 23 Apr 46 (Appendix "B"), this time to A.R.A.R. with a copy to the Council of Ministers.

This gist of this correspondence is that the War Ministry will obtain nothing from A.R.A.R. unless treasury approval is first obtained and further that A.R.A.R. refuse to "freeze" material considered by the War Ministry of value to them pending a treasury decision.

2. Further to this H.Q. letter Q.007 of 6 May 46 and with reference to above a draft letter to the Prime Minister is forwarded for consideration.

Major General, 7032
M.M.I.A.

Copy to:- Q.207

31

war and ... Note copy to ... The War Ministry wrote again on the 23 May 46 (Appendix B), ... time to A.R.A.R. with a copy to the Council of Ministers.

This gist of this correspondence is that the War Ministry will obtain nothing from A.R.A.R. unless treasury approval is first obtained and further that A.R.A.R. refuse to "freeze" material considered by the War Ministry of value to them pending a treasury decision.

2. Further to this H.Q. letter Q.207 of 6 May 46 and with reference to above a draft letter to the Prime Minister is forwarded for consideration.

Q204
Major General, 7032
M.M.F.A.
W/T

57-31

OSW tot- Q.207

RAC/ST

Appendix "A" to P. 006. 89
19 Aug 46

TRANSLATION

FROM : A.B.A.R.
TO : Ministry of War
and to MIA (for info.)
REF : ARAB/IN/1307/ABW
DATE : 29/3/46

SUBJECT : Assignment of war salvage to the Armed Forces.

With reference to letter 206.58 of the 9 ult., this Establishment considers it necessary to point out as follows :-

- (a) We agree with the proposal made in para. 2, i.e. that the Military Commands will arrange for the withdrawal of materials formerly belonging to the War Administration, which are recognised as such without any dispute by the local representatives of the ARAB, and will signal to the various Director (on General of your Ministry information regarding the material of which it is not possible to affirm without dispute, military ownership.
- (b) The proposal advanced in para. 4 does not seem advisable to this Establishment since direct cession in the part of the Allied Command to representatives of the Ministry before the Depots are handed over to the ARAB would have the disadvantage of making the Allies deal with two Departments instead of only one and would indefinitely cause a delay in the handing over of the Depots to the ARAB.
- (c) We have no comments to make on the proposal put forward in para. 5, i.e. that the provincial Departments of the ARAB, as soon as a Depot has been handed over to them by the Allies will send a list of materials contained therein to the Local Military Territorial Command and subsequently arrange to forward this list to the Directorate General of the War, pointing out explicitly the materials asked for by the Military Command for purchase or because identified as belonging to the Military Administration.
- (d) It does not appear advisable to this Establishment to hold "troops" (as proposed in the last part of para. 6.) the materials the purchase of which has been requested by our Ministry. In fact, to keep such materials frozen in the Depots would mean a delay in the normal development of the operations which this Establishment must carry out, and consequently a delay the introduction as to the nature of materials which could be of the greatest use in national reconstruction.

The difficulty would then be increased most appreciably if we had to extend this procedure to all other Administrations of the State. This Establishment, therefore, would not free the materials which it is desired to purchase and therefore all the relative negotiations would have to be dealt with urgently so that the necessary facilities could be taken before the said materials were sold to the public. Naturally this

(b) The proposal submitted in para 2, is to establish a direct liaison on the part of the Allied Command to the representatives of our Ministry before the Depots are handed over to the Allies. This would have the disadvantage of making the Allies deal with two departments instead of only one and would definitely cause a delay in the handing over of the Depots to the ARAB.

(c) We have no comments to make on the proposal put forward in para 3, i.e. that the provincial departments of the ARAB, as well as a Depot has been handed over to them by the Allies will send a list of materials contained therein to the local Military Territorial Command and subsequently arrange to forward this list to the Directorate General of the War, pointing out explicitly the materials asked for by the Military Command for purchase or because identical as belonging to the Military Administration.

(d) It does not appear advisable to this establishment to hold "Frozen" (as proposed in the last part of para 4) the materials the purchase of which has been requested by our Ministry. In fact, to keep such materials frozen in the Depots would mean a delay in the normal development of the operations which this establishment must carry out, and consequently a delay in the introduction of the materials which could be of the greatest use in national reconstruction.

The difficulty would then be increased most appreciably if we had to extend this procedure to all other Administrations of the State. This establishment, therefore, would not freeze the materials which it is desired to purchase and therefore all the relative negotiations would have to be dealt with urgently so that the necessary decisions could be taken before the said materials were sold to the public. Naturally this representative of War Ministry in order that the requirements of the establishment would arrange to give the maximum collaboration to the Military Administration may be satisfied.

Sgt. COLAET
Director General

TRANSLATION

Appendix "B" to P.O. of
14 May 46

FROM : THE MINISTRY

REF : 200960/II

TO : Directors General ARAM
Copy to: President of the Council of Ministers
and Prime Minister of the Republic

DATE : 23 April 1946

ref. your letter 1/1007/Ag. dt. 29th. ult.

1 I deem it right that the realization of the proposition made by this Ministry with his letter of 9th. ult. sub. no. 20628, para 1, namely "the obtaining from the Allied authorities of military materials should be a direct transfer to the military authorities before the stocks are handed over to the ARAM", does not represent any inconvenience.

It is therefore, above all, necessary for the selection of M.T. material to take place in order to avoid the withdrawal and payment by the ARAM of materials for which the Supreme Allied Authorities have already granted the free recovery.

2 If it is wished for the Army to have any profit by purchasing material from this Institute, it is necessary to block the materials requested by the Military Territorial M.T.s, awaiting the approval of the purchase. Otherwise, being in competition with private and civilian firms which have the privilege of handling immediately the purchase, this Department would have only the materials not required by other agencies. The result of slight delay will not bring serious disadvantages.

However, instructions will be given so that decisions concerning the purchases may be taken with the shortest delay.

sgt. The Minister

7030

DRAFT

ALLIED COMMISSION TO BRITISH MINISTER

SUBJECT:- Maintenance of Italian Army.

Reference your 68504/12063.44.1/19.8 of 3 May 46.

1. It is not considered that the position is at all satisfactory as from correspondence between A.R.A.R. and the War Ministry dated 29 Mar 46 (reference ARAR/12/8307/846) and 23 Apr 46 (reference War Ministry 208960/II) it would appear that the War Ministry is not receiving sufficient material aid from this source.

2. It appears that the War Ministry will obtain nothing from A.R.A.R. unless treasury approval is first obtained and further that A.R.A.R. refuse to "dress" material considered by the War Ministry of value to them pending a treasury decision.

3. I agree that my suggestion to include in the A.R.A.R. Organisation direct War Ministry representation would no longer appear desirable.

I wish however to re-emphasize that the needs of the Italian Army are being given the consideration justified by their importance and that positive and direct action is being taken by your Government to maintain the efficiency of the Army.

4. It is a matter of concern to see a deterioration of the Army resulting from lack of maintenance.

I will give one example. On 6 Nov 45 the War Ministry under reference 25184/II requested the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to allocate a proportion of tyres and tyre repair facilities to the Army.

In spite of frequent reminders no results have been achieved.

The transport of both Army and C.C.R. is reduced to a dangerously low level and lack of tyres is a serious contributory factor.

The percentage of tyres received by A.R.A.R. from Allied surplus stocks which have been released to the War Ministry are insufficient to remedy the present position.

5. The War Ministry require:-

(a) adequate repair facilities.

(b) the release of tyres listed at Appendix "A" (see original Appendix to 68504/12063.44.1/19.8 of 3 May 46).

May I hope your assurance that this condition will be given

7029

*

and that positive and direct action is being taken to maintain the efficiency of the Army.

It is a matter of concern to see a deterioration of the Army resulting from lack of maintenance.

I will give one example. On 8 Nov 45 the War Ministry under reference 25184/VI requested the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to allocate a proportion of tyres and tyre repair facilities to the Army.

In spite of frequent reminders no results have been achieved.

The transport of both Army and CO. RR is reduced to a dangerously low level and lack of tyres is a serious contributory factor.

The percentage of tyres received by A.R.A.M. from Allied surplus stocks which have been released to the War Ministry are insufficient to remedy the present position.

5. The War Ministry require:-

- (a) adequate repair facilities.
- (b) the release of tyres listed at Appendix "A" (see original Appendix to 25184/VI of 6 May 45).

May I have your assurance that this assistance will be given and a copy of any instructions which may be issued to the Department concerned.

Chief Commissioner

* See original Appendix Q 207 6 May.

7029

RECEIVED 9 MAY 1946
6.4/0

Land Forces

27

Translation

IL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI

Ref. 68504/12060.441/19.8

Rome, 3 May 1946

158751 P003

Dear General,

I considered it advisable to hear the opinion of the Ministry of War regarding the problem of equipment for the new Italian Army, which point was raised in your letter to me n.9006/235/RC and 16 Feb last.

I am forwarding you a copy of their reply n.206458 dtd 9 March, as it stands, and as of the opinion that it deserves your kindly consideration, given the clear out practicability of the solutions proposed for an immediate attainment of the object in view.

With kind regards,

(Signature)

NA RAE

9/5/46

Brigadier General H.S. IRSH,
Executive Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
Rome.

9/5/46
50006
SEE 31

TO SEE	
A/Q	☒
Q	☒
Q. 1	☒
Q. 2	☒
ORD	☒
REME	☒
	☒

E.C. DIST - 9 May

Action : E.C.
Info : C.C.

Land Forces
Staff S/C
Also Forces S/C
E.C. Sec. (CENB)

REGISTRO DELLA GUERRA

Translation

Rome, 9 March 1946

N.206458/11

Ref your N.61443/12060/12060.44.5.19.8, dtd 1 March 1946.

SUBJECT: Assignment of War Material to the E.F.A.A. (Armed Forces).

TO : Presidency of the Council of Ministers - Gabinetto, Rome

Copy to: Land Forces Sub-Commission (S.M.A.) A.C.
(Ref N.2/003 of the 18 Feb 1946)

General Direction of A.R.A.R.

155 J.F. 54-9.003

1. From the moment the Allies notified their intention of handing over their deposits of material in Italy to the Italian Government, this Ministry has been anxious to obtain all serviceable material for the Army, amongst which must be distinguished:

- (1) military material which, according to the orders of A.P.H. given during the war, must be handed over to the Army without payment (letter from A.C.G., R.C.-X.M.G. Section, A.P.G. 34, dtd 10/8/44, and administrative instructions n.50 a copy of which is attached.)
- (2) material not coming under military administration which it is in the interests of the Army to acquire.

2. In view of the rules for the functioning of A.R.A.R. and that the Territorial Military Commands supervise the guarding of all material handed over by the Allies, it was ruled (circular 23200/11 dtd 20 Nov 1945 and N.202600/11 dtd 4 Feb 1946, copies of which are attached) (i) that the Territorial Military Commands should come to an agreement with the local representative of A.R.A.R., (ii) that they should arrange as soon as possible to examine all material at present in the deposits and (iii) immediately after:

- (a) remove the war material recognised as such without objection from the local representative of A.R.A.R.;
- (b) inform the General Direction of this Ministry what material the representatives of A.R.A.R. claim as being military property;
- (c) propose the purchasing of material not pertaining to the military authorities, which is deemed useful.

The general directions have direct contacts with A.R.A.R. both for discussion over the military ownership of certain materials and for fixing the prices and manner of transferring the materials which the Territorial Military Commands intend to acquire.

7027

- 2 -

3. An organization is therefore already in being which, in agreement with A.R.A.R., will ensure that this Ministry is immediately informed regarding the materials handed over by the Allies. Officers of the Territorial Military Commands, who are specialists for each type of material, decide whether it belongs to the military and are able to point out its usefulness. Other officers of the individual general directions are particularly competent for settling possible differences between the Direction of A.R.A.R. and the War Ministry, and to negotiate the purchasing of suitable material.

I consider therefore that no perceptible improvement would be obtained by the assignment of one or more officers to A.R.A.R.

4. On the other hand a point which I consider essential for ensuring that the Army enters into possession of the war material as quickly as possible, is to obtain the consent of the Allies that their material should be, in accordance with the ruling of A.P.H.Q., handed over directly to representatives of the War Ministry before the deposits have been consigned to A.R.A.R.

5. Combined with the above mentioned fundamental measure there should be instructions given to perfect the organization mentioned in para 2, specifying that as soon as the Allies have handed over a deposit to the agencies of A.R.A.R. the latter should show the list of the material to the competent Territorial Military Command of the district and afterwards forward the list to the General Direction of A.R.A.R. clearly indicating which materials the Military Command desire to purchase outright or as being recognised as belonging to military administration. Such materials, naturally, should be kept at the disposition of this Ministry.

6. Lastly I consider it would be useful to have an Italian officer attached to the office of the Chief Disposal Officer, in order that he can inform either this Ministry or the Territorial Military Commands direct, what materials are on the point of being handed over. This would avoid the inconveniences which has sometimes occurred in the past of the Territorial Military Commands being informed of the handing over of the deposits of material after the Allied guards had already left and after pilfering and damage to the material had taken place.

I have already given orders to this effect by direct request of H.M.I.A.

THE MINISTER
(E. Brosio)

7826

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION 40
M.M.I.A.
ROME
Q.006

30 April 1946

TO : War Ministry-

Ref your 208960/11 of 25 April 46 addressed to Direzione Generale ARAR.

1. Approval has been sought for the direct transfer to the War Ministry of surplus Allied war material which may be made available for the maintenance of the Italian Army. In the case of the stores recently delivered to BOLOGNA this procedure was adopted but in general the Allied policy remains that, with the exception of lethal warlike equipment, surplus stores will be disposed of through the Allied Disposal Agencies who deal only with ARAR.

2. Pending further clarification of what material is to be transferred direct, military to military, it is desirable that a distinction be clearly drawn between stores of Allied Origin and those classified as "captured enemy material" and which are obtained by the Ministry from ARAR.

3. Details of the financial adjustment needed have yet to be notified but the present position is as follows and should be noted by you.

(a) C.E.M.

(i) Material of Italian Military origin released direct by the Allies is regarded as the return to the War Ministry of property to which they have legal title. Such material if obtained from depots under ARAR control comes under the category described in para 1 of your above quoted letter viz "materials for which the Allied authorities have already granted the free recovery",

(ii) Material not of Italian Military origin which has been released by the Allies for the civil rehabilitation of the country is at the disposal of ARAR, and is subject to such financial adjustment as may be decided by the Italian Government as between ARAR and the User.

(b) Allied lethal equipment.

Weapons in possession of the Interim Army on the 15th November 45 and such as have since been delivered are considered as on loan from the Allies subject to final disposal instructions. Shipping tickets have not yet been prepared by it is HQ for such equipment except as regards ammunition for these weapons.

(c) Allied surplus Military stores.

(i) Stores in possession of the Interim Army on the 15th November 45 and those delivered direct, military to military, since that date are subject to payment on terms yet to be arranged. Shipping tickets have been prepared by this HQ for some (mainly clothing) but not all such items.

3. Details of the financial adjustment needed have yet to be notified but the present position is as follows and should be noted by you.

(a) C.E.M.

(i) Material of Italian Military origin released direct by the Allies is regarded as the return to the War Ministry of property to which they have legal title. Such material if obtained from depots under ARAR control comes under the category described in para 1 of your above quoted letter viz "materials for which the Allied authorities have already granted the free recovery".

(ii) Material not of Italian Military origin which has been released by the Allies for the civil rehabilitation of the country is at the disposal of ARAR, and is subject to such financial adjustment as may be decided by the Italian Government as between ARAR and the User.

(b) Allied lethal equipment.

Weapons in possession of the Interim Army on the 15th November 45 and such as have since been delivered are considered as on loan from the Allies subject to final disposal instructions. Shipping tickets have not yet been prepared by it is HQ for such equipment except as regards ammunition for these weapons.

(c) Allied surplus Military stores.

- (i) Stores in possession of the Interim Army on the 15th November 45 and those delivered direct, military to military, since that date are subject to payment on terms yet to be arranged. Shipping tickets have been prepared by this HQ for some (notably clothing) but not all such items.
- (ii) Stores obtained by the Ministry from depots under ARAR control are the property of the Italian Govt and subject to such financial adjustment as may be decided by them. Shipping tickets will not be prepared by this HQ for such items, as such accountability is a matter concerning the Allied Disposal Agencies and ARAR.

4. Please acknowledge receipt.

Copy to : CHQ (for "G(SD)(5) INTERNAL : G
AC (for Exec. Comm. 4 CEM.Br) Q (Accounts)
Chief Disposals Officer Ordnance
L.C. File Q.150

Major General
M.M.I.A.

TO" BUCK SLIP FILE NO. 8006

(23)

DATE	SECTION OR SERVICE	ACTION REQUIRED
27 Apr	FROM: Q TO: Dep Comd this HQ	Ref (217) ¹ Snaps for approval as I am far from satisfied the position is clear to the War Plan RAC
27 Apr	AQ ADMG ADMG	3 Speaking quite frankly, but admitting my stupidity, I cannot say about this draft makes the position any clearer to me, although I am prepared to believe you, if you say it will help matters and to try it out on the war training who may be better at judging than I am. SP
29 Apr	Q Q HQ	- 3 - Approved by Dep Comd who wishes you will command before departure RAC

27 Apr	AR.	ARMA DRAT SP	Spending quite a lot of money. I cannot say about my stipend. This draft makes the position very clear to me, although I am prepared to believe you if you say it will help matters and to try it out or see what Ministry also may be better at purposes than I am.
29 Apr	Q	Q Mr	- 3 - CARR 24 Offered by the Lord who makes you see someone before departure.

KRR

- 4 -

29 Apr Q/Ms AQMG Looks OK to me @ KRL

Wax as amended KRR

(2)

Col. W. Pidsley, DMO, GSR, MC,
Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C.,
M.M.T.A.
R O M B,

Q.006/D.O.V.P.

26 April 1946

Dear Inglis,

S/2054
26 Apr

Ref this morning's 'phone talk, I am sending the attached by quickest means as requested. From it you will see the official means by which we have passed on the C.O.S. decisions to the Italian Government, and subsequently prodded them towards implementing them. It doesn't pretend to give any idea of all the unofficial and conversational efforts we have been making (at all levels) to that end. My General is at present engaged in high level contacts through the Chief Commissioner and all of us here, and in the E.L.U.'s, are doing the same in our own spheres.

But the basic fact that sticks out is, that neither the Italian Government or nation is really interested in supporting an Army, at the moment, which we have said they should have. Everything in ITALY is political or economic short term policy, designed to see them through the elections and referendum. But when that is past they will expect to turn round and find a ready made reliable Army which, as things are going, just won't happen.

So - whatever this high level united effort might bring forth - do let us keep our feet on the ground and give them what practical and timely aid we can, without waiting for the result of agreements from the other side of the Atlantic.

As you know we want arms, ammunition, vehicles, tyres and maintenance spares, tools etc. now. You already know what sort and how many.

We await your commands.

Yours

WP

Major W. M. Inglis,
S (CD), G.H.Q.,
C.E.F.

7023

TRANSLATION

MINISTRY OF WAR

Rome 23rd. April 46
ref. 208960/II

Subject.- Assignment to the IT.AA. of warlike salvage.

TO: - Direzione Generale A.R.A.R.

copy to : Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri
" Land Forces Sub Commission AC(MIA)

ref. your letter 1/E/8307/Sbg. dt. 29th. ult.

- 1) I deem it right that the realization of the proposition made by this Ministry with his letter of 9th. ult. sub. no. 206458, para 4, namely " the obtaining from the Allied Authorities of military materials should be a direct transfer to the military authorities before the stocks are handed over to the ARAR," does not represent any inconvenience.

It is therefore, above all, necessary for the selection of W.D. materials to take place in order to avoid the withdrawal and payment by the ARAR of materials for which the Supreme Allied Authorities have already granted the free recovery.

- 2) If it is wished for the Army to have any profit by purchasing material from this Institute, it is necessary to block the materials requested by the Military Territorial HQ's, awaiting the approval of the purchases. Otherwise, being in competition with private and civilian firms, which have the privilege of deciding immediately the purchases, this Department would have only the materials not requested by other agencies. The result of slight delay will not bring serious disadvantages.

However, instructions will be given so that decisions concerning the purchases may be taken with the shortest delay.

sgd. The Minister

7022

1 P 006

Ref. : 8255/176/EC

13 April 1946

SUBJECT: UNRRA Priority

TO : G-5, AFHQ

RECEIVED 15 APR 1946
5382

1. I wish to invite your attention to two almost identical notes verbale which were sent to the Italian Government by the United States and British Embassies on procurement by the Italian Government for its Armed Forces. In the notes the subordinate position of the Italian Government vis-a-vis UNRRA is clearly defined.

2. I feel some concern about the subordination of the Italian Government procurement because of the previous difficulties which have occurred when the Italian Government has undertaken to provide rations for the Army. In general their ability to provision for their Army has been delayed by difficulties in procurement and transportation, as well as the non-availability of supplies in the countries of source. These difficulties have been further enhanced by the non-availability for Armed Forces of such supplies as those shipped by FEA/UNRRA, lacking special arrangements for repayment. You will recall that advances have been made to the Italian Government from Allied Military stocks.

3. The notes, stating the views of the two Governments, stipulate that supply must be accomplished from:

- (a) indigenous sources;
- (b) Allied surpluses;
- (c) Italian Government purchases abroad with that Government's foreign credits.

4. I anticipate no priority difficulty with supply from indigenous sources.

5. With respect to Allied Military surpluses, it is to be noted that while this source is listed prominently as available to the Italian Government, the reliability of the source is reduced by the higher priority assigned to UNRRA. It is believed that the Italian Government, in its procurement for the Armed Forces, should have an equal, if not a higher priority position than UNRRA in procuring from Army surpluses. This belief is supported by the necessity for an efficient and effective military establishment to maintain peace and order in the country, which are prerequisites to UNRRA operations.

6. The assignment of an over-riding priority to UNRRA for the procurement of imported supplies might have unfortunate effects. UNRRA is

SEE 15-4-46

I 9006

15-H-46
AQ

- 2 -

Countless a dominant factor in the markets of the supplying countries, as well as in the use of transport facilities. With such a priority there is the possibility that procurement agents of UNRRA, in the supplying countries, might assert their priorities to such an extent that the ability of the Italian Government to procure would be prejudiced.

7. Insofar as the Italian Mission of UNRRA is concerned I do not anticipate any difficulties, because that Mission is fully cognizant of the Italian needs and well aware of the necessity for leaving the Italian Government free to procure for the segments of the population for which its funds are not eligible.

8. In view of the considerations above, I suggest submission of a recommendation to the Combined Chiefs of Staff that they represent to the two Governments the desirability of placing the Italian Government on a higher priority in its procurement of supplies for the Armed Forces.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier
Acting Chief Commissioner

Encls. (2)
Copies of notes verbale from
U. S. and British Embassies

CC: Land Forces S/C
Air Forces S/C
Navy S/C
V/G Supply Opns. Branch
U. S. Embassy
Attn.: Commercial Attache
British Embassy
Attn.: Commercial Attache
UNRRA

7020

COPYCOPY

British Embassy,

Rome.

R.V. 6.
2/12/45.CD.NOTE VERBALE

His Majesty's Embassy present their compliments to the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and have the honour, under instructions, to communicate the views of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom on certain points related to the maintenance of the Italian Armed Forces:-

- (1). Italian military requirements should, as far as possible, be provided from indigenous Italian resources.
- (2). All imports, including tyres and tubes, should be purchased by the Italian Government through their own resources in accordance with existing arrangements for supplies outside the basic programme.
- (3). UNRRA supplies may not be used by the Italian Army.
- (4). Italian military requirements should be subordinate to UNRRA for the disposal of surplus property in Italy.
- (5). The maximum use should be made of Allied Army surpluses to meet the requirements of the Italian Army.
- (6). Requirements for Italy sponsored by UNRRA must have priority over requirements for the military forces.
- (7). Supplies in Category A. of the civilian import programme should not be used for military purposes except where the Allied Commission believes it impracticable to establish a separate line of supply for specific items outside that programme.
- (8). No specific additional tonnages should be included in the Category A programme for Italian military requirements.
- (9). No assurance can be given as to the flow of military supplies.

8th January, 1946, 7019

The Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Palazzo Chigi,
ROME.

COPYCOPY

(Note Verbale sent by American Embassy).

V.O. No. 358.

NOTE VERBALE

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, under instructions from the State Department at Washington, has the honor to communicate the views of the United States Government with regard to the following questions related to the maintenance of the Italian Armed Forces:

- (a) Priority as between Italian Army and UNRRA in obtaining surplus property;
- (b) Priority as between Italian military requirements and civilian requirements in Italian import program;
- (c) Question of assurances to be given concerning furnishing of supplies in the civil import program;
- (d) Whether specific additional tonnage shall be included in civil import program for military purposes;
- (e) Whether tire and tube equipment can be supplied through civilian import program.

On these questions, the views of the United States Government are as follows:-

1. We agree that Italian military requirements should, in first instance, be taken from Italian indigenous resources, and secondly, from surplus United States and United Kingdom stocks in Italy.
2. UNRRA should have priority over Italian military requirements in the disposal of surplus property in Italy.
3. Items including tires and tube requirements which cannot be supplied locally or from surplus should be purchased by Italian Government through its available foreign resources. Italian Government should determine relative priority of military and civilian requirements in making its purchases.
4. UNRRA supplies cannot be used for military purposes.
5. Supplies in category A, civilian import program, should not (repeat not) be used for military purposes except where Allied Commission believes it impracticable to establish separate line of supply for specific items outside that program. No specific additional tonnages should be included in category A program for Italian military requirements.

ROME, January 4, 1946
CAL:ds

To the
Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Rome.

COPY

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN FORCES

FIELD NO : FREEDOM 25A

G(SD)

SUBJECT : Vehicles for ITALIAN Interim Army.

ESD/81/3

Q

8 April 46

COPY TO : Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C. (MILA)
 (ref para 6 your 9006 of 2 April 46)
 ORL

Ref minute 14 (c) of the minutes of the Conference of 18 March
 issued under our ref ESD/81/3 of 27 March 46.

1. MILA have asked that they be informed as soon as possible of the types and estimated quantity of serviceable vehicles that will eventually be declared surplus.
2. It is appreciated that you can only give very approximate quantities of each type but any information you can give will help them to plan the economical distribution of vehicles within the ITALIAN Army.

File
 1/4

Signed/ ???

M.F.H. HASTING,
 Major General,
 Chief of General Staff.

WHL/ah

Copied by : Jv
 11 April 46

G.(SD) See thank you, please take up
 again if no reply by 1 May 46.

WP

checked
 by SD
 16/4/46
 006

File

Col. W. PINDLEY, DSO, CBE, MC,
Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C.,
M.H.I.A.
R O M E
Q.006

5 April 1946

Dear John

Many thanks for your hospitality at CASERTA. I have just got back from a tour of the North and read the results of our Conference, to which we have replied in my Q.006 of 2 April and sundry signals. I feel we might be beginning to see better days ahead now. *5/9.054*

I do want to assure you from what I have seen up North of the really tremendous effort that, part at least of, the Italian Army is making to help itself.

To anyone who wants proof of this I would suggest a visit to the O.A.R.M. (Italian M.T. Base Workshop at BOLOGNA).

You may remember the "fight" which M.H.I.A. had with 2 District and "G" for these "premises". Although 75% destroyed and with British workshops in the best of the remaining accommodation, the Corps Automobilstico have got down to it and are working like ants. They are casting and machining many of the simple essential parts for Allied vehicles which we have been unable to give them and labouriously finishing them "by hand" at considerable expense. Improvisation is the keynote, machines have been brought miles by bullock cart and they have then short and long term plans. If anyone from GHQ would ever like to visit the place, I should be proud to take them.

With this in mind I am sure you will agree that its up to us to give them all the practical help we can. I know you will do all you can and feel you may like to have this "fact" on which to base your requests.

I hope your wife will arrive safely and you will be able to pay us a visit in ROME.

From what I have seen up North, I can confirm that unless something is done about mechanical control soon we shall be in the soup

Yours

Brigadier J. D'A Anderson, CBE, DSO,
B.G.S., G(SH),
G.H.Q.

W.P.

7017

By hand of Mrs Haden

R. RENDIX B to SG 054

(16) 36 Ar.

SUBJECT:- Maintenance Italian Army - Allied Surplus Material.

Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C.,

M.M.I.A.

R O M E

Q.006

5 April 1946

SOL FILE 207

Form 44

TO : A.C. (for Executive Commissioner).

Reference your 9006/253/RC of 2 Mar 46.

1. It is understood no reply has yet been received to your 9006/235/RC of 16 Feb 46 to the Prime Minister.

2. The attached copy of a letter addressed to the War Ministry by A.R.A.R. is forwarded for your information.

3. The situation remains unsatisfactory.

4. Meanwhile GHQ have been requested to approve direct transfer of Allied Military Surplus stores, see this Sub-Commission letter Q.006 of 2 April 46, copy attached.

W. P. Delaney, Colonel

Major General,
M.M.I.A.

RAC/ar

Spoke Knisely En Comm Office Tel 371.

No reply yet received
Ence Comm taking hastening action

RAC 016

24 Apr

B.F.

1 May

W.P.

SEE

SUBJECT:-- Equipment for Interim Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C.,
M.M.I.A.
30 MB
✓ Q.006

2 April 1946

TO : O.H.Q.

Reference GHQ letter ZEE/81/3 of 27 Mar 46 forwardin Minutes
of GHQ Conference held 15 Mar 46. The following information is given:--

1. (a) Since the conference this Mission has again contacted the Chief Disposal Officer, Ministry of Supply in Rome. It appears we may expect no active support from this source in spite of para 12 of ANHQ Directive of 2 Nov 45.
- (b) This is due to the fact that the Chief Disposal Officer may deal only with ARAR and in practice no priority is given by ARAR to the needs of the War Ministry.
- (c) In para 8 of the Directive issued by Ministry of Supply HQ Mission on 4 Mar 46 it is stated:--
- "The C.D.O. will have nothing to do with any question of equipping the Italian Army. This is the responsibility of MIA and/or the Italian Government. If the C.D.O. intervenes in this field he will be concerning himself with political issues".
2. M.M.I.A. has also interviewed the Director of the Italian Government Disposal Agency (A.R.A.R.) who states that he cannot permit representation from any Italian Ministry, that neither the Ministry of War nor any other Ministry has any priority.

A.R.A.R. is a commercial undertaking representing the Italian Government interests and sells Allied surpluses to the best customer. In the case of Government Departments treasury credit to the required amount is needed before the "sale" is approved.

3. This offers but little chance to a service Ministry to whom funds are not available. It is apparent that the immediate needs of the Italian Army will not be met from this source. Under reference 9006/235/AC dated 16 Feb 46 the Chief Commissioner advised the head of the Italian Government to give such priority as would ensure the Army is properly equipped. No reply has yet been received.

(b) This is due to the fact that the Chief Disposal Officer may deal only with ARAR and in practice no priority is given by ARAR to the needs of the War Ministry.

(c) In para 8 of the Directive issued by Ministry of Supply HQ Mission on 4 Mar 46 it is stated:-

"The C.D.O. will have nothing to do with any question of equipping the Italian Army. This is the responsibility of MIA and/or the Italian Government. If the C.D.O. intervenes in this field he will be concerning himself with political issues".

2. M.M.I.A. has also interviewed the Director of the Italian Government Disposal Agency (A.R.A.R.) who states that he cannot permit representation from any Italian Ministry, that neither the Ministry of War nor any other Ministry has any priority.

A.R.A.R. is a commercial undertaking representing the Italian Government interests and sells Allied surpluses to the best customer. In the case of Government Departments Treasury credit to the required amount is needed before the "sale" is approved.

3. This offers but little chance to a service Ministry to whom funds are not available. It is apparent that the immediate needs of the Italian Army will not be met from this source. Under reference 9006/235/EG dated 16 Feb 46 the Chief Commissioner advised the head of the Italian Government to give such priority as would ensure the Army is properly equipped. No reply has yet been received.

4. In view of the above it is more than ever evident that unless material essential to the Italian Army is provided from British surpluses direct to the War Ministry, there will be little chance of having an Italian Army for some time.

5. It is therefore recommended (vide Minute 16) that the definition of lethal equipment should be a wide one to include the following and that these should then be made immediately available in such quantities as are necessary:-

- (a) Weapons, ammunition and explosives.
- (b) All instruments for fire direction and control.
- (c) All Army signals equipment.
- (d) All Field engineering stores and special equipment.
- (e) Appropriate specialist tools, gauges and special maintenance stores (including expendable items) for weapons and technical equipment.
- (f) Spare parts and replacements for weapons and equipment.
- (g) All M.V. vehicles (not only "A" vehicles previously recorded).
- (h) Makers parts, accessories and associated stores for M.V. vehicles.
- (i) Spares and replacements for the above (including tyres and major assemblies).

6. The earliest possible information regarding the projected "standardisation" of M.V. in the British Army and consequently of the surplus "makes" likely to be available to the Italian Army is required by this Mission in order that an economical distribution may be effected within the Italian Army with a view to standardisation within Italian formations.

W. P. Kelly
Major General,
M.M.I.A.

0435

- (h) makers parts, accessories, and vehicles.
- (i) Spares and replacements for the above (including tyres and major assemblies).

6. The earliest possible information regarding the projected "standardisation" of M.F. in the British Army and consequently of the surplus "wrecks" likely to be available to the Italian Army is required by this Mission in order that an economical distribution may be effected within the Italian Army with a view to standardisation within Italian formations.

W. P. R. ...
Major General,
M.M.I.A.

Mr/ar

*Checklist: Head
File
Q
M/R
G (C.D.)*

TRANSLATION

FROM: A.R.A.R.
TO : Ministry of War
and to MMIA (for information)

REF: ARAR/1E/8307/Sbg
DATE: 29/3/48

SUBJECT: Assignment of War salvage to the
Armed Forces.

With reference to letter 206458 of the 9 ult. this Establishment considers it necessary to point out as follows:

- a) We agree with proposal made in para 2, i.e. that the Military Commands will arrange for the withdrawal of materials formerly belonging to the War Administration, which are recognised as such without any dispute by the local representatives of the ARAR, and will signal to the various Directorates General of Your Ministry information regarding the material in respect of which it is not possible to affirm, without dispute, military ownership.
- b) The proposal advanced in para 4 does not seem advisable to this Establishment since direct cession on the part of the Allied Command to representatives of War Ministry before the Depots are handed over to the A.R.A.R. would have the disadvantage of making the Allies deal with two departments instead of only one and would definitely cause a delay in the handing over of the Depots to the A.R.A.R.
- c) We have no comments to make on the proposal put forward in para 5, i.e. that the provincial Departments of the ARAR, as soon as a Depot has been handed over to them by the Allies will send a list of the materials contained therein to the local Military Territorial Command and subsequently arrange to forward this list to the Directorate General of the ARAR, pointing out explicitly the materials asked for by the Military Command for purchase or because identified as belonging to the Military Administration.
- d) It does not appear advisable to this Establishment to hold "frozen" (as proposed in the last part of para 4) the materials the purchase of which has been requested by Your Ministry. In fact, to keep such materials frozen in the Depots would mean a delay in the normal development of the operations which this

I 9.006

2/4/48 RE

- 2 -

Establishment must carry out, ^{and} consequently delay the introduction to the market of materials which could be of the greatest use in National reconstruction.

The difficulty would then be increased most appreciably if we had to extend this procedure to all other Administrations of the State. This Establishment, therefore, would not freeze the materials which is desired to purchase and therefore all the relative negotiations would have to be dealt with urgently so that the necessary decisions could be taken before the said materials were sold to the public. Naturally this Establishment would arrange to give the maximum collaboration to the representatives of Your Ministry in order that the requirements of the Military Administration may be satisfied.

sgd. Solari
Director General

7013

TRANSLATION

FROM: Ministry of War

REF: 206548

TO: Presidency of the Council of Ministers
M.M.I.A. for info,

DATE: 9.3.46

SUBJECT: Assignment to the Armed Forces of war residuant materials.

- 1) - Ever since the Allies manifested intentions of ceding to the Italian Government the depots of materials formed by them in Italy, this Ministry has been concerned with gaining possession of those usable for Army purposes, which must be split as follows:
- the materials formerly of military ownership which, according to A.F.H.Q. instructions issued during the war period, must be freely returned to the Army (H.Q., A.C.C. letter R.C.-X.M.G. Section, A.P.O. 394, of 10.8.1944 and admin. instruction No. 30 copy enclosed);
 - the materials not originally of the military administration which it would suit the Army to purchase.
- 2) - Taking into consideration the regulations which control the functioning of the A.R.A.R. and given that the Military Territorial Commands are taking care of the guard duties on all the materials ceded by the Allies, instructions have been given (in circulars 225200/11 of 20.11.45, and 202600/11 of 4th. Feb. last, copy enclosed) that the Military Territorial Commands in agreement with the local representatives of the A.R.A.R., make arrangements as soon as possible to examine all the stores held in the depots and immediately afterwards:
- withdraw the stores formerly of War administration ownership and recognised as such, without dispute, by the local A.R.A.R. representative;
 - notify the Directorate Generals of this Ministry of stores the military ownership of which is disputed by the A.R.A.R. representatives;
 - propose the purchase of stores not of military ownership which are considered useful.

SEE 14

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7012
SEE 81
JW 11/3

The Directorate Generals have direct contact with the A.R.A.R. both for settling controversies which arise regarding the military ownership of some of the stores and for establishing prices and methods of handing over in respect of the stores the purchase of which is recommended by the Military Territorial Commands.

- 3) - Therefore an organisation already exists which, in agreement with the A.R.A.R., guarantees this Ministry being timely informed of stores ceded by the Allies. Officers of the Military Territorial Commands, specialised in each type of stores, examine the said stores and are in a position to prove their belonging to the Military Administration or to recognise their utility. Other officers of the individual Directorate Generals are particularly competent to settle eventual controversies between Directorate ~~and~~ A.R.A.R. and the Ministry of War and to deal with the purchase of utilisable stores.

I consider therefore that the assignment of one or more officers to the A.R.A.R. can not be of any appreciable advantage.

- 4) - On the other hand, a measure which I would consider as essential to permit of the Army making speedy use of military stores, is that of obtaining from the Allied Authorities that the materials formerly belonging to this administration be handed over, on the basis of the A.F.H.Q. instructions, direct to the representatives of the Ministry of War before the depots are handed over to the A.R.A.R.
- 5) - This fundamental measure would have to be integrated by some contemporaneous instruction designed to perfect the organisation shown in para. 2. More specifically, it would be necessary for the provincial offices of the A.R.A.R., immediately upon being handed over a depot by the Allies, to show a list of the stores to the Military Territorial Command controlling the area and, subsequently, forward this list to the A.R.A.R. Directorate General showing quite clearly the stores requested by the Military Command for purchase, or, eventually, because ~~it has~~ been identified as belonging to the Military Administration. Naturally, such stores would have to be held at the disposal of this Ministry.
- 6) - Finally, I think that ~~xxxxxxx~~ the presence of an Italian officer at the Office of the Chief Disposal Officer may be of advantage, in order that he may inform this Ministry, or the Military Territorial Commands concerned direct, of stores on the point of being ceded.

This would avoid the inconvenience sometimes noted, of the Military Territorial Commands being informed of the cession of the stores-depots after the Allied guard personnel have been removed, i.e., after the said stores have been subject to removals and degradations.

I have already given instructions to this effect on the direct request of the M.M.I.A.

Sgd. BROSIO

War Minister.

O. Danin Cpl.

7010

12

Extract from Bulletin Directive
for Chief Disposal Officer issued
by War of Supply HQ Messin
on 4 Mar 1946

Para 8. "The CDO will have nothing
to do with any question of egging
the Italian Army This is the
responsibility of MMIA and/or the
Italian Government Of the C. D. O.
involvement in this field he will
be concerning himself with
political issues."

Col Fry states he can deal only with
MMIA.

the Italian Army. This is the responsibility of MMIA and/or the Italian Government of the C. D.O. intervenes in this field he will be concerning himself with political events.

Cor Fry states he can deal only with

MMIA.

MMIA state that the War Air must make application, having obtained the necessary funds, for such claim as they wish to purchase.

1 Apr 46.

MMIA

Telephone: 343040 - 19
HDE/sjb

RECEIVED 9 MAR 3 1946
(DATE)

(11)

To: Major-General Commanding
Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C. (M.M.I.A.)
R O M E. Q.

From: Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)
25, Corso d'Italia
R O M E.

Subject: Disposal of Allied Surpluses to Italian
Army.

6 5
With further reference to this Office letter dated
5th February, 1946 in reply to your Q.003 dated 31st January,
1946, and in order to clear the file, it is confirmed that
the matter of a M.M.I.A. Liaison Officer being attached to
G.H.Q. instead of to this Mission is under consideration.
It is regretted that the original proposal of attaching a
M.M.I.A. representative to the C.D.O. has not been agreed to.

H. J. Colinet.

Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)

NA

RAC

A Q.003

CG
2008
9/3

785020

SUBJECT:- War Ministry - Azienda Ricupero Alienazione
Residuati (A.R.A.R.)

Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C.,
M.M.I.A.
R O M E
Q.003

4 March 1946

Major Baumann,
Senior Liaison Officer

Reference Q.003 of 2 Feb and attached L.O. report.

11. Examples are awaited of the War Ministry failing to obtain the support of the Italian Government through :

A.R.A.R.
Ministry of Industry and Commerce
Ministry of Transportation
etc

2. It now appears War Ministry are satisfied with their representation on A.R.A.R.

Why then do they fail to secure tyres, M.T. spares and Italian type vehicles ?

See Folios 24 and 43 in File Q.201.

3. Capt. Casagrandi has been nominated to serve as L.O. with Ministry of Supply but it was decided on 2 Mar that :

(a) GHQ would consider direct release to MMIA for Army material of purely military value, including weapons and 'A' vehicles.

This to be discussed at GHQ on Wednesday (ADOS and SAQMG).

(b) No War Ministry rep would be required at Office of Principal Disposals Officer.

Capt. Casagrandi should however be employed in a similar manner as L.O. between Directorate of Arty and Motorization and A.R.A.R.
Can this be arranged ?

RAC
R.A. CURTIS, Col.,
A.Q.M.G.
M.M.I.A.

RAC/ar

*Return to Q.
File Q 003.*

Col LOBBARDI
Lt Col MONACO

Ref 4-003 dated 18 Feb 46, re Disposal of ALLIED surplus to the
ITALIAN Army and ref 9006/235/41 dated 16 Feb from Executive
Commissioner to the Prime Ministers

LOBBARDI was pleased to hear that Capt GARABINDE was to report
to MHA on 4 Mar to do liaison work with ALLIED Surplus Material
Disposal Ofcr.

He stated that the President of the Commission of the ARAR was
General BIGLIO, and therefore the War Ministry were kept well
informed of all materials which would be useful to the Army. In
each Terr Comd there was an officer who was responsible for the
safe custody of captured war material. The same officer contr-
olled the warehouses and reported material that was useful for
the Army. Instr to the Terr Comds concerning salvaging of all
stores and their relations with the ARAR are contained in the
Ministry of War circulars - Gabinetto No 225000/II of 30 Nov 45
and 202600/II dated 4 Feb 46, subject: Surplus War Material
ceded by the ALLIES.

SP

*It is in the opinion of Col Fry
a civilian employed in a subordinate
capacity under Sen. Salani. who conferred
NO War men or other force directly
represented. ARAR offer goods
for sale to whatever Dept can obtain
the money.*

1 Apr

RAC

9006

SUBJECT:- War Ministry - Azienda Ricupero Alienazioni
Residuati (A.R.A.R.)

Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C.,
M.M.I.A.
R O M E
Q.003
4 March 1946

Major Baumann,
Senior Liaison Officer

Reference Q.003 of 2 Feb and attached L.O. report.

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Ministry of Industry and Commerce
Ministry of Transportation
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Capt. Casagrandi should however be employed in a similar manner as L.O. between Directorate of Arty and Motorization and A.R.A.R.

Can this be arranged ?

RAC
R.A. CURTIS, Lt. Col.,
A.Q.M.G.
M.M.I.A.

RAC/ar

Meeting between GOC, MIA and Maj. Gen Crawford of Ministry of Supply
2nd. March 1946

Also present - Col Fry, Col Pidgeley, Col Robertson (CHQ (Q)), Mr. Nicholson and Mr. [unclear]

CHIEF PALIN

1. GOC outlined policy on Italian Army and its urgent need for equipment based on specific directive of COS that a new efficient Italian Army shall be produced in the shortest possible time.

2. Maj Gen Crawford stated the Ministry of Supply functions and views regarding disposal of equipment to Italian Government.

3. Discussion centred round the following points:-

(a) Unsatisfactory situation of putting Italian Army at the mercy of AMAL in view of conflicting interests in Italy.

(b) Loss of time and efficiency caused by all equipment having to pass through "Disposals" agency.

(c) Whether "Lethal" equipment should pass through "Disposals" agencies in which case it would have to be "demilitarized".

(d) Whether the full scale of British weapons could not be issued on loan rather than only the training scales.

(e) The attachment of MIA whole time Liaison Officer to CHQ rather than to the Ministry of Supply.

Agreement was reached on the following points:-

(a) CHQ will see if they can issue on loan the full scales of equipment (and all maintenance spare available for it) given in the schedule already submitted and will let MIA know the result as a matter of urgency.

(b) CHQ will examine the whole question of the issue of equipment (and maintenance spares) already agreed and see what can be handed over in situ at Ord Depots to save time, transport and losses.

(c) MIA will attach a Liaison Officer to CHQ (Q) to represent the full needs of the Italian Army, obtain forecasts of possible releases and see that the Italian Army as approved gets its British equipment.

(d) CHQ will examine the question of the issue of lethal equipment to make sure there is no question of arms etc. required for the Italian Army being "demilitarized" and will further ensure that arrangements made for the direct issue through military channels shall continue as laid down in AMIQ directive.

S. P. [unclear]

on loan rather than only the training scales.

- (e) The attachment of MIA whole time Liaison Officer to GHQ rather than to the Ministry of Supply.

4.

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- (b) GHQ will examine the whole question of the issue of equipment (and maintenance spares) already agreed and see what can be handed over in situ at Ord depots to save time, transport and losses.
- (c) MIA will attach a Liaison Officer to GHQ (Q) to represent the full needs of the Italian Army, obtain forecasts of possible releases and see that the Italian Army as approved gets its British equipment.
- (d) GHQ will examine the question of the issue of lethal equipment to make sure there is no question of arms etc. required for the Italian Army being "demilitarised" and will further ensure that arrangements made for the direct issue through military channels shall continue as laid down in AFHQ directive.

G/WGP.

Copies personally to:-

Maj. Gen Crawford
Mr. Hutchison, Ministry of Supply
Col. Robertson, GHQ.

Spelling
1004 Gen AA.

Brady 14 Oct '25

Disposal of Allied Surplus to Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.

(M. M. I. A.)

ROME.

→ Q.003.

18 February, 1946.

Tel-

War Ministry. (by hand of SLO).

1. As you are aware, M.M.I.A. is very concerned that the War Ministry should obtain the maximum assistance from Allied disposal agencies. In the case of British equipment, the Chief Disposals Officer has been approached and has expressed his willingness to an M.M.I.A. representative joining his staff on similar terms to those granted the representative of U.S.A.R.A.

2. You are therefore requested to nominate an English speaking Italian officer, who will be introduced to the Chief Disposals Officer by M.M.I.A., and who will be granted facilities to inform your Ministry what surplus stores are being offered for disposal. This, in addition to the proposal already made that the A.S.A.R. organisation should contain an Army representative will, it is hoped, ensure that the needs of the Army are met to the greatest possible extent from this source of supply.

3. You are requested to treat this as a matter of urgency and to instruct the officer selected to report to M.M.I.A. as soon as possible.

RdL

R.A. GRIFFIN Lt. Col.
for Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Copy to:-

Chief Disposals Officer, } Request your concurrence to an
25 Corso D'Italia, Rome. } Italian Liaison officer representing
M.M.I.A. A British officer will
visit you as and when required.

Captain Ward.

It is essential the War Ministry
be kept fully informed concerning
stores disposed of.

Q.003
by AMAG.

0 4 5 0

785020

RECEIVED 19 FEB 1946
KTS (GAT)GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN FORCES

ESD/81/3

Tel No. Freedom 254

14 Feb 46

SUBJECT : Maintenance of British Equipment - Italian Army

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission AC,
(MIA)

Reference your letter Q.003 of 21 Dec 45.

1. It is confirmed that as far as this HQ is concerned there is no objection to the Ministry of Supply representative in ROME disposing of equipment to the Italian Government for sub-allocation as and how the Italian Government find most convenient, including sub-allocation to the Italian War Ministry for maintenance of the Italian Army.

2. It is pointed out, however, that lethal equipment which becomes surplus to British Military requirements and made available for disposal through the Chief Disposals Officer (ITALY) is at present made innocuous. Such equipment will be of little use to the Italian Army. You are requested, therefore, to forward indents for lethal equipment to this HQ who will then make available through the Chief Disposals Officer (ITALY) such equipment as is surplus to British Military requirements, in a condition satisfactory to the needs of the Italian Army.

3. 2 copies of this letter are forwarded as you may wish to pass one to Col. MTY.

AAH/hre/G(SD)

A.D. Ward
A.D. WARD,
Major General,
Chief of General Staff.

RAC

See 178.
who speaks to the Single
G(SD)

Q003 002

EE 71

Cancelled
See
Julian 74.
Q003

19-2-46

5th February, 1946.

RECEIVED
1350

To: Major-General Commanding
Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C. (M.M.I.A.)
R O M E.

From: Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)
25, Corso d'Italia
R O M E.

Subject: Disposal of Allied Surpluses to
Italian Army.

1. In reply to your letter Q.003 dated 31st January, 1946, (which arrived this morning) your remarks contained in para.1 are correct, but in amplification thereof I must emphasize that UNRRA have prior claims to any surplus materials, and in the ordinary way nothing is being withheld from them.
2. Some six months ago, at the outset of this Mission's activities, a conference was held between Major-General Crawford, Major-General Browning and Colonel Fry, after which Major-General Crawford confirmed that lethal British warlike equipment was to be supplied to M.M.I.A. by the British Army and not by this Mission, but that other British stores required would be available to the Italian Army from the Italian Government after they had been handed over to them by this Mission.

3. I have already agreed and in fact am in favour of a M.M.I.A. representative joining my staff in line with the arrangement made with UNRRA, and consider that a War Ministry Commission representative included in the ARAR organisation should be able to do a good deal by watching the disposal of surplus stores from ARAR to Italian industry, and stating its claims on information received from the M.M.I.A. representative attached to my organisation.

4. I propose sending a copy of your letter to the H.Q. of the Ministry of Supply in London, together with a copy of this reply, so that should there be a change of policy of which I am not aware further instructions will no doubt be given in the light of para.2 of your letter. In the meantime, I strongly urge the suggestion made in para.3 of this letter that a representative of yours be attached to this organisation as well as one to ARAR.

Chief Disposals Officer (Italy).

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See para. 3

Chief Disposals Officer (Italy).

Copy to:

Major-General J. S. Crawford, C.B., C.B.E.

H. N. Teakle, Esq.

Q(AE), G.H.Q. (reference your GHQ.6453/6/Q(AE) dated 14th January, 1946).

Q.003

9.0.2

(5)

Subject:-

Disposal of Allied Surpluses, to Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(M. E. I. A.) RCMS.
Q.003.
3/ January, 1946.

To:-

Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)
25 Corso D'Italia,
Rome;

1. Further to recent telephone conversation and personal visit by Col. A/Q, I am given to understand that your instructions limit the disposal of surplus Allied equipment to A.R.A.R. as being the official Italian Government receiving agency. I further understand that the allocation of available material is decided by you as between A.R.A.R. and U.N.R.R.A., whose representative is attached to your staff.

2. In paragraph 1(b) of the minutes of a meeting held at GHQ (forwarded to you under GHQ/G.53/6/Q(AM) of 13 Dec 45), it is clear that the necessary military equipment required for the Italian Army shall be supplied only through the medium of your Ministry, except in the case of lethal British war-like equipment.

You, on the other hand, I understand are under the impression that the needs of the Italian Army are to be met direct by the British military.

3. I am far from satisfied with the present arrangement as it is evident that A.R.A.R. do not intend to release any equipment to the Italian Army. I have proposed that the immediate remedy might be the inclusion in A.R.A.R. of a War Ministry Commission, but this must await the Italian Government's decision. In the mean time, I understand you are agreeable to a Ministry of War representative joining your staff, with a view to receiving first hand information as to what is being disposed of to the Italian Government.

4. I shall be glad to have your confirmation of the above, and any suggestion you may wish to make.

A. Brownie
Major General,
M. E. I. A.

Stu

Copy to:-

GHQ - This H.Q. letter Q.003 of 21 Dec 45 ref. re.

RAC/Pm

A.Q.M.G.

2
I went with Traj Aines to see
Colonel Frey (Inventor & Supply) to 61 Via Boncompagni
Phone 478293.

We arranged for Aines or his clerk to keep
daily contact with Traj; Hall who will keep us
supplied with links of availability same as
they do U.N.R.A.

Meanwhile send to Col Fry for me a copy
of paras 10, 11 and 12 of AFHQ AG 091.711
a copy of AFHQ minutes of the QAG meeting
of 11 Dec. Sent
20 Dec
by

We receive this as his understanders are to
see that nothing goes to the Italian Army.

Better send a new
file for correspondence
with Munich & Supply

W.P.
20 Dec

0455

Q (SD) O of 2 nov. (i.e. on directive No 1) and
a copy of GHQ minutes of the QAC meeting
of 11 Dec.

We require this as his instructions are to
see that nothing goes to the Italian Army.

SP
20 Dec

Bolton should a new
file for correspondence
with Munich & Leipzig
WP

6999

TRANSLATION

FROM: M. of W.
TO : All addressees

REF: 206200/11
DATE: 4/2/46

SUBJECT : War salvage materials ceded by the Allies.

Further to the instructions in circular 225200/11 of 20th Nov. last, I specify as follows :

I. RECOVERY OF MILITARY STORES AND EVENTUAL PURCHASES

1) With Lieutenantcy Decree no. 793 of 23rd Nov. last, the A.R.A.R. also received the appointment of continuing the activities of the U.R.M.I.T. (Office for the recovery of German installation materials) and of the other offices, Commissariats and various Departments having similar activities.

This, however, does not alter the instructions contained in circular no. 208700/11 of 14th April 1945, Cabinet, i.e. that all materials belonging to the Military Administration must be recovered by the Departments of the Military Territorial Commands.

Instead, as I have already stressed in the circular which this follows, the Military Territorial Commands, in agreement with the local representatives of the A.R.A.R. must arrange, as soon as possible, to also identify the materials of Military origin amongst those issued by the Allies to the A.R.A.R.

2) The Military Territorial Commands will inform the individual Directorates General of this Ministry, according to which one is concerned:

a) the materials formerly belonging to the War Administration and returned by the local representatives of A.R.A.R. without dispute, in order that the said Directorates General may-if necessary- issue the necessary instructions for their definite employment;

b) the materials identified as such by the above mentioned H.Q., but the ownership of which is disputed by the A.R.A.R. representatives; the Central Departments will be supplied with all particulars regarding these which may be of assistance in settling the dispute with the Administration Council of the A.R.A.R.;

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c) The materials which are not of military ownership but the purchase of which is considered advantageous by the Military Territorial Commands: the necessary data for forming an opinion in respect of these will also be forwarded.

3) - The Directorate General will establish the purchases to be made, and carry out the consequent negotiations with the A.R.A.R. in order to define cession prices and procedures. As is laid down by the said A.R.A.R., the State Administration has priority over private organisations in the purchase of materials required by the individual Administrations. Whilst awaiting the decisions of the Central Departments the materials which have been requested must remain "frozen" in the Depots.

4) - Compensation between the sums debited to the Administration (cost of purchased materials) and those credited (reimbursement of Depot storage expenses) not being allowed, relative payments and ledger-entries must form separate and distinct operations. Therefore the payments relative to the materials which have been issued will be made to the A.R.A.R. on the basis of documents justifying payment - from time to time for each individual purchase - by this Ministry- Directorate General concerned - with direct Bank drafts payable by credit to the current account which the A.R.A.R. holds with the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro.

II- GUARDING OF MATERIALS.

- 1) Guard services will be looked after by the Azienda Recupero Alienazioni Residui di Guerra (A.R.A.R.). Temporarily and reserving further alterations on the basis of the enquiries being made, the daily cost for each soldier to be used as a basis for establishing the expenses of guarding the material. Depots, is fixed at:
 - 310 lire for one soldier.
 - 400 lire for one Carabinieri.In the total sum of 400 lire fixed for the Carabinieri, who will be drawn from the men not included in the contingent of 65,000 which has been approved, the daily allowance of 50 lire to such personnel as a cash allowance to complete the rations supplied (less than that of the soldier), is understood to be included.

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- 2) The A.R.A.R. must make direct provision for all that which concerns the billeting of men and for the guard duty installation works, sustaining all the necessary expenses. The Military Territorial Commands will take the necessary action in order that the personnel on guard duty be billeted in houses or barracks. Billeting under canvas or on vehicles must only be allowed as a temporary measure and when the time limit for the handing over of the camp or store does not permit of other arrangements being made. Particular care must be taken with cooking arrangements. The works for the installation of the guard service (sentry boxes, illumination of the Depot, wiring in of barbed wire, etc.) must also be carried out as soon possible.
- 3) As I have already ordered in circular 225200/11, the Military Territorial Commands have the duty of establishing the individual guards and also have the responsibility of the service. It is necessary that the careful use of the special Companies of Carabinieri on the stores which are most important for size and quality of the materials, and to complete other guard personnel on the remaining stores (guarding the entry to the Depot). The Carabinieri of the special Companies must not be employed on other duties.
- 4) The Military Territorial Commands will forward to this Ministry- Directorate General of Commissariat and Administrative Services- Subsistence Division- by the 5th of each month and referring to the previous month, a return which must show:
- the various Depots under guard;
 - the size of the guard mounted on each;
 - the number of days of duty performed during the month in question on each Depot, totalled and separated into soldiers and Carabinieri;
 - the total of the days of duty performed on the Depots in the territory, again split up into soldiers and Carabinieri.
- 5) This Ministry- Directorate General of Commissariat and Administrative Services- Subsistence Division- will compile each month, from the data gathered from said returns, a summary showing:
- for each established Depot, the personnel employed and the number of days of duty performed, split up into the soldiers and carabinieri employed;

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- for the whole of the Depots, the total number of days of duty and the consequent total expense to be debited on the basis of the daily cost, again with the same distinction, i.e. soldiers and Carabinieri. This return will be sent to A.R.A.R. (and to Cabinet of this Ministry for information), which, month by month, will arrange for payment to the treasury:

- under heading 10 section 166 of the credit balance for the financial year 1945 to 1946, as regards the expenditure relative to the soldiers (which cannot be reassigned and therefore goes to Exchequer);
- under heading 10 section 230 of the above mentioned financial year credit, for the expenditure concerning the Carabinieri (for reassignment to the Exchequer to complete expenditure articles 49-50, 52-54, relative to Carabinieri).

6) The A.R.A.R. will immediately forward the treasury receipts to the Directorate General of Commissariat Administrative Services- Subsistence Division- of this Ministry, which, having ascertained that the sums paid-in correspond to those debited, will forward the said receipts to the Central Accounts office for subsequent reassignment negotiations.

Sgd. BROGIO
Minister for War

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TRANSLATION

FROM : M. of War
TO : All addressees

REF: 225200/11
DATE: 28/11/45

SUBJECT : War salvage materials handed over by the Allies.

Lieutenancy Decree- law no. 683 of 29th October last, published in the Official Gazette no. 133 of the 6th inst., orders the formation, at the Ministero della Ricostruzione, of an independent undertaking for War Salvage, named the Azienda Ricupero Alienazioni Residuati (A.R.A.R.) (Office for the recovery and sale of war salvage) which in the interest of and on account of the State Treasury, must arrange for the location, guarding, and sale of war salvage handed over by the Allied Authorities or abandoned by the Germans in Italy or purchased in any other way.

This new undertaking will absorb the U.R.M.I.T. (Ufficio Ricupero Materiale ed Impianti Tedeschi) (Office for the recovery of German installations and materials), all the Commissions and Departments having similar duties.

The materials ^{managed} ~~managed~~ by the said undertaking will be issued to all, including the State Administrations, only on cash payment.

Materials, however, which formerly belonged to the individual administrations and the effective ownership of which can be proved, will be returned without payment.

The Military Territorial Commands are therefore requested to reach agreements with the local representatives of the A.R.A.R. for the tracing of Military materials and to request their return from the said representatives direct, or, in the case of dispute, from the competent Directorate Generals of this Ministry which will take the necessary action, making contact with the Administration Council of A.R.A.R. The Military Territorial Commands will likewise notify the Directorate General concerned of materials which are not of Military ownership and which, in their judgement, it would be advisable to purchase. Since the A.R.A.R. will also take into account the expenses for guarding when fixing the prices of the materials to be purchased, each Military Territorial Command must keep an exact account of Military personnel ^{employed} ~~employed~~ for the guarding of the Depots of materials managed by this undertaking and of the period of duty performed.

These data will be forwarded to this Ministry- Cabinet- monthly. So far as the carrying out of guard duties on the Depots indicated is concerned, it remains laid down that the Military

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Territorial Commands will make direct arrangement for them, with the
its under their direct command, with C.C.R.R., with the R.G.F.,
with the P.S. agents and, eventually, sworn guards. The Presidenza del
Consiglio dei Ministri has already approached the Ministero dell'Interno
and the G.H.Q.s addressed, in order that they supply the
maximum possible assistance. A Commission presided over by gen.
Biglino, appointed to organize this guard duty, will notify the Mi-
litary Territorial Commands of the requirements and will arrange
for the liaison of the said Commands with those of the C.C.R.R., the
R.G.F., and the Questura's.

The Military Territorial Commands however, retain the
duties of establishing the individual guards and the responsibility
for the service.

Sgd. JACINI
Minister for War

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