

785020

ACC

10000 | 120 | 2050

Q/006

Sept. 1946

10000 | 120 | 2050

Q/006 Min. OF. Supply Policy

Sept. 1946 - Sept. 1947

SUBJECT:- Stores for the
Italian Army.

5 British Liaison Unit,
Tele:- UDINE MIL 1555,
AQ 61/

8 Sep 47.

I.L.F.B., A.F.HQ.,
ROME C.M.F.

Further to this HQ AQ/61 of the 5 Sep 47 herewith copy
of CDO British Embassy Rome signal MS 548 of 061245 received
this morning 8 Sep 47.

FD
/otd

FILE
DIARY

RECEIVED 10 SEP 1947
DATE

Major,
for Lt.-Colonel, G.S.

I 0022/5

0466

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NMDC NO.

785020

C O P Y
- - - -

MEHF V LROF NR 5470 R R DT 061245

FROM CDO BRITISH EMBASSY ROME

TO 5 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

-BT-

MS 548 (.) UNCLASS (.)
YOUR ORD 1 DATED FIFTH (.) OUR CDO/34/52/3 DATED FIRST SEPTEMBER
CONTENTIONS SUPPORTED BY FACT (.) IMPOSSIBLE SUSPEND MOVEMENT STORES
REPEAT ALREADY DISPOSED OF THOUGH STILL LYING IN SITU (.) ORD
DIRECTIVE YOU REFER INTERESTING BUT OUR POLICY DICTATED SUPPLY
MINISTRY LONDON (.) BY ALL MEANS REFER THEM
-BT-

SENT NR 5470 AT 1400 BY WRS

RD AT 1400 B.W. B 2 K

0467

785020

Subject:- Supply of Military Dept

CONFIDENTIAL

G Branch
GHQ CMF

22

SD/1510/a

9 Sep 47

MESTRE 26489 Ext 87

ILFB

Q Branch

RECEIVED 1 SEP 1947

The attached copy of War Office letter
57/GEN.A/5124 (AR 2) dated 25 Aug 47 is fwd.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

RF/ajm

I 4006/4F

57/Gen. A/5124 (A. R. 2.)

THE WAR OFFICE,
WHITEHALL,
LONDON, S.W.1.

CONFIDENTIAL

25th August, 1947.

Memorandum for :-

British Military Missions to:-
Belgium and Luxembourg

Czechoslovakia

Denmark

Egypt

Ethiopia

France

Greece

Iraq

Saudi Arabia

Military Attachés:-

Argentina

China

Eire

Iran

Italy

Netherlands

Norway

Portugal

Sweden

Switzerland

Syria and Lebanon

Turkey

Siam

Persia

Brazil

Ecuador

Mexico

Subject:- Supply of Military Equipment
for Foreign Countries.

1. The following information and instructions are forwarded in amplification of War Office letter 57/Gen. A/5124 (GS(W)1) dated 17th June, 1947.
2. It has been decided that in future the War Office can entertain from Foreign Countries orders for equipment and stores of military pattern only. A list of items which come within this category is attached at Appendix 'A' hereto.
3. Requirements of military equipment and stores not included in this list which it is desired to obtain from the United Kingdom should be obtained through normal commercial channels. To this end the Ministry of Supply would be prepared to suggest in particular cases the names of suitable manufacturers who could be approached by prospective customers.

Portugal
Sweden
Switzerland
Syria and Lebanon
Turkey
Siem
Persia
Brasil
Ecuador
Mexico

Subject:- Supply of Military Equipment
for Foreign Countries.

1. The following information and instructions are forwarded in amplification of War Office letter 57/Gen. 4/5124 (GS(W)1) dated 17th June, 1947.

2. It has been decided that in future the War Office can enterain from Foreign Countries orders for equipment and stores of military pattern only. A list of items which come within this category is attached at Appendix 'A' hereto.

3. Requirements of military equipment and stores not included in this list which it is desired to obtain from the United Kingdom should be obtained through normal commercial channels. To this end the Ministry of Supply would be prepared to suggest in particular cases the names of suitable manufacturers who could be approached by prospective customers.

Applications for assistance of this nature should be addressed to:-

The Secretary,
Ministry of Supply (M.S.1.),
Shell Mex House,
Strand, London, W.C.2.

4. The above limitations and instructions do not apply to certain forces listed at Appendix 'C' hereto. The requirements of these forces for all types of stores and equipment are being estimated by the War Office and included with their requirements for production.

/It.....

It is possible that Foreign Governments will be asked to submit some form of forecast for these forces in certain cases. If so separate instructions will follow.

Meanwhile Maintenance Demands for these forces will be accepted as at present. These demands should be submitted as far in advance as possible.

5. Will you please bring the relevant facts of this letter to the notice of the Government to which you are accredited and ensure that the forecast of annual requirements of military pattern stores and equipment reach the War Office (D.E.R.) by 1st September each year (1st October for 1943/49 Requirements only), and that the procedure given in Appendix 'B' hereto is followed.

6. It is important that the information in paragraph 4, should only be conveyed to the Governments which are directly concerned.

Signed ? ? ? ? ?
Deputy Quartermaster General.

Copies to:-

Foreign Office

Combined Operations Headquarters
Ministry of Supply
His Excellency, The Supreme Commander in India
The Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Land Forces
The Commander-in-Chief, South East Asia Land Forces
The Commander-in-Chief, British Troops in Austria
The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief,
Central Mediterranean Force
The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief
British Army of the Rhine
The British Army Staff, Washington, U.S.A.

War Office Distribution:-

DCIGS	CS(W)1
DWD	RAC 1
DCMG	RA 1
DF(c)	Sigs 1
DEMO(A), (B)	Inf 2
DEMI	SW 1, 2, 3
DESD(A)	L/AM
DEAC	ADD 3, 8
DEPA	Q(AE) 2 5,
DEFE	AR 2, 3
DD Sigs (B)	Q(Stats)
DD Inf	Q(A) 5, 9, 13
DSW	Tn 2
DER	ST 2, 3, 6
DES	ES 1, 5, 6

His Excellency, The Supreme Commander in Chief
 The Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Land Forces
 The Commander-in-Chief, South East Asia Land Forces
 The Commander-in-Chief, British Troops in Austria
 The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief,
 Central Mediterranean Force
 The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief
 British Army of the Rhine
 The British Army Staff, Washington, U.S.A.

War Office Distribution:-

DOIGS
 DND
 DQAG
 DF(O)
 DDO(A), (H)
 DMI
 DSD(A)
 DDLAC
 DORA
 DOTE
 DD Sigs (E)
 DD Inf
 DSW
 DER
 DES
 DDOS (W), (MT)
 DDOS (G)
 DD OF A2
 DDOS (Ops)
 MD 1, 2, 3, 4
 MI 1, 2, 3, 4
 MIL
 MT 6
 SD 2, 5
 D.E.R. Co-ord.

GS(W)1
 PAC 1
 PA 1
 Sigs 1
 Inf 2
 SWV 1, 2, 3
 L/AF
 MD 3, 8
 Q(AE) 2 5,
 AS 2, 3
 Q(Stats)
 Q(M) 3, 9, 13
 Tn 2
 SD 2, 3, 6
 ES 1, 5, 6
 Ord 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21
 ME 2, 15
 WF
 F 1
 MGOF
 MGOF(R)
 QAF

APPENDIX 'A' to
57/Gen.A/5124 (A.R.2. dated 25th August, 1947.

MILITARY PATTERN STORES AND EQUIPMENT

("Outside Customers" will submit their requirements of these stores through the War Office for provision from the War Office, Ministry of Supply or Private firms)

Statement No.	Voceb Sec.	Class of Equipment
(a)	(b)	(c)
<u>7A- CLOTHING</u>		
OC/706	G.G.	Battle and Service Dress Garments, Parachutists Clothing
<u>7B - GENERAL STORES - ORDNANCE</u>		
OC/800	A.1	Accoutrements
<u>7D - WARLIKE STORES</u>		
<u>7D1 - GUNS, SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION</u>		
OC/900	E.1	Rifles and their Components
OC/901	B.2	Rifles and their Components, accessories and tools
OC/902	B.3.	Machine Carbines, Sten Guns etc. and spare parts.
OC/905	C.1	Machine Guns, mountings etc. spare parts for ground use only
OC/906	C.2	" " " " " " for use in Armoured Fighting Vehicles.
OC/925	M.1	Mortars, Tank Mortars etc of all types
OC/926	M.2	A.A. Artillery Equipment of all types
OC/927	M.3	Maintenance equipment common to all artillery equipments
OC/928	M.4	Gauges and other instruments for artillery inspection purposes
OC/930	N.1	Equipments, 3.7 How. 25pr. 17pr. 95 mm, 77 mm, 75mm and spares
OC/932	N.3	Equipments 6 pr, 2 pr. and component parts
OC/934	O.	Equipments 5.5 gun, 4.5 gun and component parts
OC/935	P.1	Equipments 7.2 in. How. Mk.6 on carriage MM/8-in. How., and component parts
OC/936	P.2	Artillery Equipments for Coast Defence.
OC/940	Q.1	S.A.A. and M.G. Ammunition
OC/941	Q.2	Tocis and S.A.A. and M.G. Ammunition, components, non-explosive
OC/945	R.1	Fd., Mtn., Tk., A/Tk., A.A. Ammunition
OC/946	R.2	Tools and field, Mountain etc. Ammunition components, non-explosive
OC/950	S.1	Med., Hy., Coast Ammunition
OC/951	S.2	Tools and Medium, Heavy etc. Ammunition components non-explosive
OC/955	T.1	Mortar Amn., Cordite Grenades
OC/956	T.2.	Tools and Mortar, Grenade Ammunition components, non-explosive
OC/957	T.3	Demolition Stores
OC/958	U.	Misc. Amn. and Magazine Stores

OC/902	B.3.	Machine Cartridges, Machine Gun
OC/903	C.1	Machine Guns, mountings etc. " " for use in
OC/906	C.2	" " Armoured Fighting Vehicles.
OC/925	M.1	Mortars, Tank Mortars etc of all types
OC/926	M.2	A.A. Artillery Equipment of all types
OC/927	M.3	Maintenance equipment common to all artillery equipments
OC/928	M.4	Gauges and other instruments for artillery inspection purposes
OC/930	N.1	Equipments, 3.7 How. 25pr. 17pr. 95 mm, 77 mm, 75mm and spares
OC/932	N.3	Equipments 6 pr, 2 pr. and component parts
OC/934	O.	Equipments 5.5 gun, 4.5 gun and component parts
OC/935	P.1	Equipments 7.2 in. How. Mk.6 on carriage MM/8-in. How., and component parts
OC/936	P.2	Artillery Equipments for Coast Defence.
OC/940	Q.1	S.A.A. and M.G. Ammunition
OC/941	Q.2	Tools and S.A.A. and M.G. Ammunition, components, non-explosive
OC/945	R.1	Fd., Mtn., Tk., A/Tk., A.A. Ammunition
OC/946	R.2	Tools and field, Mountain etc. Ammunition components, non-explosive
OC/950	S.1	Med., Ry., Coast Ammunition
OC/951	S.2	Tools and Medium, Heavy etc. Ammunition components non-explosive
OC/955	T.1	Mortar Amn., Cordite Grenades
OC/956	T.2.	Tools and Mortar, Grenade Ammunition components, non-explosive
OC/957	T.3	Demolition Stores
OC/958	U.	Miso. Amn. and Magazine Stores

7D2 - MECHANICAL TRANSPORT (WHEELED AND TRACKED)

OC/915	L.V.1	Cruiser, Infantry, and Medium Tanks
OC/916	L.V.2	Light Tanks and Carriers
OC/917	L.V.3	Engines and Commercial Assemblies for AFV's
OC/918	L.V.4	Armament Mountings for AFV's
OC/919	L.V.5	Armoured Cars and Scout Cars

Statement No.	Vocab No.	Class of Equipment
<u>7D3 - MISCELLANEOUS WARLIKE STORES</u>		
OC/960	V.1	Fire Control Instruments for Coast Artillery
OC/962	V.3	Flash Spotting, Sound Ranging & R.A. Svy.
OC/963	V.4	Fire Control Instruments for A.A. Artillery
OC/964	V.5	Fire Control Instruments for other than Coast and A.A. Artillery
OC/966	V.6	Common V Section Stores
OC/974	W.5	Testing Instruments, optical and fire control
OC/980	X.1	Searchlights and Sound locators
OC/989	Z.	Stores common to Wireless and Radar (military type only)
OC/990	Z.1.	Wireless Equipment
OC/992	Z.3	Arty. Radar Eqpt. and Generating Sets Plotters F.A.
<u>7E - ENGINEER STORES</u>		
<u>7E1 - TRANSPORTATIONS AND BRIDGING STORES</u>		
OC/500	-	Military Craft
OC/1022	-	Boiley Bridging
OC/1023	-	Military Railway Bridging
OC/1024	-	Miscellaneous Military Bridging
<u>7E2 - WORKS SERVICES STORES</u>		
OC/1030	-	Airfield and Road Track

N.B.

Items not included on this list, e.g. 'B' Vehicles and Spares are considered as being civilian pattern and can NOT be entertained by the War Office.

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Airfield and Road Track

-

OC/1030

N.B.

Items not included on this list, e.g. 'B' Vehicles and Spares are considered as being civilian pattern and can NOT be entertained by the War Office.

APPENDIX 'B' to 57/Cen-A/5424-1 (A.R.2.)
dated 25th August, 1947.

PROCEDURE WHEREBY "OUTSIDE CUSTOMERS" MAY OBTAIN MILITARY PATTERN
STORES AND EQUIPMENT THROUGH THE WAR OFFICE

SUBMISSION OF REQUIREMENTS.

1. Requirements will be submitted in two phases :-
 - (a) Forecasts:- To reach the War Office (D.E.R.) not later than
1st September, annually.
(1st October for 1948/49 Requirements only).
 - (b) Firm Demands:- To reach the War Office (D.E.R.) not later than
1st March, annually.

Note:-

Attention is drawn to the fact that as regards certain requirements, the prospects of early delivery are uncertain owing to delays in production. It would therefore be to a customer's advantage to place orders as early as possible. If a customer is in a position to submit a Firm Demand at the Forecast Stage, and clearly states so against the relevant items on the proforma for Forecast Requirements, action will be taken as far as is possible to isolate these items for special urgent attention as Firm Demands.

CHANNELLING OF DEMANDS.

2. Forecasts and Firm Demands will be initiated by and submitted on the responsibility of the Foreign Government. They will be submitted to the War Office (D.E.R.) through any one agency the Foreign Government likes, e.g. via British Military Missions, Foreign Military Attache or other procurement agency. It will assist, however, if a copy of the demand is sent to the G.H.Q. of the Theatre concerned, where applicable, for information. British Military Missions and Attaches should do what they can to see that this is done.

FORM OF SUBMISSION.

3. (a) FORECASTS

- (i) Will be prepared in accordance with and submitted on the proforma (attached at Annexure 1 hereto) in QUADRUPPLICATE. Full details on its completion are given on the reverse of the proforma.
- (ii) On receipt, the proforma will be completed to show availabilities, estimated prices and approximate dates of delivery, against each item, and will be returned to the customer as soon as possible. (Approximately three months after the date of receipt).

- (iii) "Dues In" - The Customer will assume that the requirements for the previous year will be met in full for all Firm Demands submitted by the War Office unless intimation to the contrary has

2. Forecasts and firm demands. They will be submitted to the responsibility of the Foreign Government. They will be submitted to the Office (D.E.R.) through any one agency the Foreign Government likes, e.g. via British Military Missions, Foreign Military Attache or other procurement agency. It will assist, however, if a copy of the demand is sent to the G.E.Q. of the Theatre concerned, where applicable, for information. British Military Missions and Attaches should do what they can to see that this is done.

FORM OF SUBMISSION.

3.

(a) FORECASTS

- (i) Will be prepared in accordance with and submitted on the proforma (attached at Annexure 1 hereto) in QUADRUPPLICATE. Full details on its completion are given on the reverse of the proforma.
- (ii) On receipt, the proforma will be completed to show availabilities, estimated prices and approximate dates of delivery, against each item, and will be returned to the customer as soon as possible. (Approximately three months after the date of receipt).
- (iii) "Dues In" - The Customer will assume that the requirements for the previous year will be met in full for all Firm Demands accepted by the War Office unless intimation to the contrary has been received by 1st June.
- (iv) These Forecasts will NOT be binding on the Customer

(b) FIRM DEMANDS

- (i) Will be prepared in the same way as the Forecasts and will be based on the availabilities as intimated to the Customer on the Forecast proforma; but see "para. 1, Note."

/(ii).....

(ii) On receipt in the War Office, these demands will be placed on the Ministry of Supply for provision.

(iii) Firm Demands will be binding on the Customer.

(iv) Firm Demands will only be required on items for provision by the War Office or the Ministry of Supply. Firm Demands should NOT be forwarded for items for supply by direct provision arrangements between Customer and Private Firms. The Customer should proceed direct with the Firm. It is stressed that neither the War Office nor the Ministry of Supply will accept any provision responsibility in these cases.

CONSIGNMENT INSTRUCTIONS

4. Full Consignment Instructions, including Case Markings, etc., (as detailed on the submission proforma at Annexure 1, hereto) will be quoted on Firm Demands. The will NOT be required with Forecasts.

SHIPMENT AND DELIVERY

5. Shipment of Stores will normally be effected through the Customer's own Shipping Agents on a F.O.R. ("Free on Rail") basis.

FINANCIAL SETTLEMENT

6. Full details will be forwarded to you as soon as possible.

ISSUES.

7. Issues will be effected through THREE channels :-

(a) From Private Firms

(b) From Ministry of Supply

(c) From War Office Depots.

MISCELLANEOUS DEMANDS

8. It is regretted that no further miscellaneous demands for Military Pattern Stores and equipment can be accepted by the War Office, other than those of exceptional urgency. In such instances full reasons for making the demand exceptional will be quoted in the "remarks column" ("J") of the Submission proforma, which will be used in every case for the submission of such demands, and clearly marked in RED by the Customer "EXCEPTIONAL DEMAND".

6.

ISSUES.

7.

Issues will be effected through THREE channels :-

- (a) From Private Firms
- (b) From Ministry of Supply
- (c) From War Office Depots.

MISCELLANEOUS DEMANDS

8. It is regretted that no further miscellaneous demands for Military Pattern Stores and equipment can be accepted by the War Office, other than those of exceptional urgency. In such instances full reasons for making the demand exceptional will be quoted in the "remarks column" ("J") of the Submission proforma, which will be used in every case for the submission of such demands, and clearly marked in RED by the Customer "EXCEPTIONAL DEMAND".
-

ANNE

to
date

5HEC

**FOR
FILE**

1110

(For notes
reverse)

Serial (i) (a)	Cat. No. (v) (b)	Description of Item (c)	Quantity Required (d)	Quantity Available (vi) (e)	Estimated price per item (vi) (f)	Forecast Date of Delivery (vi) (g)

Class of Equipment:- (i)

ANNEXURE 1 to APPENDIX 'B'
to 57/Gen. A/5124 (A. R. 2.)
dated 25 th August, 1947.

SHEET NO :-

CUSTOMER:-

FORECAST
FIRM DEMAND

Delete where not applicable, and see reverse for certificate to be submitted with Firm Demands.

STATEMENT NO:- (ii)

Separate Sheets to be used for each Statement) VOCAB SEC:- (iii)

TO BE COMPLETED IN QUADRUPPLICATE

(For notes on completion - see reverse of proforma)

Quantity Required (a)	Quantity Available (vi) (e)	Estimated price per item (vi) (f)	Forecast Date of Delivery (vi) (g)	Method Of Delivery (vii) (h)	Remarks (j)

CERTIFICATE

To be completed in each case on the submission of Firm Demands.
 This certificate will not be completed for Forecast Requirements.
Undertaking by demanding Authority.

The * undertakes to accept the stores herein described and demanded and to pay for them as and when claims for payment fall due and are preferred; or alternatively to indemnify the War Department against any expenses which they may incur in the event of the failure of the * so to accept. The * realises that prices quoted in advance of actual supply can only be regarded as estimates. The amount to be paid for the stores will be, in the cases of issues from War Department or Ministry of Supply stocks, the issue, or, in the case of supply from contracts placed by the Ministry of Supply on behalf of the * Contractor's bill, plus, in both cases, the usual charges at the rates current at the date of supply to be made by the War Department and the Ministry of Supply on such services as inspection and packing.

Signed on behalf of *

Date.....

* Insert title of appropriate department
 (Or other demanding authority) of the
 Customer Government concerned,

NOTES ON COMPLETION OF PROFORMA

- (i) See Appendix 'A', under column (c). A separate Statement Proforma will be used of each separate item.
- (ii) See Appendix 'A', under column (a). Statement numbers will be inserted on every Statement.
- (iii) See Appendix 'A', under column (b). These numbers are to be inserted in every case.
- (iv) Each item listed on the Statement will bear a separate serial number and these numbers should run throughout all Statements.
- (v) Catalogue Numbers will be inserted if known, otherwise this column will be left blank.
- (vi) (e) Quantity Available
 (f) Cost per Item
 (g) Forecast date of delivery

These three columns will be left blank by the Customer. They are for use by the War Office for availability, pricings and forecast dates of delivery, which when completed will be returned to you as a basis upon which to calculate your firm demands.

- (vii) This column is for War Office use only, to give the customer the method of Issue on each item received.

CERTIFICATE

each case on the submission of Firm Demands.
It not be completed for Forecast Requirements.
by demanding Authority.

stores herein described and demanded and to pay for them on the terms specified below,
referred; or alternatively to indemnify the War Department and the Ministry of Supply
in event of the failure of the x so to accept and pay for the stores.
in advance of actual supply can only be regarded as estimates and that the prices to
be issued from War Department or Ministry of Supply stocks, those ruling at the date of
placed by the Ministry of Supply on behalf of the x, the amount of the
charges at the rates current at the date of supply to cover the expenses incurred
on such services as inspection and packing.

Signed on behalf of x

.....
Rank or Appointment.

Department
of the

Statement Proforma will be used of each separate Class of Equipment.
Statement numbers will be inserted on every Statement.
Statement numbers are to be inserted in every case.
A separate serial number and these numbers should run consecutively
otherwise this column will be left blank.

Customer. They are for use by the War Office for statements of
delivery, which when completed will be returned to you for information
on demands.
Give the customer the method of Issue on each item required.

APPENDIX 'C' to 57/Gen.A/5124(A.P.2.)
dated 25th August, 1947.

LIST OF "OUTSIDE CUSTOMERS" CLASSED
AS CONTINGENT FORCES.

1. The Belgian Corps in Germany.
2. The Danish Division.
3. The Norwegian Brigade Group in Germany.
4. The Norwegian Brigade Group in Norway.
5. The Greek National Army.
6. The Egyptian Army.

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Subject:- Supply of Military Expt

21
CONFIDENTIAL

Q Branch

Q Branch

GMQ GMF

SD/1510

9 Sep 47

MESTRE 26489 Ext 87

MA Brit Embassy ROME
ILFB ←

Q
Ord

RECEIVED 11 SEP 1947
filed

The attached copy of War Office letter
57/GEN. A/5124 (AR 2) dated 25 AUG 47 is fwd.

RF/ajm

see by May Boyal
M.L. Jones
Major
Brigadier,
Chief of staff.

Per

I 0006/LF
50054 /IF

57/Gen. (A)/5124 (A.R.2.)

THE WAR OFFICE,
WHITEHALL,
LONDON, S.W.1.CONFIDENTIAL

25th August, 1947.

Sir,

1. I am directed to give you further information regarding procedure to be followed in obtaining military equipment and stores in amplification of that given in the War Office letter 57/Gen(A)/5124 (GSE1) dated 18th June, 1947.
2. It has been decided that in future the War Office will accept from "outside customers" demands for equipment and stores of military pattern only. A list of items which come within this category is attached as Appendix 'A' hereto.

Requirements of items of military equipment and of stores not included in this list which it is desired to obtain from the United Kingdom should be obtained through normal commercial channels. To this end the Ministry of Supply would be prepared to suggest, in particular cases, the names of suitable manufacturers who could be approached by the prospective customer and would also be prepared to assist with technical inspection. Similar assistance by the Ministry of Supply would of course be available in the case of Military Pattern items listed at Appendix 'A', attached. Applications for assistance of this nature should be addressed to :-

The Secretary,
Ministry of Supply, (MS1),
Shell Mex House,
Strand,
London, W.C.2.

3. As regards standardisation of items not included in Appendix 'A' hereto we will continue to keep you informed on this matter. In addition the Ministry of Supply are prepared to advise you in this matter.
4. Will you please arrange for a forecast of your annual requirements of such military pattern stores and equipment as are included in Appendix 'A' to be forwarded to the War Office (D.E.R.) by 1st September each year (1st October for 1948/49 Requirements only), in accordance with the procedure given in Appendix 'B' hereto which should be carefully followed.

Signed ? ? ? ? ?
Deputy Quartermaster General.

0487

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Italian Land Forces Branch
(Formerly MIA)

20

Tel: 489081
Ext: 415

Q.006/LF

28 Apr 47

Ministry of National Defence - Army

Subject: 3 Sub Depot -
Fontecagnano

19

Receipt is acknowledged of your 1/1603/Serv dated 14
Apr 47, with attached report which is being studied.

RAC/JW

S. P. ...
Major General,
Director.

14

TRANSLATION

FROM: Ministry of Defence.

REF: 1/1603/Serv.

TO: I.L.F.B.

DATE: 14 April 1947.

SUBJECT:- 3 Sub - Depot at Pontecagnano.

8

Reply to letter Q. 006/LF dated 20 February 1947.

We forward result of inquiries made by Naples Military Territorial Command regarding the points raised by Maj Dunn on the organisation of 3 Sub - Depot at Pontecagnano.

Sgd N. MELONI
Col.

Q Hand SME for this
which is being studied
WD

20

seen by Major
Dunn

R.F.C.

→

105	
A/Q	17
"Q"	180
Q Liaison	
Q Mail	
Q (ART)	

Enclosure
Have not seen
Regt
22/4/47

Q006/LF

TRANSLATION

ENGINEER O.Q. NAPLES TERRITORIAL COMMAND

Report on the points raised by I.M.A.S. regarding damages to engineer material at 3 Sub-Depot at Pontecagnano.

In accordance with the order received from Naples Military Territorial Command in letter 2/1573/Serv. of 2 March 1947, I personally went to Pontecagnano to inspect the condition of the camps and to make a rigorous inquiry in to the facts which have been the cause of the points raised by I.M.A.S. and referred to in the attached documents :

- a) report compiled by the British Maj Dunn of I.M.A.S. dated 7 February 1947;
- b) report compiled by Col Meloni of the S.M.E.-Services Office-S.M. Section, dated 15 February 1947;
- c) memorandum compiled by Lt Col Costantino of Naples Military Command, dated 20 February 1947;
- d) report compiled by Col Messore of the Naples Engineer Works Directorate, dated 25 February 1947.

To these documents is added the memorandum compiled, on my suggestion, by Lt Col Vitale O.C. Engineer Office at the camp at Pontecagnano (3 Sub-Depot 557 B.I.D.) dated 15 March 1947.

From said documents, which within the particular points subsequently raised in the report of Maj Dunn, I have found corresponding to the real situation, the condition of the camps of Pontecagnano at the time of their handing over by Allies to the Italian administration and the work carried out by the technical personnel attached to the camps to improve them.

The fact that on 7 February, date of the visit of Maj Dunn and Capt Clark, "rubbish" is talked of while a few days later, on 15 February, date of the 2nd visit of Capt Clark to the same camps a "1000% improvement" is talked of, it can be stated in the estimation of the situation and from the remarks made a few days apart, there

(2)

has been lack of precision by one or the other.

The duties of the engineers at the camp of Pontecagnano consists of the work of ~~finding~~^{finding out} the whereabouts of the various material which interests Engineers; the selection of these materials, the testing and storage of it ~~at~~^{awaiting} administrative settlement with A.R.A.R. for release of the material to the army.

Engineer personnel first entered the camps in November 1946. The situation in which these camps were found at that time is well known, not only as regards ^{its wartime storage} and with large quantities of materials piled haphazardly and spread in disorder.

Traces of this state of affairs are still noticeable today; in fact everywhere remains of packing cases, empty metal boxes, wrecks of apparatus and instruments can be seen, and the present extent has been due to the work of selection carried out by personnel of the engineers for partial reorganisation.

The camps occupied an area of 30 hectares.

The engineers have up to now examined the material ^{scattered} spread ~~around~~ about six hectares and has had to open and check about 25,000 cases, carrying out a meticulous work which has lasted about one month.

As regard the points raised in the report of I.M.A.S. the 7 February 1947, the facts are follows:

There are 1200 type 19 sets in Camp D; another 3680 are packed and as yet stored and locked in the stores in Camp C.

Of the 1200 in Camp D:

- 900 have been found locked in cases which are not the original packings and which bear the inscription "Bare - Sets" i.e. "apparatus only". It is material already used and mainly coming from handings over made by various Allied units and therefore incomplete and anyway to be overhauled.
- 300 have been found spread all over the place, under the huts and in the open, they have been collected and stored (without being packed) by engineer personnel in the huts visited by Maj Dunn.

It is this group of apparatus to which the points raised refer, according to what was shown to me on the spot by Lt Col

(3)

Iammarino, representative of the Ministry of War, who took part in the visit of Maj Dunn and has further followed the work of the camp.

Said 300 sets are now stored into cases.

Taking into account the expenditure needed to repair these sets and supply them ~~or nearly~~ with the missing valves (it is to be noted that the Engineers have about 6000 valves belonging to these sets properly stored) the total cost, which anyway cannot be charged to the engineer personnel, would be about 700,000 lire.

Adding to this figure that needed to overhaul generators found in disorder by the said British Maj., due to the reasons clearly stated in the attached report, which I confirm, it can be concluded that the total cost would not exceed 750,000 lire.

This figure is far from that of 750,000,000 given by the British Maj. and confirms the lack of precision complained of at the beginning of this report.

The data relative to all the other radio sets in the Depot at Pontecagnano is summarized in the attached list.

Therefore, if no reference is made to the groups of material not yet examined or recorded or to material which is still in the open and ~~spread~~ abandoned and not checked by personnel of Italian military administration, the previous data is an assurance that there is not reason for blame as regards the work carried out by Engineer personnel at the camps at Pontecagnano.

As regards the distribution of radio material to civilian and military personnel serving on the spot, considering that it has been released after authorisation of the Commandant of the camp with a receipt given, it should be noted that the granting of receivers should have been the concern of the "Welfare of the Soldier" to improve the poor conditions of the personnel at Pontecagnano have to work. But given the availability on the spot and the temporary granting, in my opinion, it is justified.

It is undoubtedly difficult, after the lapse^{of} time, to reconstruct in details the actual situation of the camps in the various phases. But from the reorganisation willingly, methodically and intelligently carried out under the guidance of Lt Col Vitale, with visible results, it can be concluded that the faults reported, apart from the actual decidedly small number of slight economical importance, in comparison with what could be assumed from the first estimated of Maj Dunn, are not at any rate to be attributed to the slackness of

(4)

the Engineer personnel.

Therefore, while I do not propose any disciplinary action, I consider the truly remarkable results obtained to date by the engineer personnel, results which cannot be under-estimated because of particular small faults which, however, the personnel try to avoid with a continuous perfectioning of the organisation of the work, should be put in evidence.

Sgd GINO GRANATA
Gen.

ENGINEER H. NAPLES TERRITORIAL COMMAND

RETURN OF RADIO SETS FOUND IN THE CAMPS C.O.D. OF PONTECAGNANO

The Engineers have exclusively examined the sets which are ^{the} subject of a request by the Ministry.

However, during the examination, sets of other types and in greater number than the requests have been found.

The complete data is shown below, the figures are not to be taken as finals, as it could be increased in case other examinations should be carried out, not justified for the moment due to the situation ~~existing~~ arising from the need to store other material.

-R.19 4.880

of which 900 are in original cases and never opened
 300 found abandoned in various parts of the camp, collected and packed by the engineer. A detailed check of each set is taking place. Of 150 examined not all require large repairs and in general the sets could function after a summary overhaul and the addition of the lacking valves(2).
 3300 still packed and not touched by the engineer personnel as they are not needed.
 300 efficient, have been tested by engineer personnel and placed in the Engineer stores.
 80 found damaged by engineer personnel and discarded by the same(2)

-R.48 576
 of which 496 selected, complete with accessories and stored.
 80 discarded after testing and kept packed in the hut(2).

-R.109 (not in original package)	80 (1)
-SCR 312 (not in original package)	150 (1)
-R.208 (not in original package)	37 (1)
All the a/m sets are under huts.	
There are other ^{sets} stations of the following types, released by the	
British, in the open under canvas:	
-R. 21 (not into cases)	2000 (
-R.1100(not in original package)	170 ((1)
-R. 68 (not in original package)	280 (
-R. 33 (not in original package)	40 (
Total stations in the open	2490
	5723.-

(2)

- (1) - Found casually, but never examined. The number has been taken from the inscriptions on the cases.
- (2) - The engineer personnel is compiling reports for damages and deficiencies as the work proceeds. The same applies for all the sets found scattered in the camps, before packing them and putting ^{them} ~~at~~ the disposal of the authorities concerned.

0483

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO.

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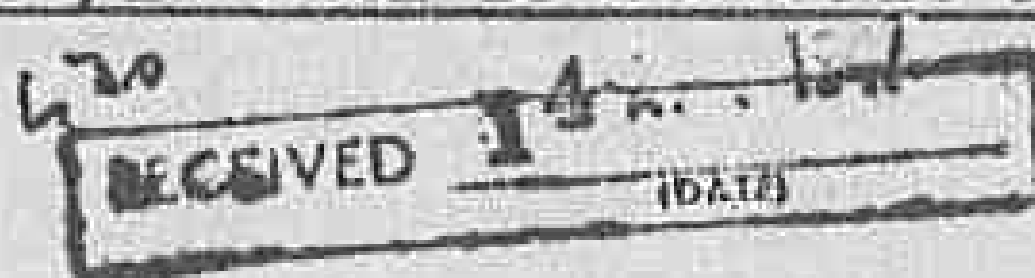
MINISTERO DELLA DIFESA
STATO MAGGIORE DELL'ESERCITO
Ufficio Servizi - Sezione S.M.

n.1/ *1603* /Serv.di prot. Roma, li *14* aprile 1947

OGGETTO: sottodeposito n. 3 di Pontecagnano.-

ALL'A.F.H.Q. ITALIAN LAND FORCES BRANCH

Risposta foglio Q.006/LF data 20 febbraio u.s.-



Si trasmette l'esito delle indagini
svolte dal Comiliter di Napoli, circa i rilievi
mossi dal maggiore DUNN sull'organizzazione del
sottodeposito n.3 di Pontecagnano.-



d'ordine
IL CAPO UFFICIO SERVIZI
colonnello N.Meloni -

N.M.

67
0900
15/4
1/5
12/4
Q.006/LF

sp

RELAZIONE

circa i rilievi mossi dall'I.M.A.S. per danni ai materiali del Genio nel sottodeposito n.3 di Pontecagnano.

In relazione all'ordine ricevuto dal comando militare territoriale di Napoli, con foglio n.2/1573/Serv. del 2 marzo 1947, mi sono personalmente recato a Pontecagnano per rendermi conto della situazione dei campi e per procedere ad un rigoroso accertamento sui fatti che hanno dato luogo ai rilievi mossi dall'I.M.A.S. in merito ai quali esisteva già l'allegata documentazione costituita da:

- a)- relazione compilata dal maggiore inglese Dunn dell'I.M.A.S. in data 7 febbraio 1947;
- b)- relazione compilata dal colonnello Meloni dello Stato Maggiore dell'Esercito - Ufficio Servizi - Sezione Stato Maggiore, in data 15 febbraio 1947;
- c)- promemoria compilato dal tenente colonnello Costantino del comando militare territoriale di Napoli in data 20 febbraio 1947;
- d)- relazione compilata dal colonnello Messoro della Direzione Lavori Genio Militare di Napoli in data 25 febbraio 1947.

A tale documentazione viene aggiunto il promemoria compilato, dietro mio invito, dal tenente colonnello Vitale, capo Ufficio Genio del campo di Pontecagnano (3° Sub-Depot 557 B.I.D.) in data 15 marzo 1947.

Da detta documentazione, che nei particolari rilievi fatti successivamente alla relazione Dunn, ho trovato corrispondente alla situazione di fatto, risulta quali fossero le condizioni dei campi di Pontecagnano, all'atto del trapasso di essi dagli alleati all'amministrazione italiana, e quale opera abbia svolta il personale tecnico addetto ai campi per migliorarle.

Il fatto che il 7 febbraio, epoca della visita del maggiore Dunn e del capitano Clark, si parla di "macerie" mentre a breve scadenza e cioè il 15 febbraio successivo, epoca della 2° visita del capitano Clark agli stessi campi si parla di "miglioramento al 1000%", permette di poter affermare che, nella valutazione delle situazioni e nella esposizione di giudizi fatti a distanza di pochi giorni, vi è stata da una parte o dall'altra della imprecisazione.

Il compito del genio nei campi di Pontecagnano consiste nelle operazioni di ricognizione della ubicazione dei vari materiali che interessano il Genio stesso; di selezione di questo materiale, del

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Il compito del Genio nei campi di Pontecagnano consiste nelle operazioni di ricognizione della ubicazione dei vari materiali che interessano il Genio stesso; di selezione di questo materiale, del conseguente collaudo ed infine dell'immagazzinamento di esso in attesa della conclusione delle pratiche con l'A.R.A.R. per la cessione del materiale stesso all'Esercito.

Il personale del Genio è entrato per la prima volta nei campi nel mese di novembre 1946. E' nota la situazione in cui i campi stessi furono in tale epoca trovati non solo per quanto riguarda la quantità dei materiali, ma anche il loro immagazzinamento, con caratteristi-

./././.

- 2 -

che di guerra e con notevoli partite di materiali ammucchiati alla rinfusa, sparpagliati e comunque in disordine.

Di tale stato di fatto sono rilevabili ancora oggi le tracce: si notano infatti un pò dappertutto resti di imballaggi, casse metalliche vuotate, relitti di apparati e di strumenti, ed è dovuto all'opera di selezione effettuata dal personale del genio l'attuale aspetto, se per parziale riordino.

I campi occupano un'area di circa 30 ettari.

Il Genio ha finora preso in esame il materiale giacente su circa sei ettari ed ha dovuto inizialmente aprire e controllare circa 250 mila casse, ed effettuare un lavoro minuzioso di indagine che è durato circa un mese.

Per quanto riguarda le voci segnalate nella relazione della I.M.A.S., in data 7 febbraio 1947, i dati di fatto sono i seguenti:

Le stazioni radio tipo 19 esistenti nel campo D sono 1200; altre 3680 sono incassate e tuttora accantonate e chiuse in magazzini nel campo C.

Delle 1200 del campo D:

- 900 sono state trovate chiuse in casse che non costituiscono imballaggi originari e sulle quali è apposta la dicitura "Bare-Sets" cioè "solo apparati". Trattasi di materiale già usato e in gran parte proveniente da versamenti effettuati da reparti vari alleati e per ciò incompleti e comunque da revisionare.

- 300 sono state trovate sparse un pò dovunque, sotto i capannoni ed all'aperto; raccolte ed accantonate (senza incassarle) dal personale del genio sotto il capannone visitato dal maggiore inglese Dunn.

E' stata a tale gruppo di apparati che i rilievi fatti si riferiscono, stando a quanto mi è stato indicato sul posto dal tenente colonnello Iammarino rappresentante del Ministero Guerra che ha partecipato alla visita del maggiore Dunn e che ha successivamente seguito il lavoro del campo.

Detti 300 apparati sono oggi sistemati in casse.

Tenuto conto della spesa occorrente per rimettere in efficienza tali apparati e per munirli delle valvole mancanti (è da notare che il Genio ha accantonato in apposito locale circa 6000 valvole appartenenti a tali apparati) il danno totale, che comunque non potrebbe essere imputato al personale del genio, si aggira sulle 700 mila lire.

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Aggiungendo a tale cifra quella occorrente per diordinare i gruppi elettrogeni trovati in disordine dallo stesso maggiore inglese, per le ragioni già chiaramente precisate nelle relazioni allegate, che confermano, si può concludere che il danno globale non superi le 750 mila lire.

Tale cifra è ben lontana da quella di 750 milioni segnalata dal maggiore inglese e conferma la imprecisione lamentata al principio della presente relazione.

./././.

I dati relativi a tutte le altre stazioni radio del deposito di Pontecagnano sono riassunte nello specchio allegato.

Pertanto, ove non si faccia riferimento a gruppi di materiali non ancora individuati o censiti o a materiale che tuttora si trova allo scoperto e comunque sparso abbandonato e non verificato dal personale dell'amministrazione militare italiana, i dati su esposti permettono di poter assicurare con tutta coscienza che nell'opera svolta nei campi di Pontecagnano dal personale del Genio non vi è ragione di biasimo.

Per quanto riguarda la distribuzione del materiale radio al personale civile e militare in servizio sul posto, premesso che lo stesso è stato rilasciato previa regolare autorizzazione del comandante del campo e verso ricevuta, sarebbe da osservare che la concessione di apparati riceventi sarebbe stata di competenza del "Benessere del Soldato" trattandosi di alleviare le condizioni di disagio ambientale nelle quali il personale residente a Pontecagnano deve prestare la sua opera. - Ma data la disponibilità in loco e la temporaneità dell'uso la concessione, può a mio parere, essere giustificata.

E' indubbiamente difficile, a distanza di tempo, ricostituire nel dettaglio le reali situazioni dei campi nelle varie fasi. Ma l'organizzazione del lavoro di riordino, volenterosa, metodica, intelligente che sotto la guida del tenente colonnello Vitale si sta sviluppando con visibili risultati, consente di poter concludere che le manchevolezze segnalate, a parte la loro effettiva entità numerica ed economica decisamente irrisoria nei confronti di quanto poteva desumersi dalla prima valutazione del maggiore Dunn, non sono comunque da imputarsi a trascuratezza del personale del Genio?

Pertanto, mentre non ritengo di proporre alcuna sanzione disciplinare, ritengo doveroso mettere in evidenza i risultati veramente apprezzabili finora conseguiti dal personale del genio, risultati che non possono essere offuscati da causali piccole manchevolezze particolari che peraltro il personale cura in ogni modo di evitare con un continuo perfezionamento della organizzazione del lavoro.

Napoli, li 27 marzo 1947

IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA COM. TE

F.to - Gino Granata -

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pando con visibili risultati, consente di poter concludere che le man-
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Napoli, li 27 marzo 1947

IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA COM.TE

F.to - Gino Granata -

COMANDO ENIO MILITARE TERR.LE DI POLI

SITUAZIONE STAZIONI RADIO TROVATE NEI CAMPI C.O.D. DI PONTECAGNANO

Il genio ha preso in esame esclusivamente gli apparati che formano oggetto di richiesta da parte del Ministero. Tuttavia, nel corso di tali ricerche, casualmente sono stati trovati apparati di altri tipi o in numero superiore alle richieste.

I dati complessivi sono quelli in appresso riportati; le cifre non sono da ritenersi definitive, potendo essere migliorate qualora si effettuino altre ricerche, per ora non giustificate da esigenze derivanti dalla necessità di accantonare altro materiale.

- R. 19

4.880

di cui 900 in casse originali e mai aperte
300 trovate abbandonate nelle varie parti del campo, raccolte e incassate dal genio. E' in corso un dettaglio di controllo di ogni singola stazione. Di quelle già esaminate in n. di 150, tutte non sono abbinabili di grandi riparazioni ed in generale la stazione potrà funzionare dopo una sommaria revisione e con l'apposizione delle valvole mancanti (2).
3300 ancora imballate e non toccate dal personale del genio perchè non occorrono.

300 efficienti, state collaudate dal personale del genio ed introdotte nel magazzino del genio.

80 trovate manomesse dal personale del genio e dallo stesso scartate (2).

- R. 48

576

di cui 496 selezionate, complete di caricamento ed immagazzinate.

80 scartate al collaudo e minaste nel capannone incassate (2).

- R.109 (non in imballaggio originale)

- SCR 312 (non in imballaggio originale)

- R. 208 (non in imballaggio originale)

Tutte le suddette stazioni sono sotto capannoni. Totale...

All'aperto, coperte da teloni, vi sono altre stazioni già usate lasciate dagli inglesi, dei seguenti tipi:

- R. 21 (non incassate)

80 (1)
150 (1)
37 (1)

5723.==

già usate lascia=

ne delle
3300 ancora imballate e non toccate dal
personale del genio perchè non oc-
corrono.
300 efficienti, state collaudate dal per-
sonale del genio ed introdotte nel ma-
gazzino del genio.
80 trovate manomesse dal personale del
genio e dallo stesso scartate (2).

576

- R. 48 di cui 496 selezionate, complete di caricamento
ed immagazzinate.

80 scartate al collaudo e rimaste nel
capannone incassate (2).

- R. 109 (non in imballaggio originale)
- SCR 312 (non in imballaggio originale)
- R. 208 (non in imballaggio originale)
Tutte le suddette stazioni sono sotto capannoni. Totale...
All'aperto, coperte da teloni, vi sono altre stazioni già usate lascia-

te dagli inglesi, dei seguenti tipi:
- R. 21 (non incassate)
- R. 1100 (non in imballaggio originale)
- R. 68 (non in imballaggio originale)
- R. 33 (non in imballaggio originale)

80	(1)
150	(1)
37	(1)
5723	==

2000	{	(1)
170		
280		
40		

Totale stazioni all'aperto....2490

./././.

Extract From

"Q" LIAISON LOG

DATED

4

Extracts from Liaison Log 24th March - 19th March 47

1. A.R.A.R. 24 March

Discussed with Col MELONI whose draft letter to the President of the Council (see log of 12 March para 3(o)) has been studied by AQMG and Col A/Q.

Told MELONI such a letter could not be written unless previous correspondence on a high level could be quoted, or even conversations. MELONI had no knowledge of either, but (he argued) the ALLIES having ceded Military equipment to the ITALIAN Government never intended it to go to civilian firms who then disposed of certain quantities to Foreign Powers, thus not only depriving the ITALIAN Army of what it urgently needs and is legitimately entitled to, but placing it in the hands of some potential enemy.

MELONI expressed the opinion that on this score alone the ALLIES should feel it incumbent upon them to bring pressure to bear in the proper quarters.

However, as suggested to MELONI, he will submit to this office a few notes giving the gist of any correspondence or interviews which have possible taken place on a high level in this connection.

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However, as suggested to MELONI, he will submit to this office a few notes giving the gist of any correspondence or interviews which have possible taken place on a high level in this connection.

Handwritten initials: RM

Extract From

May Edwards 1 of.

CONFIDENTIAL

DATED

17 Feb to 8 March.

A.R.A.R.

12 March 47. Called on Col. MELONI to ascertain:-

- (a) in what way the Ministry of National Defence-Army wished this Sub Section to intervene in regard to material for Italian Army.
- (b) In what way ARAR were "not playing"
- (c) what materials were being held back.

MELONI gave following replies:-

- (a) The Ministry of National Defence-Army would like this Sub Section to get Brig. CARR to write to the President of the Council requesting energetic Government intervention on behalf of the Army to get ARAR to fulfil its obligations as formulated at various meetings and by agreements.

- (b) ARAR by procrastination and "hedging" were keeping back materials urgently required by the Army to complete WE allotment. Apart from the financial side (better prices obtainable from civilian firms, delays in Treasury sanction and payments) ARAR now plead the necessity of first completing the sorting and listing of material before dispersing of same.

- (c) The equipment and materials thus held back are all those constituting the normal allotment for units of Artillery, Engineers and Commissariat. Suggested that the Ministry of National Defence - Army should prepare rough draft of letter which should be addressed to President of Ministers. This version

obligations by Romania
and by agreements.

(b) ARAR by overestimation and "hedging" were keeping back materials urgently required by the Army to complete its allotment. Apart from the financial side (better prices obtainable from civilian firms, delays in Treasury sanction and payments) ARAR now plead the necessity of first completing the sorting and listing of material before dispersing of same.

(c) The equipment and materials thus held back are all those constituting the normal allotment for units of Artillery, Engineers and Commissariat. The Ministry of National Defence suggested that the Ministry of letter - Army should prepare rough draft of letter which should be addressed to President of Council of Ministers. This ELIONI promised to have ready in a day or two.

...../2

Rough Draft of letter War Min

TRANSLATION

Suggest be sent by M.M.I.A.

TO: Presidency of Council of Ministers.

16

WP

It has been noticed that the Italian Army has until now been able to obtain only very limited quantities of materials from A.R.A.R., chiefly because of two factors:

- bureaucratic and administrative difficulties raised by A.R.A.R. regarding the release of materials even of a strictly military nature, as this firm considers the requests of the Army on the same level as those of civilian firms and often gives priority to the latter, giving reasons which at times appear as downright obstructionist action;

(on the part of Min of Finance)

- failure to assign adequate funds to the Army to ~~the~~ meet the demands of A.R.A.R., even for the release of material considered indispensable for the minimum requirements of the Army.

At the meeting held on 23.8.1946 at M.M.I.A., with all government departments interested in the question of A.R.A.R. materials represented, and in the presence of a representative of your Presidency of the Council, it was explicitly ordered and agreed that the requirements of the Army must be given first priority and favourable conditions.

We are sorry to note instead that nothing or nearly nothing has been realised in the sense agreed and desired.

Since these materials were war salvage released ⁱⁿ block to the Italian Government, this Mission has refrained from examining further provisions of a general and administrative nature which the Government would have issued to practically carry out the above directive. The Mission trusted however that this directive would have been carried out within the proper limits.

Since it is inconceivable that the units of the army, to which is entrusted the task of defence of the Country, should lack the materials necessary for the completion of the normal scales of issue of the artillery, signals, M.T., engineer services including quantities of bridging equipment, this Mission earnestly begs your Presidency to kindly reexamine all questions regarding A.R.A.R. materials governing the action of this concern as regards the release of materials to the Army.

WP I cannot act on this. Ask War Min if there is any evidence of War Min not fully satisfying for Italian Govt - if possible produce correspondence or a note verbale
26 Mar WP

- 2 -

The substance of the desire is that the Army can have available as soon as possible what is strictly its entitlement, particularly as regards strictly military materials, on favourable conditions and independently of the possibility or otherwise of immediate payment.

We await your kind reply.

R.A.G.

ALLA PRESIDENZA DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI

= R O M A =

Si è constatato che l'Esercito Italiano non ha potuto finora ottenere dall'A.R.A.R. che limitatissime quantità di materiali soprattutto per due ordini di fattori:

- difficoltà burocratiche ed amministrative frapposte dall'A.R.A.R. per la cessione dei materiali anche di stretta pertinenza militare, in quanto detta azienda considera le richieste dell'Esercito alla stessa stregua di quelle degli enti civili e spesso antepone queste a quelle, con criteri che assumono talvolta l'aspetto di vera e propria azione ostruzionistica;

- mancanza di assegnazione all'Esercito di fondi adeguati per far fronte alle richieste dell'A.R.A.R., anche per la cessione di quei materiali da considerarsi indispensabili per le sue minime esigenze.

Nella riunione tenuta il giorno 23-2-46 presso la M.M.I.A. con l'intervento di tutti gli enti governativi interessati alla questione dei materiali A.R.A.R. ed alla presenza di un rappresentante di codesta Presidenza del Consiglio, venne sancito in modo esplicito ed accolto la direttiva per la quale le esigenze dell'Esercito dovevano essere assicurate con assoluta precedenza ed a condizioni favorevoli.

Spiace invece di dover constatare che nulla o quasi è stato per contro realizzato nel senso convenuto e desiderato.

Trattandosi di materiali che pur essendo di provenienza bellica sono stati ceduti in blocco al Governo Italiano, questa Missione si è astenuta dall'entrare nel merito dei successivi provvedimenti di carattere generale ed amministrativo che il governo avrebbe emanato per attuare praticamente la direttiva di cui sopra. La Missione confidava tuttavia che tale direttiva sarebbe stata attuata nei giusti limiti.

Poiché non sembra corcepibile che i reparti dell'esercito cui è affidato il compito della difesa del Paese manchino dei materiali costituenti necessario complemento delle loro normali dotazioni dei servizi d'artiglieria, dei collegamenti, delle motorizzazioni, del genio, come prese aliquote di materiale da fronte, questa Missione prega vivamente codesta Presidenza di voler riesaminare tutta la questione dei materiali A.R. A.R. disciplinando l'azione di questa azienda nei confronti delle cessioni di materiali all'Esercito.

Si desidera in sostanza che l'Esercito possa al più presto disporre di quanto strettamente gli compete, particolarmente nel campo dei materiali strutturali militari, a condizioni di particolare favore ed in-

Nella riunione tenuta il giorno 23-8-46 presso la M.M.I.A. con l'intervento di tutti gli enti governativi interessati alla questione dei materiali A.R.A.R. ed alla presenza di un rappresentante di codeste Presidenza del Consiglio, venne sancito in modo esplicito ed accolto la direttiva per la quale le esigenze dell'Esercito dovevano essere assicurate con assoluta precedenza ad a condizioni favorevoli.

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Si gradirà ricevere un cortese cenno di riscontro.

Subject:- 3 Sub Depot Pontecagnano

HQ IATIA NAPLES Detachment
POSILLIPO NAPLES
Tele:-14272
A/Q GEN

231

14 Mar 47

RECEIVED

I.M.A.S. (formerly M.M.I.A.)
A/Q Branch

Ref your Q.006/LF dated 20 Feb and 7 Mar 47.

1. I cannot state when report on 10 Territorial Command enquiry will go through to Ministry of War, as apart from one visit to Pontecagnano prior to my visit to Rome, no further request for any help has been made. I detail below position at the depot on my last visit.
2. Security. Guard has been tightened up and it is an impossibility to go in or out without being checked. Army guard stop vehicles and will not allow any to pass without approval of Carabinieri. I have requested that a copy of guards orders be given to me so that I can give any advice as to improvement. Security lighting in "D" depot is bad and I have written to Territorial Command requesting they change the 15KA generator for new one in Montecorvino or alternatively supply extra petrol so smaller generators in "D" depot may be used.
3. Clearing. Stores are being cleared up rapidly. All broken cases are being removed or repaired. Large stacks of rubbish now accumulating are to be burnt or otherwise disposed of.
4. M.M.I.A. Suggestions. These have not yet been sent down to the depot as an official instruction nor has Lt Col Vitali been appointed Commandant. I have requested that 10 Territorial Command do this immediately.
5. Fire Precautions. These are very bad at the moment, all fire extinguishers are unfilled. I have requested 10 Territorial Command to obtain necessary refills from A.R.A.R. at 2 Sub Depot. I have also suggested that A.R.A.R. supply fire pump on loan which could also be used as fire pump for 1 Sub Depot.
6. Telephone Communications. Fire risk is increased by the fact that there is no telephone line between Pontecagnano and Salerno. Fire brigade has to be summoned by D.R. I have seen C.S.O. AFHQ and got his agreement for the requisitioning of telephone lines. This should be in use this week.

To See

generators in "D" depot may be used.

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Sub

To See	
A/R	WSP
"Q"	RRR
Q Liaison	
Q "	
Q "	

CLF
NWC/at

willard
Capt,
OO Detachment.
(M.W. Clarke).

14/5/40

A. D. 0064

"Q" BUCK SLIF

FILE NO

006/LE

DATE	SECTION OR SERVICE		ACTION REQUIRED
	FROM	TO	
10 Mar	Q	LO Maj. Elsworth	Please see ① & ⑩ And ascertain what the War Min wish us to do. Pl speak before approaching Meloni or Luzzi <u>RAC</u>
12 Mar.	LO	Q	Saw Col MELONI. He says the War Min. would like this S/S to get Brig. Carr to write Pres. of the Council to intervene. Meloni will have a draft letter ready in a day or two. Apart from moral financial objections (delays in payments to Treasury, better prices obtainable from Civ. firms) ARAR constantly procrastinating and hedging. Like <u>RAC</u> H. (LO)

0515

785020

COPY

(13)

Rome, 2nd January 1947.

Dear Admiral,

The Italian Ministry of War is dealing with M.M.I.A. for the release of a considerable quantity of armament material existing in Austria.

I would be very grateful if you would support and facilitate the completion of said dealings, which the Italian Government is following with interest.

Yours Sincerely,

3rd DE GASPERI

Admiral ELINRY STONE
Chief of the Allied Commission
ROME

JW

File Q022

101

006 ✓

COPY

(12)

TRANSLATION

FROM: Presidency of Council of Ministers
TO : Ministry of War

REF: 91592/12060.44/19/8
DATE: 6 January 1947

SUBJECT: Allied armament material for the
Italian Army.

Reply to letter 232307 of 2nd inst.

It is considered advisable that the release of the material in question be directly carried out between the Allied and Italian military authorities and, in consequence, approval is given for the making of concrete agreements for the speedy transfer of said material.

The Presidency begs your Ministry to take all steps to ensure that the material drawn is really efficient.

Sgd. CAFFA

Under-Secretary of State

R.A.G.

ju

File Q 022

101

006 ✓

0517

785020

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Italian Military Affairs Section
Land Forces Sub Section
(Formerly MMIA)

Tel: 489081
Ext: 415

1.006/LF

7 Mar 47

MMIA Detachment, Naples
(attn Capt Clarke)

Subject: 3 Sub Depot -
PORTUCCIA

Reference attached copy of our 1.006/LF dated 20 Feb 47.

1. Request interim report from you as to progress of 10 Territorial Command Enquiry and estimate of when investigations will be complete and report forwarded to War Ministry.

2. Your reply should reach this HQ not later than 13 Mar 47.

RAC/jw

RAC

Colonel,
A/G.

TRANSLATION

From; "M. of D."

Ref: 203058/II

To : I.M.A.S.

Date: 22/2/47

Subject: Relations of ARAR with M. of Defence.

Reply to letter Q 006/LF dated 3rd Feb. 1947.

I am very grateful to your Subsection for the interest shown to ensure preference to the Army in the selection of Allied war surplus materials.

In fact, ARAR, being concerned above all with the financial side of the question, has raised some difficulties as regards the withdrawal of materials requested for requirements of the Army.

Since these materials are indispensable for putting the various units in an efficient state as soon as possible, I beg your Subsection to kindly hasten to the utmost, through your intervention, the consignment of said materials.

I thank you for the help which your IMAS has kindly given me regards the matter.

To See	
A/Q	✓
"Q"	
Q Liaison	
Q Matut	
Q (AE)	

R.A.C.

Alonso
Luigi

What difficulties?
What material?

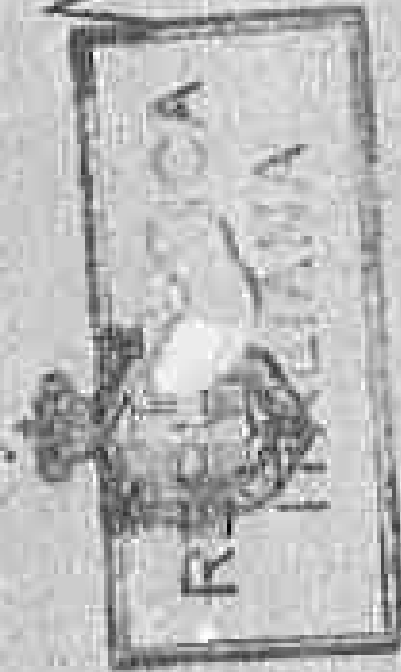
Sgd. GASPAROTTO

Acc (14)

Reg. M.
1/1/47
106

Bombardieri 455.

A Q 006



MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA
CR/Im GABINETTO

Protocollo N. 203068/II Allegati

Risposta al foglio del

Roma, 22 febbraio 1947

Divisione Sezione N.

OGGETTO: Rapporti dell'A.R.A.R. col Ministero della Difesa.

AL LA LAND FORCES SUB SECTION (I.M.A.S.)

R O M A

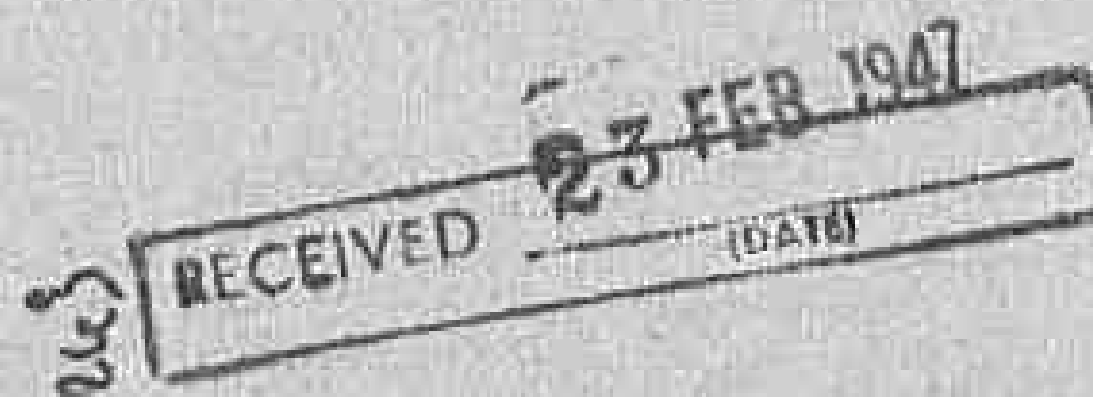
Risposta al foglio n. Q.CC6/L.F. del 3 febbraio 1947.-

Sono vivamente grato a codesta Sottosezione per l'interessamento svolto allo scopo di assicurare la preferenza all'Esercito nella scelta dei materiali alleati residuati di guerra.-

Effettivamente, l'ARAR, preoccupandosi soprattutto della parte finanziaria della questione, ha opposto alcune difficoltà al ritiro dei materiali richiesti per le necessità dell'Esercito.-

Poiché tali materiali sono indispensabili per rimettere al più presto in efficienza le varie unità, prego codesta Sottosezione voler, con un suo intervento, far accelerare al massimo la consegna dei materiali stessi.-

Ringrazio dell'appoggio che codesta I.M.A.S. vorrà concedere al riguardo.-



IL MINISTRO

17.10

24/7

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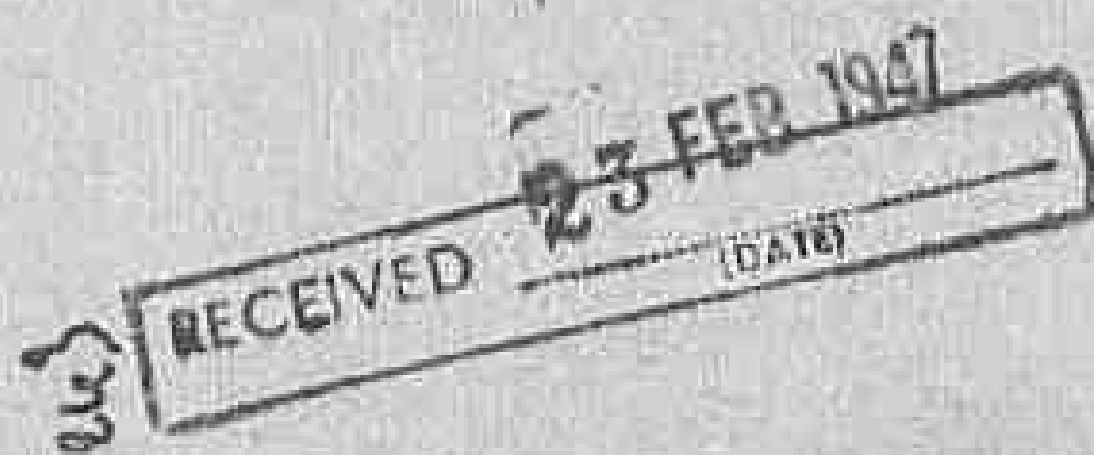
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IL MINISTRO

17.12
24/2
23
0730
1/3

Q. 106



Extract From

"W" LIAISON LOG LX DATED 25/2/47

9

785020

- 2 -

Col MELONI

24. 2. 47.

Handed in letter 0.006 of 20 Feb on the
subject of "No 5 Sub-Depot FORTICAGHANO" informing Col
Meloni that we were now awaiting results of Naples
Territorial Command enquiry.

Handed
0.006

ARMED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Italian Military Affairs Section
Land Forces Sub Section
(Formerly MMIA)

Tel: 489081
Ext: 415

Q. CCG/LE

20 Feb 47

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE - ARMY (by IO)

Subject: 3 Sub Depot -
FORTICAGNANO

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your 292/G.A. dated 17 Feb 47 and of the detailed report submitted by Colonel Meloni.
2. Instructions have been issued that the MMIA representative at Naples shall continue to give 10 Territorial Command every assistance they may require.
3. It is requested a copy of their report may be forwarded in due course to this HQ.

Rac
Major General,
Director.

RAC/jw

TRANSLATION

From: M. of D.
To : LFSS (IMAS)

Ref: 292/G.A.
Date: 17/2/47

Subject: 3 Sub depot Pontecagnano. -

MEMORANDUM for Gen. E.H. Goulburn GOC LFSS. -

As soon as I saw your Memo I ordered immediately the Chief of the Services Office of SME to inspect n° 3 Sub depot at Pontecagnano. *See 19*

I forward herewith the report made by the officer. The information contained therein which I deem absolutely unbiassed give a picture of a favourable situation in confront with what might have been expected before the inspection.

Furthermore the Military Territorial Command of Naples is carrying out an investigation for which the help of an Allied officer formerly of 10 BLU has been insistently requested.

From said enquiries more evidence might emerge and I wish that this enquiry which will be carried out in collaboration with an Allied officer ends by giving a clear explanation of the question.

However, I am ready to order in agreement with you further enquiries which at the end of the investigation might appear necessary. -

sgd. Illegible

Ang. By an meeting to day. This report is at variance with Maj Duns on all points. Considerable improvement has already occurred. Cannot acknowledge receipt of this report say we await a report on 10 BLU situation. When 13.2.47 18 Feb

Extract from

"Q" LIAISON LOG 4 DATED 18-2-47

Col MELONI

18.2.47

Conference held at HQ to discuss latest developments at PONTACAGNARO and M of W report on visit there by Col Meloni. Following present Col Piasley, Lt Col Curties, Lt Col Head, Major Dunn and Capt Clarke and Col Meloni, Lt Col Jannarino from M of W. AQ ORD 806 Q

Col Meloni's report was discussed and latest preventative guard measures in the depot were gone into in order to minimise theft.

Col Meloni stated that Naples Terr Command were having Court of Enquiry on the recent mis doings in the depot and Capt Clarke was briefed on matters which were to be clarified by the Court.

Matter is now suspended until results of Enquiry are known when further discussions will be held.

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006

TRANSLATION

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From said enquiries more evidence might emerge and I wish that this enquiry which will be carried out in collaboration with an Allied officer ends by giving a clear explanation of the question.

However, I am ready to order in agreement with you further enquiries which at the end of the investigation might appear necessary. -

sgd. Illegible

{ GEN. MARRAS
(CHIEF - S.H.E.)

From: Ministry of Defence
To : the general

Date: 15/2/47.

Subject: Report on the inspection of n° 3 sub depot
of the ex 557 BOD Pontecagnano. -

1. - This is a report on the inspection of the sub depot in question carried out by me on the 13th inst. on order of the Chief of SME. I was entrusted with the duty of taking direct vision on the serious observations made by officers of the IMAS who inspected said depot on the 7th inst. - Regarding the above I would point out that:

a) - the Military Territorial Command of Naples knew in part the observations made because ~~it was~~ informed verbally by Capt Clark of the 10 BLU.

The verbal report made by said captain Clark to the Military Territorial Command of Naples and which was pointed out to me is however ~~an~~ ^{an} ~~exaggerated~~ ^{exaggerated} version of the facts.

b) - The Military Territorial Command of Naples is carrying out a thorough investigation regarding the facts reported and for the purpose it has asked for the collaboration and assistance of Capt. Clark. -

c) - The Allied officers who have carried out the inspection, were accompanied by Lt.Col. Jannarino of the Engr General Directorate. Said officer, in addition to having been several times there, has had since the beginning the duty of directing the stock taking and selection of signal material existing in n° 3 sub depot. In said duty he was initially helped by Major Morecombe formerly of the MMIA. -

Said Lt. Col. Jannarino, upon my request, accompanied me during my inspection which I carried out in the presence of all the officers detailed for the selection of Artillery and Signal material, the Guard Commander, the officer in charge the Carabinieri section guarding the depot and the Infantry Battalion Commander which supplies the guard.

2. - GENERAL CONDITION OF THE DEPOT.

I had already the occasion of visiting the depot during the second half of October, immediately after ^{it was} ~~the~~ handing over by the Allies. Lt.Col. Fallaci of SM was with me on that occasion.

The thing that struck me most during said inspection:

- 2 -

besides of the large installation and the quantity of material was that, especially in sector "D" of the camp, a very large number of cases on the outside of the stacks appeared to have been mishandled for the evident purpose of stealing. In fact we noted the removal of material contained in the cases especially in the sector of precision and wireless telegraphy material. Then I noticed amongst other things, in passing through a shade still held by the Allies several cases without cover containing binocles of which many were taken away leaving the empty boxes. In order to avoid further theft of such precious material I ordered personally that the cases be immediately moved into another depot completely closed.

In all sectors of the camp we often found all type of material scattered about on the ground.

With reference to this I made a return as well as a verbal report.

Similar reports were made by other officers of the Ministry who visited said depot and amongst these I name Gen. Crivaro and Col. Picone of the Engineer General Directorate and Col. Campagna of the Artillery General Directorate.

I can definitely confirm that to-day the general situation of the depot cannot be considered worst. In fact many cases which were laying in the open have been moved inside the shade; many cases opened and from which material had been stolen have been put in order and closed; many stacks containing delicate material liable to be stolen have been covered up with canvas the edges of which nailed in the wood.

In valuating the real situation the following points x are to be borne in mind:

a) - for over 2 years thousands of civilian workers have been employed in n° 3 sub depot.

b) - N° 3 sub depot was then handed over to us between the last decade of September and the first fortnight of October. Said handing over was merely formal and that is little by little the depot came under our supervision and responsibility. During said handing over no stock taking was made neither any documents or inventories which stated the quantity and denomination of the material.

Only after a long time and after repeated requests the lists containing the summary description of the material held in the depot was forwarded to the Military Territorial Command of Naples through n° 10 BLU.

c) - The depot, on completion of handing over, remained for

- 3 -

some time under the direct control of the Allies who naturally withdrew and dispatched any material they required. Several shades remained, up to the first days of February under the control of the Allies although we were guarding it.

3. - GUARD DUTIES

When the depot came under our control the Military Territorial Command of Naples entrusted the guard duties to Lt.Col. Checchia commander of the Battalion of the 10 Infantry located at Salerno. He was an officer of proven capability and energy formerly employed in this SM.

For such occasion almost the whole of the Battalion was detached and accomodated outside the depot.

In order to render more efficient the service, this SM sent on the spot a whole section of Carabinieri commanded by an excellent captain.

Said provisions were taken because of the fact that for sometimes large thefts occurred. -

I was personally concerned with the service and I give hereunder a detailed report:

a) - no one can enter the depot if not recognised or in possession of a written permit issued by the Military Territorial Command of Naples.

A similar written permit is required in order to move any type of material. -

b) - 150 men belonging to the 10th Infantry are employed to guard the depot. They come under the direct command of a captain and four subalterns. I inspected said general unit and I noticed order and discipline.

20 sentries are permanently detached for guard duties. They are periodically inspected especially during the night by officers of the unit. -

c) - The captain commanding the guard detachment has been there ever since the beginning of November. His Battalion Commander, the Senior Arty and Engineer officers, the commandant of the carabinieri section confirmed to me the serious, constant and diligent work which that officer has and is carrying out in this special service. -

11/

(d) The principle duties of the Carabinieri are:

- close watch on the entrance and the exit of the depot;
- day and night patrols internally and externally of the depot and a watch on the guards;
- check the contents of all MT entering and leaving the camp and escorting such vehicles with which part of the materials in sectors "D" and "C" are being transferred.

(e) All workmen are usually searched when leaving the camp; particular inspections and searches are carried out periodically on the military guards.

(f) All external patrols at night stop and search any civilian found in the proximity of the area. I would like to point out that such a procedure is in direct contrast with police law which does not allow the stopping or the searching of civilians unless caught red-handed.

(g) Amongst the civilian personnel working in the camp are several ~~workmen~~ extremely trustworthy workmen who are given the duties of keeping a check and reporting on the remainder of the personnel working inside the camp. Over and above this a small number of Carabinieri in civilian cloths are occasionally made to mix up with the workmen in order to obtain a more efficacious police service.

The following figures are produced for the period 10th Oct 46 to 10th Feb 47 as a result of the organisation of such a service;

- (i) 21 civilians reported to the Judicial Authorities for theft and consequently dismissed from their work.
- (ii) 44 military personnel, of whom 5 NCOs, reported to the Military Tribunal for theft or violation of their responsibilities. I would like to point out quite justly that these were dealt with most severely and that quite a number were reported for very minor offences.
- (iii) The sequestering of quite a lot of stolen property, much of which having taken place prior to Oct 46 and amongst which are included several hundred radio valves. The greater part of a work of this nature took part in between the months of Nov and December 46 and is now on the decrease.

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- (iii) The sequestering of quite a lot of stolen property, much of which having taken place prior to Oct 46 and amongst which are included several hundred radio valves. The greater part of a work of this nature took part in between the months of Nov and December 46 and is now on the decrease.

I would like to point out that these results even though not very complementary do show what has been taking place ever since we undertook the responsibility of guarding the depot and show that every effort was made to produce the best results by all concerned with the depot. This is proved even further by the local population who now very often bring out the following expression "PONTECAGNANO, once the land of plenty, is over".

The officer commanding the Carabinieri Section has himself confirmed that at the present moment it is practically impossible for any thefts however small to take place without being found out almost immediately. Such an appreciation even if considered somewhat optimistic has a certain amount of value.

4. - WORKING PROGRESS AT N° 3 SUB DEPOT.

Works for the manufacture of a certain quantity of material concerning the Artillery service and the Signal service are in progress. All material as known has been handed over to the Italian Government through ARAR. The Military Administration is dealing with ARAR for the purchase and withdrawal of part of the material concerning the scale of issue of units.

The duties of officers, specialists and labourers are to account, select, prepare the material which must be purchased. Said material are generally stored as soon as the work is done in several ~~steps~~ of sector "C" of the depot. -

Particularly, regarding Signal material, the work is done under the supervision of Lt.Col. Vitali and two other officers. They are helped in their work by a group of NCOs and tradesmen drawn from the 21st Engineer workshop of Rome. Said personnel is of proven technical competence.

According to orders received the work is carried out through accurate account and selection of material which before being finally made ready for dispatch are individually tested by the technical group. -

This procedure is justified by various considerations and particularly:

- The equipment must be purchased ⁱⁿ ~~for~~ cash by ARAR after due estimate of its commercial value. Therefore, it is natural that the estimate of the purchase price be exactly referred to the state of efficiency of above equipment. Hence the state of efficiency must be ascertained previously.
- Opportunity (also in regard to the time available) of proceeding to a previous testing, considering also that, at any rate, the test ought to be made before issuing above equipment to the units.
- Therefore we spare some time and we have the equipment available for issue and employment.

Above procedure entails of course the necessity of opening the boxes which contain the equipment, to carry out then ^{the} checking and testing.

The operations for making ready the equipment are at a good stage and for the great part of same, which will be issued to Infantry Divisions, we wait for ^{the} making the relative administrative settlement with ARAR.

I point out that amongst the materials already tested and ready, there are also some hundreds of radio sets which are fully efficient.

I add therefore that if we could or would (as it was schemed) withdraw the equipment which will be issued to Mantova Division, nothing would have prevented from doing it.

*Did Dunn
see these*
*Dunn says that sets will not be
available for issue to Mantova Div*

5°) PARTICULAR REMARKS CONCERNING RADIO SETS TYPE "I9".

From the investigations which I could make, it appeared roughly that the radio sets type "I9" existing at 3 subdepot are approximately more than 4.000. Of these more than 3.200 are stored in some huts perfectly closed, being in sector "C" of the camp, i.e. in conditions which exclude any ^{possible damage act of theft} ~~act of spoil~~. These sets are still in their original packages and it is to be presumed that this equipment is completely new. Checking and testing of the sets type "I9" being in sector "C", has begun ^{some} ~~last~~ days, ^{ago} because ~~we~~ gave purposely priority to these existing in sector "D". These, being stored in sheds having roof only and which can be easily visited, give a less sure storage and no doubt ^{are subject to being stolen and damaged more easily.} ~~have been easily spoiled.~~

A | I add also that it results from the investigations carried out ^{so far} ~~until now~~, that the radio sets "I9" being in sector "D" are about a thousand. *some sets 3.000 - not checked*

B | They are, in the majority, used equipment and (as it is stated by workers which previously were employed in that sector of the camp by the Allies) were handed in by various units. *Some others not checked*

C | These sets are packed in non-original packages which contain only the bare set as it is written on the boxes. Therefore the accessories of the sets are not included (feeding group, ^{wire parts etc} ~~elements~~ of ~~red~~). *We cannot confirm*

The remarks made by Allied Officers refer precisely to these sets and particularly to the two piles being in the hut no. 2.

It has been also pointed out ~~the fact~~ that many batteries lay on the open (under the shelter of the shed, however) with evident traces of ^{theft} ~~spoil~~ and without valves.

I have brought now ⁸er all my attention to this fact and I report on the subject that:

- a) _ Many sets of "I9" type which lay around in all the subdepot and which were visibly opened, have been concentrated in the above hut no. 2 by apposite squad of workers. This fact brought us to make a checking of all these sets and of those already existing in the same hut (totalling, as I said, to less than one thousand sets.)
- b) _ During these operations, it was deemed necessary, to take from the sets the remaining valves still existing. Thus about 2.000 were collected and carried to a closed store for custody. About 300 sets (this is ^{the} amount I accounted) were left badly piled out of the respective boxes.

To justify this situation, I was told that those sets were declared in bad condition and some ^{badly} ~~violently~~ spoiled and therefore it was intended that ^{they} be left temporarily in the same way as they were found, in order that a particular estimate and valuation of these materials be made in agreement with A.R.A.R. representatives if it would have been convenient for us to buy all them at a price of course lower than that of a set perfectly working.

This excuse can be justified, but the system followed is to be blamed.

I have also noticed that in the same hut, order and cleanliness were objectionable.

- c) _ However I have examined attentively these sets and I am in a position of stating that, notwithstanding the appearance which

Dunn says completely ruined

9

is bad, about all of them can be fully utilised after light and medium repair works which will be made by our workshops.

Abstracting from the valves, all the sets are substantially complete as regard their essential structure (keys, switches, main circuits, condensers etc.).

I add that, even if we would not account the 2.000 valves salvaged and we would, on the contrary, call our personnel responsible for the degradations found in above equipment (excluding, however, formally, in all the cases, that this is well founded and true)) the value of the damage and the cost of the revision and repair must be estimated about 5_6_7 millions lire. About 3/4 of this amount is represented by the value of the valves which can be partially found in the market at the price of 7_800 lire each.

6°) ENCLOSURE CALLED "MATERIALS CLASSIFIED USEFUL".

There are the premises of the subdepot which, as I have already said, have been from the beginning of February, under the direct control of the Allied personnel.

Therefore only from few days above enclosure was passed under our control, after that the Allies carried away about all the equipment stored there. Only some piles of empty boxes and small remainders of various equipment remained there and among this a small number of valves of various types. No detailed recognition was made, and this fact can be blamed.

It is, at any rate, to be formally excluded that any damage of any kind (including intentional) has been made.

The enclosure has been found open during the visit because on that day a trustworthily worker, certain D'Alessandro, whom I question-

ned, was entrusted with reorganising the materials remaining there.

The enclosure was found in disorder, and this is true. Practically, however, it was in the same conditions as it was left.

7°) - GENERATORS FOR THE CHARGE OF BATTERIES.

Some hundreds of these are at subdepot no. 3.

Some of these, which were time before scattered in various places of the subdepot, were collected and stored in a hut. About 30 of these, packed in their original packages, have been found with the lid of the package violently opened. The sets are untouched. However the small boxes containing the accessories have been ^{stolen} partially spoiled (spanners, pincers, screw drivers and a spare candle) and this was done exclusively in order to pinch the spare candle.

All remaining equipment, notwithstanding that the small boxes were opened, could be practically traced.

Finally Definitely: this is an unpleasant fact like some others, but the damages are slight.

8°) - RADIO SETS POSSESSED BY THE PERSONNEL.

These are a certain number of radio receivers (only receiving set) type R. 107, some hundreds of which (in the majority efficient) are stored at the subdepot.

These are sets suitable for receiving the medium waves used by Italian transmitting stations of the R.A.I. for the daily normal broadcast.

A certain number of these sets, upon due authorisation and upon release of due voucher have been issued as follows:

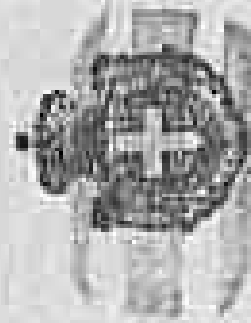
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- premises occupied by carabinieri;
 - main guards room;
 - canteen of the military personnel of guard detached there;
 - Officers' mess;
 - N.C.O.S. mess;
 - Office of Lt. Col. Vitali, chief of the Signal equipment service;
 - Room where the generator for the illumination of the camp works.

It has been also remarked that one or two sets of different type (receiving and transmitting) were in other premises where some civilians were working. These sets were being tested and were at the disposal of one of the officers i/c the testing of the equipment. At the end, it could be at least remarked that quite an ample policy was adopted in using the receiving sets for extra_duty purposes.

Above provision was, however, adopted to ensure welfare and a way of entertainment for the personnel detached at the subdepot, who must live alone and far from the towns.

Colonel

N. Meloni



D I F E S A

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

STATO MAGGIORE DELL'ESERCITO

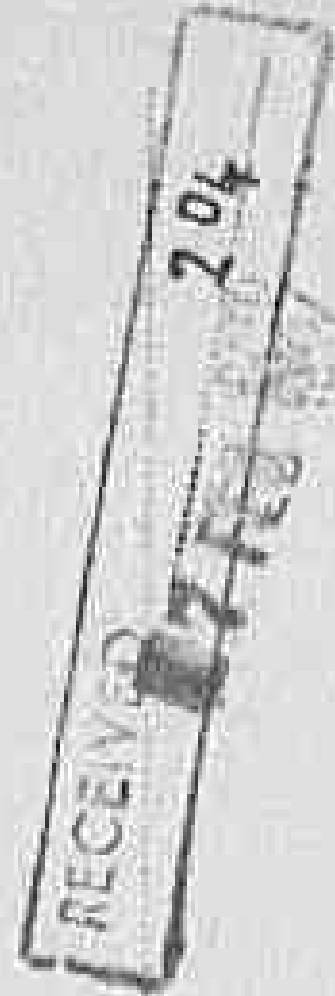
SEGRETERIA DEL GENERALE ADDETTO

N. 292 G. A. di prot.

Allegati 1

Roma, li 17 febbraio 1947

OGGETTO: 3° sottodeposito di Pontecagnano



ALLA LAND FORCES SUB SECTION (I.M.A.S.)

R O M A

PROMEMORIA per il Sig. Generale E.H. GOULBURN - Direttore
della Land Forces Sub Section

Non appena presa visione del promemoria consegnatomi dalla S.V., diedi immediatamente l'incarico al Capo Ufficio Servizi dello S.M.E. di effettuare un sopralluogo al sottodeposito n.3 di Pontecagnano.

Le rimetto la relazione che l'ufficiale ha compilata. Gli elementi in essa contenuti, che debbo ritenere assolutamente obiettivi, forniscono un quadro della situazione favorevole rispetto a quanto si poteva prevedere prima del sopralluogo.

Il Comando militare territoriale di Napoli sta inoltre effettuando in merito un'inchiesta per la quale è stata sollecitata l'assistenza di un ufficiale alleato già del 10° B.L.U. Da tale inchiesta potranno scaturire più approfonditi elementi d'indagine e di responsabilità, e mi auguro che, essendo svolta col concorso di un ufficiale alleato, risponda al desiderabile fine d'una serena messa a punto della questione.

Ad ogni modo mi dichiaro sin d'ora pronto a far svolgere, di comune accordo, quegli ulteriori accertamenti che al termine dell'inchiesta risultassero eventualmente opportuni.

IL CAPO DI S.M. DELL'ESERCITO

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IL CAPO DI S.M. DELL'ESERCITO

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Allegato al foglio 292/G.A. del
17.2.47

MINISTERO DELLA DIFESA
STATO MAGGIORE DELL'ESERCITO
Ufficio Servizi — Sezione Stato Maggiore

=====

O G G E T T O: Relazione relativa al sopralluogo effettuato al 3°
sottodeposito dell'ex 557° E.C.D. di Pontecagnano.--

Roma, 14 15 Febbraio 1947

AL SIG. GENERALE ADDDETTO

S e d e

1°)- Riferisco circa l'esito del sopralluogo al sottodeposito in oggetto, da me effet-
tuato il giorno 13 corr. per ordine del sig. Capo di Stato Maggiore dell'Esercito
stati oggetto di prendere diretta cognizione dei gravi rilievi che sono
ne di una loro visita effettuata il giorno 7 corrente.

Trametto al riguardo che:

- a)- Il Comando Militare Territoriale di Napoli era già in parte al conven-
to dei rilievi mossi, per essere stato verbalmente informato del capi-
tano Clark del 100 E.I.U.
La relazione verbale fatta dal predetto capitano Clark al Coman-
dante di Napoli, quale si è stata prospettata, è tuttavia sensibilmente
più attenuata nella sostanza ed entità dei fatti.--
- b)- Il Comiliter di Napoli ha in corso una rigorosa inchiesta in merito ai
fatti denunciati, e per la quale ha chiesto il concorso e l'assistenza
dello stesso capitano Clark.--

- c)- Gli ufficiali alleati che hanno effettuato l'ispezione erano accompa-
gnati dal ter.colonnello Jamarino della Direzione Generale del Genio. Que-
sto ufficiale, oltre ad essere stato ripetutamente sul posto, ha avuto
la possibilità di indirizzare il lavoro di ricognizione e
di perquisizione dei materiali di collegamento esistenti nel 3° sottodeposito.
In tale compito egli ha avuto inizialmente il valido concorso ed ausilio
del maggiore Murecombe, già ufficiale della M.I.A.--
Lo stesso ter.col. Jamarino, su mia richiesta, mi ha accompagnato
durante il mio sopralluogo, che ho svolto in presenza di tutti gli uffi-
ciali addetti ai lavori di selezione dei materiali di artiglieria e dei
collegamenti, del comandante della guardia, del comandante della sezio-
ne carabinieri incaricate della sorveglianza del deposito, del coman-
dante del battaglione di artiglieria che fornisce la guardia.--

to, con l'incarico di prendere conoscenza dei fatti e di riferirli all'I.M.A.S., in occasione di una loro visita effettuata il giorno 7 corrente.

Premetto al riguardo che:

a)- Il Comando Militare Territoriale di Napoli era già in parte al corrente dei rilievi mossi, per essere stato verbalmente informato dal capitano Clark del 10° S.I.U.

La relazione verinale fatta dal predetto capitano Clark al Comandante di Napoli, quale mi è stata prospettata, è tuttavia sensibilmente più attenuata nella sostanza ed omittà dei fatti.

b)- Il Comilitare di Napoli ha in corso una rigorosa inchiesta in merito ai fatti denunciati, e per la quale ha chiesto il concorso e l'assistenza dello stesso capitano Clark.

c)- Gli ufficiali alleati che hanno effettuato l'ispezione erano accompagnati dal ten.colonnello Jammarino della Direzione Generale del Genio. Questo ufficiale, oltre ad essere stato sostituito sul posto, ha avuto sin dall'inizio l'incarico di indirizzare il lavoro di ricognizione e di perita dei materiali di collegamento esistenti nel 3° sottodeposito. In tale compito egli ha avuto inizialmente il valido concorso ed ausilio del maggiore Moreconie, già ufficiale della M.I.I.-

Lo stesso ten.col. Jammarino, su mia richiesta, mi ha accompagnato durante il mio sopralluogo, che ho svolto in presenza di tutti gli ufficiali addetti ai lavori di selezione dei materiali di artiglieria e dei collegamenti, del comandante della guardia, del comandante della sezione carabinieri incaricata della sorveglianza del deposito, del comandante del battaglione di fanteria che fornisce la guardia.

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2°) CONDIZIONI GENERALI DEL DEPOSITO

Ebbi già occasione di visitarlo minutamente verso la seconda metà di ottobre subito dopo l'avvenuta consegna del deposito da parte degli alleati. Era con me in quella circostanza il ten.colonnello Falleri dello Stato Maggiore.

La cosa che maggiormente mi impressionò in occasione di quella visita, oltre alle grandiosità degli impianti ed alla quantità del materiale, fu la completezza che, specialmente nel settore "D" del campo, un grandissimo numero di casse, all'esterno delle cassette, apparivano manomesse, e scopo evidente di furto. Si rileva infatti l'esportazione e la manomissione di materiali contenuti nelle casse, specie nel settore dei materiali di precisione e radioelettrici. Constatata allora, tra l'altro, nel passare attraverso un pediglio ancora in consegna agli alleati, alcune casse prive di coperchio, contenenti binocoli, dei quali moltissimi erano stati esportati lasciando in posto le relative custodie vuote. Per evitare ulteriori manomissioni di tale prezioso materiale, disposti personalmente perché le casse di tali materiali venissero immediatamente trasportate in altro luogo sino completamente chiuso.

In tutti i settori del campo si trovavano spesso per terra materiali di ogni genere.

Su tali circostanze riferii al mio rientro sia a voce che per iscritto.

Analoghe constatazioni fecero nello stesso periodo di tempo altri ufficiali del Ministero che visitarono detto deposito, e tra questi cito il Generale Grivaro ed il colonnello Fione della Direzione Generale del Genio, ed il colonnello Campa della Direzione Generale di Artiglieria.

Possò sicuramente affermare che oggi la situazione generale del deposito è da considerarsi non peggiorata. Infatti molte casse giacenti prima all'aperto sono state trasportate nell'interno del campo; molte casse aperte e manomesse sono state chiuse e riordinate; molti cumuli di cassette contenenti materiali particolari, delicate, e maggiormente quindi suscettibili di manomissioni, sono state ricoperte con grandi teloni i cui lembi sono stati fissati mediante inchiodatura di traverse di legno.

Nel valutare la situazione di fatto sono da tenermi presenti le seguenti circostanze:

- a) Per oltre due anni presso il sottodeposito n.3 hanno lavorato migliaia di operai reclutati sul posto.
- b) Lo stesso sottodeposito n.3 venne a noi consegnato in tempi successivi tra l'ultima decade di settembre e la prima quindicina di ottobre; e le consegne furono puramente formali nel senso che, per successive zone, il deposito passò sotto la nostra sorveglianza e responsabilità. All'atto di tali consegne non venne effettuata alcuna ricognizione dei materiali esistenti, né venne rilasciato alcun documento od inventario che

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In tutti i settori del campo si trovavano spesso per terra materiali di ogni genere.

Su tali circostanze riferii al mio rientro sia a voce che per iscritto.

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Possò sicuramente affermare che oggi la situazione generale del deposito è da considerarsi non peggiorata. Infatti molte casse giacenti prima all'aperto sono state trasportate nell'interno del capannone; molte casse aperte e manomesse sono state chiuse e riorientate; molti cumuli di cassette contenenti materiali particolari, mente delicati, e ragionemente quindi suscettibili di manomissioni, sono state ricoperte con grandi teloni i cui lembi sono stati fissati mediante inchiodatura di traverse di legno.

Nel valutare la situazione di fatto sono da tenersi presenti le seguenti circostanze:

a) - Per oltre due anni presso il sottodeposito n.3 hanno lavorato migliaia di operai reclutati sul posto.

b) - Lo stesso sottodeposito n.3 venne a noi consegnato in tempi successivi tra l'ultima decade di settembre e la prima quindicina di ottobre; tra le consegne furono puramente formali nel senso che, per successive volte, il deposito passò sotto la nostra sorveglianza e responsabilità. All'atto di tali consegne non venne effettuata alcuna ricognizione dei materiali esistenti, né venne compilato alcun documento od inventario che precisasse la consistenza quantitativa e qualitativa dei materiali.

./././.

Solamente molto tempo dopo, e dopo ripetute richieste, vennero consegnati al Comiliter di Napoli - tramite 100 B.I.U. - degli elenchi contenenti la descrizione sommaria dei materiali esistenti nel deposito.

- c)- Il deposito, anche a consegne avvenute, è rimasto per qualche tempo sotto il diretto controllo degli alleati, i quali si erano, naturalmente, riservati il diritto di ritirare e spedire tutti i materiali che loro fossero occorsi, come di fatto è avvenuto. Alcuni cannoni sono rimasti, sino ai primi giorni di febbraio, in consegna agli stessi alleati, pur essendo a noi devoluta la loro sorveglianza esterna.

3°)- SERVIZIO DI GUARDIA E SORVEGLIANZA

Allorché il sottodeposito passò sotto il diretto controllo, il Comiliter di Napoli affidò l'organizzazione del servizio di guardia e di vigilanza al ten. colonnello Cecchi, comandante del battaglione del 100 Fanteria dislocato a Salerno, ufficiale di provata capacità ed energia, già in servizio presso questo S.M.

Venne in tale occasione distaccato sul posto e sistemato all'esterno del deposito, quasi l'intero battaglione. Per rendere più efficiente il servizio venne inoltre, a cura dello S.M., inviata sul posto una intera sezione di carabinieri, comandata da un ottimo capitano.

Tali disposizioni vennero prese in considerazione che era noto il fatto che presso il deposito si verificavano da tempo sistematicamente furti rilevanti.

Ho portato personalmente la mia attenzione sul servizio in atto e riferisco dettagliatamente in merito:

- a)- Il deposito nessuno può eccedere, se non personalmente concepito, e munito di un permesso scritto rilasciato dal Comiliter di Napoli. Analogo permesso scritto è richiesto per poter poter fuori dal campo qualsiasi materiale.

- b)- Per la diretta sorveglianza del deposito sono impiegati circa 150 uomini del battaglione del 100 Fanteria, al diretto comando di un capitano e quattro ufficiali subalterni. Ho visitato tale reparto ed ho riportato favorevole impressione di ordine e di disciplina.

Per il servizio di guardia vengono in permanenza distaccate vari sentinelle. Tali sentinelle vengono periodicamente ispezionate, specie durante la notte, dagli ufficiali del reparto.

- c)- Il capitano comandante il distacco di guardia trovandosi sul posto sin dai primi di novembre. Il suo comandante di battaglione, gli ufficiali superiori di artiglieria e del genio addetti al servizio dei materiali, il comandante delle sezioni carabinieri, mi hanno concordemente confermato l'attività

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ottimo capitano.

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Ho portato personalmente la mia attenzione sul servizio in atto e riferisco detta-
gliatamente in merito:

a)- Al deposito nessuno può accedere, se non personalmente conosciuto,
o munito di un permesso scritto rilasciato dal Comiliter di Napoli.
Analogo permesso scritto è richiesto per poter poter fuori dal cam-
po qualsiasi materiale.

b)- Per la diretta sorveglianza del deposito sono impiegati circa 150
uomini del battaglione del 10° Fanteria, al diretto comando di un
capitano e quattro ufficiali subalterni. Ho visitato tale reparto
ed ho riportato favorevole impressione di ordine e di disciplina.

Per il servizio di guardia vengono in perenne distaccate ven-
ti sentinelle. Tali sentinelle vengono periodicamente ispezionate,
specie durante la notte, dagli ufficiali del reparto.

c)- Il capitano comandante il distaccamento di guardia trovosi sul posto
sin dai primi di novembre. Il suo comandante di battaglione, gli
ufficiali superiori di artiglieria e del genio addetti al servizio
del materiale, il comandante delle sezioni carabinieri, mi hanno
concordemente confermato l'attività seria, costante e diligente che
questo ufficiale ha svolto e svolge nel suo particolare servizio.

./././.

d)- Le Sazioni Carabinieri ne ha in particolare il compito di:

- sorvegliare l'ingresso e l'uscita del deposito;
- effettuare, di giorno e di notte, delle pattuglie ed appostamenti nell'interno ed all'esterno del deposito, e sorvegliare le stesse sentinelle;
- verificare il carico dei mezzi di trasporto che entrano ed escono dal campo e scortare gli stessi mezzi con i quali, per esigenze dei lavori in corso, vengono trasferiti parte dei materiali del settore "B" al settore "C" del campo.

e)- Gli operai che lasciano il lavoro vengono normalmente perquisiti all'atto dell'uscita; particolari ispezioni e perquisizioni vengono periodicamente effettuate agli stessi militari di guardia.

f)- Durante i pattugliamenti esterni effettuati durante la notte vengono fermati e perquisiti tutti i civili che si aggirano in prossimità del recinto, e per ogni fermo e perquisizione viene redatto specifico verbale.

Molto in evidenza che tale provvedimento di rigore viene effettuato in contrasto alle norme di polizia vigenti che, come è noto, non consentono il fermo o la perquisizione dei cittadini se non quando vengono sorpresi in flagrante reato.

g)- Tra il personale civile addetto ai lavori vi sono alcuni operai di particolare fiducia che hanno il compito di sorvegliare l'operato di tutti quelli che lavorano nell'interno del campo e di riferire.

Inoltre tra gli stessi operai viene saltuariamente imbroccato qualche carabiniere in abito civile a scopo di rendere più efficace il servizio di polizia.

Il risultato dell'organizzazione di tale servizio si concreta, per il periodo 10 ottobre 1946 - 10 febbraio 1947, nelle seguenti cifre:

- 1.21 civili denunciati per furto all'autorità giudiziaria e conseguente allontanamento di quelli che erano anche operai addetti ai lavori presso il deposito;

- 2.44 militari, dei quali 5 sottufficiali, perimenti denunciati al tribunale militare per furto o violazioni di consegna; sotto in evidenza che, giustamente, sono stati adottati criteri di controllo

Mette in evidenza che tale provvedimento di rigore viene effettuato in contrasto alle norme di polizia vigenti che, come è noto, non consentono il fermo o la perquisizione dei cittadini se non quando vengono sorpresi in flagrante reato.

g) - Tra il personale civile addetto ai lavori vi sono alcuni operai di particolare fiducia che hanno il compito di sorvegliare l'operato di tutti quelli che lavorano nell'interno del campo e di riferire.

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Il risultato dell'organizzazione di tale servizio si concretata, per il periodo 10 ottobre 1946 - 10 febbraio 1947, nelle seguenti cifre:

- n. 21 civili denunciati per furto all'autorità giudiziaria e conseguente allontanamento di quelli che erano anche operai addetti ai lavori presso il deposito;
- n. 44 militari, dei quali 5 sottufficiali, parimenti denunciati al tribunale militare per furto o violazioni di consegua; sotto in evidenza che, giustamente, sono stati adottati criteri di pertinenza rigore, sicchè molte denunce sono state inoltrate anche per fatti di scarso rilievo;

.

- sequestro di materiali verbi di provenienza furtiva, risalente a volte ad epoche precedenti all'ottobre 1945; tra questi materiali sono compresi anche alcune centinaia di valigie per apparati radio.

La maggior parte di tali azioni repressive risalgono in prevalenza ai mesi di novembre e dicembre, e si sono manifestate con ritmo nettamente decrescente.

Debbe mettersi in evidenza che tali risultati, pur rappresentando un contributo non molto lusinghiero, rispecchiano una situazione di fatto preesistente all'epoca in cui da parte nostra è stata assunta la responsabilità delle sorveglianze del deposito, e che comunque i risultati conseguiti sono da considerarsi frutto di un'azione concorde e concreta svolta da tutto il personale direttivo e responsabile, addeito al sottodeposito.

Tale sensazione è anche nettamente diffusa tra la popolazione locale presso la quale ricorrono così sovente espressioni del seguente tenore:

"la caccia di Pontecagnaro è finita"

L'ufficiale comandante la sezione carabinieri ha inoltre affermato che, a suo parere, allo stato attuale è praticamente impossibile che siano esercitati dei furti, anche di lievissime entità, senza che sieno immediatamente constatati e repressi. Tale apprezzamento, anche se considerato eccessivamente ottimistico, ha il suo valore.

4°) - ATTIVITA' IN CORSO PRESSO IL 3° SOTTOPOSITO

Sono in esecuzione i lavori per l'approntamento di un'aliquota di materiali interessanti il servizio artiglieria e quello dei collegamenti. Tutti i materiali sono stati ordinati, come è noto, al Governo Italiano e per esso all'A.R.A.R.. La Amministrazione Militare è in trattative con l'A.R.A.R. per l'acquisto e ritiro di una parte dei materiali che interessano le dotazioni dei reparti.

Compito degli ufficiali, specialisti, e personale di manovalanza è quello di censire, scegliere, approntare i materiali che dovranno essere acquistati. Tali materiali vengono in massima parte accantonati, e mano a mano che procede il lavoro, in alcuni capannoni del settore "C" del deposito.

Per quanto riflette in particolare i materiali dei collegamenti, il lavoro si effettua sotto la direzione del ten.colonnello Vitali e di due altri ufficiali. Questi sono coordinati da un nucleo di sottufficiali ed operai specializzati, tratti dalla 21^a Officina Genio di Roma. Tutto questo personale è di provata competenza tecnica.

In base ad ordini ricevuti il lavoro si compie mediante accurata ricognizione e selezione dei materiali i quali, prima di essere definitivamente approntati per la spedizione, vengono singolarmente collaudati a cura di un nucleo di tecnici.

"La cuocagna di Montecassiano è finita".

L'ufficiale comandante la sezione carabinieri ha inoltre affermato che, a suo parere, allo stato attuale è praticamente impossibile che siano essercitati dei furti, anche di lievissima entità, senza che siano immediatamente ottimizzati e repressi. Tale apprezzamento, anche se considerato eccessivamente ottimistico, ha il suo valore.

4°) - ATTIVITA' IN CORSO PRESSO IL 3° SOTTOSESTIO

Sono in esecuzione i lavori per l'approntamento di un'aliquota di materiali interessanti il servizio artiglieria e quello dei collegamenti. Tutti i materiali sono stati ceduti, come è noto, al Governo Italiano e per esso all'A.R.A.R.. La Amministrazione Militare è in trattative con l'A.R.A.R. per l'acquisto e ritiro di una parte dei materiali che interessano la dotazione dei reparti.

Compito degli ufficiali, specialisti, e personale di manovalanza è quello di censire, scegliere, approntare i materiali che dovranno essere acquistati. Tali materiali vengono in massima parte accantonati, a mano a mano che procede il lavoro, in alcuni capannoni del settore "C" del deposito.

Per quanto riflette in particolare i materiali dei collegamenti, il lavoro si effettua sotto la direzione del ten.colonnello Vitali e di due altri ufficiali. Questi sono coadiuvati da un nucleo di sottufficiali ed operai specializzati, tratti dalla 21^a Officina Genio di Roma. Tutto questo personale è di provata competenza tecnica.

In base ad ordini ricevuti il lavoro si compie mediante accurate ricognizioni e selezione dei materiali i quali, prima di essere definitivamente approntati per la spedizione, vengono singolarmente collaudati e cura di un nucleo di tecnici.

./././.

6-

Tale procedimento è giustificato da varie considerazioni, ed in particolare:

- I materiali debbono essere acquistati dall'A.R.A.R. con pagamento in contanti, previa verifica, del loro valore commerciale. E' naturale quindi che la stima del prezzo di acquisto sia esattamente riferita al grado di efficienza dei materiali stessi. Di qui la necessità di accertare preventivamente tale grado di efficienza.

- Opportunità, anche in relazione al tempo disponibile, di procedere al collaudo preventivo, tenuto conto che, comunque, il collaudo dovrebbe essere sempre effettuato prima di procedere alla periziale o totale distribuzione dei materiali stessi ai reparti.

Con ciò si raggiunge inoltre lo scopo di guadagnare del tempo e di avere i materiali prontamente disponibili per l'assegnazione e per l'impiego.

Il suddetto procedimento comporta naturalmente la necessità di aprire le casse che contengono i materiali, per procedere successivamente alle operazioni di verifica e di collaudo.

Le operazioni per l'approntamento dei materiali sono già a buon punto e per gran parte dei materiali stessi, di prevista distribuzione alle divisioni di fanteria, si attende di definire la relativa pratica amministrativa con la A.R.A.R.

Preciso che tra i materiali già collaudati ed approntati vi sono anche varie centinaia di stazioni radio in piena accertata efficienza.

Saggiungo quindi che se si fosse voluto e potuto, come era nelle intenzioni, ritirare senz'altro i materiali di prevista assegnazione alla divisione "Mentore", nulla avrebbe impedito di portare a compimento tale proposito.

5°) - RISULTI PARTICOLARI RELATIVI ALLE STAZIONI RADIO DEL TIPO "19"

Dagli accertamenti che ho potuto effettuare, sia pure in misura sommaria, è risultato che il numero approssimativo di stazioni radio del tipo "19" esistenti presso il 3° sottodiviso è di oltre 4.000. Di queste circa 3.200 sono immagazzinate in alcuni espansioni perfettamente chiusi, esistenti nel settore "G" del campo, ed in condizioni quindi di poter escludere qualsiasi manomissione. Tali stazioni sono ancora nei loro imballaggi originali ed è da presumere che si tratti di materiale completamente nuovo. La verifica e ricognizione delle stazioni del tipo "19" esistenti nel settore "G", è stata appena iniziata in questi giorni, in quanto è stata data volutamente la precedenza alla ricognizione di quelle esistenti nel settore "N". Queste, per essere sistemate in espansioni muniti di sola tettoia, e quindi facilmente accessibili, presentano minori garanzie di sicurezza di conservazione, e sono state indubbiamente oggetto di più facili manomissioni.

Saggiungo altresì che, dagli accertamenti fino effettuati, le stazioni radio "19" esistenti nel settore "N" sono state in pieno collaudo.

A.P.A.R.

Preciso che tra i materiali già collaudati ed approntati vi sono anche varie centinaia di stazioni radio in piena accertata efficienza.

Soggiungo quindi che se si fosse voluto o potuto, come era nelle intenzioni, ritirare senz'altro i materiali di provvista assegnazione alla divisione "Mantova", nulla avrebbe impedito di portare a compimento tale proposito.

5°) - RILEVATI PARTICOLARI RELATIVI ALLE STAZIONI RADIO DEL TIPO "19"

Dagli accertamenti che ho potuto effettuare, sia pure in misura sommaria, è risultato che il numero approssimativo di stazioni radio del tipo "19" esistenti presso il 3° sottodeposito è di oltre 4.000. Di queste circa 3.200 sono immagazzinate in alcuni capannoni perfettamente chiusi, esistenti nel settore "C" del campo, ed in condizioni quindi di poter escludere qualsiasi manomissione. Tali stazioni sono ancora nei loro imballaggi originali ed è da presumere che si tratti di materiale completamente nuovo. La verifica e ricognizione delle stazioni del tipo "19" esistenti nel settore "C", è stata appena iniziata in questi giorni, in quanto è stata data volutamente la precedenza alle ricognizioni di quelle esistenti nel settore "D". Queste, per essere sistemate in capannoni muniti di sola tastoie, e quindi facilmente accessibili, presentano minori garanzie di sicurezza di conservazione, e sono state indubbiamente oggetto di più facili manomissioni.

Soggiungo altresì che, dagli accertamenti fino effettuati, le stazioni radio "19" esistenti nel settore "D" sono circa un migliaio.

Tuttavia in gran parte di materiale già usato, e quanto confermano diversi operai che già in precedenza lavoravano in quel settore del campo al servizio degli alleati, provenienti da varimenti effettuati da reparti veri.

./././.

7.-
Dette stazioni sono custodite in imballaggi non originali che contengono solamente la stazione nuda ("bare set"), come risulta da iscrizioni apposte sulle casse. Non sono compresi quindi gli accessori delle stazioni (gruppo di alimentazione, elementi di antenna, ecc.).-

I rilievi fatti dagli ufficiali alleati vertono precisamente su tali stazioni, ed in particolare due contatti esistenti nel capannone contrassegnato col n. 2.-

E' stata, inoltre, messa in evidenza la circostanza che numerosi stazioni giacevano accatastate all'aperto (riparate tuttavia dalla tettoia) con evidenti tracce di manomissioni e prive di valvole.

Ho portato naturalmente tutta la mia attenzione su questo particolare ed in merito riferisco:

a)- Nel predetto capannone n. 2 del settore "B" sono state, ad opera di apposite squadre di operai, concentrate numerose stazioni del tipo "19", giacenti sparse per tutto il sottodossato e visibilmente manomesse. Tale circostanza indusse ad effettuare una verifica di tutte queste stazioni e di quelle già esistenti nello stesso capannone (in totale, come già detto, meno di un migliaio di stazioni).

b)- Durante tali operazioni fu ritenuto necessario togliere agli apparecchi tutte le valvole residue ancora esistenti. Ne furono in tal modo raccolte circa 2.000 e trasportate per la custodia in apposito locale chiuso. Circa trecento stazioni (tante furono da me esattamente individuate) furono lasciate solamente accatastate fuori delle rispettive casse.

A giustificazione di tale situazione mi è stato riferito che, trattandosi di apparecchi declassati e taluni violentamente manomessi, si intendeva di lasciarli temporaneamente così come furono trovati, per effettuare una particolare perizia e stima di tali materiali d'interesse con i rappresentanti dell'A.R.A.R. nel caso vi fosse la convenienza di acquistarli in blocco, a prezzo naturalmente più basso rispetto a quello attribuibile ad un apparato funzionante.

Tale giustificazione può essere plausibile, ma sta di fatto che il sistema seguito è da considerarsi riprovevole.

Ho altresì rilevato che nell'interno dello stesso capannone l'ordine e la pulizia lasciavano alquanto a desiderare.-

c)- Ho esaminato tuttavia attentamente tali apparecchi e sono in grado di affermare che nonostante tutte le apparenze sfavorevoli, la quasi totalità di essi sono suscettibili di piena utilizzazione previ lavori di lieve e media entità, da effettuare presso le nostre stesse officine. Precludendo naturalmente delle valvole, ecc.

ente memoranda. Le stazioni e le valvole già esistenti sono state tutte queste stazioni e le valvole, come già detto, meno di un migliaio stesso capannone (in totale, come già detto, meno di un migliaio di stazioni).

b) - Durante tali operazioni fu ritenuto necessario togliere agli apparecchi tutte le valvole residue ancora esistenti. Ne furono in tal modo raccolte circa 2.000 e trasportate per la custodia in apposito locale chiuso. Circa trecento stazioni (tante furono da me esattamente individuate) furono lasciate malamente sottostate fuori delle rispettive case.

A giustificazione di tale situazione mi è stato riferito che, trattandosi di apparecchi dichiarati temporaneamente così come furono essi, si intendeva di lasciarli temporaneamente così come furono trovati, per effettuare una particolare perizia e stima di tali materiali d'intesa con i rappresentanti dell'A.A.R. nel caso vi fosse la convenienza di acquistarli in blocco, a prezzo naturalmente più basso rispetto a quello attribuibile ad un apparato funzionante.

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c) - Ho esaminato tuttavia attentamente tali apparecchi e sono in grado di affermare che nonostante tutte le apparenze sfavorevoli, la totalità di essi sono suscettibili di piena utilizzazione per le nostre stesse vari di lieve e media entità, da effettuare presso le nostre stesse officine. Prendendo naturalmente dalla valvole, la massa degli apparecchi è sostanzialmente integra nelle strutture essenziali (testi, bottoni di manovra, principali circuiti, condensatori, ecc.).

./././.

Sebbene al riguardo che, anche qualora non si volesse tener conto delle 2.000 valvole recuperate, e si volesse, per contro, adossare esclusivamente al nostro personale le degradazioni che si riscontrano in detto materiale (escludendo però formalmente, in tutti i casi, che ciò possa essere fondato e plausibile), il valore del danno ed il costo della revisione e riparazione è da valutarsi nell'ambito di una somma non molto discosta da cinque - sei milioni di lire. Di tale cifra circa tre quarti è da attribuire al valore delle valvole, che in commercio sono parzialmente reperibili - il al prezzo di 7 - 800 lire ciascuna.

6°) - RESIDUO INDICATO NELLE "MATERIALI DESTINATE ALL'USO"

Si tratta dei locali del sottodeposito che, come già detto, sono rimasti sino al primi di febbraio sotto il diretto controllo del personale alleato.

Solo quindi da pochi giorni detto recinto era passato sotto il nostro controllo, dopo che erano stati già regolarmente portati via dagli alleati la quasi totalità dei materiali da loro ivi accantonati. Vi erano rimasti solamente alcuni cumuli di casse vuote e piccoli residui di materiali vari, e era questi un piccolo numero di valvole di vario tipo. Non si era ancora proceduto ad una ricognizione di dettaglio, e questo può essere blesimevole.

E' comunque da escludere formalmente che siano stati apportati danni e guasti non dauri intenzionali.

Il recinto è stato, durante la visita, trovato aperto perché proprio in quel giorno, un operaio di fiducia, certo D'Alessandro, che ho personalmente interrogato, aveva avuto l'incarico di iniziare un po' di riordino dei materiali residui.

Il recinto venne trovato in disordine, e tale era di fatto. In definitiva però si trovava nelle identiche condizioni in cui venne lasciato.

7°) - GRUPPI INTERVENIENTI CARICA MATERIE

Di tali materiali ne esistono presso il sottodeposito n. 3 alcune centinaia.

Alcuni di questi già disseminati in vari punti del sottodeposito erano stati riuniti in un capomonte. Circa una trentina di detti apparecchi, sistemati nei loro imballi originali, sono stati riscontrati col coperchio dell'isolamento aperto con violenza. Gli apparecchi sono intatti. Sono stati invece in parte manomessi le cassette contenenti soscettori (chiavi inglesi, pinne, occlusivi ed una candela di ricambio) allo scopo quasi esclusivo di appropriarsi della candela di ricambio.

Tutto il resto del materiale, nonostante la manomissione, era in genere reperibile.

In definitiva: fatto spiccabile come tanti altri, ma danni insignificanti.

E' comunque da escludere formalmente che siano stati apportati danni e tanto come danni intenzionali.

Il racconto è stato, durante la visita, trovato aperto perché proprio in quel giorno, un operaio di fiducia, certo D'Alessandro, che ho personalmente interrogato, aveva avuto l'incarico di iniziare un po' di riordino dei materiali residui.

Il recinto venne trovato in disordine, e tale era di fatto. In definitiva, però si trovava nelle identiche condizioni in cui venne lasciato.

70) - GRUPPI ELETTRICI CARICA LANTERNE

Di tali materiali ne esistono presso il sottodeposito n.3 alcuni centinaia.

Alcuni di questi già disseminati in vari punti del sottodeposito erano stati rimossi in un capannone. C'era una trentina di detti apparecchi, sistemati nel loro imballaggio originali, sono stati riscontrati col coperchio dell'imballaggio aperto con violenza. Gli apparecchi sono intatti. Sono stati invece in parte manomessi le cassette contenenti soccorsi (chiavi inglesi, pinze, cacciaviti ed una candela di ricambio) allo scopo quasi esclusivo di appropriarsi della candela di ricambio.

Quello il resto del materiale, nonostante la manomissione, era in genere reperibile.

In definitiva: fatto spiacevole come tanti altri, ma danni insignificanti.

S. S. S.

30)- STAZIONI RADIO IN MIO AL PERSONALE

Si tratta di un certo numero di ricevitori radio (solo apparato ricevente) del tipo R.407 dei quali esistono presso il sottodeposito alcune centinaia, in massima parte efficienti.

Sono degli apparati idonei alla ricezione nella gamma delle onde medie usate dalle stazioni trasmettenti italiane della R.A.I. per le normali giornaliere radiodiffusioni.

Un certo numero di tali apparati, con regolare autorizzazione e mediante rilascio di ricevute sono stati così distribuiti:

- locale dove alloggiavano i carabinieri;
- corpo di guardia principale;
- sala ritrovo del personale militare distaccato per la guardia;
- locale della mensa ufficiali;
- locale della mensa sottufficiali;
- ufficio del ten.col. Vitelli, capo del servizio del materiale collegamenti;
- locale dove funziona il gruppo elettrogeno per l'illuminazione del campo.

E' stato inoltre osservato che una o due stazioni di diverso tipo (riceventi e trasmettenti) si trovavano in altro locale dove lavoravano dei civili. Si tratta di apparati che si trovavano in prova di collaudo, e disposizione di uno degli ufficiali addetti alla verifica del materiale.

In definitiva si potrebbe al massimo osservare che è stato adottato un criterio alquanto largo nell'impiego degli apparati riceventi per uso non di servizio.

Il provvedimento adottato rientra tuttavia nelle provvidenze intese ad assicurare il benessere ed un mezzo di svago al personale distaccato presso il sottodeposito, che è costretto a vivere isolato e lontano dai centri abitati.

IL COLONNELLO

- V. Meloni -

2.1.1941

del campo.

È stato inoltre osservato che una o due stazioni di diverso tipo (riceventi e trasmettenti) si trovavano in altre località dove lavoravano dei civili. Si tratta di apparecchi che si trovano in prova di collaudo, e disposizione di uno degli ufficiali addetti alla verifica del materiale.

In definitiva si potrebbe al massimo osservare che è stato adottato un criterio alquanto largo nell'impiego degli apparecchi riceventi per uso non di servizio.

Il provvedimento adottato rientra tuttavia nelle provvidenze intese ad assicurare il benessere ed un mezzo di svago al personale distaccato presso il sottodeposito, che è costretto a vivere isolato e lontano dai centri abitati.

IL COLONNELLO

- M. Meloni -

M. Meloni

0559

785020

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Italian Military Affairs Section
Land Forces Sub Section
(Formerly MMIA)

Tel: 439061
Ext: 415

Q. 006/LP

14 Feb 47

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE - ARMY

Subject: No 3 Sub Depot - PONTICAGNANO

1. I consider it my duty to draw your attention to a report I have received from the signals officer of this Mission regarding the manner in which valuable signal stores and other materials recently transferred to your charge in No 3 Sub Depot (PONTICAGNANO) are being damaged and stolen.
2. As you know, I am ordered in my directive from the Supreme Allied Commander, to supervise the issue and use of British Equipment transferred to the Italian Army; I therefore request you to enquire fully into this matter and inform me whether the statements made in the report (a copy of which is attached) are correct and what steps are being taken to put an end to these serious losses of valuable equipment.
3. On receiving your report I shall have to consider whether further issue of surplus British Equipment of this type is justified.
4. To help you in this matter I have ordered my liaison officer from Naples to be in Rome on Tuesday 18 Feb when I am arranging a meeting with officers of your SME to discuss the situation and try and effect some improvement in it.

WGP/jw

John Hume
Major General,
Director.

214/2/47

0560

785020

Extract from

"Q" LIAISON LOG 7 DATED 12-2-47

COL MELONI

12.2.47

Informed Col Meloni that Capt Clarke was coming up from Naples during the week-end and that Col Pidsley suggested having a conference at 1100 hrs on the 18th Feb 47 at MIA to discuss recent developments at 557 BOD.

Col Meloni had just been discussing the report submitted by SO R Sigs HQ MIA with Col Jamarino and that he had been ordered by the C of S to proceed immediately to Naples to investigate the going on in 557 BOD. Col Meloni's attitude was one of which showed that any discrepancies in the stores at the Depot were entirely due to British management and had not taken place in any very large way since the Army had undertaken to guard the Depot. Col Meloni stated that MIA officers had always known that a certain amount of the going was going on but that the report was somewhat exaggerated.

ACMG
CO6 Q

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Italian Military Affairs Section
Italian Forces Sub Section

CONFIDENTIAL

Tel: 489081
Ext: 203

X 508/LF
10 Feb 47

Col. W. Pidsley DSO, OBE, MC

Sir,

I have the honour to report the following, as a result of visiting PONTAGNANO, accompanied by Capt CLARK, R.A.O.C.

The dump, late "D" Sec 3 Sub Depot, is, for the most part, a shambles. My visit was made primarily for the purpose of identifying signal stores urgently required to bring the Mantova Div up to scale.

It was not possible to select the required items as per list prepared by Ministry of War, as these had either been removed by pilferage, or rendered quite unserviceable by vandalism.

For instance, a dump of approx 3,000 (Three Thousand) No 19 W/T sets had been broken out of packing cases, and left exposed to the weather after all the valves had been removed by the simple expedient of wrenching them apart from leads and seatings.

As the value price of 1 No 19 set is £175 it will be seen that the loss, in terms of cash is approx 750,000,000 Lire (Seven Hundred & Fifty Million Lire) at the present rate of exchange.

Other types of W/T sets have been similarly treated; saboteurs could not have worked more successfully.

The specially strengthened enclosure housing "attractive" stores was not locked or properly secured and an unknown quantity of valves, lamps electric, torches hand, binoculars etc had been removed, or, what appeared to be wilfully destroyed; numbers of some of the above items were strewn willy nilly about the compound.

Approx 50 (Fifty) 1260 watt charging engines, in one section alone, had been rendered ineffective by the removal of almost all moveable parts, in every case the spare parts boxes and tool kits had been rifled completely.

The only apparent W/T sets which were serviceable were those which had been misappropriated by numerous civilian employees for the reception of commercial broadcast programmes.

The gravity of the situation from a signals point of view is stressed.

The exception to the foregoing would appear to be, superficially, the stores set apart for issue to Div Artillery.

These stores are piled in an orderly manner and labelled.

I am informed that cases of theft are of nightly occurrence.

From my enquiries on the spot I am forced to the conclusion that nothing is being done to prevent a continuance of what, to say the least, is a truly astounding state of affairs.

The only individual at this Depot vested with any real responsibility would appear to be an Italian captain in charge of the guard.

ARAR Stores were visited, by invitation, and in contrast to "D" section, the stores are well kept, documented, and efficiently identified, approximating to the British Army Ordnance methods.

I consider that I would have to spend at least two weeks at PONTAGNANO to restore even a semblance of order.

Further details can be furnished on receipt of instructions.

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willy army
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I consider that I would have to spend at least two weeks at PONTAGNANO to restore even a semblance of order.

Further details can be furnished on receipt of instructions.

I have the honour to be Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

Sgd: A.P. DUNN Major,
SO R. Sigs.

Extract from

"Q" LIAISON LOG 7 DATED 4-2-47

(2)

- 3 -

Col. MELONI

4.2.47

Handed in letter Q 006 of 3 Feb 47 on the subject of ARAR relations with War Ministry.

Explained difficulties involved in MIA taken up question of ARAR and transfer of equipment from 557 BOD with It. Govt. direct and that only solution was as laid out in s/m letter. Col. MELONI agreed but stated that since last visit a meeting had been held with ARAR and situation was improved.

ACMG
006 Q

0564

785020

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Italian Military Affairs Section
Land Forces Sub Section

✓A.006/LF

3 February 1947

(1)

WAR MINISTRY (by 10)

(28) Q158

Subject: ARAR relations with War Ministry

Reference your 79426/TL of 24 January 47 and conversation Col MELONI - Lt Col CURTIS re Military surplus material at Depots in Naples.

Your attention is drawn to MMIA letter A.006 of 30 August 46 forwarding a copy of a letter 8255/241/30 of 28 Aug 46 addressed to the President of the Council.

ARAR have undertaken to afford the necessary facilities to the War Ministry to obtain possession of Military equipment.

If as stated the War Ministry are being denied these facilities the position should be reported in writing in order that the matter may be raised with the Italian Government through the Supreme Allied Commander.

for reply see (01)

RAC

Major-General
Director

12
312/47
LAFI

Extract from

"Q" LIAISON LOG 4 DATED 30-1-47

Col. MELONI

30.1.47

It. Col. CURTIES brought up the question of difficulties encountered with ARAR and Army over the stores in 557 BOD.

Col. MELONI stated that the main reasons for such

difficulties were as follows:

- (a) ARAR are always able to get better prices for all kinds of stores on the market.
 - (b) In spite of the fact that all directorates had made bids for their complete yearly financial allotments, the Treasury had not yet authorised all of them.
- Col. MELONI suggested that a letter from MMIA should be sent to Council of Ministers to effect that despite previous agreements with ARAR difficulties over transfer of equipment to It. Army were still being encountered and requesting intervention.

ACMG
CC6Q

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785020

(26)

Extract From

"Q" LIAISON LOG Ch DATED 10-147

Col. AVALONE

21.12.46

7104

It was requested on behalf of Col. AVALONE whether MMIA could intervene to try and obtain for the Army some urgently needed lubricating oils and brake fluids. Large quantities were known to be available at 557 BOD.

Col. AVALONE was informed that all such material would be transferred to ARAR and that it was up to the Ministry to approach ARAR direct to obtain an Army allotment.

AOEC

COG Q

7103

whether AMIA could intervene to try and obtain for the Army some urgently needed lubricating oils and brake fluids. Large quantities were known to be available at 557 BOD.

Col. AVALLONE was informed that all such material would be transferred to ARAR and that it was up to the Ministry to approach ARAR direct to obtain an Army allotment.

7103

Extract From

"Q" LIAISON LOG Q.006 DATED 17/12/46

17/12/46

Col. MELONI

A meeting was held with reps of all W of services and Capt. CLARK on the selection of stores in 557 BOD.

AQMG

ORD

Q 006

M of W was asked whether there were any questions they would like to put to Capt. CLARK on 557 as up to date info was available. Col. MELONI stated that M of W were quite satisfied and reps stated that they were now awaiting Min. of Finance authority on allotment of sums to each service which had been asked for in excess of yearly grant. These were expected daily and should prove sufficient.

Capt. CLARK explained that he and Arty reps in NAPLES had already put on one side sufficient Arty stores to cover 14 years maintenance. These were being frozen and available to Army any time. In order to safeguard other services from ARAB, Capt. CLARK recommended this to be done by other services.

Col. MELONI agreed to this and told rest of reps 102 issue such instructions to opposite numbers in NAPLES. Capt. CLARK promised to start this off. Col. MELONI promised to forward a copy of M of W distribution plan as soon as Min of Finance authority came through as this only would establish the quantity of stores to be drawn.

7101

0569

785020

(24)

Extract From

"Q" LIAISON LOG

DATED

13 Dec 46

Col. MELONE,

13/12/46

Arranged with Melone for a meeting to take place on Monday 16 Dec with Ministry of War reps and Capt Clark who would be able to give the latest set-up with regard to 5780 BCD. This was fixed for Tuesday 17 and all services would attend.

ACMG
CMD
Q.006

6602
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0570

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/WHIG NO.

785020

would be able to give the latent security with Rega/2973
and. This was fixed for Tuesday 17 and all services would
attend.

6604

Q. 006

'Q' BUCK SLIP

FILE No Q.006

DATE	SECTION OF SERVICE		ACTION REQUIRED
	FROM	TO	
16 Dec	Q	Q(10)	Ref attached copy Q.006 of 1 Oct 46 and catalogue of 557 BOD. It has been ascertained from Min of Supply that ARAR are now free to dispose of the contents of the Depot. The War Ministry notified their decision as to the location of Italian Depots in their letter 1/3394/SMRV 17 Oct 46. (See Q.002 27 Nov attached). The War Ministry were advised as to selection of MT spares by ADAMS MMIA under his ME 34/2/64 24 Oct 46. You are requested to ascertain progress in obtaining stores from Naples and to ask for a copy of their distribution plan.

(41)
in 2nd J
Q 002

(40)
in 3rd J
of Q 003

See (24)

RAB.

7098

Q.006.

Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.,
(M.M.I.A.)
R O M E

SUBJECT:- Transfer of British Ordnance
Depot to ARAR

1 October, 1946.

TO:- The War Minister.

You will remember from my letter, Q.006 of 30 August that I gave you the detailed arrangements for the disposal of British Ordnance Stores to be handed over to ARAR, and sent you a copy of the decisions reached at a meeting between this Mission and representatives of your Ministry, of ARAR and of the President of the Council of Ministries. In my subsequent letter of 13 September, I informed you that the transfer was imminent. I now write to inform you that the whole of 557 Base Ordnance Depot, consisting of the 3 Sub-Depots previously mentioned, have today been transferred complete, to the custody of ARAR. Although ARAR is not at the moment empowered to dispose of these stores until certain minor Allied and UNRRA needs have been met, it is important that (in accordance with the agreement reached), you should be adequately represented from now on in the Base Depot in order that full use may be made of the conditions under which your Ministry will be entitled to certain vital material required for the Italian Army.

I can do no more than impress on you most emphatically, the need for energetic action on the part of your representatives to ensure that material required by your Ministry, and to which you are entitled, does not pass into other hands. You will understand that, as this material has now been transferred from British to Italian custody, there is no further action which I can take to help you in this matter which is now entirely an Italian one.

E. H. Gault 4097
Major General,
Commanding, M.M.I.A.

0573

785020

Telephone:
Room 489081 Ext 415

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AG (MIA) CMF

006 q

12 Dec 46

MINISTRY OF WAR

195
Subject: Releases from 537 B.O.D.

Ref your 22974/II of 4 Dec 46.

Information has reached this HQ through our Ordnance representative at Naples that all except very few items have now been released to ARAR.

If you will specify the items required by you, which are available at the Depot but have not yet been released to ARAR, further enquiries will be made by this HQ.


Lt Colonel,
AGMC MIA.

HJOF/ya

Copy to: OMB.

7096

0574

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(20)

Telephone:
Roma 489081 Ext 415

LAND FORCES SUB COMM, AG (MIA) CH

006 9

10 Dec 46

UNIONE ITALIANA DELLA LIBERA COOPERAZIONE
Via Frattina No. 89 - R C M A

Subject: Request for assignment of
second-hand Allied clothes.

ATT
Ref your 874 of 21 Nov 46.

All surplus Allied Military Clothing is being disposed of to
the Italian Government.

The organisation handling this matter is known as the AZIENDA
RICHIERI ALIENAZIONE RESIDUATI - Corso d'Italia, Roma - to whom all
correspondence of this nature should be addressed.

Rac
Major-General,
GOC, MIA.

/ra

Copy to: A.C. for Economic Div.

7095

Telephone:
Rome 489081 Ext 415

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AC (MIA) ONF

499 Q

5 Dec 46

(W)

ECONOMIC DIVISION AC.

Subject: Request for assignment of
second-hand Allied clothes.

Reference the attached correspondence regarding purchase
of second-hand military clothes.

Enclosed is a draft reply for your approval, or other action.

W. P. Kelly *aloud*
Major-General,
GOC, MIA.

/ra

7094

TRANSLATION

Lia No: ...

FROM:

Unione Italiana della Libera Cooperazione
Via Frattina 59 - Roma -
(Italian Union of Free Cooperation)

TO:

Allied Military Command - Rome -

REFERENCE FILE No:

874

21 November 1946

SUBJECT:

Request for assignment of
second-hand Allied clothes.

We warmly request the Allied Commission to benevolently examine the possibility of granting, on payment, second-hand military clothes (coats, jackets, trousers, etc.), to our rural cooperatives which are in urgent need of them owing to the approaching winter.

Said cooperatives (about 500), having over 800,000 members, are mostly displaced in areas seriously damaged by the war and, consequently, are formed of damaged peasants and workers who are not in a position to buy either new or second-hand clothes also on account of the sharp advances in prices.

We have lately applied to the Polish Red Cross as, according to information received by this Union, they disposed of a stock of second-hand clothes previously assigned to the Polish Forces in Italy, but we understand now that said clothes have been taken over by stores depending on your Commission, and, consequently, the application for their assignment is to be made to you.

In view of above we warmly request you to kindly inform us of the quantity and prices of clothes which might, eventually be assigned to our Rural Cooperatives and, furthermore, of the proceedings required for their withdrawal. *purchase and*

Hoping you will grant our request we thank you in anticipation.

Very Truly Yours,

/s/ The Vice President

7993

(197)

TRANSLATION

From: M.of W.
To : MMIA

Ref: 229744/II
Date: 4/12/46

Subject: Release from 557 BOD. -

As known, this Ministry has already sent its representatives to 557 BOD (which will be handed over by the Allies) in order to carry out a stock taking and select the material which can be used by the Army.

A part of the material and precisely the material which is most urgently required has been in part, or is being assembled in the proper premises, from where it could be sent without fail (in agreement with ARAR) to its foreseen destinations. -

However, this cannot be done as, for the largest part of 557 BOD, the prohibition made by the Allies for drawing material is still enforced.

As this Ministry requires as soon as possible some of the material especially tyres and spares for vehicles, and as in the meantime a large quantity of said material is withdrawn by UNRRA, we shall be grateful if MMIA (who has already been very helpful in obtaining the necessary material for the Army) approaches the competent Allied Authorities in order to obtain the defreezing of 557 BOD. -

TO SEE	
→ A/Q	
Q	Rac
Q	
→ Q. 2	
→ ORD	
→ REME	
UR L.O.	

sgd.

Supind 7092

7/12/46
20Q 006
A 006

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18

Telephone:
Room 489081 Ext 270

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AG (NMIA) CMF

006 Q

20 Nov 46

MINISTRY OF WAR.

Subject:- Ministry of Supply Meetings.

see 12.

Enclosed herewith are the minutes of a meeting held between representatives of the Ministry of Supply and of the Italian Government on 21 Oct 46.

[Signature]
Major-General,
GOC, NMIA.

EFE/ab

7091

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785020

CO Handover P

16A

SUBJECT :- Handover 557 BOD

10 British Liaison Unit
POSTILLIPO NAPLES
Tele : 12060
ORD/11

16 Nov 46

ADOS
Land Forces Sub-Commission AC.,
(MMIA) ROME

1. Reference your letter 006Q dated 5 Nov 46 and War Ministry letter attached. Some misunderstanding must definitely have arisen due possibly to faulty interpretation.
2. We have never at this HQ laid down any figures for withdrawal and all our correspondence has emphasised the fact that we were awaiting scalings etc from ROME.
3. We have however commenced drawing up lists showing minimum maintenance for twelve months to give Italian officers concerned some idea of proportions of one item against another.
4. All letters to Territorial Command have emphasised that we were only giving suggestions and not commands.

CME
NWC/ea

W. C. Smith
Capt,
RAOC.

Handover	
A/Q	/
Q	RAC
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Q. 2	/
Q. 3	/
Q. 4	/
Q. 5	/
Q. 6	/
Q. 7	/
Q. 8	/
Q. 9	/
Q. 10	/

124
RECEIVED 20 NOV 1946

70296/146
RA

A Q 006

Telephone:

Rome 489081 Ext 270

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AC (MMIA) CMF

CO6 Q

5 Nov 46

10 ELU

Subject: Handover of 557 B.O.D.

The attached copy of a letter received from Ministry of War is passed to you for information, your attention being drawn to this HQ letter ORD/1 of 1 Nov 46.

W. H. H. H.
Lit-Col,
ACMG, MMIA

ETB/ab

See H.A.
7089

AM/MOD

Our Ref: CDO/9/10

Chief Disposals Officer (Italy),
Surplus Stores Division,
Ministry of Supply,
British Embassy,
ROME.

A.O.-CUE.

14 November, 1946.

To: Disposals Officer,
Surplus Stores Division,
Ministry of Supply,
c/o British Consulate,
Naples.

Report on Meeting between Disposals Officer, Naples,
and G.S.O. (I) 10 H.U., held on Thursday, 21st October, 1946.

Reference your report on the above Meeting.

- (1) It is agreed that the steps taken by you to enable the Ministry of Supply or Ministry of Supply appointed personnel to enter Depots under A.R.A.R. control, are acceptable to this Mission.
- (2) There are, however, one or two points which you may find it beneficial to elucidate with G.S.O. (I) 10 H.U. They are as follows:-

- (a) The C.D.O. does not release stores for the use of the Italian Army.
- (b) The Italian organisation with which the C.D.O. negotiates is A.R.A.R.
- (c) The Italian Army was appointed as a guarding agency by A.R.A.R. and not in conjunction with the C.D.O.

TO SEE	
A/Q	W.P.
Q	W.P.
Q.1	W.P.
Q.2	W.P.
Q.3	W.P.
Q.4	W.P.

- (a) Stores are available for the Italian Army only after the requirements of H.M. Government have been met, and the balance transferred in the normal manner to A.R.A.R.
- (c) The Italian Government, in conjunction with M.M.I.A., release the necessary stores to the Italian Army.
- (f) Stores will be released to the Italian Government as soon as "screening" for H.M. Government requirements are completed. (In this respect it is anticipated that 557 B.O.D. will be completed by the 30th November, 1946, and that the Italian Government will be given comprehensive lists of stores required by us, by that date).
- (g) The Italian Army will not take any stores out of 557 B.O.D. or any other Depots, without first obtaining release from A.R.A.R. or a higher Italian Government Department.

- (5) When the procedure agreed between the Italian Territorial Commander comes to hand, will you please forward a copy to this Office for perusal.

0382

TO SEE	
A/Q	W/P
Q	ASD
Q.1	W/P
Q.2	
Q.3	
RELATE	

- ✓ (b) The Italian organization with which the U.S.A.R. negotiates A.R.A.R.
- ✓ (c) The Italian Army was appointed as a guarding agency by A.R.A.R. and not in conjunction with the C.D.O.
- ✓ (d) Stores are available for the Italian Army only after the requirements of H.M. Government have been met, and the balance transferred in the normal manner to A.R.A.R.
- ✓ (e) The Italian Government, in conjunction with M.M.I.A., release the necessary stores to the Italian Army.
- ✓ (f) Stores will be released to the Italian Government as soon as "screening" for H.M. Government requirements are completed. (In this respect it is anticipated that 557 B.O.D. will be completed by the 30th November, 1945, and that the Italian Government will be given comprehensive lists of stores required by us, by that date).
- ✓ (g) The Italian Army will not take any stores out of 557 B.O.D. or any other Depots, without first obtaining release from A.R.A.R. or a higher Italian Government Department.

- (3) When the procedure agreed between the Italian Territorial Commander comes to hand, will you please forward a copy to this Office for perusal.
- (4) It is felt that the Policy detailed in Para.2 above, will assist you in your dealings with the guards at 557 B.O.D.
- (5) In the event of any further complications arising, you should immediately notify this Office.

I agree with policy
I am in W/P

Ahead
(A. Head) Lt. Col.
Disposals Officer
for Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)
11/11/45

cc. M.M.I.A. ✓
A.R.A.R. ✓
Heples (two copies)

Received 5 NOV 1945

RESTRICTED.

Minutes of the thirtieth Meeting between representatives of the Ministry of Supply, Surplus Stores Division, and of the Italian Government, held at the Office of the Chief Disposals Officer (Italy), on Monday, 21st October, 1946.

(Note: The Meeting called for 7th October was not held owing to the move of G.H.Q. and other urgent circumstances).

Present:

Brig. A. I. Nixon, C.B.E. - Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)
Lt. Col. A. Reed - Chairman
Major W. W. Woodall - Disposals Officer (Rome)
Miss M. Cunningham-Jones - Deputy Disposals Officer
Major D. Foster - D.A.Q.M.G., G.H.Q., C.M.F.
S/Ldr. S. J. Marriott - Air H.Q., C.M.F.
Capt. J. V. Hall - U.N.R.R.A.
Ing. Fornelli - Azienda Rilievo Alienazione Residua

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Q 100	

1. The Chairman asked for confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting.

On para. 4(b), S/Ldr. Marriott reported that 54 MTC at Cancelli would not now be handed over until 25th October. Bari would be closed on 27th November and H.Q. at Caserta on 30th November. The only other R.A.F. installation then remaining in the South would be Ciampino airport, which would probably be handed over to B.O.A.C.

On para. 4(d), Lt. Col. Reed reported that the method of reservations in Depots had now been agreed. Meetings in this connexion had been held with U.N.R.R.A. and A.R.A.R. representatives in Rome and Naples, and Ing. Fornelli confirmed that any arrangements made with Ing. Lauro at Naples might be regarded as acceptable to A.R.A.R. headquarters in Rome.

Ing. Fornelli said, with regard to para. 3, that a letter had been written to the Mission by A.R.A.R. concerning Lease vehicles to which they were still awaiting a reply. The Chairman said that an answer was actually in the post.

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Ing. Fornelli said, with regard to para.3, that a letter had been written to the Mission by A.R.A.R. concerning Lend/Lease vehicles to which they were still awaiting a reply. The Chairman said that an answer was actually in the post.

There being no further points, the Minutes were passed.

2. The Chairman emphasised the importance of notification being made to British firms in Italy regarding forthcoming availabilities and sales. Ing. Fornelli undertook to see that catalogues were sent to all suitable listed firms and to furnish copies to C.D.O.

11/11/52

I Qado

0584

3. On the question of problems arising from the receipture of material for U.N.R.R.A. at 333 T.S.D. Castelmaggiore and Modugno, Capt. Hall reported that U.N.R.R.A. had received a letter from A.R.A.R. to the effect that no bridging, railway lines, etc. were available, but only a small quantity of sleepers. Lt. Col. Reed explained that the stores were contained in depots of the Italian State Railways, and that the I.S.R. had acted as storeholders for the Transportation Military Service. Because of their special nature the stores were handed over to the I.S.R. (who were acting as agents for the Italian Government) by agreement with A.R.A.R., Transportation and C.D.O.

4. Lt. Col. Reed reported that application had been made to DOS, G.H., for catalogues of MT spares. The latter had replied that they had none, and suggested that application be made to 500 AOD, which had been done.

5. It was requested that A.R.A.R. should in future refer to installations by Army titles, in order to avoid confusion, e.g. T.M.S.D., and not simply "Castelmaggiore" etc. Ing. Fornelli agreed.

6. The following points were raised under "Any other business":-

(a) The Chairman mentioned the two registered publications on the care and maintenance of British vehicles for which G.H.Q. had been asked. There was in Italy an organisation corresponding roughly with the A.A. which was responsible generally for seeing that arrangements were made for information on the upkeep of vehicles throughout Italy. They had asked for copies of these publications, and since many British vehicles were now in use by Italians this seemed a reasonable request. Lt. Col. Reed said that he had written to "Q" Branch, G.H.Q., on the subject. Maj. Foster said he had not seen the letter but would take steps to expedite the despatch of the publications on his return to G.H.Q.

(b) Maj. Woodall reported that the R.A.F. had been instructed to declare Captured Enemy Material to the Mission. S/Ldr. Marriott however said that he had spoken to the C.E.M. Branch of the Allied Commission, who knew nothing of the instruction, and the R.A.F. would prefer putting this material through the Allied Commission as in the past. The Chairman explained that the receipt of C.E.M. by the Mission was only permissive, and that it was not compulsory.

6. The following points were raised under "Any other business":-

(a) The Chairman mentioned the two registered publications on the care and maintenance of British vehicles for which G.H.C. had been asked. There was in Italy an organisation corresponding roughly with the A.A. which was responsible generally for seeing that arrangements were made for information on the upkeep of vehicles throughout Italy. They had asked for copies of these publications, and since many British vehicles were now in use by Italians this seemed a reasonable request. Lt. Col. Reed said that he had written to "Q" Branch, G.H.C. on the subject. Maj. Foster said he had not seen the letter but would take steps to expedite the despatch of the publications on his return to G.H.C.

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7. The date of the next Meeting was fixed for Monday, the 4th November, at 11.0 a.m.

Maj. Foster said that now that G.H.C. had moved to Padua it would be very inconvenient to send representatives to meetings once a fortnight in view of the loss of time which would be taken in travelling, and it was therefore agreed that G.H.C. representatives should only attend Meetings once a month unless there was anything particularly important to discuss.

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COPY

AQMG

(11A)

Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)
Surplus Stores Division
Ministry of Supply

BRITISH EMBASSY
R O M E

APC GMP

31 October 1946

Subject : Change of Location.

To : Distribution as below.

Please note that the office of the Chief Disposals Officer,
(Italy) is now located at:

Via delle Botteghe Oscure 46

Rome

Telephone numbers: Rome 66226-7-8.

Appended hereto is a list of the internal extension numbers.

(A. REED)
C.D.O. Italy

AR/rb

Distribution: GHQ Padua
British Embassy Rome
Executive Commissioner, HQ AC
Comd. LMIA
RAAC
DO Naples
British Consulate Naples
ARAR.

8/11/46
R

7085

File 2006

Copy to: "Q"

ENDIX.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Ext. No.</u>	<u>Room No. and Floor.</u>
C.D.O.	Brig. NIXON	6	2 6th Floor
P.A. to C.D.O.	Miss BRUNNER		3 " "
D.O. 1	Lt. Col. REED	3	5 " "
P.A. to D.O. 1	Miss RAMSAY	7	6 " "
D.O. 2	Lt. Col. NICHOLSON	91	8 " "
D.D.O. Italy	Maj. WOODALL	91	8 " "
D.D.O. U.N.R.R.A.	Maj. BONE	94	11 " "
	Mrs. SAUNDERS		
A.D.O. Italy	Capt. BOREHAM	92	9 " "
	Capt. WELLET		
A.D.O. U.N.R.R.A.	Capt. HARRISON	93	10 " "
Admin. Officer	Miss WRAY	8	7 " "
I.L.C.	Mr. COLADICCHI	95	14 " "
Information Office	Mrs. FIGURETTI	5	4 " "
Interpreter	Miss CEFALI	98	16 " "
D.D.O. (C & P.)	Miss GUN INGHAM) JONES	2	4 7th " "
D.D.O. (C & P.)	Mrs. TRINCHIERI	903	5 " "
A.D.O. (C & P.)	Capt. MEADE	97	3 " "
Assessor	Mrs. BREAKWELL	96	2 " "
Supervising Clerk	Mr. JELLYMAN	4	14 " "
C.C. Deter Registry	Miss DAMPIER	902	10 " "
C.O. Declaration Reg.	Miss LO NOCE	901	9 " "

Subject: Release of Gun Stores.

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION AG
(L.M.I.A.)

Q.006

30 October 1946

TO : CHIEF DISPOSALS OFFICER,
Via della Botteghe Oscure 46

Reference conversation C RTIES - REID. May a special release be approved of stores listed at Appendix A from 3 Sub Depot, 557 Base Ordnance Depot.

These are urgently required at the School of Artillery by the War Ministry and have been selected by a representative of MIA.

It is understood you can only advise ARAR to permit the withdrawal of these stores. May the NAPLES rep of ARAR be so informed.

R. A. Cunningham
Colonel
M.M.I.A.

RAC/fw

Copy to: 10 BH
12 BH

INTERNAL: C(Urg)
Ord
File Q.138

7083

Appendix A to LMIA letter
Q.006 dated 30 October 46

LIST OF STORES FOR 5.5 GUN REQUIRED FROM 3 SUB DEPOT 557 B.O.D.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
Oil Bucket	1
Air Line	1
Pulling Back Gear	1
Ramrod	1
Hand Spikes	4
Piasaber Brush	1
Clinometer Field	1
Drag Ropes	4
Firing lanyard	1
Plane Testing	1
Post Aiming	2 (1 Rd 1 Square)
Air Bottles	4
STOP Running Back	1
Pressure Gauge	1
Tools Artillery 200 + 206 + 235 +	1 each
Spanner 762 + 876 +	1 each
" 871 + 877 +	1 each
" 872 + 878 +	1 each
" 874 + 342 +	1 each
" 875 +	1
Sealing Collar Wrench	2
Breach Tool-nism Spanners	1
Isolating Valve	1
Packings, assorted	1
Connectors Valve-oil	1
Tyre Pressure 20 - 120 lbs Gauge	1
Keys M.V. Corrector	1
Gun mats	4
Solveges	4

7062

10AT

TRANSLATION

From: M. of W.
To : AMIA

Ref: 1/3509/Serv
Date: 26/10/46

Subject: Material to be handed over
to the Italian Army.

The Naples Military Territorial Command informs us that they have been ordered by 10 BLU to withdraw from the n° 3 Sub Depot - 557 B.O.D. - only the material necessary for the completion of the scale of issue (immediate necessities) and for constituting sufficient stock for twelve months.

During the meeting held in the office of Gen. Rossi, on the 22/10/46 (minutes of which are enclosed) that Col. Fidsley, concerned in the matter, repeatedly stated that no limitation was made to the Italian Army regarding the withdrawal of material stored in n° 3 Sub Depot - 557 B.O.D. -

Therefore we beg you to kindly explain these points to 10 BLU in order that the instructions given by them to the Naples Military Territorial Command are in accordance with those given by this S.M. further to the agreements made with your Military Mission. -

TO SEE	
A/Q	MP
Q	RAE
Q. 1	
Q. 2	
ORD	
REMK	

sgd.

Meloni

Ord/1

Col. 7

8/20/46

ARMA

Copy to 10 BLU with
instruction that once
material has been
transferred to Italian
Government, the disposal
of it leaves various Italian
claimants in an ARAR office
which would be useful
but they cannot put
any limits against the
on for lethal materials
themselves.

Encl. with letter 1/3509/Serv of 26/
10/46

MEETING HELD WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF MIAA ON THE
22/10/46 AT 11.30 HOURS IN THE OFFICE
OF GEN. ROSSI -

The following persons were present:

Gen.	Rossi
Col.	Pidsley
"	Meloni
"	Balanzino
"	Campagna
"	Picone
Lt.Col.	Curties
" "	Blunt
" "	Evans
" "	Fallaci
" "	Jammorino
Maj.	Byatt

Col. Pidsley: - Says that the reason for the meeting was to point out what Gen. Goulburn and himself saw at Fontecagnano and nearby depots and to examine future aspects of the question.

Gen. Goulburn was very pleased with what had already been done, despite great difficulties, to the n° 3 Sub Depot for which it was laid down that the Ministry of War would have first priority. When the meeting took place and the agreement was concluded, I was a pessimist on the fact that the agreement could not have a practical application, instead everything has been overcome and ~~the results desirable~~. *Things went as wished for -*

Now we will think of the future.

We are awaiting two important things, i.e.:

① - to come into possession of the complete lists of materials ~~stored~~ in the depots, that, despite the great quantities, we hope to have soon;

② - to obtain the permission of the Ministry of Supply for the transfer of the materials. The present situation is that the materials have been handed over to ARAR and the M. of A., but they are frozen and cannot be withdrawn from the **7080** until we British are sure that they are no longer required for our troops.

- Italian personnel of n° 3 Sub Depot have asked permission to move material inside the camp. We have asked the Ministry of Supply this question and they replied that the matter was no longer their concern. It is necessary that direct agreements

- 2 -

be made between the Ministry of War and ARAR. -

We have seen that you have many technical personnel and labourers. I would like to know if the space in the depots is sufficient for the movements which have to be carried out.

Col. Picone:

It depends on the material that we can withdraw, whether the space in the depots will be sufficient or not. According to 10 BLU it seems that we can have from ARAR only the material necessary for the completion of the scale of issue and for constituting sufficient stock for twelve months. In this case the premises which have been allocated to us are sufficient.

But if we can withdraw, as previously stated, all the material that we require, then the premises will not be sufficient.

Col. Fidsley:

Regarding the material, the Ministry of War can have from ARAR all that they can pay for. We do not make any limits. //

Col. Meloni :

We must withdraw all that we reasonably think we will need and not what will be of use to us. Also in agreement with the Treasury it was stated that the War Administration would withdraw only the strict necessity in order not to affect the State budget.

Col. Fidsley :

I am in agreement with Col. Meloni and I think that everything will be much more convenient if only the strict necessities are requested. I think that certain material not strictly necessary could be sold by ARAR to civilians in a much more profitable way.

Returning to the question of the premises I have asked for the use of "funzionali" barracks, but they will not become available until the 1st of November; but before using said barracks it would be best to fill all the other buildings.

Regarding the billeting of the working personnel we are arranging for the buildings at the entrance of the depot to be used, which at present moment are occupied by few British personnel.

Another problem that must be faced is that of the method of selection and transferring of the material. 7679

I would like to know what point has been reached regarding the compilation of the lists of the material required.

Gen. Rossi:

Before making out the lists we need to know what is in the depots. -

Col. Fidsley:

There are two ways of facing the problem. One is to wait for

- 3 -

the lists of the materials and then select what is required; the other system is to state what is required and then see what ~~is~~ there. *is*. -

Col. Meloni :

The latter system is possible for the Commissariat and for the Engineers as they have a clear knowledge of the material required. But with the Artillery it is more difficult as they have only a general knowledge of the material required.

Col. Campagna:

I would like to withdraw all that can be useful bearing in mind also future necessities.

Col. Meloni:

We cannot foresee the future ~~either~~ because we do not know how long the structure of the Army that "has been imposed," will last; and ~~either~~ because it has not been said that we will not decide in the future to change the types of armament. The knowledge of our necessities must be based on the Army of to-day and the reserve must be only of materials that are really required and in the limits of the burden of expenses that they will bring.

Col. Pidsley :

Regarding the n° 3 Sub Depot the Ministry can select all that they require; all that is not required will be left to ARAR. -

Gen. Bossi:

The S.M., upon proposals from the General Directorates will lay down the quota of the various materials to be held in reserve.

Col. Pidsley:

A method of preparing the lists is that of calculating upon the base of the unit scale of issue. It is possible to have an idea of what is required.

If there is any difficulty in preparing the lists, Col. Evans and Col. Blunt respectively of the Artillery and of the M.T. will give you assistance.

Col. Blunt :

I would be very pleased to help, but I cannot ~~7078~~ file the lists alone.

Col. Meloni:

I would point out that we were promised nomenclatures, sketches

- 4 -

and photographs of the materials. If we had these elements, it would be much easier to compile the lists, specially for the Artillery as we do not yet know exactly which are the accessories required.

Col. Curties : ^{have}
~~Technical details~~ have been requested but they are not in Italy and will arrive from the British Ministry of War. *

Col. Pidsley :

Another thing which is very important is to inform the personnel working in the depots which priority must be observed in the forwarding of the material.

In a next meeting we must discuss the selection of the depots and stores. We know more or less their whereabouts, but we will go into details. We must bear in mind the necessity for cranes in the stores.

I cannot say anything regarding the release of the Cancellio depot but I would inform you that authority has been granted for the release of spare parts to be withdrawn from the guns stored at Montecorvino.

* *John have told me to handle from War Office*

1 Nov RAB

7077

785020

ADJ
 SUBJECT:- Report of Conference.

ORDINANCE OFFICER, 10 B.L.U.

Tel:- 55802 NAPLES

ORD 2

11 OCTOBER 46.

A.D.O.S. HQ, M.M.I.A.

1. Enclosed herewith Report of conference on 9 OCTOBER 46. at which you were present.

CDO. Lt Col Nicholson. ⁶⁶²²⁶
~~8243001/46~~

Via della Botteghe
 OSCURE 46
 6 Nov.

Van Han Conf

Identifiable hands conf. party:
 One with letter re location
 of depot - 17 Oct
 One - 14 Sep.
 One - 23 Sep



McClanahan Capt
 Jr Lt Col,
 GS.

NWC/mj

94

RECEIVED 14 OCT 1946 7076

Enclosure:- Conference Report.

Q006

9
Conference re 557 BOD held at 10 HLU.

Present; Lt Col VENOUR, Lt Col EVANS, Major TAYLOR, Capt. CLARKE and
S Cdr LYON.

1. Action necessary by HQ MIA to enable smooth flow of this work and give
advice in principle to personnel participating:

(a) Ministry of Supply

ADOS to approach Lt Col Nicholson CDO for
permission to segregate stocks within the depot
prior to handover of Stock States. An accurate
stock and location list to be kept of all stores
so moved.

(b) ARAR

- i To be approached for accommodation within the
depot for above segregation.
- ii For permission to earmark stores for the Italian
Army pending confirmation of handover by ARAR.
- iii Concrete statement as to Army position in each
depot re priority.
- iv Permission to go round 2 Sub Depot and RSD for such
stores that may be useful, e.g. Mountain Equipment,
web equipment, barrack room furniture.

(c) Ministry of War to be contacted re

- i 3 Sub Depot to be immediately pushed forward so
that they will be ready for receipt of stores ex-
557 BOD. As a temporary measure suggested that ARAR
be approached to hand over 3 Sub Depot Main 557 BOD
to the Italian Army and remove immediately what few
stores are not of value to Army, e.g. timber, lead
jointing.
- ii Supply of necessary transport, Road and Rail, see
below.
- iii Supply of Train Guards, see below.
- iv Supply of Labour, see below.
- v To arrange for each Division to submit indents for
immediate necessities plus a 12 month scaling for
the Division. These indents to be kept separate
and marked in Red - SCALING or IMMEDIATE.
- vi Possibility of cancelling release for 3 months and
more of trained Ordnance personnel (Italian) to
assist in this task and founding of Base Depots.

2. LABOUR. The following is minimum required to control work if ARAR agree in
principle to above suggestions:

(a) Unskilled, can be either Army personnel or Civilian:

1 Sub Depot Main and Beach 300
RSD MCNTECORVINO 20
3 Sub Depot Main and 'D'
Station 250
50

7075

- i 3 Sub Depot to be immediately pushed forward so that they will be ready for receipt of stores ex-557 BOD. As a temporary measure suggested that ARAR be approached to hand over 3 Sub Depot Main 557 BOD to the Italian Army and remove immediately what few stores are not of value to Army, e.g. timber, lead jointing.
- ii Supply of necessary transport, Road and Rail, see below.
- iii Supply of Train Guards, see below.
- iv Supply of Labour, see below.
- v To arrange for each Division to submit indents for immediate necessities plus a 12 month scaling for the Division. These indents to be kept separate and marked in Red - SCALING or IMMEDIATE.
- vi Possibility of cancelling release for 3 months and more of trained Ordnance personnel (Italian) to assist in this task and founding of Base Depots.

2. LABOUR. The following is minimum required to control work if ARAR agree in principle to above suggestions:

(a) Unskilled, can be either Army personnel or Civilian: 7075

1 Sub Depot Main and Beach	300
RSD MONTECORVINO	20
3 Sub Depot Main and 'D' Station	250
	50

if 3 Sub Depot is taken over as a Depot a further 250 to run this depot will be essential.

(b) Skilled Ordnance personnel ~~and~~ fitters:

1 Sub Depot	30
3 Sub Depot	30
RSD	30
Crane drivers	4

Cranes would have to be obtained from ARAR at depot.

1/.....

- 2 -

3. TRANSPORT ROAD. 3 Tonnars quantity 40 split up as follows: Beach 6, 1 Sub Main 12, 3 Sub Depot 20.
TRANSPORT RAIL. If shipping is done immediately 50 - 100 Box Cars would be required each week and necessary Train Guards would have to be supplied from outside 10 Territorial Command. Required approximately 200 officers and men.
4. 10 TERRITORIAL COMMAND would have to arrange feeding and accommodation for all personnel shipped in from other commands to assist in this work.
5. DIVISIONS to be asked to supply OGP personnel and fitters. Parts Lists and Identification Lists for all equipment held could be supplied immediately by one of the Divisions.

7074

0 6 0 0

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NMDC NO.

785020

7074

NMDC/mj

NOTES ON MEETING

held at H.Q. M.M.I.A.

on 11/10/45

Master for Discussion: - BRITISH EQUIPMENT FOR ITALIAN ARMY

Present: Col A/Q
A.O.M.G. }
O.S.G. I (SD) }
C.S.O.XI (reg) }
M.M.I.A.

Lt. Col. FALLACI Services Office Ministry of War
" " DI SALVI Organisation Office Ministry of War.

The points discussed were:-

- a) Visit of Lt. Col. IVANS (ADOS) to 557 BOD BOD, ARAR Damps etc.
- b) ADOS briefly described the various depots and expressed the opinion that it would probably take years to sort out the 600 tons of equipment, and that, for that purpose, it should be moved in bulk to some suitable site in the vicinity and that adequate personnel (including a number of specialists) should be provided to deal with it.
- c) The barracks buildings known as the "Casematte Funzionali" at Pontecagnano, recently derelict, were suggested by War Ministry as suitable for the purpose, were considered by ADOS, for various reasons, as not suitable; as an alternative he mentioned the site recently occupied by the BOD on the Aerodrome at Montecassino where, besides spacious brick buildings, there were a number of huts eminently suitable for storing large quantities of materials.
- d) Lt. Col. FALLACI, who had also visited above depots, concurred.
- e) Lt. Col. FALLACI described the steps the Ministry had taken in the matter, that X Terr Squad, Col A/Q at the close of the meeting stated he felt easier in his mind than before the meeting, about the adequacy of the steps taken by the War Ministry to speed up the work.
- f) Lt. Col. FALLACI stated that the War Ministry had already sent some officers to Naples to work out a plan of action. Amongst others, the spot were General GARDIN (2nd in Command Comiller) Col MASTA and Army Directorate in Naples and General GRAPPA of the "Genio".

g) The technical personnel required was about 300 - 400, for a period of several months. Col MASTA will have 40 technicians and 120 unskilled

that it would probably be used in that way and that, for that purpose, it should be moved in that way and that, for that purpose, it should be moved in that way and that, for that purpose, it should be moved in that way.

c) The barracks buildings known as the "Casermetto Funzionali" at Pontecagnuolo, recently derequisitioned and suggested by War Ministry as suitable for the purpose, were considered by ADXS, for various reasons, as not suitable; an alternative he mentioned the site recently occupied by the ASD on the Aerodrome at Montecassiano where, besides spacious brick buildings, there were a number of huts eminently suitable for storing large quantities of materials.

d) Lt. Col. VALLACI, who had also visited above depots, concurred.

e) Lt. Col. VALLACI described the steps the Ministry had taken in the matter, the X Terr Comd. Col A/Q at the close of the meeting stated he felt easier in his mind than before the meeting, about the adequacy of the steps taken by the War Ministry to speed up the work.

f) Lt. Col. VALLACI stated that the War Ministry had already sent some officers to Naples to work out a plan of action. Amongst others, Col MARTINI (2nd in Command and Controller) Col MARTINI, spot were General GARDIN (2nd in Command and Controller) Col MARTINI, Army Directorate in Naples and General GRADINI of the "Genio".

g) The technical personnel required was about 300 - 400, for a period of several months. Col MARTINI will have 40 technicians and 120 untrained men available immediately.

h) ADXS suggested that, as 557 BOD was closing down, a number of civilians employed there, who would be available as from 15th Oct might be taken on by the Army for this work, they were men who had worked for many months with 557 BOD and therefore possessed valuable experience.

i) Lt. Col. VALLACI would try and get the Cabinet to grant the necessary authority.

17/10

17/10
8006

Report in Conference held at 10 AM. Continued on to Oct 15.

Present: BRITISH Lt Col VIGNER, Capt. CLARK,
ITALIAN: Lt Col GENTILE, Col NASTA,
Lt Col TANNARINO, Major CONTE, Major CIMINO, Capt. POLIDORI.

1. Lt Col Constantino welcomed Lt Col Vignier and informed us that we had present the President of the Ministry of Air Commission handling the withdrawal of stores from 557 SCD.

2. The report of the conference held at 10 AM (copy attached) has been sent to Major (a) and it was noted that no further action could be taken until para 1, sub-para (a) and (b) had been settled in Rome.

3. The following points arose during the discussion:

(a) 10 AM Conference para 1, sub-para (a). Is it possible for Ministry of Air to have stock station for a few days to have copies made for use of Commission?

(b) Para 1, sub-para (b). Agreed that basic principles of working between RAF and Ministry of Air should be laid down so that Commission can handle job efficiently.

(c) Para 1, sub-para (c). All points agreed. Position on Italian depots should be clarified and final destination of all stores laid down. The two of 3 sub-para (a) 557 SCD would fill in urgent need until the above can be done. The obtaining of inmates from divisions and arrangements for detention of release of inmates returned to be considered and immediate arrangements made to carry this out.

(d) Para 2. Unskilled and skilled labour already allowed for and available when required with one or two minor alterations. The obtaining of crates from AFM to be immediately arranged from Greece. Hold at Pontedragone. Supply of drivers dependent on types of stores released. These would be invaluable if obtained for other work later.

(e) Para 3 and 4. Already arranged with minor amendments.

(f) Para 5. Part 1 already arranged. Part 2 - AFM division to be asked to supply.

William 7072

and the above can be done. The obtaining of inmates from divisions and arrangements for payment of release of trained personnel to be considered and immediate arrangements made to carry this out.

Para 2. Unfilled and skilled labour already allowed for and available when required with one or two minor alterations. The obtaining of cranes from Area to be immediately arranged from cranes held at Intecragano. Supply of drivers dependent on types of cranes released. These cranes would be invaluable if obtained for other work later.

- (a) Para 3 and 4. Already arranged with minor amendments.
- (f) Para 5. Part 1 already arranged. Part 2 - British Division to be asked to supply.

Copies: Lt Col Vaneur
SMA for Area

Col Pidsley
Lt Col Burton

10 Terr. Command
File

WMS/mj

Volume 7072

557 B O D

0605

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/HNDG NO.

785020

SERIAL	SUB DEPOT	LOCATION	REMARKS
A	No 1	POMERACCHIANO	Main depot holds full range of British and American spares for A and B Vechs.
B	No 1	PIONICOLA (Beach Ventury)	Holds new A and B Veh engines, tyres and tubes. American "B" Vehicle spares in bulk, tank tracks - water-proofing stores for "A" Vehicles.
C	No 1	CARIA	Holds British B Vehicle engine spares in bulk.
D	No 3	POMERACCHIANO	Artillery Equipments and associated spares - small arms and associated spares - wireless and radar sets and spares - signal equipment and line gear and spares - watches - optical stores.
E	No 3	POMERACCHIANO	Main depot holds all a/m stores.
F	No 3	POMERACCHIANO Gun Park	3 miles South of PONTI. Holds guns and radar sets complete - all guns left for M of S have been demilitarized. Also at this gun park is M.T. 2.3.D. which holds M.T. spares returned from units which were not worth sorting for return to 1 Sub Depot.
G	No 2	PONTIOLI	18 miles North of NAPLES on the sea. This group held all workshop machinery - lathes - grinders - welding sets - power saws - planing machines - sewing machines - valve grinders etc etc. All serviceable machines have been sent out of the country and only "B" machines and those requisitioned are now left.
H	No 2	PONTIOLI	2 miles South of NAPLES. Held Vets 703. Clothing - tentage - cooking gear - fuel and oils - metals - soap - harness and saddlery - nails - screws - bolts & nuts - jacks and lifting gear. 7071 No antelites.
I	No 2	PONTIOLI	3 miles out of NAPLES. Held all "B" stores. Also some "B" vehicle engines before repair by RME. These held at IANVA sidings which

B	No 3	MONTICAVINO Gun Park	3 miles South of RUMBLE. Holds guns and radar sets complete - all guns left for M of B have been demilitarized. Also at this gun Park is L.T. R.S.D. which holds L.T. spares returned from units which were not worth sorting for return to 1 Sub Depot.
F	No 3	PORTOLI	18 miles North of NAPLES on the sea. This group held all workshop machinery - lathes - grinders - welding sets - power saws - planing machines-sewing machines valve grinders etc etc. All serviceable machines have been sent out of the country and only "H" machines and those requisitioned are now left.
G	✓ No 2	PORTOLI	4 miles South of NAPLES. Held Vote 703. Clothing - tentage - cooking gear - fuel and canteens - soap - harness and saddlery - nails - screws - belts & nuts - jacks and lifting gear. 7071 No satellites.
H	RED	POGGIOMALE	3 miles East of NAPLES. held all U.S. stores. Also some "H" vehicle engines before repair by ROSE. These held at LANVA sidings which is a part of NSB.
I	No 1	PORTOLI	Some "H" vehicle engines were held for 1 Sub Depot. H. 704

All sub installations have now been handed over to Ministry of Supply and A.S. A.R. are now in occupation

Red

2900

TO		
A/C		
Q		TRANSLATION
Q. 1		
Q. 2		of W.
OND		
REMK		

29 August 1946

MEMO ON THE MEETING HELD AT A.R.A.R.
ON 28 AUG. 1946 REGARDING THE RELEASE
BRITISH MATERIAL.

The representatives of ARAR, the M. of Treasury, the M. of Industry and Commerce and the Central Accounts Branch were present.

For the M. of W., Gen. Rossi, Col. Balanzino, Col. Meloni, Lt. Col. Garni, Lt. Col. Nabissi, one officer of the Art. Gen. Directorate, one officer of the Eng. Gen. Directorate. In addition, one officer of the Air Ministry was present.

The meeting, held after the meeting held on 23rd at M.M.I.A. was held for the purpose of making special agreements regarding the release of Allied material which interest the Italian Army.

It was agreed:

regarding No 3 Sub Depot (arms and various material)

I)

that :-

- the material will be taken over by A.R.A.R. in the presence of and on authority from the representatives of the M. of W.
- on completion, ARAR will hand over all the material to the Army which will provide for the custody of same:-
- during the handing over operations which will be done by representatives of ARAR. and the M. of W., a thorough check of the material also with a view to establishing the value, will be carried out.

Regarding this, representatives of the M. of W. pointed out the difficulty in the valuation of said material both because the prices according to the valuation which could be done by the Allies, are unknown and because the material is small and mostly damaged (spares) for which it is necessary to give an approximate value in weight.

The army, on taking over the material, will select the material which is to be taken and put on one side the material which is neither necessary nor useful. The latter

- 2 -

will be afterwards returned to A.R.A.R.

- 2) - Regarding No 1 and 2 Sub Depot.
A.R.A.R. will take over the material in the presence of army representatives who will identify and make a report on the material thought to be necessary and useful for the army.
The guards will be provided by A.R.A.R.
It is understood and confirmed that A.R.A.R. will not proceed with the selling of the material unless the M. of W. has forwarded its requests.
- The requests made by the Mil. Administrative will have to be forwarded to ARAR possibly within one month (except if an extension is granted) from the date of completion of handing over.
- 3) - The Air Ministry will send its own representative in order to ascertain whether there is any material interesting them.-
Any eventual requests from the Air Ministry will be settled in agreement with the army.
- 4) - All issues are to be considered issues on payment which will be made by the Mil. Adm. to ARAR. The financial question will be settled when the material is checked and the prices of issue fixed.
The representatives of the M. of W. put in evidence that payments cannot be effected from availabilities in the ordinary budget but that it will be necessary for the M. of T. to assign special funds in accordance with the value of the material as it is really a turning of accounts.-
The persons present recognise such requirement and ARAR representative pointed out that the same question is noted also for other adm. citing among other, the case of the Railways Adm. which has a debit of 6 milliard.
The representatives of the Ministry of Treasury made reserves and recommended that the army draws only the material which is strictly necessary.-
The representatives of the M. of W. give assurance on this question.-

7069

TRANSLATION

FROM: Major CATALANO

REF: ?

TO : W. of W.

DATE: 29/9/46

SUBJECT: Report on inspection made at 557° BOD
handed over in part to the local A.R.A.R.

- 1) According to an order given to me in letter N° 64049/DM, dated 19th inst., I went to the Military Territorial Command of Naples, to contact Col. De Angelis in order to carry out the above inspection.
- 2) As Col. De Angelis was absent from Naples, and in agreement with the Military Territorial Command, I contacted directly Eng. Bardini, director of A.R.A.R. at Naples and, after having obtained the necessary written authority, I went to Pontecagnano.
- 3) Regarding M.T. stores, A.R.A.R. took over so far:-
 - a) the Montecorvino camp;
 - b) tyres and a small amount of spares from the Piccioli camp;
 - c) only the tyres from N° I store.
- 4) Montecorvino camp.
 - a) This is an RSD, i.e. a camp reserved for material returned by disbanded units, material needing repair or unserviceable.
 - b) That camp looked to me as being in disorder, in that kind of disorder which is the result of criminal destruction and theft i.e. broken down boxes, material scattered and heaped all over the place, etc.
 - c) Most of the material is new, other material require repairs, while other material can be dismantled to recover spare parts to be used for repairs;
 - d) A diligent and patient work of expert personnel is required to select, classify and repair it.

It would be a pity to disregard this really precious material but the selection should be entrusted to honest and expert personnel. The most difficult work, which cannot be done by anybody is that of finding out the exact item and classify same, according to Allied catalogues. Time and patience will be required.

3/10/46

I Doc 6

- 2 -

- e) I have separated the following groups:-
 I) material stored in the concrete hangar;
 II) material stored in the iron framework hangar (almost completely demolished)
 III) material stacked on the field near the iron framework hangar.-
 f) I give here a summary description of such material: dinamos, small motors, carburators, distributors, calottes, brushes, petrol feeding pumps, head-lights, glasses, amperometers, mile-meters, shock absorbers, motor magnets, filters, ball bearings, motor vehicle tools, workshop equipments, bolts, washers, "fixed screws", bushings, anti-sliding chains, shovels, picks, electric generators, pumps for P.O.L., petrol tubing with corresponding joints, gaskets, "corkite", iron levers, liquid for brakes, fire-extinguishers, charges for extinguishers, oxygen and acetylene flasks, pistons, segments, bushing, tanks for special washing, tools for dismantling tyres, suspensions, motors (revised or to be revised), segments for brake bands, candles (a few new ones and a great deal to be regenerated)- tyres of the 6.00x16 - 3,25x19 - 9,00x20 size (new) - 10.50x20 tubes.

Piccioli camp.

- 5) a) It stores new material;
 b) There are tyres and spares; the latter are packed in boxes.
 c) The spares so far handed over to A.R.A.R. are of a small amount; since most of them are being handed over. For the moment, G.M.C. Ford-Dodge spares have been handed over. The selection of said material is not difficult since, it is enough to consult the necessary catalogues, in order to determine the items which we want to withdraw.
 d) Tyres were already handed over to A.R.A.R..
 About 80.000 - I think.-
 They are of the following sizes: 4,50x16 - 3,25x19 - 4,00x18 - 7,50x20 - 7,50x16 - 9,00x16 - 10,00x16 - 10,50x20 - 32x6 - 9,00x24 - 10,50x18 - 10,50x22 - 9,00x20 - 10,50x16 - 12x24 - 11,00x12 - 5,50x19 - 5,00x19 - 31x9 - 10x20 - 14x30 - 10x50 - 9,00x13 - 7,00x18 - 8,25x24 - 8,25x20 - 7,00x19 - 42x9 - 32x7 - 12,75x24 - 7,50x15 - 7,00x22 - 5,00x17 - 9,00x18 - 7,00x20 - 32x8 - 11,00x20 - 6,00x19 - 6x20 - 9,75x18 - 14x20 - 36x6 - 10,00x18 - 18x24 - 13x32.

6) Camp No I.

- a) Only the tyres were handed over from this camp amounting to approx 170.000. They are all partly used and repairable.
 Sizes are as at para d) above.
 b) There are large stocks of spares which have not yet been handed over to the A.R.A.R.-

- 3 -

7)

Contacts with Eng. Bardini. Apart from the exquisitely kind attitude of the ARAR director at Naples I got the impression that he does not like that the stores are handed over to military authorities and he is doing his best to hinder it.-

- Particularly he would like to:-
- Hand over the spares to G.R.A. from which the military administration could withdraw them.-
 - Hand over tyres of sizes which cannot be used by civilians, keep at least 50% especially the new ones.
As an example, I must point out that sizes 6,00x16 and 3,25x19 sizes are insufficient for military requirements. Hence, it is essential to insist and get what we need.-
 - Eng. Bardini expresses the wish to retain 50% as he has to fit tyres on the vehicles he must sell.-
 - As a consequence to the statement made by Eng. Bardini I deemed advisable not to make further requests.

8)

Comments.

- Montecorvino camp, although storing new, repairable and unserviceable material is very useful for the Mil. Admin.-
- We must not waste time as thefts and criminal damages are continuous;
- Every day that passes, most useful material is disappearing.

9)

Proposals.

- Inspection effected allows me to make myself a clear idea of the problem. It is not so simple as it may appear at first.
 - In my opinion, the sending of personnel at Pontecagnano merely to withdraw and consequently forward the material should not be done. If we were to act in this way, a disorganized action would result and - which is more important - with no practical effect.-
 - The work to be done is complex and delicate for the following reasons: (i) the ARAR organization cannot be fully trusted for the safe keeping of material at the disposal of military authorities; (ii) subtraction on a large scale (I am under the impression that there is a proper organization which keeps on taking away and demolishing material). From "rumours" I could gather, ARAR personnel including persons detailed for guard duties are apparently not be excluded.
- For your information and declining of course any responsibility for what I call "rumours" gathered yesterday in the surroundings, I gather that materials have been taken away from a camp on lorries which entered with a permit - apparently released by two American NCOs. As far as I could gather, Allied Authorities

- 4 -

- are looking ^{into} ~~with~~ the matter.
- III) Difficulty in separating the spares if the work is not entrusted to personnel who are really acquainted with the material;
- IV) responsibility of withdrawing and immediately dispatching the material.
- d) Pontecagnano should be considered as an excellent (it not unique) source to draw material necessary for vehicles supplied by the Allies;
- e) for many reasons (i.e. slow handing over from Allied Authorities to ARAR, screening of materials, selection, etc., units requirements, guarantee that material is not taken away etc.) the idea ~~must be excluded~~ of sending personnel to Pontecagnano with the simple task of loading material and taking it away. *must be set aside*
- f) I am of the opinion that:
- I) Allied Authorities should cause the ARAR to give strict order to their Branch at Naples not to send, under any circumstances material away from the stores, before the Military Administration have selected and withdrawn what they need;
- II) when issuing that order the stores should be immediately occupied by agents of ours, even together with the ARAR personnel.
- For reasons I reserve myself to express verbally, I suggest that guards should be supplied by Carabinieri, but not reserve territorial ~~ones~~ ^{guards recently} called up or auxiliary ones. They should be supplied by the five divisions, making them clearly understand that this is done in their own interest. Each division should supply a squad of 5 Carabinieri and one NCO - One of the squad should have an officer.
- Such personnel should see that no material is taken away of the stores. Their duty will of course come to an end when the military administration has withdrawn all they need.
- c) The choice and screening of the materials is to be effected by personnel already acquainted with Allied materials.
- Regarding this point I think divisions should also supply at least three storemen (two from the Mobile Park and one from the store section of the mobile workshop). Three of them ought to be supplied by the OARE.
- h) Materials should be chosen by Captains Bedon and Capobianco of the "Legnano" Mobile Park who are the only experienced officers and who in my opinion, can be fully trusted.
- i) A store even temporary, should be formed at Pontecagnano. The small barracks there existing could be utilized. These barracks are now occupied by British troops who are just moving away.

- 5 -

- 11 The temporary store should provide to withdrawal, screening and filing of materials, so as to consent supply to be made to divisions, OARE and other units, having allied material. In such a way it would be possible to fulfill immediate units' requests which - I must point out - need to be attended to because the present critical situation is becoming continuously worse.
- m) I could, now and then, modestly cooperate to the coordination work.

I could, particularly, supply the most interesting data and I could also collect publications which I have seen scattered all over the stores and which may be as useful to us as spare parts.

I have taken some copies away but I could not do more because I did not want to recall the attention of the ARAR personnel who would have certainly made them disappear.

Sgd. CATALANO
Maj.

C.F.

7064

Subject: Equipment for Italian Army.

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

Q.006

2 October 1946.

TO : List B

The present situation regarding the transfer of British Ordnance Stores to the Italian Government is as follows:

1. 557 Base Ordnance Depot has been handed over to the Chief Disposals Officer (ITALY) Ministry of Supply w.e.f. 30 September 1946, who has appointed A.R.A.R. as caretaker of the contents of the three Sub Depots situated at NAPLES and PONTECAGNANO.

2. At a conference held at this HQ on 23 August 1946 attended by representatives of the Italian Government, Ministry of War and A.R.A.R. the following decisions were agreed to in principle:

- (a) That representatives of M.M.I.A. and the Ministry of War should be present at the handover 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 MT 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.

3. At a subsequent War Ministry meeting the above was confirmed with A.R.A.R. and certain admin questions settled. It is not anticipated that the Ministry of War will experience any undue difficulty in obtaining available stores and essential items needed for the maintenance of vehicles and weapons.

4. Attached hereto is a copy of a letter from G.O.C. to the War Ministry giving the current position of this Mission.

5. BLJ's will convey the information contained in this letter to HQ's of Territorial Commands and to any Italian officers who are concerned in the matter. No good

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(a) That representatives of M.M.I.A. and the Ministry of War should be present at the handover 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.

3. At a subsequent War Ministry meeting the above was confirmed with A.R.A.R. and certain admin questions settled. It is not anticipated that the Ministry of War will experience any undue difficulty in obtaining available stores and essential items needed for the maintenance of vehicles and weapons.

4. Attached hereto is a copy of a letter from G.O.C. to the War Ministry giving the current position of this Mission.

5. BLU's will convey the information contained in this letter to HQ's of Territorial Commands and to any Italian officers who are concerned in the matter. No good purpose will be served by the forwarding of demands for stores to this HQ.

HRL/tw

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION
G (Ops & SD)

Sigs

Ord

REME

Liaison

W.S. P. D. L. A. R.
Colonel,
for Major General
M.M.I.A.

(3)

Q.006. ←

Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.,
(M.M.I.A.)
R O M E

SUBJECT:- Transfer of British Ordnance
Depot to ARAR

1 October, 1940.

TO:- The War Minister.

You will remember from my letter, Q.006 of 30 August that I gave you the detailed arrangements for the disposal of British Ordnance Stores to be handed over to ARAR, and sent you a copy of the decisions reached at a meeting between this Mission and representatives of your Ministry, of ARAR and of the President of the Council of Ministries. In my subsequent letter of 13 September, I informed you that the transfer was imminent. I now write to inform you that the whole of 557 Base Ordnance Depot, consisting of the 3 Sub-Depots previously mentioned, have today been transferred complete, to the custody of ARAR. Although ARAR is not at the moment empowered to dispose of these stores until certain minor Allied and UNRRA needs have been met, it is important that (in accordance with the agreement reached), you should be adequately represented from now on in the Base Depot in order that full use may be made of the conditions under which your Ministry will be entitled to certain vital material required for the Italian Army.

I can do no more than impress on you most emphatically, the need for energetic action on the part of your representatives to ensure that material required by your Ministry, and to which you are entitled, does not pass into other hands. You will understand that, as this material has now been transferred from British to Italian custody, there is no further action which I can take to help you in this matter which is now entirely an Italian one.

E H Goulburn
Major General,
Commanding, M.M.I.A. 7062

(2)

28 HIS B

M.H.I.A.

CHQ

DISTANCE 10 NLU

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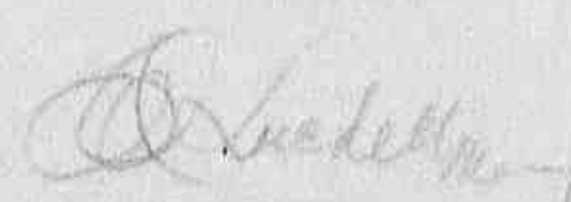
TRANSFER OF BRITISH ORDNANCE STORES TO ITALIAN ARMY THROUGH CDO
AND ARAR WOULD BE GREATLY FACILITATED IF THE BARRACKS KNOWN AS
CASERMA FUNZIONARE AT PORTOCAGNANO AT PRESENT HELD BY THE ALLIES BUT
NOT USED COULD BE RELEASED TO THE ITALIAN ARMY SOONEST AND IF
POSSIBLE BY 5 OCT (.) THEY ARE REQUIRED FOR SEGREGATION OF STORES
ALLOTTED TO THEM (.) PLEASE ADVISE PRESENT POSITION (.)

Q.001
Q.006 —

IMPORTANT

7061

Q


H. B. LUCKETT, MAJOR

COPY

TRANSLATION

THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE TO THE
PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

80670/62950.4/9.7

TO	
A/Q	WP
Q	Rae
Q. 1	L
Q. 2	L
ORD	
REME	

Rome, 26 September 1946

44A P. jacket

Dear Admiral,

The Presidency of the Council begs me to inform you of the receipt of your letter No. 8255/241 and, in thanking you on behalf of the Government for the care which you have taken to ensure that the Armed Forces have precedence in the assignment of Allied materials, I wish to assure you that instructions have been given both to the Ministry of War and to the Air Ministry in order that the practical means of the procedure agreed on for the transfer of all materials to the Italian Administration should be carried out in the most satisfactory manner.

Believe me,

yours very truly,

/s/ Paolo Cappa

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome

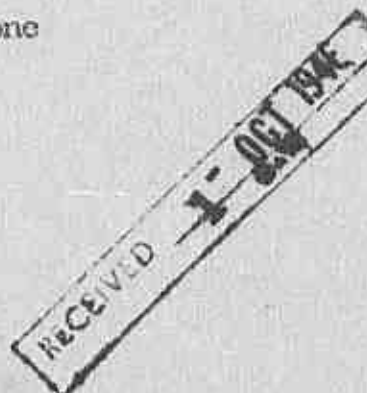
EC. DIST- 30-9-46

Action: E.C.

Info. : C.C.

Land Forces S/C

Air Force S/C



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