

ACC

10000/120/2217

Q/450

Oct. 1944

10000/120/2217

Q/450

G BLU - BOLOGNA - LIAISON - REPORT

OCT 1945 - JUNE 1946

From: - Q ECRK.

To: - Q ~~██████~~  
↑

Ref para 5 of report.

Supply of thread is  
responsibility of contractor  
who manufactures uniforms.  
Instructions for issue  
of lining have been given  
via the authority.

ABC

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7 MEMPHIS MEMPHIS 7  
MEMPHIS

785020

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B

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MEMPHIS

5 JUN 1946

Subject: Beardsley and Roberts - Dis/Continuing Smith Report

To: MEMPHIS

- 1. Reference 33/413 dated 27 May 46.
- 2. Attached (in quadruplicate) are the following:
  - (a) Dis/Continuing Smith Report as of 1 June 1946.
  - (b) At App 17 is location statement of 7 D.C. and membership in location statement of Tallier Brown in 7 D.C. and membership in 7 D.C. and equivalent title.
  - (c) At App 18 is short list of 7 D.C. 15.
  - (d) At App 19 is memorandum to Chief List of all Tallier Officers in the course of the work of 7 D.C. and above.
  - (e) At App 20 is list of individuals held by this D.C. 15.
  - (f) At App 21 is progress report on C.I.A. MEM.
  - (g) At App 22 is report by W.D. W.C.
  - (h) At App 23 is progress of "Parade and Ceremony by GARLAND West (PARADE 2nd May) in MEMPHIS on 19 May 1946.
  - (i) At App 24 is a translation of a Pamphlet found in the streets of MEMPHIS on 23 May 1946.
  - (j) At App 25 is an envelope containing some copies of local Military and civilian press activity. It is particularly requested that these be retained together and returned to this HQ. After perusal by those interested and returned to only copies procurable by this HQ apart from which the photographs, which have been purchased privately, are of especial personal interest.



- (a) **App 1** is a copy of the report as of 1 Jan 1946.
- (b) **App 2** is a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46.
- (c) **App 3** is a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46.
- (d) **App 4** is a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46.
- (e) **App 5** is a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46.
- (f) **App 6** is a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46.
- (g) **App 7** is a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46.
- (h) **App 8** is a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46.
- (i) **App 9** is a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46, and includes a copy of the report of 7 Feb 46.

(j) **App 10** is an envelope containing some examples of local military and civilian press activity. It is particularly interesting that these be retained together and returned to this HQ. After perusal by those interested as they are the only copies procurable by this HQ apart from which the photographs, which have been purchased privately, are of special personal interest.

TO: SAC	
A/Q	MP
R	
Q 1	
Q 2	MM
ORD	
REMR	MB
S. T.	MB

*C. H. Hayes*  
 C. H. Hayes  
 C. H. Hayes  
 C. H. Hayes

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*T-453*  
 11/6/46  
 1/12

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: J.B.L.V., Jr./Beginning Month Report as of 1 May 1946.

1. GENERAL.

(a) Domestic (HQU)

- (i) 1/Cpl TIS reported for duty as Dvr Mech on 11 May'46.
- (ii) Cdr GLAVS returned from 14 days (marriage) leave on 13 May'46.
- (iii) C/Sgt ARNEY (supernumerary Chief Clerk) left on release 14 May'46.
- (iv) Cpl WHITE (RACC clerk) left on release 22 May'46.
- (v) Sgt HAYES, HESB, reported for duty 24 May'46. He is remaining with 7 BUI in FLORENCE as HESB rep and will return to BOLERA for fortnightly HESB conferences.
- (vi) Capt. G.A. MURSON left for HESB 15 May'46 to discuss his prospects of release from the way to join WARRA. He has remained in HESB awaiting a decision on his appeal against being compulsorily deferred.

(b) British.

GSO.II, 217 Area visited 7 BUI on 31 May'46. He discussed with GSO.I and II various matters connected with the impending change of Command (Adm) of this Area from R.A.A.C. to 217 Area.

(c) Visits and Liaison.

- (1) In accordance with a pre-arranged programme the following routine visits have been made:

23 volume 14 May '45

- (iv) Cpl WILES (RACC client) left on release 22 May '45.
- (v) Sgt HINTER, RUMS, reported for duty 24 May '45. He is remaining with 7 HLI in FLORENCE as HISE rep and will return to BOLOGNA for fortnightly RUMS conferences.
- (vi) Capt. G. A. MANNON left for HISE 15 May '45 to discuss his prospects of release from the army to join WHELA. He has remained in RUMS awaiting a decision on his appeal against being compulsorily deferred.

(b) British.

GSO.II. 217 Area visited 7 HLI on 31 May '45. He discussed with GSO.I. and II various matters connected with the impending change of Command (Adm) of this Area from S.A.A.G. to 217 Area.

(c) Visits and Liaison.

- (1) In accordance with a pre-arranged programme the following routine visits have been made by GSO.I. accompanied by HLI Staff Officers as indicated below:
  - 7 May Units of "FURGIES" Div (including "CAUBALINI" Regt) stationed in FLORENCE accompanied by GSO.II.
  - 9 May 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Btys and VOLGOS Arty Regt HQ at IANNA, accompanied by DA & JH and S.G. HUSE. Also visited the District Commander who showed excellent arrangements for reception of new call-ups.
  - 14 May CO. HQ. Units, and troops at BELVERNE Part, FLORENCE, accompanied by GSO.II., and CO. HQ. LG.
  - 16 May "TUSCO" Regt. at MONTEVARCHI, and large concentration camp at LANTERNA. Accompanied by GSO.II.

- 21 May Services Units under 7 Territorial Command in  
PUGLIA. (GSO.II., and DAA & CAS only)
- 23 May Artillery Groups, MILANEI Division at FERRARA.  
Accompanied by GSO.II., also visited District  
HQ., and spoke to District Commander.
- 26 May 7 Inf. Regt. FALCONE, accompanied by GSO.II.

Owing to the advent of the Election period and  
the move to new locations of PUGLIA Division  
and of certain other units of 7 T.C., the  
remainder of the above programme of twice -  
weekly visits have been temporarily suspended,  
but will be resumed shortly.

Great efficiency and cordiality has been  
displayed by all ranks of the Italian Army on  
these visits. On receipt of the detailed  
reports of the first two visits, sent personally  
to Gen. FERRARI by GSO.I., the former replied  
personally expressing his thanks for any sugges-  
tions or criticisms made, and his full appreciation  
that they were made with the object of assisting  
him in his task of rebuilding the Italian Army  
under difficult moral material, and financial  
conditions.

(ii) 7 G.A.B. FERRA.

Visited by GSO.I., on 20 May; and by GSO.II., on  
6 and 14 May. (See also separate G.A.B. report  
at App "E")

(iii) S.A.I.

Capt. G.A. JENNIN carried out a 3 - day visit to  
ANCONA beginning 9 May.  
For report see HM/EE/G10 dated 13 May '45.

(iv) "C" N.M.I.A.

Lt. Col. HEAD and Major BRANT visited this HQ  
on 15 May and discussed "C" problems at a confer-  
ence with GSO.I., and DAA & CAS.

Great efficiency and cordiality has been displayed by all ranks of the Italian Army on these visits. (An receipt of the detailed reports of the first two visits, sent personally to Gen. SUMMI by GSO.I., the former replied personally expressing his thanks for any suggestions or criticisms made, and his full appreciation that they were made with the object of assisting him in his task of rebuilding the Italian Army under difficult moral, material, and financial conditions.

(iii) Z. C. A. R. - SUMMI.

Visited by GSO.I., on 20 May, and by GSO.II., on 6 and 14 May. (See also separate C.A.R. report at App "E")

(iii) S. A. T.

Capt. G. A. MENDON carried out a 3 - day visit to ANCONA beginning 9 May. For report see MEM/SR/G10 dated 13 May '46.

(iv) "C" M.M.I.A.

Lt-Col. HEAD and Major BRADLEY visited this HQ on 15 May and discussed "C" problems at a conference with GSO.I., and DMA & QM.

(v) Col. CLAYTON P. KERR and Major VAN KIRK, M.M.I.A.

Visited FIRENZE on 16 May, and attended a Ceremonial Parade and presentation of medals to the CARABINIERI Regt (POLIGES MV) on the morning of the 19 May. At this parade Col KERR presented United States decorations to an Officer and an NCO of the "MARIO" Regt. (D.S.G. and Bronze Star respectively). A separate report is attached at App "H"

Photographs of the parade have been sent to Col KERR by GSO.I.

(MIA letter A.245 dated 22 May refers.)

(see 7 BLU DO/1 letter dated 31 May)



On the previous evening Col KERR assisted at a wine-giving at the Cass Del. Saluto, at which medals were given winners of events covering a full week of sports; fencing, patrol competitions etc.

At both the above occasions Col KERR was accompanied by GSO.I., and DAA & QMR.

(vi) G.O.C. & M.M.I.A.

Accompanied by GSO.I., visited HQ 7 T.G. on 20 May where he held a short conference with Gen. DE WILKES and Gen. PULVERSI (Commander TAV) attended by their Staffs.

(vii) U.S. Military Attaché Gen. LEVINE with his A.H.A.

Major GRAY, and accompanied by GSO.I., visited units of the PULVERSI Div in their new locations on 30 May. A full report has already been sent to M.M.I.A.

(see M.M.I.A. of 1 June 1946)

2. CG

(a) Orientation

- (i) Domestic } see para 1 above.
- (ii) Italian }

(b) Employment of Troops.

(1) 7 Ind. Inf. Regt.

Employed on guard duties on Military Depots, Prisons, Train escorts etc.

(11) 6 Prov. Group.

Under Command P.B.S. and employed on guard duties.

(111) All units under 7 T.G. changed over from training to Public Security duties on 26 May '46.

Locations are shown in M.M.I. Secret Signal, M.M.I./23 dated 1 June 1946.

Study Station

(vii) U.S. Military Attaché Gen. WEAVER with his A.M.A.

Major GRAY, and accompanied by G.O.I., visited units of the PESHAWAR Div in their new locations on 30 May. A full report has already been sent to M.H.I.A.

(see HMI/25 of 1 June 1946)

2.

sgt

(a) Commando Units

(i) Domestic } see para 1 above.  
(ii) Italian }

(b) Employment of Troops.

(i) 7 Ind. Inf. Regt.

Employed on guard duties on Military Depots, Prisons, Train escorts etc.

(ii) 6 Para. Coy.

Under Command P.S.S. and employed on guard duties.

(iii) All units under 7 T.O. changed over from training to Public Security duties on 28 May 46. Locations are shown in ICH Secret Signal, HMI/28 dated 1 June 1946.

291

(c) Training.

(i) 7 Ind. Inf. Regt.

Mainly employed on guard duties but some individual training is being carried out; marching, arms drill, range firing of rifles and I.M.C., throwing hand grenades.

Rehearsing drill is being practiced together with training in security duties i.e. maintenance of road blocks and security exercises etc. P.S. and recreational training. ICH's cadres are in progress.

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(14) WILSON DAY.

Platoon and Company training. Courses are being run on R/T, M.T., M.O.O.'s and Officers cadets now in progress.

Reinforcements continue range practice and Section training.

(a) Intelligence.

(i) During the last two weeks in May, there was an increase in political propaganda amongst troops, mainly spread by pamphlets and hand-bills. At App "I" is an original and copies of translations of a hand-bill found in the streets of FLORENCE on 27 May.

(ii) The local press have expressed political opinions indicating both the good and the bad effect which a republic would have on the army, and particularly on the C.A.R.

(iii) M. J. G. has denied a statement made in the Florentine newspaper "La Nazione del Popolo" of 22 May 1946, which stated that troops on duty at MONTICHIARI Barrocco had left their post.

(iv) On 1 May (Labour Day) a small demonstration took place outside "DORFIN" (a smart and expensive cafe) apparently as a protest against the black market food that was offered there.

(v) Up to the time of going to press, and in confirmation of our daily Sitreps, no incidents of any serious or even relay nature have been reported during the Election period.

3. APP

(a) Domestic (HM).

(1) Intelligence.

(12) The local press have expressed political opinions indicating both the good and the bad effect which a republic would have on the army, and particularly on the CC.M.

(11) B., 7 T.C. has denied a statement made in the Florentine newspaper "la Messico del Popolo" of 22 May 1946, which stated that troops on duty at MARELLIVERO Barracks had left their posts.

(10) On 1 May (Labour Day) a small demonstration took place outside "DORNY" (a smart and expensive cafe) apparently as a protest against the black market food that was offered there.

(9) Up to the time of going to press, and in confirmation of our daily Sitreps, no incidents of any serious or even noisy nature have been reported during the Election period.

3. IV

(a) Domestic (III).

(1) Deficiencies.

COLONEL: MIL. Capt G.A. PERLOW - RANG has appealed against his 3 months compulsory detention, and a decision is awaited. (see also para 1 above)

GR/2: Cpl. Clark RAGE,  
1/0 " RAGE,  
1/0 " RAGE.

(b) Italian.

(1) Deficiencies in Strength.

1 Ind. Inf. Bn. 25% below N.L.

N.L. Repair Depots. 9% below N.L.

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Subject : Progress Report

G British Liaison Unit  
Tel : 217 Area 119  
Ref : G/4/2  
5 June 46

*SD 0-4*  
*SD(2)*  
*A*  
*Q* ✓

To : Land Forces Sub-Comm, AC  
(MMA) ROME

TO SIB	
A/Q	✓
Q	<i>RAC</i>
Q.1	✓
Q.2	<i>W</i>
Q.3	<i>W</i>
Q.4	<i>W</i>
Q.5	<i>W</i>
Q.6	<i>W</i>

Ref your SD/113 dated 27 Dec 45.

Herewith this BLU Progress Report No 11, with appendices "A" to "D" attached.

Please acknowledge on substitute AF 16 below.

*[Signature]*  
Major GSO II  
6 BLU

\* 2915  
*Q+50*  
*11/6/46*  
*W.A.*  
*31 May 46*

WIN/AM  
GMP

6 INF PROGRESS REPORT No 11

Period 1 - 31 May 46  
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"G."

1. EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS.

(a) ARMY (less CC RR).

The guard of 6 Inf Regt on railway material dump at CASSEL MAGGIORE has now been withdrawn.

Green Bn 87 Inf Regt and one group 155 Arty Regt (approx strength 600 all ranks) concentrated BOLOGNA 25 May, for election duties.

(b) CC RR.

The Mob Bn of BOLOGNA is now concentrated.

No CC RR troops are employed on extraneous duties.

2. TRAINING.

(a) CAR.

It has not yet been possible to visit 6 CAR, PESSARO, consequently first hand knowledge is not available.

Distribution of arms to troops is complete.

During May, 740 recruits were posted to Artillery, Engineer Corps Automobilisti and Medical Services, and proceeded for further training to the Specialist School.

Relation with Polish troops remains cordial.

The health of troops is satisfactory, no epidemic or infective diseases having been reported.

(b) 6 Inf Regt

Arty Regt (approx strength 600 all ranks) concentrated BOLOCHNA 25 May, for election duties.

(b) CC RR.

The Mob Bn of BOLOCHNA is now concentrated.  
No CC RR troops are employed on extraneous duties.

2. TRAINING.

(a) CAR.

It has not yet been possible to visit 6 GAR, PESARO, consequently first hand knowledge is not available.

Distribution of arms to troops is complete.

During May, 740 recruits were posted to Artillery, Engineer Corps Automobilisti and Medical Services, and proceeded for further training to the Specialist School.

Relation with Polish troops remains cordial.

The health of troops is satisfactory, no epidemic or infective diseases having been reported.

(b) 6 Inf Regt

Training of 1 and 2 Bns has consisted of tactical (Company), weapon training and firing. Serious training by 5 Bn has not been possible, owing to guard commitments. A 20 days course in Bn arms and tactics for 12 officers and 24 NCOs was the only training that took place by this Bn.

(c) CC RR Mob Bn.

During the past month various short courses for DSW, wireless operators and MF drivers, have been carried out.

All new weapons issued to troops have

2914



been fired. In addition, firing on the range with 37 mm and 300 machine guns, from Staghound ACS has been possible. 37 mm ammo, scaled at 10 rds each HE and AP per vehicle, for both BOLOGNA and GENOVA Mob Bns, was supplied from local Dr sources. Only part of this was used for range exercises, the remainder being held for operational purposes.

The turn-out and bearing of the BOLOGNA Mob Bn is exceptionally high; whatever may have been said in the past, of their system of training, they appear to be on top of the job, and impart confidence. Vehicles are particularly clean and well maintained.

Several full scale turn-outs of this Bn during the month, in an effort to show the flag, seem to have produced the required deterring effect in communes most likely to cause trouble.

3. INTELLIGENCE.

(a) Public Law and Order (pre-election period)

During the past month, election fever has been high, reaching its climax on the 1st June. All parties have been active, and propaganda has been distributed by means of posters, press, radio and party meetings.

The outstanding meeting at BOLOGNA was held in the Piazza Maggiore on 22 May, when Giuseppe SACCATI, described as a moderate socialist, addressed the crowd. The Communists, in order to deter the workers from attending, staged several small meetings at the same time, on the outskirts of the town. However, the meeting passed without incidents, and general opinion is that the gulf between Socialists and Communists is growing even wider.

At the majority of political meetings held, all parties have been given the opportunity to question the speaker: no incidents of intimidation or bribery, etc reported.

So far as the Institutional question is concerned, the abdication of the late King and the appointment of his successor, caused no outward demonstrations. If anything, there has been a leaning to the Right, but this has not been caused by

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At the majority of political meetings held, all parties have been given the opportunity to question the speaker; no incidents of intimidation or bribery, etc. reported.

So far as the Institutional question is concerned, the abdication of the late King and the appointment of his successor, caused no outward demonstrations. If anything, there has been a leaning to the Right, but this has not been caused by any devotion to UMBERTO II, or a real belief in the benefits of a Monarchical Institution, so much as by fear of a revolution or of an extremist Government.

There is a general feeling that the Government has failed in its planning, to ensure that the election period passes without serious disorder; it is considered that the Army and Police Forces are inadequately armed for present requirements. The Minister of Internal Affairs, DOMITIA, is charged with negligence in valuing the true psychological situation of the Nation.

At the time of writing, polling has passed without incidents of any kind; none the less, general opinion among those responsible for administration of law and order, is that serious disorder may occur when final results of the referendum is known. Whatever the result may be, it is felt that a small majority for Monarchy or Republic is inevitable, and the future portends evils unknown. In some spheres, there is a feeling that the left parties, at least, are overpowered by violence, the police and other administrative organs; there

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are rumours of numerous weapons at the disposal of the Communists, pre-arranged plans for action, and list of persons to be killed. There appears no foundation for these rumours, and their primary sources cannot be traced.

To "sum-up", the pre-election period has been quiet, and apart from three bomb incidents at BOLOGNA and one at RAVENNA, in which no-one has been hurt and very little damage occurred, the period has been void of serious or minor disorders. It is the opinion of the writer, that rumours of threats and violence are part of the war of nerves: and this, to the detriment of whatever Party may expect to gain.

(b) Public Security.

42 Crimes only, committed by 104 persons, have been reported. 11 persons have been arrested in respect of these crimes. Generally, the situation is improving.

(c) Relation with Allies.

News of the Allies intention to leave ITALY, has been received favorably: it is a general opinion that much accommodation will thus become available to civilians, and availabilities on the food market will increase, and a reduction in cost will ensue.

(d) Economic.

Strikes for higher wages have occurred in several provinces during May; unemployment demonstrations have been made without incidents, at BOMPIGNO (MODENA), VERGUCCHIO (FORLI), and BASTIGLIA (MODENA).

The failure of the PARIS Conference caused discontent, as it was felt that ITALY was being used as a bartering element, and likely to be exploited by the expansionist appetites of RUSSIA, YUGOSLAVIA and FRANCE: the disputed territories are regarded not only of strategical value, but also of economical importance.

4. COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) In order to assist Territorial

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the situation is improving.

(c) Relation with Allies.

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The failure of the PARIS Conference caused discontent, as it was felt that ITALY was being used as a bartering element, and likely to be exploited by the expansionist appetites of RUSSIA, YUGOSLAVIA and FRANCE: the disputed territories are regarded not only of strategical value, but also of economical importance.

4. COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) In order to assist Territorial Command during the election period, eight 19 sets were borrowed from Br Army sources, and placed at the disposal of CC BR: this enabled one group to be installed in each province, and an "up to the minute" appreciation by the Commander, to assist in the employment of forces at his disposal.

(b) Validity of Travel.

Regulations with reference to movement of Italian Military Individuals through Zone A and B of VENEZIA JULLIA, were published in Min of War Circular, No 207600/II of 24 Mar.

No orders regarding this subject, from Allied Military sources, are in possession. It is presumed that the Min of War directives are valid,

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and appropriate Allied orders have in fact been issued.

"A"

5. DOMESTIC.

War Establishment: The following vacancies exist:

1 Major	GSO II
1 Corporal	Clerk
1 Private	Clerk
1 Private	Batman/Driver

Major D. STOCKER, Training ~~officer~~ Major, is detached on duty, and it is understood a replacement will arrive in the near future.

One female clerk has been dismissed, and will be replaced by a male clerk. No difficulties are envisaged with regard to clerical duties.

One soldier batman/driver is desirable. It is considered essential that one person, subject to Military Law, be employed on the M.F. side: despite strict control and frequent checks <sup>against</sup> issues of petrol, small illegal leakages may occur.

6. ITALIAN STRENGTH DEFICIENCIES.

The state of 6 Inf Regt is unsatisfactory. There is a 40% surplus in officers and NCOs and 23% deficiency in men, as at 15 May.

7. DISBANDMENTS.

The following Units have been disbanded:

717 Acn Regt HQ  
Italian Inor to HQ 217 Area

Complete disbandment of 519 Evac Hosp FOGLI, has not yet been effected.

Notification will be given when complete.

Major D. STOCKER, Training officer Major, is detached on duty, and it is understood a replacement will arrive in the near future.

One female clerk has been dismissed, and will be replaced by a male clerk. No difficulties are envisaged with regard to clerical duties.

One soldier batman/driver is desirable. It is considered essential that one person, subject to Military Law, be employed on the M.T. side: despite strict control and frequent checks <sup>against</sup> on issues of petrol, small illegal leakages may occur.

#### 6. ITALIAN STRENGTH DEFICIENCIES.

The state of 6 Inf Regt is unsatisfactory. There is a 40% surplus in officers and NCOs and 23% deficiency in men, as at 15 May.

#### 7. DISBANDEMENTS.

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717 Acm Regt HQ  
Italian Inoc to HQ 217 Area

Complete disbandment of 519 Evac Hosp FORLI, has not yet been effected.

Notification will be given when complete.

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#### 8. DOMESTIC.

The recently released Light Utility Car is in workshop for engine replacement. No inconvenience is caused at this present time.

#### 9. TRANSPORT.

AIRV.

The following Italian Military vehicles

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-5-

are awaiting repair by CARE and 6 Repair Unit.

Trucks Medium Heavy	516
Cars	65
M/Cs	57
Various special vehs	139

Mainly, these vehicles are ex OMM Depots.

Vehicles repaired during the period 4 - 24  
May incl are as follows :

at CARE :

Trucks Medium and Heavy	33
Cars	6
M/Cs	2
Special vehs	2

at 6 Repair Unit :

Trucks Medium and Heavy	56
Cars	19
M/Cs	20
Special vehs	9

No hold-up in distribution of vehicles  
from efficient Vehicle Park is apparent.

Transport CC RR.

Of the recent allotment of Stagbound Armoured Cars to BOLONGA Mob Bn, nine W/T sets were not working, and a considerable number of spools and accessories were deficient. Help from the Local ADS was requested, and all sets were replaced and available to issue. In addition, the total complement of sets of FLORENCE Mob Bn, were either replaced or repaired. As it is the intention to issue Bt sets to CC RR, it is considered tele-com mechanics, CC RR personnel, would be invaluable. To In general, preference for the HUMBER Armoured Car, over the STAGBOUND, was shown; the main pros consisted of its manoeuvrability and mechanical simplicity. The following vehicles have been released during the month of May, and distributed as shown:

Ex 8 Bt Veh Park :

17 Jeeps

BOLONGA Bt Coy  
BOLONGA Int Ten

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Special vehs

at 6 Repair Unit :

- Trucks Medium and Heavy 56
- Cars 19
- M/Cs 20
- Special vehs 9

No hold-up in distribution of vehicles from efficient Vehicle Park is apparent.

Transport CC RR.

Of the recent allotment of Staghound Armoured Cars to BOLOGNA Mob Bn, nine W/T sets were not working, and a considerable amount of tools and accessories were deficient. Help from the local ADS was requested, and all sets were replaced and available to be issued. In addition, the total complement of sets of FLORENCE Mob Bn, were either replaced or repaired. As it is the intention to issue 12 sets to CC RR, it is considered tele-comm mechanics, CC RR personnel, would be invaluable.

In general, preference for the HUNTER Armoured Car, over the STAGHOUND, was shown: the main pros consisted of its manoeuvrability and mechanical simplicity.

The following vehicles have been released during the month of May, and distributed as shown:

Ex 8 Eff Veh Park :

17 Jeeps

- BOLOGNA 5th Coy
- BOLOGNA 1st Ten
- REGGIO EMILIA Ext Coy
- IMOLA Coy
- PORTOMAGGIORE Coy
- FORLI Coy
- RAVENNA Coy
- MOLINELLA Ten
- CASERINOVIC DAL MONTE Ten
- ALFONSIE Ten
- BOLOGNA Suburban Ten
- GENO Ten
- SAN GIOVANNI Ten
- COMACCHIO Ten
- CARPI Ten
- BOLOGNA HC Coy
- PIEDAPPIO Ten

2915

.....6/...

-6-

Ex 6 Eff Veh Park :

10 Heavy Trucks

BOLOGNA HQ Coy  
 ALFONSINE Ten  
 FORTOMAGGIONE Coy  
 REGGIO EMILIA Group  
 FERRARA Group  
 RIMINI Coy  
 BOLOGNA Dit Group  
 MEDICINA Ten  
 CASALENUOVO DAL MONTE Ten  
 CARPI Ten

3 Motor-cycles

BOLOGNA Mob Bn

Ex 1 Eff Veh Park :

9 Medium Trucks

BOLOGNA Mob Bn

10. C.B.M.(a) Vehicles.

Drawings from CEM Depot, MODENA, continue: it is unlikely they will be completed before the end of the current month.

The following vehs have been recovered from this source during the period 3 - 25 May, incl :

Trucks various	26
Cars various	10

Ex 7 EIU states that the vehicle hulks at CARE, are seriously interfering with the re-organisation of the workshop: any action to hasten collection by ARAR, would be appreciated. HQ EMILIA Q 150 of 22 May, and this unit Q/4/2 of 9 and 24 May, refer.

(b) Misc Stores.

Signal and wireless equipment of Italian and German origin is in the course of collection from 918 German Ord Depot, VISSHEA: completion is expected by the end of June.

2909



Ex 1 Off Veh Park :

9 Medium Trucks

BOLOGNA Mob Pz

10. C.E.M.(a) Vehicles.

Drawings from GEN Depot, MODENA, continue; it is unlikely they will be completed before the end of the current month.

The following vehs have been recovered from this sources during the period 3 - 25 May, incl :

Trucks various	26
Cars various	10

REF 7 HCU states that the vehicle hulks at CAZE, are seriously interfering with the re-organization of the workshop: any action to hasten collection by ARAR, would be appreciated. HQ MIA Q 150 of 22 May, and this unit C/A/2 of 9 and 21 May, refer.

(b) Misc Stores.

Signal and wireless equipment of Italian and German origin is in the course of collection from 918 German Ord Depot, VISERRA; completion is expected by the end of June.

A considerable quantity of shells, mortar grenades and bombs, have been concentrated in various small dumps at ALFEDO, approx 15 miles N.W. BOLOGNA. These represent battlefield salvage, and their origin is not at present known. As these dumps are unguarded, Directorate of Artillery has been requested to remove and store these items, as quickly as possible. Details of items recovered will be forwarded when known.

(c) Arms and Ammo.

Drawing of arms and ammunition from GEN Depot, MODENA, are now completed.

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11. ACCOMMODATION.

It is considered that BOLONI Bns, FANO, will need considerable repairs before occupation by troops: an estimate cost of 14,000,000 lire for necessary repairs has been made, and it is stated that this work will take from two to three months.

With a large reduction in commitment of 5 Transit Camp, it is now possible for further accommodation to be made available to 6 Repair Unit, at the PIRANCONICO buildings. Authority has been granted by 217 Area to de-acquisition, and arrangements are being made to hand over to the Italian authorities during the current month.

12. ARMS AND AMMUNITION.(a) OF PR

The following arms has been drawn by BOLOGNA Legion, during May:

Cartridges 6.5 Moschetto	65,000
Cartridges 9mm MIRA	37,200
Cartridges 10.35 rev mod 1889	6,000

13. P.O.D.

The recent strike by CIP employees did not materially affect supply to the Army; 6 GAR, PESARO, was the only unit to report interference with normal administration.

Adequate reserves exist, in order to meet emergencies during the electoral period.

CS MR Mob Pa complain that correct types of oil for STACHTERS are not available; this matter is being investigated, and will constitute a separate report.

Unit, at the PIAZZA CARRO buildings. Authority has been granted by 217 Arse to de-requisition, and arrangements are being made to hand over to the Italian authorities during the current month.

12. ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

(a) CC RR

The following arms has been drawn by BOLOGNA Region, during May :

Cartridges 6.5 Moschetto	65,000
Cartridges 9mm MIRTA	57,200
Cartridges 10.35 rev mod 1889	6,000

13. P.O.L.I.

The recent strike by CIP employees did not materially affect supply to the Army; 6 CAR, PESARO, was the only unit to report interference with normal administration.

Adequate reserves exist, in order to meet emergencies during the electoral period.

CC RR Mob in complain that correct types of oil for SEACHOICES are not available; this matter is being investigated, and will constitute a separate report.

2905

30 Dec 45

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A

16

Subject : Progress Report

6 British Liaison Unit  
Tel : Vicksburg 119  
Ref : C/A/2  
6 May 45

To : Land Forces Sub Comd AC  
(ADIA) - R O M E

Re: your SB/113 dated 27 Dec 45.

1. Herewith this BLU Progress Report No 10 with appendices "A" to "D" attached.
2. Please acknowledge on substitute AF 16 below.

✓  
D

2907

*W. H. Sellers* . 1/5/46

PERP/AM

Major  
GSO II  
6 BLU

450

6 B.S.U. BUSINESS REPORT No 10

Period 15 - 30 April 45

TOP  
SECRET1. REPLACEMENT OF COMPANY(a) 22 APR 45

Of the three detachments of the 6th Inf Regt in Bologna, that at FERRARA has been called in complete. A half of the detachment at FERRARA has been withdrawn. The other from 6th Inf Regt to withdraw the whole of it was objected to by the Inspector, 22nd AF, and Commander HUNTER LOGGION, authorized the withdrawal to be limited to one half. Officially this is a temporary measure, to come to an end during the first fortnight of May and after FERRARA Group, 6th Inf, has been reinforced. The order from 6th Inf Regt to withdraw these detachments made no mention of the half company at LEGNANO. It is not known for what reason. Consequently this detachment remains.

(b) 6 Inf North

5 In 6 Inf Regt is heavily committed with guard duties. One Coy is detached at the 6th Inf Regt. The remainder of the 6th is committed to various guard and garrison in and around FERRARA and being at low strength finds difficulties in meeting all these commitments without neglecting training completely.

The remainder of the Regt is hardly better off. The 1st Bn at FERRARA has one Coy detached at the 6th Inf Regt. This detachment was made on the orders of Gen of War in view of the fact that 5 Para Bde held that their Inf Regt was already over committed and could not find a Company for the 6th Inf Regt. Since it is planned to move the 6th Inf Regt from FERRARA this commitment will come to an end shortly, it is hoped.

The 2nd Bn at FERRARA is completely overcommitted and apart from picnic duties in the town is free to get on with training. 200

Great efforts are being made by 6 Par Bde and 5th to reduce guard duties for 6 Inf Regt. But the situation is unsatisfactory because the Regt is considerably below strength (via 6 Inf Regt report no 3 para 7) and lack of war experience is a hindrance to the employment of Civilian Guards instead of troops.



of the detachment at PERSIA has been withdrawn. The order from G-1 to withdraw the whole of it was objected to by the District, 2nd Lt. and Commander [redacted] submitted a memorandum to be placed on the file. It is likely that a temporary measure, to come to an end during the first fortnight of May and after [redacted] Group, G-1, has been reinforced. The order from G-1 to withdraw these detachments under the provision of the half company at PERSIA [redacted]. It is not known for what reason. Consequently this detachment remains.

(b) 6 Inf Regt.

3 Bn 6 Inf Regt is heavily committed with guard duties. The Coy is detached at the [redacted]. The remainder of the Bn is committed to numerous guard and pickets in and around [redacted] and being at low strength since distribution in meeting all these commitments without sacrificing training completely.

The remainder of the Regt is heavily bitten off. The 1st Bn at PERSIA has one Coy detached at the [redacted]. This detachment was made on the orders of [redacted] in view of the fact that 5 Coy could hold that their [redacted] are already over committed and could not find a Company for its [redacted]. Since it is planned to move the [redacted] from [redacted] this commitment will come to an end shortly, it is hoped.

The 2nd Bn at PERSIA is completely concentrated and apart from picket duties in the town is free to get on with its training. 2900

Great efforts are being made by 6 Parachute Bn to reduce guard duties for 6 Inf Regt. But the situation is unsatisfactory because the Regt is considerably being strengthened (via 6 Inf Progress Report No 9 para 7) and [redacted] are accordingly in planning authority for the employment of division guards instead of troops.

2. TRAINING

(a) Cavalry

The distribution of arms to recruits was again delayed during this period and it is now stated that it will take place in the first few days of May.

The demonstration platoon is now on the ground at 6

C.A.S.

The shortage of junior HQ instructors (via our Progress Report No 9 para 7) cannot be dealt with until the second issue. Priority of [redacted] given authority for 65 likely

-2-

recruits to be retained after the end of the first course to make up this deficiency. The shortage at 6 CAR is of about 90. A request has been made by 6 Terr HQ to Min of War to augment the number of 65 recruits to meet this shortage completely, as 6 Inf Regt cannot provide any personnel. A reply is awaited.

A Brigade HQ and one Polish Bn are located at PESARO. So far relations have been cordial between these Bn's and HQ 6 CAR. Difficulties over training areas and ranges have been mutually adjusted.

#### (b) CC HQ Mob IN

Training of CC HQ Mob IN, is still based on somewhat ad hoc arrangements. No directive has yet been received by the Commander and his projects for training consist in "theoretical and practical courses in the driving of trucks, tanks and armoured cars." Added to which everything "to all soldiers free from 'servizio' will be imparted instruction in professional and institutional matters," etc etc. A timed programme planned methodically and progressively does not exist.

### 3. INTELLIGENCE

#### (a) Subversive activities

A reliable informant of the Public Safety Officer, AC Liaison Group, EMILIA, reported that six army officers, one only of whom is on the active list, are associated with communist party propaganda directed towards the recruits of 1934 class.

This propaganda has taken the form of telling P.O.I. adherents to answer the call-up in a disciplined fashion and take no action until such time as they are armed and equipped and then await further orders.

The names of these officers have been conveyed to 6 Terr Comd. They report that this type of propaganda by extremists is widespread in EMILIA.

#### (b) Public Law and Orders

On 16 April a band of a dozen bandits attacked an Army Depot at Anzola Emilia, REGGIO. The guards were overpowered and some quantity of ammunition was taken. This included 12 boxes of Italian type grenades.

During this month one prison mutiny is reported and six successful evasions from prison or arrest.

Murders for political reasons are reported at four.

2905



## 3. INVESTIGATIONS

### (a) Subversive activities

A reliable informant of the Public Safety Officer, AC Liaison Group, MILWAUKEE, reported that six army officers, one only of whom is on the active list, are associated with communist party propaganda directed towards the recruits of 1924 class.

This propaganda has taken the form of telling P.C.I. adherents to answer the call-up in a disciplined fashion and take no action until such time as they are armed and equipped and then await further orders.

The names of these officers have been conveyed to 6 Terr Comd. They report that this type of propaganda by extremists is widespread in MILWAUKEE.

### (b) Public Law and Orders

On 16 April a band of a dozen bandits attacked an Arty Depot at Anzole Brianza, MILWAUKEE. The guards were overpowered and some quantity of ammunition was taken. This included 12 boxes of Italian type grenades.

During this month one prison mutiny is reported and six successful evasions from prison or arrest.

Murders for political reasons are reported at four. Four others murders were committed. The total number of crimes shows no decline on last month.

Extremism of an opposite colour to the usual occurred when on the 23rd of April a bomb was exploded at the Headquarters of the "Italian Anti-fascist" party, MILWAUKEE. In the neighbourhood of the explosion were afterwards found placards proclaiming that the hammer and sickle would never triumph.

### (c) Political Sympathies of Army and CG AR Officers

The communist danger and its close ally the Slav menace continue to occupy large paragraphs in Italian Intelligence Summaries and large chapter of the days thinking and talk among officers.

The fact that public safety conditions have improved

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2003

since the winter is regarded by the pessimists to be a lull before the storm.

If the result of the referendum be in favour of the monarchy it is felt grave trouble will immediately ensue. If the reverse is the case it is felt it will only act as a temporary palliative to the parties of the extreme left who will shortly follow it with attempts to seize dictatorial powers.

How much of this is pure bias on the part of the military against a political group who openly criticize and despise them; how much is a conscious or unconscious exaggeration of the danger for professional and political ends that is for the benefit of the Army and CP as a factor in the deployment of peoples in face of the 'so called' slave menace; and how much is a genuine appreciation of the danger is a matter of opinion.

It is felt by this officer that the first two factors mentioned are far stronger than the third.

4. LEADERSHIP

No clerks have yet arrived to fill the two vacancies on the HQ. This situation must now be accepted and provision is being made with local employees.

5. DISBANDEMENTS

Nothing further has been heard about the proposed disbandment of 717 Adm Regt. The matter was taken up with two District who promised that an authority would be given before third day. As stated in previous reports this unit is serving no useful purpose and disbandment before Summer Clothing issues become necessary would be desirable.

6. MINOR OPERATIONS BATTAL

The question of rfts for 832 S/L Pl at HILMAN has now been arranged. The Ministry of War has posted 15 of the disbanded elements of 831 and 832 PIs from HILMAN to take the place of the 15 men at 832 S/L Pl who were overdue for release.

It is felt by this officer that the first two factors mentioned are far stronger than the third.

#### 4. DISMISSAL

No clerks have yet arrived to fill the two vacancies in the office. This situation must now be corrected and provision is being made with local employees.

#### 5. DISBANDMENTS

Nothing further has been heard about the proposed disbandment of 747 Adm Sgt. The matter was taken up with two District who promised that an authority would be given before third day. It is stated in previous reports this unit is serving no useful purpose and disbandment before summer clothing issues become necessary would be desirable.

#### 6. REORGANIZATION

The question of cuts for 632 S/L Pl at HINDU has now been arranged. The Ministry of War has posted 15 of the disbanded elements of 334 and 632 Pls from HINDU to take the place of the 15 men at 632 S/L Pl who were overtop for release.

#### 7. WELFARE

Great satisfaction has been produced by the release of sports equipment from WAFI stores at NILES. This was the result of personal intervention by the Welfare Officer and the kit obtained has been distributed throughout the Command on a "residuo" basis.

24 complete foot-balls (10 with laces, blades, spines) have already been issued, and 6 are being kept at Territorial as a reserve for important matches. The remaining items - 10 pairs of boxing gloves and some nets for volley ball - have been issued on a similar basis.

Arrangements for a "Inter-Residuo" Foot-ball League are in hand, and the question of prizes has been discussed.

Money is of course the important factor in deciding the scope of any welfare organization, and on the whole it can be said that expenditure has been wise and judicious.

\*\*\*\*\*/...

As will be seen however from the following rough account there is a tendency to set aside large sums for 'festas' - money which could be put to better use over a longer period instead of being all 'expended' in one day.

## Receipts :

Allocation from Min of War 6 months Jan - June : 1,100,000

## Expenditure :

Old debts	125,000
Allocation to 'Resid' Reserve at H	175,000
② Cinematograph at GAR	100,000
GAR (Festivo) for 'Cena del Soldato'	300,000
Festive celebrations, GAR	200,000
"	50,000
Units	70,000

Total 1,100,000

③ This expenditure may be spread over into the next six months accounting period.

A mobile canteen is expected in the near future. This has been provided by the Ministry of War and has been contracted by adapting an old car / ambulance. In addition the construction of another mobile canteen by Territorial Command is being visualised, but is momentarily held up for lack of funds (110,000 lire is the lowest estimate).

Arrangements are being made to stock the canteens by wholesale purchases, but the Ministry of War have recently suggested a scheme by which all canteens are handed over to civilian contractors. This scheme is being opposed by Territorial Command as dishonesty and corruption on a large scale are foreseen, as well as the undesirability at the present time of having unknown civilian elements allowed into barracks and military installations.

2903

Reserve at P	175,000
Cinematograph at GAR	100,000
CAR (Jeep) for 'Caso del Soldado'	350,000
Master celebrations, GAR	200,000
"	50,000
Units	70,000
Total	1,100,000

This expenditure may be spread over into the next six months accounting period.

A mobile canteen is expected in the near future. This has been promised by the Ministry of War and has been constructed by adapting an old 18 ambulance. In addition the construction of another mobile canteen by Territorial Command is being visualised, but is momentarily held up for lack of funds (110,000 lire is the lowest estimate).

Arrangements are being made to stock the canteens by wholesale purchases, but the Ministry of War have recently suggested a scheme by which all canteens are handed over to civilian contractors.

This scheme is being opposed by Territorial Command as dishonesty and corruption on a large scale are common, as well as the undesirability at the present time of leaving unknown civilian elements allowed into barracks and military installations.

2903

8. REPAIRS

Release of a light utility car - recently authorized by augmented AF - has been obtained. The vehicle is to be withdrawn from a disbanding unit here in 1943, and is expected to render about a week's service before going for a long spell in workshops.

9. REPAIRS (ARMY)

The repair of vehicles at the GAR and 6 Repair Unit is going on satisfactorily.

Figures for vehicles repaired during the last 15 days of April are as follows:

.....5/.....



AT CAMP :

Trucks	37
Cars	10
M/Cs	9

At 6 Howley Unit :

Trucks	60
Cars	22
M/Cs	18

10. TRANSPORT (CC 10)

The Moblin of the CC 10 has now down its full complement of 12 Steibound (revised) cars. They are all in good running condition, but have not yet had Regio Mestrato numbers allotted.

Three Jeeps have been drawn from 8 Vehicle Park NICE and have been distributed as follows :

MOB IN BELIERA.	1
BOLOGNA CITY CAMP.	1
TERRENO DI VERGATE.	1

No more motor-cycles have been received since our last report.

The Mob In which is functioning on regards equipment and personnel, but is not yet mobile (Progress report in 9 para 4 (b) refers).

11. C.A.M.

(a) Vehicles

Drawings from CMM Depot MEDONA are continuing satisfactorily. Figures of vehicles withdrawn during the last 15 days of AMUL are as follows :

Trucks, various	50
Trailers, various	4

Vehicles of Italian Army origin are still being brought into the camp from various sources, so it is impossible to give precisely when the work of clearing will be complete.

However it is reckoned that by the end of June all vehicles other than new arrivals will have been withdrawn.

*Handwritten notes:*

10/5

Signed

6800

and

we must

will be

submitted

*Signature*



6800  
no  
no  
no  
no  
no  
no

10. TRANSPORT (ON HQ)

The Moblin of the 3rd R. has now drawn the full complement of 12 Stearhead armored cars. They are all in good running condition, but have not yet had Radio Beardsley numbers allotted. Three Jeeps have been drawn from 8 Vehicles Park Halls and have been distributed as follows:

MOB IN HOLCOMB. 1  
DOWNSIDE City Coy. 1  
TERRACE DE VILLAGE. 1

No more motor-cycles have been received since our last report. The Mob in Italy is functioning as regards equipment and personnel, but is not yet mobile (Congress Report No 9 para 1 (b) refer).

11. D.E.M.

(a) Vehicles

Drawings from GHI Depot, ITALIA are continuing satisfactorily. Figures of vehicles withdrawn during the last 15 days of APRIL are as follows:

Trucks, various 30  
Trailers, various 4

Vehicles of Italian Army origin are still being brought into the dump from various sources, so it is impossible to state precisely when the work of clearing will be complete.

However it is reckoned that by the end of June all vehicles other than new arrivals will have been withdrawn.

(b) Mac Stores

A large quantity of head-gear and 25 Tents have been collected from 9th German Ord Depot, VICENZA. Detailed list is as given in your 2 1/4 of 9 APRIL, 46 and is subject of a separate letter. The items have been placed in the Commissariat stores at ITALIA.

(c) Area and Army

The withdrawal of arms and ammunition from the GHI Dump VICENZA after proceeding slowly is now nearly complete. The figures of material withdrawn are considerably greater than

-6-

the original estimate (3 BMJ letter 9/57/47 of 19 Mar 46).  
Precise quantities will be available after final check  
within the next few days.

12. ACCOMMODATION

PACIFIC SEA FANG has now been taken over by Comando  
Presidio, PERSARD, and will be made available to the CAR.

After considerable persuasion the 60 Yugoslav sailors  
who had previously been in possession reluctantly went away on  
3 May 46.

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Subject : Progress Report

6 British Liaison Unit  
Tel : Vicksburg 119  
Ref : G/4/2  
15 April 46.

To : Land Forces Sub Com AC  
(MFA) - ROME

*SO DIST*  
*Insert G(2)*  
*para 19*  
*A.V.*

Ref your SD/113 dated 27 Dec 45.

1. Herewith this ELU Progress Report No 9.
2. Please acknowledge on substitute AF 16 below.

FMHP/AM  
CMF

Major  
GSO II  
6 ELU

-----

PLEASE RETURN AFTER COMPLETION

To : GSO II  
6 British Liaison Unit

Receipt is acknowledged of copy No/s .....  
of enclosure to 6 British Liaison Unit letter G/4/2 dated 15 April 46.

2909

PDP/AM  
CMF

*Robert E. Kelly*

Major  
GSO II  
6 ELU

-----  
PLEASE RETURN AFTER COMPLETION  
-----

To : GSO II  
6 British Liaison Unit

Receipt is acknowledged of copy No/s .....  
of enclosure to 6 British Liaison Unit letter G/4/2 dated 15 April 46.

2000

(Signature) .....

(Unit or Branch) .....

Date .....46.

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*A D 450*

6 E.I.V. MEMORANDUM No 2

Period 1 - 15 April 46

G

1. ORGANISATION

(a) 6 C.A.R.

The establishment of C.A.R. does not include a light parade ground to training areas for combat training during the second and third months, control by M. Gads would be greatly assisted if they were issued with a light, mobile vehicle with a good performance over narrow country lanes, cart-tracks etc.

(e) CC RR Mob Bn Workshop.

This workshop is not yet mobile. The vehicles (or vehicle and trailer) on establishment have not yet been supplied. There is no recovery vehicle on establishment. The character of the Mob Bn demands that such a vehicle should be included on establishment. Nevertheless it is felt that such a vehicle should be given high priority in the supply of use.

The Italian Army in INDIA is based on the larger urban centres and so, when organised, will be its vehicle recovery facilities. This however bears no relation to the character and functions of CC RR Mob Bns which must be prepared to work in the most widely dispersed towns and villages, independently and quickly.

(c) CC RR Mob Bn.

In urban areas where wells are not readily accessible difficulties are being encountered in the supply water to CC RR Mob Bn detachments. Shortage of fuel has prevented civil authorities from pumping water to sub-urban districts for numbers of hours during the day. Mobile detachments are not able to take up duty in such areas during water-less hours and wash basins. Water bottles are soon exhausted since the water-less hours are usually from early morning until late evening.

The supply of a water-trailer to the Mob Bn would be an ideal solution, otherwise an issue of water-cans on a fairly big scale should be made. Neither of these solutions can be adopted by the establishment of the Mob Bn.



(b) CC MR Mob In operation.

This workshop is not yet mobile. The vehicles (or vehicle and trailer) on establishment have not yet been supplied. There is no recovery vehicle on establishment. The shortage of such vehicles is appreciated. Nevertheless it is felt the character of the Mob In demands that such a vehicle should be included on establishment and that the unit be given high priority in the supply of one.

The Italian Army in Tunisia is based on the larger urban centres and so, when organised, will be its vehicle recovery facilities. This however bears no relation to the character and functions of CC MR Mob In which must be prepared to work in the most widely dispersed towns and villages, independently and quickly.

(c) CC MR Mob In.

In urban areas where wells are not readily accessible difficulties are being encountered in the supply water to CC MR Mob In detachments. Shortage of fuel has prevented civil authorities from pumping water to sub-urban districts for numbers of hours during the day. Mobile detachments of MR In that take up duty in such areas during water-less hours are unable to ensure reserves for themselves by filling baths, buckets and wash basins. Water bottles are soon exhausted since the water-less hours are usually from early morning until late evening.

The supply of a water-trailer to the Mob In would be the ideal solution, otherwise an issue of water-cans on a fairly big scale should be made. Neither of these solutions catered for by the establishment of the Mob In CC MR In at present in force.

2. TRAINING

(a) 6 C.A.M.

Three factors have influenced the training at No 6 GAR to its detriment.

Shortage of instructors is the most considerable of these - junior NCOs are 50% short, the remaining 50% are not of very high quality. The majority have been supplied by 6 Inf Regt and have only that experience in the handling of British arms and equipment gained in a one month course. As a result of this shortage squads are on the whole too large (twenty to thirty men being taken in one weapon training lesson), and oficers and

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-2-

senior NCOs are rather miserably looking into the future and wondering if life won't be hard pressed and leaveless for them for a long while hence.

A rather weak attitude towards the Italian recruits by officers and NCOs is the second of these factors. This attitude is exemplified in the following incident. While this officer was talking to a group of senior Italian Officers, including the Commandant 6 IAB, during a recent visit, our group was approached by a hatless, slouching recruit, with hands in pockets. At a few feet distance he stopped to listen in head lolling stupidly to our side. This officer questioned the Commander of the GAR as to whether such a slouching attitude was permitted in his unit. His answer was a shrug of the shoulders and: "Sì, cosa vuole, sono ancora borghesi." Another officer in the group remarked rather shamefacedly that if a recruit was told to stand up and take his hands out of his pockets he was liable to use the epithet "Fascist" in reply and take no notice. Consequently discipline is noticeably slovenly throughout the GAR.

The third factor is that rifles have not yet been issued to recruits up to full scale. Although all rifles were available at the GAR only 10 were initially issued to companies for training purposes. This decision was taken by the Brig Gen Inf 6 Terr II and is supported by GOC. It was felt that the complete issue should not be made until the political temper of the recruits had been judged reliably. It has now been decided to make the complete issue. However initial training on the rifle has suffered accordingly.

#### (b) GAR Demonstration VI.

This platoon is not yet installed in the GAR. Orders have been given for its move there during the second half of this month. The reason given for this delay is that no accommodation was available until recently.

Undoubtedly the problem of space is considerable, but one platoon could nevertheless have been put in without difficulty. While no direct admission has been made to the effect, this delay is viewed by this officer as being yet another symptom of a policy either consciously or unconsciously being adopted towards the Italian recruits - i.e. to take no step that would lay the organizers of the GAR open to the accusation of "militarism" (fascism) on the part of the more vociferous of the new recruits. These would then have a popular current political slogan with which to incite the more lethargic mass to acts of overt indiscipline.

Consequently a slow and hesitating course is being followed in attempts by the staff of the GAR to induce in the new recruits ideas of discipline and military bearing.

is noticeably slovenly throughout the GAR. The third factor is that rifles have not yet been issued to recruits up to full scale. Although all rifles were available at the GAR only 10 were initially issued to companies for training purposes. This decision was taken by the Brig Gen Sir 6 Terr H and is supported by GOC. It was felt that the complete issue should not be made until the political temper of the recruits had been judged reliably. It has now been decided to make the complete issue. However initial training on the rifle has suffered accordingly.

(b) GAR Reconstruction PL.

This platoon is not yet installed in the GAR. Orders have been given for its move there during the second half of this month. The reason given for this delay is that no accommodation was available until recently.

Undoubtedly the problem of space is considerable, but one platoon could nevertheless have been put in without difficulty. While no direct admission has been made to the effect, this delay is viewed by this officer as being yet another symptom of a policy either consciously or unconsciously being adopted towards the Italian recruits - to take no step that would lay the organisers of the GAR open to the accusation of "militarism" (fascism) on the part of the more vociferous of the new recruits. These would then have a popular current political slogan with which to invite the more lethargic mass to acts of overt indiscipline.

Consequently a slow and hesitating course is being followed in attempts by the staff of the GAR to issue in the new recruits ideas of discipline and military bearing.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

(a) CO RR

Ref this BU Progress Report No 2, para 3 (a), the situation of CO RR communications shows a slight improvement.

(i) 55 of CO RR stations have telephone communication with their immediate HQs.

(ii) A further 25 are located in towns or villages where use can be made of the telephonic communications of other civil organisations, such as post office, commons etc.

(iii) Of all these communications 75% are available by day only. At 2400 hours it is customary for the operators of these

.....5/...

2895

-3-

small provincial exchanges to pack up completely until the following morning.

A

#### 4. PROGRESS OF CALL-UP

In the week following the 28th March 1000 of the 6000 odd individuals who failed to present themselves during the call-up, reported to districts. By the 26th April this flow of late-comers had ceased. Altogether about 40% of those expected have not reported.

#### 5. DISSENTIO

CP's.

The clerk situation, as hinted in our last report, has now become desperate. The Corporal clerk (Bdr WEST) proceeded on Python on 12 April, and Reinforcements Depot, N. ITALY states that it is not possible to replace him or even fill the vacancy - which has existed for some time - for a Pte clerk.

Two civilian clerks are being employed, but these naturally cannot be expected to have the knowledge of Army Forms and procedure etc which is required to ensure smooth running behind the scenes.

#### 6. C.A.A. PREPARATIONS

There is a 50% shortage of junior NCO instructors at the GAR at PESSANO. The reason for this is as follows:

Last December the Ministry of War promised that 100 Junior NCO's would materialise from CESSAN. By the beginning of March they had not arrived and a letter was received from the Ministry of War stating that numbers had fallen short of expectations and in fact that nobody would arrive.

Accordingly 100 likely young NCO's from 6 Inf Regt were sent on a course, from which only 45 have proved themselves suitable. These have been sent to PESSANO, but are barely sufficient by half to meet requirements.

As there are no other possible local courses and PESSANO is apparently to produce nobody, the situation remains seaper idem.

#### 7. ITALIAN STRENGTH DEFICIENCIES



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Two civilian clerks are being employed, but these naturally cannot be expected to have the knowledge of Army Forms and procedure etc which is required to ensure smooth running behind the scenes.

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Accordingly 100 likely young NCO's from 6 Inf Regt were sent on a course, from which only 45 have proved themselves suitable. These have been sent to PUSANO, but are barely sufficient by half to meet requirements.

As there are no other possible local sources and PUSANO is apparently to produce nobody, the situation remains somewhat bleak.

#### 7. ITALIAN STRENGTH REQUIREMENTS

The state of 6 Inf Regt is far from satisfactory. Out of a WS of 2269 there is a paper strength of only 1816 (deficiency under WS : 452). Of these, owing to courses, sickness, leave etc, there are usually about 1450 actually present. From this number 228 permanent duties (prison guards, railway guards etc) have to be found daily, quite apart from the normal routine fatigues.

#### 8. RE-ITI REINFORCEMENTS

The question of RE-ITI reinforcements for 833 S/1, PUSANO, PIMENTI, which was due to send 15 of its strength on release on 31 March has cropped up. The only trained reinforcements available

.....4/...



are in 831 and 834 S/L Pls (u/o 3 Terr Cmi) which are in the process of being disbanded.

Difficulty is being encountered in obtaining a posting authority from one Territorial Command to another. The matter was taken up with the Ministry of War by the Italian HQ here and it was stated that such a move was entirely in the hands of "the Allies".

Further action through MIA is in hand.

9. TRANSPORT CO RR

The 03 RR Legion this month have to date drawn :

M/cs (Dr)	9
Trucks (It)	13

from the VI Efficient Vehicle Park BOLIGNA. This leave a total of 13 (Dr) M/cs still to be drawn.

The Mob Em has to date received two of its twelve armoured cars. The remaining ten will be drawn from BOLIGNA on 17 April.

10. AMMUNITION CO RR

The issue of 25,000 rounds of 9 mm parabellum ammo for use in Italian Automatic Carbines model 38A from 25 Adv Ammo Depot, ANCONA, has been momentarily held up as that Depot stated that it had no authority.

In fact authority was received by them last December and the matter is being taken up and should be resolved this week.

11. C.B.M.

(4) Vehicles.

The collection from 2 CMI Group Depot MODENA is proceeding satisfactorily. This month the following vehicles have been withdrawn (up till 13 Apr) :

Trucks, various	15
Trailers, various	21
Wksops vehicles	2
Cars, FIAT 1100 cc	2

Total 40

from the VI Efficient Vehicle Park BOLCHNA. This leave a total of 15 (Dr) M/cs still to be drawn.

The Mob En has to date received two of its twelve armoured cars. The remaining ten will be drawn from BOLCHNA on 17 April.

10. AMMUNITION ON RE

The issue of 25,000 rounds of 9 mm parakellum ammo for use in Italian Automatic Carbines model 33A from 25 Avd Armo Depot, ANCONA, has been momentarily held up as that Depot stated that it had no authority.

In fact authority was received by them last December and the matter is being taken up and should be resolved this week.

11. C.E.M.

(i) Vehicles.

The collection from 2 CSM Group Depot MODENA is proceeding satisfactorily. This month the following vehicles have been withdrawn (up till 13 Apr) :

Trucks, various	12
Trailers, various	21
Workshop vehicles	2
Cars, Fiat 1100 cc	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>

Nothing more has been heard from Ten Col CUCIERY after his unsuccessful attempt to suspend all drawings pending consideration and re-employment in the light of Regia Marina and Regia Aeronautica requirements. Although it is considered possible that an effort may be made in the future to try and re-allot after the Italian Army has cleared the dump.

If this turns out to be the case, it will be disheartening for the Army Workshops, who will have done most of the repair work, and upsetting for the units and Staffs who have based their hopes and plans for having topt deficiencies made up from CSM sources.

(ii) Arms.

The clearing of the arms dump at MODENA is proving a longer job than was originally calculated and they are already behind schedule. Work is continuing however and should be complete before the end of the month.

(iii) Misc. stores.

A large assortment of miscellaneous stores has been collected from 918 Geram (nd) Depot, RAVENNA. These (set out in detail in your O 154 of 25 Mar) consist mostly of accommodation and hospital stores and have been brought to BOLCHNA.

Subject : Progress Report

RECEIVED 7998 6 APR 1946

14

2 Dist  
G 2  
A  
Q ←

6 British Liaison Unit  
Tel : Vicksburg 119  
Ref : G/4/2  
5 April 46

To : Land Forces Sub Comm AF  
(MIA) - R O M E

G

Ref your SD/113 dated 27 December 1945.

1. Herewith this BLD Progress Report No 8 with appendices "A" to "D" attached.
2. Please acknowledge on substitute AF A16 below.

*Wentz*

Major  
GSC IF 2893  
6 BLU

FDRE/AM  
CMF

A 9450

6 BLDU PROGRESS REPORT No 5Period 15 - 31 March 46GI. ORGANISATION(a) CAR

It has been decided to split No 6 CAR Pesaro, and to send one battalion to Fano. This will relieve congestion at Pesaro, which to alleviate on the spot would involve considerable expense in barrack reconstruction; it will also permit the allotment of more indoor space for instructional purposes.

(b) CC RR

(i) Ammunition reserves. It is not planned to maintain reserves of ammunition at Group, Company or Tenenza level. Consequently a station near Rimini, for example, obliged to expend its personal allotment of ammunition (100 rounds per man) must wait until its Group headquarters has ordered the withdrawal of part of the personal allotment from other stations in the area before this expenditure is made up. Thereafter, and in due course, the Group is made up from Legion reserves held at Bologna, 70 miles away.

This system seems to be unnecessarily tortuous and tactically unsound.

(ii) Tear-gas Grenades. No tear-gas grenades are issued to CC RR. They are not manufactured in Italy. They would be invaluable for barrack and station defence, and for combating attempted prison breaks. To meet immediate needs an issue of these grenades from Allied sources is suggested and the question of their manufacture by Italian industry for future requirements might usefully be studied.

9094

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289

2. TRAINING

(a) Car Demo Pl

On 15 March this platoon demonstrated an attack, using live ammunition, to GOC 6 Terr Cmd and to Officers and men of 6 Inf Regt. The attack was carried out in accordance with British battle drill principles and was directed by an officer of 5/87 Gren Bn having eighteen months experience of these tactics.

Two great weaknesses of Italian training were repeated in this exercise. Weaknesses that were not remarked and not commented upon by a single senior, war-exper-



-2-

enced officer present. Yet to the first hand knowledge of this officer weaknesses that have caused more useless loss of life and ill-success to the Italian Army in battle than any other factor.

They were lack of realism and failure to maintain momentum in the attack. An example of the first of these faults was the placing of a 5 pdr A/Tk gun on a forward slope at a range of six hundred yards from the enemy and giving covering fire with it for the platoon attack; impressive but useless. The second fault consisted in the fact that the assaulting troops lay about on the ground for some fifteen minutes at about 150 yards from the enemy, ie in just that area where defensive fire would be coming down thick and fast, while the covering fire group manoeuvred about producing smoke screens.

(b) CAR

Training did not commence on 1st April at No 6 CAR on a overall organised basis. Some recruits were still arriving and this was taken as an excuse for most of the regimental officers and NCOs to occupy themselves with the administration problems involved in recruit reception and to leave the remaining recruits to hang about rather than employ them in purposeful training.

3. EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS

(a) CC RR Mob Bn

GHQ CC RR letter 170/33 - 1945 of 21-2-46 states:-  
 ".....personnel of Mob Bns may be used as reinforcements for short or long terms, but always in complete sub-units, ie sections, platoons or companies".

This is the only instruction on employment of troops that has been received by Bologna Mob Bn and does not agree with the contents of para 14 (d) of your CC RR/6/12 dated 19 March.

Consequently the position of Bologna Mob Bn remains as it has been previously reported ie:-

2893

Training did not commence on 1st April at No 6  
GAR on overall organised basis. Some recruits were still arriving  
and this was taken as an excuse for most of the regimental  
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not agree with the contents of para 14 (d) of your CC RR/  
G/12 dated 19 March.

Consequently the position of Bologna Mob Bn re-  
mains as it has been previously reported ie:-

2893

- One Coy and 2 Platoons at Perrone
- 2 Platoons at Modena
- 2 Platoons at Reggio Emilia
- and remainder at Bologna.

4. INTELLIGENCE

(a) Political currents among officers.

The conversation and written commentaries of  
officers of 6 Terr and reveal several wide-spread and  
strongly held political opinions. The most characteristic  
feature of these opinions is the shallowness of view shown

.....3/...

by officers from GOC downwards.

It is complained against the Allies that much of the present economic and social difficulties has been the result of the too early and unwary grant of freedom to party politics in Italian Government. Instead it is held that an oligarchy of experts should have been set up under Allied Commission's control and direction to carry on Government not only until the complete liberation of Italy, but until she had felt her feet again economically. Attempts to point out that such a course would have not been in keeping with generally accepted forms of democracy, are met with the heated contention that democracy as at present loose in Italy does not work. Cynicism in respect of the genuineness, sincerity and patriotism of political leaders; distaste often and forcibly expressed at the political battle for power and its attendant machinations, are the most evident forms of this pessimism towards Italian democracy.

The fact that the a/m machinations often take the form of verbal attacks on the Italian Army past and present is the subject of bitter comment and tends to increase the distaste for democratic forms to, in the view of this officer, a high emotional degree. To pursue this analysis logically one must accede the outsiders justification in attacking the army, if only on grounds of political impartiality. He would not judge the Italian officer's incapacity to stop talking politics as a sign of ever-readiness to take sides actively in the quarrels?

A second important current is anti-slay. This is the result of a number of complementary factors - not only Yugoslav pretensions towards Trieste. The strength of the communist party in Emilia is feared, and the communists are accused of lack of patriotism in that until recently they have not opposed themselves to the secession of Trieste, and their adherents have often taken part in the forcible breaking up of patriotic demonstrations against secession. The communist party is naturally opposed with Russia and with being ready to assist Russia in gaining a foothold west of the Alps. That Russia should want to gain a foothold west of the Alps is taken for granted as a result of general agreement with the contents

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The view is taken that Russian tactics in world politics are aggressive and are setting up a momentum that will eventually bring her into a collision with the western maritime powers. To meet this threat the western maritime powers must cooperate in strategic organization - and of this strategic Italy is the bastion of the Mediterranean flank. These views are undoubtedly strongly held, more forcibly perhaps in this area, in view of the strength of the Italian Communist party in Emilia, than elsewhere.

.....4/...



(b) Social discipline.

The progress of the call-up in Emilia should provide interesting data for comparison with other zones and consequent judgement of their respective conditions of social discipline. During the first week 40% only of the total number of recruits expected reported to districts; and during the second week there was a slight increase which brought up the total for the complete call-up to 52.5% of expectations.

Anti call-up propaganda was wide-spread throughout Emilia - the effect was most pronounced in Forlì province where 14% only of expected personnel actually reported.

(c) Political currents among the troops.

On visiting the GAR barracks on 1st April the impression was gained by this officer that the officers and NCOs were dominated by the new recruits. The latter were being left to stand about idle, hands in pockets, listless. As has been previously reported training had not commenced. There was little attempt to maintain military forms amongst the recruits and only a few squads were seen marching about in an orderly manner.

One incident was seen reported. An attempt to force a free entry into a Concert hall in Ferraro by a number of recruits, was only brought under control by the intervention of the Colonel commanding the GAR himself.

This incident was rather reluctantly reported to this officer after he had put his impression of the GAR before GOC 6 Ferr HQ. The whole is interpreted by this officer to show that there is a high anti-military and anti-disciplinary feeling at 6 GAR which may well be the result of it being composed entirely of recruits from Emilia. It is too early to say whether this feeling will last the whole course - and whether it will be repeated in further courses - but it is reported so that other officers visiting 6 GAR may examine their own reactions and so that the possibility may be considered of dispersing recruits from Emilia more widely through the other GARs during successive call-ups.



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(d) Subversive activities.

Apart from anti-call-up propaganda activities reported under para (b) above the only other subversive activity reported this month is from a FSS source. This is that Communist party extremists are offering officers and NCOs, who are due for early demobilisation, well paid jobs as instructors for armed bands. Response so far to these offers is reported to be slight.

-5-

(c) Public law and order.

Reported crime in Emilia for the month of March shows a considerable decrease on February, 66 crimes have been reported in contrast to the 100 of last month. No large scale banditry has occurred and CC RM successful investigation and arrests of participants in the large scale raids of Nov - Dec 1945 which still continues may have discouraged this type of activity.

A5. DOMESTIC

Major VOJ THURFF proceeded on release on 22nd March and his place as DAA & WAG has been taken by Major JS HUGHES.

The WE of OR's is complete with exception of one clerk. As the Cpl clerk is due for Python this week, it seems that a shortage may arise. However efforts are being made at the CNU R Italy in the hopes of obtaining reinforcements.

The post of training Major is authorized in the last amendment to the WE, has not yet been filled.

6. DISBANDMENT

3 Engr Coy Verona was disbanded wef 31 March and 515 Line Sec Osimo is in the course of disbandment this week.

HQ 717 adms Regt is now more than ever redundant as it will only have to administer 513 S/L 11 Rimini and the three-p-a-a increment to 217 Area.

7. WELFARE

Welfare amenities for troops have not increased or improved in any way. Indeed, if anything, they have been reduced.

2836

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The post of Training Major as authorized in the last amendment to the ME, has not yet been filled.

#### 6. DISBANDMENT

3 Engr Coy Verona was disbanded wef 21 March and 515 Line Sec Osimo is in the course of disbandment this week.

HQ 717 Adm Regt is now more than ever required as it will only have to administer 833 S/L PL Rimini and the three-gun increment to 217 Area.

#### 7. REQUIRE

289  
 Welfare amenities for troops have not increased or improved in any way. Indeed, if anything, they have been reduced as a result of the monetary grant from the Ministero della Guerra being cut from 100,000 Lire per month to 75,000 Lire.

The question of dances for troops is being held up by lack of instruments for the band and inability to hire or purchase them for lack of funds. The same applies to the acquisition of a military band.

The local situation has been approached with a view to increasing the allotment of foodstuffs, particularly flour, for canteens, but this attempt has not been successful.

Sports amenities are handicapped by grave lack of equipment; and a number of articles, particularly balls of every variety, promised by the Ministero della Guerra in early February have not arrived. This kit

-6-

would appear to have been of Allied origin and a letter arrived early this month stating that the issue was postponed indefinitely.

2

### 8. DOMESTIC

The officers Mess has now been satisfactorily established in Via Bellecotta, 25.

### 9. CGM

#### (a) Vehicles.

On 26 March a decision was given by 2 District to the effect that, in agreement with the CG of 2 CGV Dump, Messina, we could draw out any vehicle of Italian military origin, even if without the two stars or the engine, as long as some reasonable proof of ownership could be given.

Accordingly arrangements were immediately put into operation to inspect the whole dump and find, mark and withdraw all such vehicles.

So far the following have been taken:

Autocarri	9	)	
Trailers	3	)	all with two stars

#### (b) Misc stores.

A considerable amount of accommodation stores and wireless and signal equipment has already been drawn from the German Ord Depot Rimini. The complete allotment should have been withdrawn during the course of the next few days.

9886

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from the German Ord Depot Rimini. The complete allotment  
could have been withdrawn during the course of the next  
few days.

2880

(c) Arms.

The clearance of large quantities of Italian  
arms (mostly rifles and machine pistols) from 2 CEM Depot  
Modena is continuing and could be completed by the 10th  
April.

10. LOI.

The situation is now well in hand and allotments  
from CIP for the month of April show a slight increase  
on the figures for March.

Territorial Command has built up a reserve which  
under normal condition would be sufficient for 15 days.

.....?/...



In addition units have been instructed to build up a reserve of one full tank plus sufficient for 100 kilometres for each vehicle.

11. ACCOMMODATION

The only recent acquisition has been a small area in the 'Pirotecnico' Bologna, which was given up by 5 (SR) Transit Camp. The buildings concerned are adjacent to some others already in use by 5 Repair Unit and will permit of a certain increase in scope by that unit.

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2982

13

Subject : Progress Report

6 British Liaison Unit  
Tel : Vloksburg 119  
Ref : G/A/2  
19 Mar 46

To : Land Forces Sub Comd AG  
(SICIA) - R. I. H. P.

B(2) ~~100~~  
A  
R

Ref your SO/113 dated 27 December 1945.

1. Herewith this BU Progress Report No 7.
2. Please acknowledge on substitute AF 16 below.

2887

*V. H. Kersell*

POST/AM  
GAP

Major  
GSO II  
6 BU

19 ~~45~~ 450

6 AIR FORCE INSURANCE No 7

Period 1 - 15 Mar 45

M/O

1. CAR REHEARSAL (2 MINUTE REHEARSAL)

On 9 Mar a rehearsal of the reception of recruits was carried out at HQ 6 CAS.

The attitude of the majority of the participants while unloading and going to bed in broad daylight was: 'Well, at times had Englishmen from "Sesto KM" want us to do this there must be something in it and anyway it is quite good fun', and so entered into the spirit of the exercise wholeheartedly.

Consequently a good morning was had by all - and apart from the fact that the bed-cots supplied by Ministry of Air appeared to be so fragile that if a boisterous soldier left on one it would crumble up without a word, no major hitch or inefficiency was noted, while for the few deficiencies observed plans were well in hand.

2. VEHICLES FROM THE 21st DISTRICT

The total number of vehicles and trailers listed by 6 Territorial (TD) Force party in 21st District as identifiable of ex-Italian military origin by the stars stamped on the engine was 243. Of these 24 were fitted out as workshop vehicles, ie medium load carriers fitted out in caravan style and containing either fittings for spare parts stores, or workshop benches and machine tools.

104 of these 243 vehicles have been withdrawn - 15 of these fitted as workshops and 166 of the ordinary pattern.

The balance of the 24 workshop vehicles, 8 in number, were released to "Air Force Sub Commission, 40" by "2nd Two District at the same time as this unit was obtaining a release from "2nd" Two District for all the 24.

As these 8 vehicles were Regia Aeronautica vehicles in the first place and this unit had been misinformed by the Italian record of their military origin - this "8" release is quite regular. <sup>2880</sup>

The balance of the ordinary pattern vehicles, 59 in number, are Italian. The clearing of these will be long and slow process.

The attitude of the majority of the participants while unhesitating and going to bed in broad daylight was: 'Well, if these men Eschbacher from "Seeto HUP" want us to do this there must be something in it and anyway it is quite good fun', and so entered into the spirit of the exercises wholeheartedly.

Consequently a good morning was had by all - and apart from the fact that the bed-cots supplied by Ministry of War appeared to be so fragile that if a boisterous soldier left an one it would crumble up without a word, no major hitch or inefficiency was noted, while for the few deficiencies observed plans were well in hand.

## 2. ATTITUDE OF THE GEM DIVISION

The total number of vehicles and trailers listed by 6 Territorial (TD) recon party in GEM Group MEMO as identifiable of ex-Italian military origin by the stars stamped on the engine was 240. Of these 21 were fitted out as workshop vehicles, ie medium load carried fitted out in caravan style and containing either fittings for spare parts stores, or workshop benches and machine tools.

104 of these 240 vehicles have been withdrawn - 13 of those fitted as workshops and 160 of the ordinary pattern.

The balance of the 21 workshop vehicles, 8 in number, were released to "Air Forces Sub Commission, AS" by "G" Two District at the same time as this unit was obtaining a release from "Iro" Two District for all the 21.

As these 8 vehicles were Regia Aeronautica vehicles in the first place and this unit had been misinformed by the Italian recon party of their military origin - this "G" release is quite regular. <sup>2380</sup>

The balance of the ordinary pattern vehicles, 59 in number, are bulk. The clearing of these will be long and slow process.

## 3. FOOD

The situation is now normal once more. GEM has notified Territorial Command that the whole quantity released for March will be available. This will allow Territorial Command to build up their reserve (25,000 kilos of petrol and 25,000 kilos of gasoil).

## 6 B.L.U. PROGRESS REPORT No 5.

PERIOD 16 - 28 Feb.  
-----TOP1. ORGANISATION(a) ARMY - Welfare Services.

There is no establishment of transport for Army Welfare Services, and the establishment of personnel is far from generous. With the position of supply and provision of canteens as difficult as it is, lack of transport and shortage of personnel makes the organisation of welfare a very difficult and heart-breaking task.

At the moment the system of supply to canteens is based on local purchase, consequently, no very visible difference to price rates between canteen and civil restaurant or shop <sup>exists.</sup> Given the transport, authority and personnel to buy where goods are cheapest and to resell in canteens Welfare Officers could put up a show that has some meaning as welfare.

(b) CCRR - Workshops.

The present L.A.D. with the Mob Bn BOLOGNA is static. This B.L.U. has taken up with A.D.M.N. your HQ the necessity for putting this L.A.D. on a mobile basis as soon as possible.

Most M.T. repairs for CCRR Groups are being carried out by civilian garages. This state of affairs marks the absence of mechanics and fitters at Group H.Q. or a Legion L.A.D. Groups do not make use of the Terr Repairs unit if they can help it as this latter unit is so overworked that vehicles going into it may remain off the road several weeks.

2. TRAINING - ARMY.

No change. ~~Former~~ training continues. Re-organisation of Inf Regts and a training directive based on this re-organisation, the entry of new blood into the Army, are awaited to put new life into this subject.

CCRR Mob Bn

The few personnel available ( some 120 men ) in BOLOGNA are being trained in handling equipment on the basis of specialist courses in driving and maintenance of tanks, trucks and M/Cs designed to last until mid April. The longest single drive by the tanks of BOLOGNA Mob Bn has been 12 kilometres. Now that the Bn very nearly has all it's equipment it is hoped to practise sub-unit moves in due course. An issue of maps down to sections has been arranged by this B.L.U. through map depot 217 Area.

A Q. 450

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8/3



2. EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS.

(a) CCRR

Groups, at the discretion of their commander, are to find mobile road blocks for checking up on road movement. The object of these blocks is to replace the provisional blocks set up by un-uniformed partisan organisations that gave such cover to banditry.

4. INTELLIGENCE

1. Subversive Activities

(a) Though it gives no evidence of growing in strength the neo-fascist organisation of the Squadra d' Azione Mussolini continues to distribute propaganda in EMILIA. Attached to this progress report are copies of two manifestos issued by the party in FERRARA.

2. Civil - military relations.

(a) Army and civil population

417 F.S.S. report that their civilian contacts show little consciousness of the existence of an army. It is felt that although there has been talk of the re-organisation of the Italian Army the governments that have been in power since the Armistice have been too weak and dilatory to alter the position that appertained in Fascist days ie of an army that was secondary in importance to the fascist militia, was bureaucratic in organisation and poorly equipped.

This opinion is borne out by the report in my Progress Report No 3 para 6 (b)2, that the Sindaco of REGGIO EMILIA expressed surprise at the existence of a disciplined body of soldiers such as the Gren Fa located in his town.

(b) Army and CCRR.

The poor bearing and discipline of the ex-guard battalion now forming 6 Inf Regt gives rise to the frequently repeated opinion in CCRR circles that the army lacks the solidarity to make it reliable in times of civil disturbance.

3. Public Law and Order.

(a) The numbers of reported crimes <sup>1943</sup> in EMILIA still maintain their level. In the month of February over one hundred incidents of murder abduction and robbery occurred. 2884

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(b) The arrest of some criminals precipitated a demonstration at PORTOMAGGIORE ( FERRARA ) in which some 200 persons took part. The criminals and demonstrators were members of the Communist party. The theme of the demonstration was that the CCRR were Monarchists and that the criminals had been put inside for political reasons only. The demonstration was broken up.

4. Economic Situation.

(a) On the whole EMILIA is one of the more fortunately placed zones of Italy from the economic point of view. Any disorders based on economic complaints are likely to occur for chronic rather than acute reasons. The old EMILIA squabble between the landed proprietor and his tenant farmers is the chief of these. The present arrangement of 50% share to each farmer and proprietor of the products of the land is being challenged. The farmer's demand is that he should get 60%. In this

.....3/.....

month the only reported incident has been the menacing of one proprietor who had the guts to live on his land. Since the murder of some proprietors towards the end of last year, many have left their land and retired to the safer precincts of BOLOGNA.

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"A"

5. DOMESTIC.

The WE position of this B.L.U. is shown separately in our A/4/2 dated 5 March. The civilian part of the WE is in course of implementation mainly for use in the officers mess ( see para 6 ).

6. CALL-UP.

Target figures for the forthcoming 1924 class call-ups show that an average of 400 men only per province are to be selected for the C.A.R. This figure represents less than a quarter of the estimated number of men liable for reporting to the Military Districts, and indicates the large number of exemptions and postponements which will have to be granted. Membership of a partisan formation is likely to prove popular as a claim to postponement.

All recruits selected from POMEI province are being sent to C.A.R. at SIENA.

7. WELFARE.

(a) Emphasis has been placed by Territorial Command on welfare for the recruits during the Call-up both at Military Districts and at the C.A.R. itself. This is to take the form of sign-posting, information posts, canteens, reading and writing rooms (with note-paper provided), etc. In order to put into force this programme which is designed to impress on the recruit the fact that he is being welcomed, Territorial Command are expecting to have available a grant of 100 lire per recruit.

(b) Owing to the high prices on the market, commodities on sale in canteens are limited to those articles which are cheap enough even at wholesale prices for the average soldier to buy. These in effect consist mainly of coffee, wine and a few cheap drinks. It is felt that with more energetic buying on the part of welfare officers, or by organising regional purchasing

for use in the officers mess ( see para 6 ).

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(b) Owing to the high prices on the market, commodities on sale in canteens are limited to those articles which are cheap enough even at wholesale prices for the average soldier to buy. These in effect consist mainly of coffee, wine and a few cheap drinks. It is felt that with more energetic buying on the part of welfare officers, or by organising regional purchasing for canteen articles such as toilet necessities the soldier would benefit considerably.

Regarding food for the canteens a more generous allotment of rationed supplies from the SS.FR.AL would be desirable. For example, the BOLOGNA canteen obtains monthly through the civilian food organisation only 1 quintal of flour. This is insufficient for the provision of an adequate number of cakes. A promise has been extracted from the local SS.FR.AL for this to be increased to 2 quintals in future.

"90"

#### 8. DOMESTIC

6 B.I.U. Officers Mess will be opening shortly in Via BELLAGOSTA. The accommodation, a villa, was requisitioned by the Prefect at the request of Territorial Command and is being fixed up and furnished by the latter.

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9. P.O.L.

The P.O.L. position continues to be somewhat critical. Although CIP Regional office in BOLOGNA made various releases to Territorial Command during Feb from a variety of Provincial Depots, total drawings for that month still represent only 1/4 of the total allotments made by the War Ministry.

The figures for petrol are given below :-

<u>Allotments</u>		<u>Drawn</u>
73,640 Kg		
14,730 "	(re-allotted from CCRP Mob Bn)	
8,000 "		
<u>Total</u>		<u>69,060 Kg</u>

*Hand Comd Inf. Committee  
which said sufficient was not being  
to meet requirements for  
to take matter up with C.I.P. Chai Kaval*

In this way it is impossible to build up any reserve.

So far this month nothing has been drawn of the March allotment which is a much larger one (approx 100,000 Kg petrol) to cover increased commitments such as C.A.R., Base Wksp etc. Stock at present consists of some 5,000 litres which cannot last long. With the call-up and its demands on transport impending it is to be hoped that a good proportion of the March allotment will be made available soon by C.I.P. The situation is being carefully watched.

10. ACCOMMODATION.

News of the release of the MONTECUCOLI Barracks MODENA came somewhat too late, and the bn in the DUGA D'ACOSTA barracks (5C.A.R.) had had to be moved to PARMA. The next course is now being considered whether to move 1/6 Inf Regt back to MODENA into MONTECUCOLI or leave it where it is, and offer the MONTECUCOLI to a further bn of 87 Inf Regt. At any rate it is felt that the sooner MONTECUCOLI is occupied to capacity the less likely it is to be demanded by D.P.R.S.C. on 1 April. The 'Funzionali' at MODENA are meanwhile being repaired but completion is not likely to be before May.

No progress is being made in the nature of preparing accommodation for the remainder of 87 Inf Regt South of the PO. It seems that the War Ministry was asked to authorise work on barracks at SASSUOLO and SCANDIANO, but that no reply has been received.



14,750 (re-allotted from *to meet requirements for taking d'Alba*)  
 CORR Mob Bn  
 8,000 "  
 96,370 "  
 Total  
 59,060 Kg *of 21 Karab*

In this way it is impossible to build up any reserve.

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Considerable difficulty is experienced in this region in finding accommodation for officers. In BOLOGNA, nothing is organised and officers have to find their own rooms, often being forced to pay high rents. In REGGIO EMILIA officers of ILL/87 Inf Regt are living crowded in hotel rooms and with the prospect of further officers arriving the Sindaco will not be persuaded to move a finger to requisition any rooms for them.

This same difficulty has been encountered in PESARO when accommodation is required for the officers of the C.A.R. Apparently there is no law under which Civil Authorities are bound to requisition accommodation for officers.

This P.L.U. is constantly being asked to persuade Area to requisition accommodation on behalf of the Italian Army, but this of course is not possible.

It is suggested that this question is of considerable importance and it is not surprising if the discipline and enthusiasm of officers

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..5/.....

ebbs while the present situation continues. Limited powers of requisition vested in the Territorial Command would probably be sufficient to ease the situation. Can something be done on a high level ?.

11. C.E.M.

A number of Italian military vehicles have been found to be in a C.E.M. dump in MOENNA. 6 Territorial Command on instructions of this B.L.U. is now proceeding with the checking of these vehicles direct. This is being done without reference to the War Ministry or to you as any further delay would have caused 2 District to hand over all the vehicles to A.R.A.R..

12. C.A.R.

Attached to this report is a further report on 6 C.A.R.

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ALLEGATO - I

C O P I A

FASCISTI  
 VERBA, COM. LERA, CHE OSSI E' COME SEMPRE E' LA RIVIA.  
 PER LA PRIMA VOLTA, DI QUESTA MARTIRIATA ITALIA E INIZI-  
 ARE IL NUOVO RISORGIMENTO FASCISTA. KERRARA, CHE HA  
 DATO GRAN PARTE DEI SUOI FIGLI MIGLIORI PER LA CAUSA  
 FASCISTA E PER LA GRANDEZZA DELL'ITALIA E LA TESTA. LA  
 S.A.M. DOPO DUE ANNI DELLA "COMITATA LIBERAZIONE" SI E'  
 CHE SI COSTITUISSE ED E' FIERA ED ORGOGLIOSA DI ANNUNZIARE  
 LA COSTITUZIONE DELLA S.A.M.I.C. (Squadra d'Azione Igino  
 Ghisellini) S.A.M.I.C. S.A.M.I.C. lavoreranno e combatteran-  
 NO INSIEME A TUTTE LE ALTRE SQUADRE FASCISTE DELL'IT-  
 LIA PER RIDARE ALLA NOBIL PATRIA L'ONORE E LA GRANDEZZA  
 MA PERDUTA PER COLPA DI IMBELLI CHE CEEI SONO AL POTERE.

ITALIANI!

Accorgete ad ingrossare sempre più la squadra d'azione  
 Mussolini e la squadra d'azione Igino Ghisellini. Le  
 attuali persecuzioni lungi dal abbattere le nostre file,  
 ci rafforzano la nostra volontà di risorgere.  
 Sappiano gli antifascisti che il fascismo non è morto,  
 perchè un'idea consacrata dal sangue dei nostri marti-  
 ri non può morire.  
 Sappiano, i signori comunisti, che sperano di andare  
 al potere per soggiogare il popolo italiano e per ag-  
 ganciare l'Italia alla Russia.  
 Sappiano che i fascisti imporranno loro questo, con  
 la parola e se è necessario con le armi.  
 Il fascismo che sta risorgendo vuole la libertà, lo  
 cmore dell'Italia, vuole che gli italiani siano al  
 pari dei francesi, degli inglesi, dei russi, degli  
 jugoslavi, vuole che l'Italia non s'inchini davanti  
 alle altre Nazioni.

POTERO ITALIANO!

Il fascismo difende i tuoi interessi, gli interessi  
 della nazione italiana e la sua.  
 Il fascismo non vuole la guerra, il fascismo è con-  
 tro alle guerre per principio, se in qualche parte  
 il territorio italiano fosse minacciato da potenze

accorrete ad ingrossare sempre più la squadra d'azione  
 fasciisti e la squadra d'azione Igino Ghisellini. Le  
 attuali persecuzioni lungi dal diradare le nostre file,  
 ci rafforzano la nostra volontà di resistere.  
 Sappiano gli antifascisti che il Fascismo non è morto,  
 perché un'idea conservata nel sangue dei nostri marti-  
 ri non può morire.

Sappiano, i signori comunisti, che sperano di andare  
 al potere per soggiogare il popolo italiano e per ag-  
 ganciare l'Italia alla Russia.

Sappiano che i fascisti impfiranno loro questo, con  
 la parola e se è necessario con le armi.

Il Fascismo che sta risorgendo vuole la libertà, lo  
 onore dell'Italia, vuole che gli italiani sfino al  
 pari dei francesi, degli inglesi, dei russi, degli  
 jugoslavi, vuole che l'Italia non s'inchini davanti  
 alle altre Nazioni.

**POPOLO ITALIANO !**

Il fascismo difende i tuoi interessi, gli interessi  
 della Nazione italiana e la sua.

Il Fascismo non vuole la guerra, il Fascismo è con-  
 tro alle guerre per principio, se in qualche parte  
 il territorio italiano fosse minacciato da potenze  
 straniere accorrerà subito a difenderlo.

Il Fascismo risorgente è repubblicano, perché <sup>2880</sup> perché  
 monarchia è stata la maggior rovina dell'Italia, è re-  
 pubblicano perché l'Italia è in prevarenza repubbli-  
 cana, è repubblicano perché la monarchia ha tradito  
 l'Italia e il Fascismo.

**FASCISTI E ITALIANI!**

**AVANTI PER LA GUARDIA E PER LA SALUTE DELL'ITALIA**  
**E I T O R S E R E T O !**

S.A.S. S.A.I.G.

ALLEGATO -2

F A S C I S T I

E' in questo momento critico per noi che si vede un vero fascista di fede, il fascista pronto a dare la sua vita per la causa comune.

E' in questo momento che tutti ci dobbiamo unire sotto le nostre insegne per combattere i nostri nemici e i nemici dell'Italia.

Tutti i fascisti hanno il dovere di fermare della squadra in qualunque posto; chi oggi medita chi oggi non sa cosa fare non è fascista ma un traditore.

Molti di questi casi se ne vedono, fascisti fino a poco che cre prima della liberazione, oggi mediano, oggi hanno paura. Si ricordino tutti che chi non avrà partecipato alla lotta della resurrezione non sarà mai fascista. I fascisti che hanno cambiato bandiera la pagheranno presto o tardi ma la pagheranno.

Con rammarico vediamo che nel movimento ferrarese non sono degli uomini anziani mentre nelle altre città ve ne sono parecchi, noi cerchiamo molti fascisti della vecchia guardia che preferiscono stersene alla finestra, ma quando il movimento tanto atteso giungerà noi saremo loro stati pure alla finestra. Molti dicono che senza armi non si può far niente, il fascismo non ha intenzione di andare al potere spargendo sangue, del del sangue ne è stato versato abbastanza, il santo man-ganello ci basterà per far sbellire le velleità di qualche facinoroso.

DOBBIAMO PIANTARE I NOSTRI GALLIARDI SULLA TOMBA  
DEL DUCE CHE È IL CIELLO DEGLI EROI E DEI MARTIRI SI  
GUIDA.

DUCE, TI VENEREMMO !

VIVA IL FASCISMO 2870



Subject: Progress Report No 6

2 MIU  
Tel: 56575  
3/6  
Mar 45.

Land Forces Sub Commission, IG (MILIA), Rome

1 MIU.

B(2)  
A  
Q

II. GO POINTS

ACTION

OMNIBUS ACTION

(a) Domestic (MIU)

No change

(b) Italian

No change

EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS

(a) ARMY LESS CORE

Routine regt gds being carried out on It installations. Arty Directorate are now engaged in concentrating arm into one central dump (Rivolta Scrvia Depot). Unfortunately during this task a certain amount of arm exploded, resulting in the death of two GIs. No damage to civ property occurred. Arty Directorate, GENOVA, Inform Territorial HQ that strict precautions will be taken to ensure no further incidents occur.

(b) CORE

Normal routine duties.

TRAINING

CONF

11

CLASSIFICATION

- (a) Domestic (RU)  
No change
- (b) Italian  
No change

EMPLOYMENT OF THINGS

- (a) Army less CCRH

Routine regt gds being carried out on it installations. Arty Directorate are now engaged in concentrating amm into one central dump (Rivista Scrivia Depot). Unfortunately during this task a certain amount of amm exploded, resulting in the death of two CDRs. No damage to civ property occurred. Arty Directorate, GENCOVA, infm Territorial HQ that strict precautions will be taken to ensure no further incidents occur.

- (b) CCRH

Normal routine duties.

TRAINING

- (a) Army less CCRH  
(1) TRG Sets

2870/a  
H/3

Ranges and trg stores are being constr with the help of a coy of 104 Regt Bn. All instructors have undergone a unit cadre since their return from CUSANO, results are promising.

(11) WT of all arms is being carried out. Incidents have been made for sig materiel for the trg of sig personnel of Inf Regts. GOC Inf Div Mantova is concerned with the future trg of the 104 Regt Bn, he states that it is important to procure a B.D. to train his ofrs in the bridging sec, this matter has already been referred to HQ 211A.

A Q 450 ...../2

ACTION

(b) OSHR

A second course of 56 AVRW is being carried out within the Mobile En. Personnel are attending courses for, ftrs, wireless ops, TY (pochs) and Police duties. The trg received on the s/m course will enable the Legion to have capable elements, who in turn will be capable of trg other personnel.

INTELLIGENCE

(a) No change. Interest has been slightly aroused by reports in the local papers of the recent closing of the Franco - Spanish frontier, little comment was made by the press.

(b) In the areas of SAR RMO 0 0089 and IPELIA 0 1994 minor occurrences have taken place but nothing of a serious nature. French flags have been seen displayed in TURPIA coupled with the usual writing on the wall. Arrests were made at a small pro-French demonstration but reports by OCHR indicate that these incidents were mainly the work of students who didn't really know what party they did represent or what policy was behind their activities. Subversive propaganda is being carried out both in SAR RMO and IPELIA to the effect that if these ports were controlled by the French they would soon be completely in operation, so assuring plenty of employment. The recent appearance of a Flotilla of the Royal Navy engaged in mine sweeping operations in this locality seems to have quieted down this theory. Quite recently the OCHR paper "IL LAVCO RUCVC" reported that the inhabitants of VERMILLIA 8 8788 were desirous of a break with ITALY and desired to be under the control of FRANCE. Little interest was taken in this statement and there were no further press comments.

A report by the Displaced Persons Sec at OCHO stated that FRANCE office of the Repatriation Cp were being stopped on the ITALIAN side on the frontier and that vehs and baggage were being searched. This brought a bitter complaint from the FRANCE Repatriation offr who asked for a clarification of the status of 287

1994 since occurrences have taken place but nothing of a serious nature. French flags have been seen displayed in INFERIA coupled with the usual writing on the wall. Arrests were made at a small pro-French demonstration but reports by GORN indicate that these incidents were mainly the work of students who didn't really know what party they did represent or what policy was behind their activities. Subversive propaganda is being carried out both in GJN HMC and INFERIA to the effect that if these ports were controlled by the French they would soon be completely in operation, so ensuring plenty of employment. The recent appearance of Flotilla of the Royal Navy engaged in mine sweeping operations in this locality seems to have quashed down this theory. Quite recently the GJNCA paper "IL LAVOUC NUCVO" reported that the inhabitants of VIVIMIGLIA 2 6768 were desirous of a break with ITALY and desired to be under the control of FRANCE, little interest was taken in this statement and there were no further press comments.

A report by the Displaced Persons Sec at GJNCA stated that FRENCH officers of the Repatriation Op were being stopped on the ITALIAN side on the frontier and that vehs and baggage were being searched. This brought a bitter complaint from the FRENCH Repatriation offr who asked for a clarification of the status of 287 Allied offrs crossing the border. The Public Safety offr of the AG Liaison Op, LIBERIA, asked at a recent GSI (3) conference at 2 District for info regarding the status of Allied offrs but as 2 District were unable to give any useful info on this subject the matter was referred to AFHC.

(c) Relations between the and populace is satisfactory. The general public are now getting used to the Army and look upon them as a necessity. The prestige of the GORN in GJNCA is rising, with the gradual increase in clothing and MOW people are sitting up and taking notice. Unfortunately the shortage of arms on

ACTION

their CR is noticeable but this will sort itself out soon. In outlying districts relations are not as good as they might be, notices painted on the walls have proclaimed that "The OCHRA are Fascists", this appears again to have been the work of youths but in these districts the prestige of the OCHRA is still low.

(d) Very little political activity is evident amongst tps. Steps are being taken within Territorial HQ to provide an equivalent of 1833 which appears to be having some effect to the good.

(e) No outward signs of subversive elements, if any at all, most confined to men of the 1931 class who are restive due to their long service and in some cases a bad influence amongst the men.

(f) According to the latest statistics there has been a decrease in robberies and murders but an increase in thefts and petty crimes. The Special Police Stations formed in 3404, are functioning with results. By dialling 55555 on the automatic exchange a mobile squad is on the spot in amazingly short time. One of these squads was witnessed in action quite recently by the 0 II, it appeared that three civilians (the press stated they were Italian soldiers) were extremely drunk and making a nuisance of themselves, the squad appeared on the scene and pursuit ensued, their system for apprehending the men was by unshowering their weapons and bludgeoning away over their heads. The amount of firing was completely unwarrented, yet the morale of the citizens is raised by incidents of this nature showing that the police are doing their stuff. Fortunately no one was hurt in that particular incident.

XII. MAP POINTS

(a) DOMESTIC

Deficiencies

An 11 civ dvr. has now been exp through the local CUU. He will have charge of the reg 4-581 saloon veh, now out of skaps.



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(F) According to the latest statistics there has been a decrease in robberies and murders but an increase in thefts and petty crimes. The Special Police Stations formed in 33004, are functioning with results. By dialling 55555 on the automatic exchange a mobile squad is on the spot in amazingly short time. One of these squads was witnessed in action quite recently by the G.P., it appeared that three civilians (the press stated they were Italian soldiers) were extremely drunk and making a nuisance of themselves, the squad appeared on the scene and pursuit ensued, their system for apprehending the men was by unshouldering their weapons and blowing away over their heads. The amount of firing was completely unaccounted, yet the morale of the citizens is raised by incidents of this nature showing that the police are doing their stuff. Fortunately no one was hurt in that particular incident.

III. MAN POINTS

(a) DOMESTIC

Deficiencies

An It civ (ex-betran has now been emp through the local CIV. He will have charge of the req 4-str saloon veh, now out of shops.

Allegations for v. spoils of the win, 287000's Centre, COMINA have been given to this N. epd class 287000's DR for week starting 12 Mar.

(b) AVIATION

Deficiencies

...../4

ACTION

Specialists, Percentage of deficiencies  
 Tradesmen etc in total manpower under comd

Telephone mechanics .....	10%
Armourers & armourer mech .....	45%
Pioneers (mgr) .....	-
Drivers .....	20%
Driver mechanics .....	17%
Cooks .....	5%
Typists .....	12%
Blacksmiths .....	5%
Mkrs .....	11%
Nursing orderlies .....	20%
Fitters .....	12%
WAs .....	1%
Barofs .....	10%
Linesmen (other arms) .....	-
Linesmen (Signal) .....	5%
Linesmen (Power) .....	-
Tappers .....	-

Deficiencies in WT mechs are particularly felt.

Discipline

Still not good but it has certainly not deteriorated since submission of the last report. The number of desertions appears to be on the increase; this and other disciplinary lapses, is put down to the delay in the demobilising of the 1921 and 1922 classes who are becoming more than ever restive. It is thought that once these men are disposed of, a noticeable improvement in discipline will be apparent. About 15,000 men are involved.

Morale

The three old bugbears, Pay, food and rations, still prevent the morale of officers and men from being what it should be. Though the increase in the ration allowance did much to improve food conditions this has been <sup>33</sup> ~~been~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~to~~

Dns ..... 1  
 Sergeants ..... 10  
 Lineemen (Other arms) ..... 10  
 Lineemen (Signal) ..... 3  
 Lineemen (Power) ..... -  
 Sergeants ..... -

Deficiencies in ET means are particularly felt.

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Morale

The three old baggages, Bay, each and Nations;  
 still prevent the morale of officers and men from being what  
 it should be. Though the increase in the restive allowance  
 did much to improve food conditions this has been substituted  
 by ill-produced items for those hitherto of Allied origin.  
 To the thinking and these inconveniences are known to be  
 unavoidable but the mass of the It Army H and F are  
 ignorant of the real world-wide shortage in foodstuffs  
 nor are they enlightened by the local press which, for  
 party reasons, continues to turn out utopian promises  
 of security and plenty and fails to mention the very  
 great sacrifices being made by the United Nations in  
 their efforts to keep Europe as a whole up with a basic  
 living ration. It is suggested that, if propaganda and

ACTION

still more propaganda, of a one-syllable and factual type, were made, the real facts would be understood and the difficulties borne in a far better spirit by the average It soldiers than at present is the case.

The problem of officers soon is still acute. If matters do not improve this HQ may have to take unilateral action, similar to the BUREAU "vigilantes" in forced billets.

IV. WAR POINTS(a) REQUESTEDXX

YANCIA 9543114 is now out of shape with a new engine. The HQ has been received so that now the unit is up to 72 in. HT.

(b) TRAINHT (b)

A severe rap over the knuckles has been given to the local COMB Legion for their failure to collect the 60 MGBs allocated to them some time ago from SVT VIAC SEA. The matter is now in hand. It is hoped to have the bulk of the vehs cleaned and classified in time to take a suitable part in the forthcoming municipal elections.

END

Though it has not been possible to loan a Bailey or to 104 ENGR Coy, WARTOVA Div for trg purposes, arrangements have been made with SVT VIAC SEA that this Coy be emp in the launching and dismantling of a number of hrs in this neighbourhood. This will give the Coy a certain amount of practice.

Clothing (a)

INVCIA 5543114 is now out of shops with a new engine. The BU has been received so that now the unit is up to 100 in AF.

(b) INITIAL

MP (b)

A severe rap over the knuckles has been given to the local COIN Legion for their failure to collect the 60 rps allocated to them some time ago from VFR BANGKOK. The matter is now in hand. It is hoped to have the bulk of the vehs cleaned and classified in time to take a suitable part in the forthcoming municipal elections.

APSE

Though it has not been possible to load a Bailey br to 104 Ingr Coy, SANTOVA Div for trg purposes, arrangements have been made with 33, GSECV that this coy be emp in the launching and dismantling of a number of hrs in this neighbourhood. This will give the coy a certain amount of practice.

Clothing (e)

The recent allocation of 4000 units of clothing by War Ministry to 1 Comado Military Territorials, 287/11 assessed matters considerably. Old stocks are, however, being used up with the usual kaleidoscopic effects.

Arms and Am (b)

The difficulties mentioned in Report No 3 in connection with the collection of 32,888 rds of 3AA from VIETNAM have now been overcome and the amn is being collected at once.

ACOR

As a result of the recent handing over to the



ACTION

It Army of STUKIA barracks a large number of civilian buildings in CENOWA have been derequisitioned by 3 Comando Militare Territoriale. It is hoped that this will help to improve the Army's relations with the civ population.

NOTE

As a result of the DAMAGUPT's absence on leave for a large part of the past fortnight the above A and C Pts of this report are necessarily sketchy. For the same reason no visit has been paid to the CAH and it is not possible to submit a progress report on the proper pro-formae. Points reported by 3 Comando Militare Territoriale regarding the CAH are, however, reported below.

V. CAH Progress Notes(4) General

Work at the CAH continues apace and shows every likelihood of being complete by the dates required. 79 (MANTOVA) Ingr Coy have been loaded for the necessary work.

(11) Agon

VITTORIO MARUZZI barracks at CUNEO should be completely ready for full occupation by 10 Mar.

FERRINANDO DI SAVOIA barracks at CUNEO are slightly behind their target but attention is being concentrated on essentials all of which should be ready in time.

The BRIT RA by which is in occupation of the SAN ROCCO Funzionale barracks at CUNEO is due to leave by 7 Mar. It mill engns are nevertheless at work and the buildings now only require finishing touches.

The FISSANO Funzionale barracks are all but ready and are the most adv of the lot. Throughout, however, difficulty has been experienced in securing the requisite

V. CAN Progress Notes

(i) General

Work at the CAN continues apace and shows every likelihood of being complete by the dates required. 79 (MONTANA) Sugar Coy have been loaned for the necessary sugar cane.

(ii) Loan

VITICULTO MONTANA barracks at CURTIS should be completely ready for full occupation by 10 Mar.

REMINGTON DE SANTIAGO barracks at CURTIS are slightly behind their target but attention is being given on essentials all of which should be ready in time.

The Brit BA by which is in occupation of the SAN JOSE Barracks at CURTIS is due to leave by 7 Mar. It will engage are nevertheless at work and the buildings now only require finishing touches.

The FOSLANO Barracks are all but ready and are the most adv of the lot. Throughout, however, difficulty has been experienced in securing the requisite type of paint, lime and cement.

2873

(iii) Stock Stores

All stock stores are now available at different sugar dumps. These are being sent to FOSLANO and CURTIS.

(iv) Firing Ranges

Work on these is being intentionally held up to give priority to getting barrack stock ready in good time. Work will be commenced on 10 Mar but should not take long as very suitable sites in the beds of the re FOSLANO and CURTIS are available. Manufacture of targets and other stores for ranges has been proceeding for some time.

...../7

ACTION (+)

- 7 -

(v) Sports Dept

These are being prepared within the "quadangles" of the barracks themselves.

In addition to the sports stores already on hand, a sup has been sent to the CAS and a grant of 20,000 MLI for use in this direction has been made by the Ministry.

(vi) Clothing

Stocks of clothing will be available in time to equip the first intake. As only one suit of uniform is available per man efforts are being made to get a War Ministry release for overalls for use on trg and fatigues. Your help in securing this release would be of value.

(vii) Arms

Brit trg weapons etc are now being received at the CAS.

(viii) Medical

The 50-bed sick bay at CURRO will have an MI room att with stores and medicine to treat 1,000 out-patients. The 25-bed (NOT 10-bed as stated in last report) sick bay at FCS. ANO will also have an MI room and facilities for treating 1,500 out-patients.

In addition two PACs are being set at CURRO and one at FCS/ANO. All the above medical facilities should be ready by 10 Mar.

(ix) Permanent Staff

Have now nearly all arrived. It is hoped that the CAS will be up to complete WF before the arrival of the first recruits.

Industry release for overalls for use on trg and fatigues. (pt)  
Your help in securing this release would be of value.

(vii) Aims

Trg weapons etc are now being received at the CAR.

(viii) Medical

The 50-bed sick bay at CUSCO will have an HI room etc with stores and medicine to treat 1,000 out-patients. The 25-bed (NOT 10-bed as stated in last report) sick bay at FIA AMO will also have an HI room and facilities for treating 1,500 out-patients.

In addition two PACs are being set up at CUSCO and one at FIA/AMO. All the above medical facilities should be ready by 10 Mar.

(ix) Permanent Staff

Have now nearly all arrived. It is hoped that the CAR will be up to complete before the arrival of the first recruits.

(x) Footnote

The CAR will be visited by this HQ in the very near future; owing to the distances involved, the are unfortunately not as frequent as they should be but the remarkable keenness and efficiency of the CAR command are in themselves a guarantee that everything possible is being done.

GESCVA

FIDAMET/SC

*W. J. G. G.*  
Major,  
G II

Subj: - Progress Report.

6 British Liaison Unit  
Tel: - Vicksburg 119

*19 Feb 46*

Ref: - G/A/2  
19 Feb 46.

To: - Land Forces Sub Comm AC

Ref your SD/113 dated 27 Dec 45.

1. Herewith this BJJ Progress Report No 4.
2. Please acknowledge or substitute AF 16 below.

*G. S. O. II  
A  
B*

*W. Penzance*

Major  
G.S.O. II

CSAF  
EDBY/ROB

*2/1/46*

PLEASE RETURN AFTER COMPLETION

To: - G.S.O. II  
6 British Liaison Unit.

Receipt is acknowledged of copy No/s..... of enclosure to 6 British Liaison Unit letter G/A/2 dated 19 Feb 46.

Signature .....



*W. J. Pennington*

Major

GSS II

*2/1/46*

GAC

PHH/ROB



PLEASE RETURN AFTER COMPLETION

To: G.S.O. II

6 British Liaison Unit.

Receipt is acknowledged of copy No/s..... of enclosure to 6 British

Liaison Unit letter G/A/2 dated 19 Feb 46.

Signature .....  
Unit or Branch ..... 2871

Date ..... 46.

*Q450*

6 B.I.U. Progress report No 4

Period 1 - 15 Feb 46

"G"

ARMY I SERVICES

1. ORGANISATION

Policy with regard to the organisation and functioning of Italian Military Intelligence Services is not known by this B.I.U. However investigation reveals that the system appertaining to 6 Territorial Command seems to consist of a hangover from Fascism.

The Commander states that he relies on the information supplied him by a privately organised "jungle telegraph" consisting of two or three acquaintances who are in the know.

The Chief of Staff when approached on the subject said he did not make use of his "I" office to collect intelligence, but had appointed for this purpose a major on his staff who was "malto in gamba".

The head of the "I", when interrogated about his function gave most stress to that part of it which consisted in training personnel for exercising "I" functions in time of war. His attitude to collecting other information was that he <sup>some</sup> reports about the activities of soldiers from Dn Cnds but had had nothing interesting for the last month or so. He did not seem to think that he had much active work to do in this sphere.

The investigation referred to above followed attempts by the officer to discover how the HQ were kept informed of the following specific "I" points:-

- (a) Activities on the part of nationals or foreigners designed to undermine the disciplines of the army and CCRB units.
- (b) Activities leading to organisations of nationals or foreigners calculated to produce a military threat to internal security within the Terr Area and against which the HQ may have to act with troops at its disposal.

No precise system or cut and dried methods are operating. Counter espionage teams in the area do not liaise with the Terr HQ to pass information to it direct. Ordinary CCRB units have organised service for collecting intelligence or passing it to the military commander. In fact the situation seems to be such as it must have been under a fascist system where such an important subject as intelligence was not allowed to stay into the hands of normal government

privately organised "jungle telegraph" consisting of two or three acquaintances who are in the know.

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The investigation referred to above followed attempts by the officer to discover how the HQ were kept informed of the following specific "I" points:-

- (a) Activities on the part of nationals or foreigners designed to undermine the discipline of the army and OGER units.
- (b) Activities leading to organisations of nationals or foreigners calculated to produce a military threat to internal security within the Terr Area and against which the HQ may have to act with troops at its disposal.

No precise system or cut and dried methods are operating. Counter espionage teams in the area do not liaise with the Terr HQ to pass information to it direct. Ordinary OGER units have organised service for collecting intelligence or passing it to the military commander. In fact the situation seems to be much as it must have been under a fascist system where such an important subject as intelligence was not allowed to stay into the hands of normal government organisations such as the Army and OGER but was retained in those of a secret police serving the dictator.

It is appreciated that with the present delicate political situation any move to organise a service in the way that may have to investigate and report adversely on the activities of this or that political party, may be considered inadvisable beyond a certain point. Some information on this matter would be appreciated by this HQ.

2. EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS. C.C.P.R. Mob Bn

No change in the situation of BOLOGNA Mob Bn has taken place since that reported in my Progress Report No 2.

Half the strength of the Bn is still dispersed to various parts of EMILIA.

Troops dispersed in this manner are being used to reinforce guards on prisons etc and are not getting on with the essential need for collective training.

.....2.....

2.

3. Training1. CAR

No scale of training stores and equipment has been received by 6 Terr Comd from the Ministry of War.

Meanwhile the question of the provision of such items as aiming posts, aiming discs, instructional diagrams, printed panoramas for fire order training etc is being taken up independently by Terr HQ with the Ministry.

It has been decided to try to find the dem pl No 6 CAR from No 6 Inf Regt. A platoon has already been formed from the best elements of 6 Inf Regt and on 14 Feb has been attached to Gren Bn 57 Inf Regt for training. The progress of the platoon will be reviewed early in March and a decision will then be taken whether to retain it as fit for demonstration purposes or whether to call for a platoon from an Inf Div.

"A"4. CAR

The reception arrangements of recruits arriving at 6 CAR from the Military Districts are being tested on 7 Mar 46. It is considered that this will allow sufficient time to rectify any defects discovered in the arrangements.

"B"5. CAR

Work on the barracks is now well under way. The work to be done appears to be considerable particularly in the older Cialdini barracks, but the Genio is confident that the essentials will be satisfactorily completed by 15 Mar.

A certain amount of difficulty is being experienced in finding adequate eon outside barracks for officers and families. This is due, overcrowding in PESARO and lack of enthusiasm on the part of the Sindaco in finding buildings for the Army.

All the clothing for the CAR, with exception of 360 prs not yet to come from ROMA and approximately 2,000 prs cotton drawers, has been received in ROMA. It is expected to arrive as soon as the storage space is ready. All the necessary

4. CAR

The reception arrangements of recruits arriving at 6 CAR from the Military Districts are being tested on 7 Mar 45. It is considered that this will allow a sufficient time to rectify any defects discovered in the arrangements.

TOP

5. CAR

Work on the barracks is now well under way. The work to be done appears to be considerable particularly in the older Giardini barracks, but the Genio is confident that the essentials will be satisfactorily completed by 15 Mar.

A certain amount of difficulty is being experienced in finding adequate sites outside barracks for officers and families. This is due, overcrowding in ESSARO and lack of enthusiasm on the part of the Sindaco in finding buildings for the Army.

All the clothing for the CAR, with exception of 360 pairs of socks to come from ROME and approximately 8,000 pairs cotton drawers, has been received in BOLOGNA. It will be sent to PISAPO as soon as the storage space is ready. All the necessary kit and utensils have been allocated by Ministry of War but not yet received.

The question of arm supplies for the CAR has been raised by the Commander. It is presumed that any allotment will be notified in due course.

6. POI

There has been a crisis over POI owing to CIP not being able to supply the necessary allotment. By using up reserves (including that of CC RR Mod in) and cutting down services to a minimum Territorial Command have been able to carry on. Now CIP BOLOGNA are releasing 14,000 litres of diesel in BOLOGNA, 14,000 litres of petrol in PANNA and PAVOLI; this should keep the Army going in this area for about 8 days more.

TOP-CAR

Ref GOC's letter G/92 dated 20 Dec 45, para 2 (c) stating that priority in releases ex RVP's was being given to CC RR. The following figures showing releases

.....3/....



of load carriers from BOLOGNA EVP are of interest in this connection.

Total releases since Dec 45 .....	51
Releases to Mobile Bn 02 EVP .....	20
" " BOLOGNA Legion .....	31

Addendum : 4 trucks have been released to BOLOGNA Legion this morning (18 Feb 46) verbally by War Ministry - it is learnt.

Of the total number of reconditioned load carrying vehicles released since the formation of the EVP in Oct 45 (89) the number allotted to BOLOGNA Legion is 3.

Is it the policy that Mobile Bns should be made up to strength in transport before releases are made to Legion?

*W.F.*

Subject:- Progress Report No. 4.

RECEIVED 18 FEB 1946 0710

2 BLD,  
GENOVA.  
Tel: 56575  
G. 6  
4 Feb 46.

Land Forces Sub Commission AC (MILA), Rome.

1 HLU.

I. 'O' POINTS.

ORGANISATION.

(a) Domestic (HLU).

No change.

(b) Italian.

The departure of General Frottini to assume a new appointment was regretted both by this HQ and the staff of Territorial Command. The vacancy thus incurred has been filled, but as yet the successor has not arrived. Gen Bologna, GOC Inf Div Mantova, has temporarily assumed command of Territorial HQ. Units are now looking to Territorial HQ as the guiding authority and deal correctly through the normal channels, thus raising the prestige of the HQ.

EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS.

(a) Army less CCRP.

Routine guards on Italian installations are still being carried out, these have been cut down considerably within the last two weeks. 2 Inf Regt bear the brunt of guards called for by Territorial HQ but these are gradually diminishing. Road repair to Route 1 in the Mantova Area are still being carried out by 104 Eng Coy.

ORGANIZATION.

(a) Domestic (EMU).

No change.

(b) Italian.

The departure of General Frattini to assume a new appointment was regretted both by this HQ and the staff of Territorial Command. The vacancy thus incurred has been filled, but as yet the successor has not arrived. Gen Bolesna, GOC Inf Div Mantova, has temporarily assumed command of Territorial HQ. Units are now looking to Territorial HQ as the guiding authority and deal correctly through the normal channels, thus raising the prestige of the HQ.

EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS.

(a) Army less CORP.

Routine guards on Italian installations are still being carried out, these have been cut down considerably within the last two weeks. 2 Inf Regt bear the brunt of guards within for by Territorial HQ but these are gradually diminishing. Road repair to Route 1 in the Mantova Area are still being carried out by 104 Eng Coy.

On the evening of Jan 7th, 45 at approx 1430 hrs a riot occurred in the Marzani Civilian Prison of Genoa. Prisoners has managed to smuggle in arms and with this complement had succeeded in getting hold of a number of guards and justice employees detaining them as hostages. The rioters then released other prisoners who assembled in the courtyard. It appears that political prisoners did not take part. The Prefect of Genoa issued an order to Territorial Command to provide help in respect of 300 men, although the procedure adopted by the Prefect was incorrect, Territorial HQ considered that the matter was urgent and issued instructions to 2/76 Regt, Inf Div Mantova, to provide the number

286

2.2.45

2.2.45

.....

of 21 stated. On arrival at the prison the troops found that prisoners were attempting to storm the gate being held by CORR and prison guards, as the prisoners were armed, troops opened fire, killing two and wounding two, this repulsed any attempt to make a break from the inside of the prison. Efforts were made by the prison authorities to settle the matter. At 0145 hrs on the 24th Jan 46, a strong force entered the prison and in a short time all prisoners were once again under lock and key. Extra guards were installed by 2/76 Inf Regt who later withdrew leaving 50 men who were eventually withdrawn on the 24th Jan 46. No casualties were suffered either by the CORR or 2/76 Regt. The attempt to break out appears to have been made by prisoners serving long term sentences.

(b) CORR.

No further changes in employment of CORR other than reported in above para.

TRAINING.

(a) Army Less CORR.

(1) TRG Units.

Work is progressing satisfactorily at the CAR. Every effort is being made by Territorial HQ to make it a first class show and results indicate the determination to do so. The zone of Cuneo and Poesano is very good for training, ranges are within easy reach of all barracks. The climate is good with reasonable hygienic arrangements. The barracks chosen are in very good condition and need no major repairs. In all cases the barracks provide for ample space for drill, individual training and sports.

The following barracks chosen and work practically completed:-

CUNEO: Caserma Vittorio Emanuele  
Caserma Ferdinando di Savoia  
Caserma Funzionale di S. Doeco Castagnette  
Caserma Tetti Gallato

sentences. ... of prisoners serving long term

(b) CORR.

No further changes in employment of CORR other than reported in above para.

TRAINING.

(a) Army Less CORR.

(i) TKG Cmts.

Work is progressing satisfactorily at the CAP. Every effort is being made by Territorial HQ to make it a first class show and results indicate the determination to do so. The zone of Cuneo and Pavesio is very good for training, ranges are within easy reach of all barracks. The climate is good with reasonable hygienic arrangements. The barracks chosen are in very good condition and need no major repairs. In all cases the barracks provide for ample space for drill, individual training and sports.

The following barracks chosen and work practically completed:-

CUNEO:

- Caserma Vittorio Emanuele
- Caserma Ferdinando di Savoia
- Caserma Funzionale di S. Rocco Castagnetta
- Caserma Iotti Gallato

FOSSANO:

- Caserma Pieve
- Caserma Funzionale
- Caserma Baya

286

The final allocation of the barracks will be made by Centre Commander, Col Ronco who will take up residence by 15th Feb 46.

As soon as information becomes available as to the final allotment of barracks the names of those chosen will be forwarded. It is hoped that recruits will report direct to Cuneo thus lessing recent Pavesio for units of Inf Div Hectors due to arrive in the area soon.

...../



(11) Other tps.

Normal W/T routine work is progressing in units. Inf Div Mantova have been able to carry out more advanced training now that they are no longer responsible for guards on Allied installations

Territorial HQ have asked this HQ to assist in the procuring of a Bailey Bridge for the purpose of training in the 48gr Bn. This has not been possible but it is hoped that this difficulty may be overcome by approaching Inf Div Cremona to assist as it is believed that they are in the possession of one.

(b) OCAR.

Training is being carried out but not on a grand scale, instructors are being trained who in turn will take cadres within the unit. With the impending move of the Mobile Bn to Sturis barracks, training has ceased. On completion of the move training will be able to start on a larger scale owing to the good location of the barracks and the unit being concentrated for the first time.

INTELLIGENCE.

(a) Relations between Italy and France in this area are good. The usual suspicion is still directed towards Russia. The frequent reference to the Peace treaty has aroused great interest and appears to be the main point of discussion.

(b) In the area of the French Frontier there has been little of any activity. Relations are good, no struggle between political parties is apparent and public order is calm.

Difficulties are encountered in general communications and liaison facilities owing to damage due to the war and recent bad weather in that zone. The population feel that the progress of reconstruction is too slow and that the authorities in Central Italy are inclined to leave aside the task of re-establishing civil life to normal. In the vicinity of Valle Roja it is reported that there are little active politics being carried out and that the few extreme left elements are on good relations with local authorities.

236

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(c) Relations between the troops and the populace is fairly good. It is quite obvious that the troops of Mantova Inf Div create a certain amount of impression with the civilians, they are reasonably turned out and look a formidable force in case of any trouble. On the other hand the contact between troops of Mantova and 2 Inf Regt is very noticeable to the populace who are not aware of all the facts and in turn are liable to treat men of this Regt with contempt. This fact has been very noticeable in the streets, on buses, etc, the only reason that can be seen for this feeling is the mere fact that the troops of 2 Inf Regt are not as well dressed or eqpt as their fellow men from Mantova. The greater part of the populace without doubt look to Inf Div Mantova as a symbol of restoration of the Italian Army, in them they feel a sense of security and accept them for the good of the country.

CCRR

Relations between the populace and CCRR are improving. The Legion have been very effective of late in rounding up wanted criminals and have shown efficiency in recent minor demonstrations and general breaking of law. The general public have noticed this through the medium of the press and their confidence is slowly returning.

Civil Police

Relations between civilian police and civilians are very good. The civil police comprise of traffic duty men and they are most efficient. What other duties are involved is not known but the sight of white helmets and good clothing is striking to the eye and is noticed with a certain amount of pride by the civilians.

(d) Generally speaking it is noticeable that the troops do not follow any set politics. Attempts are made by the Communist Party to spread the communist creed among the troops, any success they may have gained is due to the condition of the soldier which is already well known. The present units outside the Inf Div Mantova are a more mixed lot of men and if party propaganda has been driven home any where, these units are more vulnerable to attack. CC 1/2 Inf Regt has taken an active interest in the men's re-education within his bn and has managed to persuade the majority of his men to stay away from dances and functions held by the Communist Party which appear to be an excuse to get at the men and show what a fine lot of chaps they are.

(e) Nothing to report

Public Security

The men in the street was given a most agreeable eye opened quite recently when detachments of the CCRR and Inf Div Mantova performed the duties of restoring order at the Mareassi Prison. The press were mainly silent on the intervention of the military but news, as always spread quickly and the prestige of the troops taking part raised yet further the confidence, now growing amongst the people. The daily journals "Secolo Liberale and L'Avvero

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(e) Nothing to report

Public Security

The men in the street was given a most agreeable eye opened quite recently when detachments of the CCR and Inf Div Mantova performed the duties of restoring order at the Varese Prison. The press were mainly silent on the intervention of the military but news, as always spread quickly and the prestige of troops taking part raised yet further the confidence, now growing amongst the people. The daily journals "Secolo Liberale and Invero Nuovo" reported yesterday 2nd Feb that patrols by civilian police under the direction of the quarters were to be established after dark. This news has given great satisfaction to the public.

Economic

Nothing further to report.

Afternote

CCC Inf Div Mantova agrees with the proposal of a concentration in for the CCR and is prepared to cooperate and assist any others in difficulty. However he feels that he must first receive permission from the new Territorial HQ Commander who has just arrived as successor to Gen Prattini. Further confirmation will be forwarded.

...../



III. 'A' POINTS.(a) DOMESTICDeficiencies etc

In accordance with instrs from MMIA the ROME Trg Inor was sent off to CESANO by rd on 30 Jan to join 12 BLU. Two men were retained in GENOA, Cfn RICCARDO and Cpl MILLER, the former proceeding on release on 31 Jan and the latter having been given a vacancy on LIAP by HQ 59 Area on 5 Feb 46.

Notification has been received that a I/Cpl clerk will be posted to this HQ to fill the vacancy of Cpl Clerk RASC on WE. I/Cpl SPARKMAN (on loan from 1 BLU) has up to now filled this post with efficiency and keenness and therefore a strong request has been placed by 1 BLU to HQ 59 Area on behalf of this unit for his retention.

Leaves

No change since last report.

Comm

A weekly air service, operated by the IAF has started between ROME (LAGO BRACCIANO) and GENOA (SANTERAMIA). The aeroplane leaves ROME every Monday morning and GENOA every Wednesday morning. The aircraft used is a CANT seaplane, a machine which, so far as the public is concerned, appears to enjoy a rather dubious reputation for safety.

(b) ITALIAN.Deficiencies

Specialists, Tradesmen etc	Percentage of deficiencies in total manpower under comd
Telephone mechanics	10%
Armourers & armourer mech	36%
Pioneers (Engr)	-
Drivers	23%
Driver mechanics	11%
Cooks	5%



has been placed by 1 ZIU to HQ 59 Area on behalf of this unit for his retention.

Leave

No change since last report.

Coast

A weekly air service, operated by the IAF has started between ROME (LAGO BRACCIANO) and GENOA (GAMBIERDARANA). The aeroplane leaves ROME every Monday morning and GENOA every Wednesday morning. The aircraft used is a CANT seaplane, a machine which, so far as the public is concerned, appears to enjoy a rather dubious reputation for safety.

(b) ITALIAN.

Deficiencies

Specialists, Tradesmen etc	Percentage of deficiencies in total manpower under command
Telephone mechanics	10%
Armourers & armourer mech	36%
Pioneers (MGR)	-
Drivers	20%
Driver mechanics	11%
Cooks	5%
Typists	10%
Blacksmiths	7%
Bakers	13%
Nursing orderlies	24%
Fitters	11%
DRE	30%
Maatns	10%
Linesmen (other arms)	-
Linesmen (Signal)	9%
Linesmen (power)	-
Sappers	-

2883

...../

Discipline

From the following resumé of crimes brought up for trial through 2 Comando Territoriale in Dec 45, a fair picture can be gained of the state of discipline in this area.

(i) Desertion and illegal disposal of mil stores	33
(ii) Theft	1
(iii) Sedition, revolt	7
(iv) Failing to obey orders	3
(v) AACL with veh	6
(vi) Resisting arrest	2
(vii) Not reporting to unit upon posting	2

Items (i) above are, as usual, the most serious offences though the number stated cannot cover the large number of offences that go undetected.

Leave

Leave conditions are, on the whole, satisfactory. Slight difficulties are sometimes experienced by Sardinians who have to be sent to NAPLES for sailing. In Dec 45 over 1000 personnel were either granted leave or demobilized.

Pay

Cost of living continues to rise thereby further reducing the already small purchasing power of the pay of the It Army personnel. This naturally has the effect of tempting the less trustworthy elements to commit thefts etc.

The meagre pay is particularly felt by personnel of the MANTOVA Div who for a long time were paid an extra 40 AML per day Combat Pay. The contention of GOC MANTOVA Div is that if pay of the whole It Army (NOT only ex-Combat Ops) were increased the benefits that would accrue not only in discipline and general behaviour would amply warrant the added expenditure to the government.

Another complaint put fwd is that the cumulative rate of travelling expenses (6.90 AML per day) paid to veh drivers on

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Another complaint put fwd is that the cumulative rate of travelling expenses (6,00 AMI per day) paid to veh drivers on long trips is insufficient, when coupled with their day's ration, to allow them to get one good hot meal in the 24 hrs. This is quoted as being the reason for so many drivers entering into petty black-market deals in the way of transporting civilians <sup>2800</sup> civilian loads for financial reward.

Notification has just been received that the supplementary ration allowance has been increased for all from 5 to 15 AMI per day. It is anticipated that this will a really beneficial effect not only on rations but also on morale. LICOLI is a notoriously improductive region and to now great difficulty has been experienced in spending 5 AMI per day economically.

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### Morale

In spite of efforts, both by 2 Comando Territoriale and by this HQ to boost the "New Army" spirit, the men, and to a certain extent also the officers, of the present army have so far noticed little improvement and in certain cases even deterioration of conditions. This has had a detrimental effect on morale generally, which, at present cannot be described as satisfactory.

The reasons are many; one is the low rate of basic pay and allowances already referred to above. Other reasons are the poor quality and quantity of clothing; inevitable comparison with the excellent treatment afforded to Allied troops as well as the increasingly noticeable lack of the beneficial influence which a measure of Allied control had on the Italian Army up to the beginning of the year; the mistrust felt for the Army by the general public; poorness of rations and lastly the worry, for a large number of men and officers, regarding their families' welfare.

WARTOVA Div are far less affected by the above than non-combat troops but nevertheless their difficulties are not inconsiderable.

Amongst the other troops the lack of moral sp from the public is keenly felt. This attitude is due in the first place to the general appearance of non-combat troops; multi-coloured and shabby uniforms, boots that are virtually beyond wear etc, all make a picture that cannot convince the civilians that these men are ~~not~~ fit to be responsible for the maint of public order and for the safeguarding of their frontiers. WARTOVA Div holds a fairly high place in public esteem owing, principally, to their smart appearance and their consequent good deportment.

Particular difficulties connected with clothing and rations will be dealt with under their appropriate headings.

#### IV. POINTS.

##### (a) DOMESTIC

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IV. FOUR POINTS.

(a) DOMESTIC

Transport

It is hoped shortly to receive the HQ due to this unit and which was the subject of your letter Q/20486 dated 18 Jan 46.

Lancia 5643114 on charge to this unit has had its repair held up owing to the difficulty in obtaining a timing chain. It has taken 3 Repairs Unit, MILAN, who are undertaking the repair, over a month to inform this HQ of the fact. The part should shortly be available when the vehicle will again be put on the road.

(b) ITALIAN

Transport (a)

Owing to the present dearth of stores an increasing

...../



number of vech are becoming VOR, the deficiency in tyres is particularly felt. The 60 days maint stores which it is hoped will soon be available will greatly assist matters as ample eqpt exists for the repair of those vechs VOR but not BLR.

The energetic steps taken in an effort to instill some form of discipline into 3 BT Coy (ex Gruppi Kall unit now under comd MANTOVA Div) met with an initial reverse when one of the pls, which had been formed from all the best available men, given good offrs and even sup with a certain amount of good clothing from the depleted MANTOVA Div stocks, was ordered to proceed from GENOA to BOLZANETO to take up fresh and better quarters. On arrival at BOLZANETO it was found that two of the drivers, complete with vechs and loads, had disappeared.

The remainder of the coy under comd 2 Comando Territoriale is in the process of moving to ALBERGA. In view of the behaviour of their hand-picked pl, the authorities are a little apprehensive of what will happen before this move is completed.

It is interesting to note that the coy is known by all, incl the pers of the unit itself, as "La compagnia del delinquenti". GOC Mantova, now acting GOC Territoriale HQ, strongly recommends that the coy be disbanded as the trouble it has caused and is causing to all concerned, in spite of the strongest improving action, is greater ~~than~~ than the coy is worth.

#### Transport (b)

Of the 60 MCs due to GENOA Legion of the CORR 39 have been received though not through the channels originally advised by MIA. S/C BAT, 1 BIU has infm this HQ that some separate arrangements had been made by HQ 2 District. Nothing further is known though it seems that the 39 MCs now held may be withdrawn and later replaced by 60 "TRIUMPH" machines as originally allocated.

The CORR find their "HUMBER" 4x4 arms cs of the greatest possible use in the maint of public order but are unable to get any spares. For this reason two have been BLR and evac

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The CCRN find their "HUMBER" 4x4 arms cs of the greatest possible use in the maint of public order but are unable to get any spares. For this reason two have been BIR and evac and a further two are VOR.

A great head is felt for 4-str cars for the use of CCRN outstas throughout LROU IA. These veh now held are of little use and are few in number.

2560

Clothing and Eqpt (a)

MANTOVA Div have not yet received the badly needed allocation of 5000 greatcoats. If only a small qty, say 400/500 were issued to them for really essential purposes it would be a help. At present rfts are being received from CCMANO all of whom are in possession of a greatcoat which indicates that there must be some small availability somewhere.

Clothing and Eqpt (b)

The present clothing posn of the CCRN is so serious that a number of men are serving in their mufti clothing. .... /

*Handwritten notes:*  
81 GNB  
WWS  
WWS  
WWS

Arms and Amm (b)

Sup of Italian arms for the CCHR is insufficient for their I.S. functions. This has led to a "brutte figura" being put by CCHR pickets sent out to deal with armed brigands most of whom bristle with everything from Brens to Lugers.

However, advice has been received of an allotment of 500 automatic rifles, shortly due to arrive. This will materially ease the sit.

During the recent riots at the MARASSI prison when matters were getting a little out of hand CC CCHR legion who had adapted one Italian round of amm to fit the 2-pdr gun on a HUMBER arm c, gave the order (like Churchill in Sept 40) to "fire the gun".

The round duly was fired and the effect was instantaneous, no further trouble being experienced.

As there was some verbal instr given to CC CCHR by a past Regional Commissioner that the 2-pdrs on the arm c were NOT to be used, authy is now sought for the cancellation of this order and, if possible for the issue of a small qty of 2-pdr amm.

CCH

A release has recently been received from HQ 2 District for all the stores of Italian Army origin previously held in Depots controlled by the ex-Comitato Picuperi and latterly by CCH. The material, mostly engr and accn stores, are spread out over most of LIGURIA but when collected and centralized should represent a useful reserve.

ACCH

ATUHLA barracks in GENOVA have finally been released to 2 Comando Territoriale. Into these it is intended to move the CCHR Mob Bn when engr wks are completed.

FUNZIONALE barracks at CUNEO which are intended to form part of the new CAF are still partly occupied by a tp

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Accn

STURIA barracks in GENOVA have finally been released to 2 Comando Territoriale. Into these it is intended to move the CORR Mob Bn when engr wks are completed.

FUNZICHALE barracks at CUNEO which are intended to form part of the new GAR are still partly occupied by a tp of 75 Med Regt RA. These should vacate the barracks by the end of Feb but in the meantime have no objection to it workmen proceeding with the necessary building repairs and adspations. If any difficulty or friction is experienced a request will immediately be put up to HQ 59 Area to have the tp removed.

POL

The only complaint from 2 Comando Territoriale under this heading is the shortage of barrels and other containers. Distribution is carefully supervised by 2 Comando Territoriale and is also examined by this HQ.

...../



Supp

Apart from a general dissatisfaction felt regarding food and, up to 1 Feb 46, the insufficiency of the supplementary ration allowance, two points are often put fwd as being the cause of complaints:-

(a) That the issue of R. Meat has been largely superseded by the issue of M & V on a weight-for-weight-per-tin basis. This means that the individual, instead of receiving so many grams of meat per day as his ration, only gets a far smaller qty of meat, the balance of weight being made up by various vegetables and juices all of which could quite easily be purchased locally.

(b) The quality of flour issued is not very good being composed of 90% whole meal flour and 10% flour of beans, peas etc. Furthermore as flour is often in short sup rice is supposed to be issued in lieu but is frequently not available.

Both funds (supplementary ration allowance) and RT to collect rice from ALESSANDRIA where it is quite cheap and plentiful, are available but regulations do not permit of this being done.

Medical

There is a shortage of M.O.s in this Territory and also of certain medicinals, particulars of which are not yet available.

A/Q General

It is realized that the above A/Q points are rather a series of woes but they represent the facts as they stand at the moment.

Any small improvement it is possible to make in any one of these situations will surely have an immediate effect for the better on the extremely resilient character of the average It soldier.



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2853

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Major,  
G II

PD/HST/80

6 SIM Progress Report No 2Period 16 - 21 Jan 19461. GENERAL

(a) Domestic. The chief difficulty of a "B" type HQ, consisting as it does of two officers only in that of holding off small tasks while jobs requiring a whole day's or more attention are undertaken. One is without a junior staff upon whom to off-load some of these distractions such as those arising from the petty misunderstandings between local admin HQ & HQs under their command that are so often referred to us for solution; these arising under the heading of camp duties; etc.

The addition of a Training Major to the staff will be of very great assistance. Some steps have been taken locally to create a junior staff, ie a CC RA 10 and Army LC who assist in obtaining information. However as yet it is very difficult for D II or DAA to get out and around and give advice and assistance. It is to be hoped that as we grow more accustomed to the work and can reduce certain parts of it to rule of thumb more time will be left to us to get out and fulfill this task of giving advice and assistance.

2; ORGANISATION

(a) Domestic. Prior to the Home conference 23-29 Jan this unit had asked for and received the attachment from 6 Terr HQ of an Italian officer as interpreter and LC. The officer concerned (a Lieutenant reservist) has been with this unit for some days now and is proving of two fold value. He can get out and visit service units in the Terr area and obtain from them information required by this unit that cannot be procured through staff channels

R/1/1/66  
7/1/46  
AW

will be of very great assistance. Some steps have been taken locally to create a junior staff, ie a G, H, I, J and Army LC who assist in obtaining information. However as yet it is very difficult for G, H, I, J or K to get out and ground and give advice and assistance. It is to be hoped that as we grow more accustomed to the work and can reduce certain parts of it to walk of thumb more time will be left to us to get out and fulfill the task of giving service and assistance.

R/1/1/66  
1/1/66

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(b) Army. The addition was announced 28<sup>th</sup> Dec Gen Inf to the staff of 6 Terr HQ. He will form a Directorate of Infantry, ostensibly to control all Inf matters in the Terr Area. In fact he will merely duplicate the task of the commander of 6 Inf Regt, interfere with that of commander Friuli Inf Div ( 87 Inf Regt of which is in this Terr area), and become one more and a possibly conflicting pressure upon the commander of No 6 Cdn. This is just one

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.....3/.....

*Bring up*

more example of the usage of senior officers in redundant jobs which characterize the cry of the West at the moment. It produces the unnecessary interference (see above) and the necessary interference (see above) the initiative and capacity for decision in independent action of junior officers, and is exemplified in the picture of a colonel, chief of staff to a Terr HQ, saying "how I must write to the War Ministry and ask them which type they prefer for my class". The whole reorganization of the Ministry of War and its cover for reduction of bureaucratic control; the consequent effect on the efficiency of Terr HQs and the probable follow through of reorganization of Terr HQs, should remove the inherent inherent in this over-organization at the top.

(c) War the present organization of the Terr (less mobile battalions) in India does not seem to permit sufficient training. Men are all out to stations, and all stations are occupied in routine duties. A further argument for the creation of reserves, the personnel of which could be turned over at periodic intervals, is that it would make the task of training Terr simpler than at present.

#### 4. TRAINING OF TROOPS

(a) Army The dispersion of Terr reported in the progress report No 2 has not been reduced to minimum possible proportions, with the concentration of one week at Souda, Bologna and Ferrara. A concentration than this (one from 25 - 30 miles apart) has not been possible owing to the limitations of accommodation.

Such an has rather more than one way engaged in guard duties. Terr HQ agree to make every effort to reduce guard duties to the minimum by employment of civilians, and thereby leave the maximum number of soldiers available for training.

Those boys not engaged in guard duties are available for training - and at the moment are in

to permit efficient training. Men are all out to stations, and at stations are occupied in various duties. A further argument for the creation of reserves, the personnel of which could be turned over at periodic intervals, is that it would make the task of training easier to simplify than at present.

RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Army The dispersion of men Dept reported in my progress report No 2 has now been reduced to minimum possible proportions, with men concentrated one each at each station, with men concentrated concentration than this (one from 15 - 20 miles apart) has not been possible owing to the limitations of accommodation.

Colonel has rather more than one boy engaged in guard duties. Terr HA agrees to make every effort to reduce guard duties to the minimum by employment of civilians, and thereby leave the maximum number of soldiers available for training. Those boys not engaged in guard duties are available for training - and at the moment are in fact making small efforts in this direction.

(b) RAF There is no change in the situation reported in my progress report No 2, relating to the dispersion of Bologna Mobile BA.

All personnel from stations have been taken part continuously in area raids organized by 417 Sqn during the past six months and more. These raids have shown up considerable deficiencies in the training, leadership and discipline of the BA.

2859

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TRAINING

(a) 2d (less Mobile Bn) it appears as if operations on the organization and conduct of house searching operations are poor. Capt 117 100 who has personally commanded such operations with 2d Bn under him has the following observations to make:-

(i) Debussing and debussing by 2d Bn is usually slow; unorganized, and characterized by argument between all ranks and poor response to officers orders.

(ii) Tactical ideas are non-existent if the heads of most officers and NCOs. On debussing they will order their men to form up in three on the road and then march them off to surround a house by moving straight down the road to it.

(iii) No sense of the importance of timing some to exist in the heads of all ranks. Two houses half a mile apart will be surrounded and searched at an interval of eight hours.

(iv) Capt 117 will readily enter into a discussion of the merits and demerits of the person or persons with whom they are in the process of arresting, with outposts to the operation.

(v) No courses are necessary for 2d Bn officers and NCOs - modernised courses in which they are brought into contact with military ideas of speed, control, discipline and tactics generally and have to put these ideas into practice (training with men).

(vi) 2d Bn Mobile Bn with the start on 15 Jan 40 of the issue of 200 to the 2d Bn training in the handling of its armoured vehicles commenced. On the 15 Jan 40 Capt 117 took place of the job 2d Bn through the streets of Bologna and the salute was taken by 2000 all area. The parade was a great success and went off without a hitch. The 2d Bn gave the impression of being alert, well disciplined and master of its equipment. This reflects great credit on the Commander Major Ferrari. Since the 2d Bn has not been formed for very long and that it has had very little equipment. Although at this parade only the formal disciplinary side of training came under observation there is no reason to believe that when the 2d Bn can be concentrated and trained

(iii) no sense of the importance of training seems to exist in the minds of all ranks. Two houses full of eight hours.

(iv) no one will readily enter into a discussion of the merits and demerits of the person or persons whom they are in the process of arresting, with outsiders to the operation.

(v) very few courses are necessary for our officers and NCOs - modernised courses in which they are brought into contact with military ideas of speed, control, discipline and tactics generally and made to put these into practice in training with men.

(vi) the mobile bn with the start on 15th Jan 40 of the issue of 101. to the 101st Airborne Div. In the handling of its armoured vehicles commenced. On the 15 Jan a parade took place at the age 38 through the streets of Bologna and the salute was taken by some 217 men. The parade was a great success and went off without a hitch. The bn gave the impression of being alert, well disciplined and master of its equipment. This reflects great credit on its commander Major Ferrari. Since the bn has not been formed for very long and that it has had very little equipment. Although at this parade only the formal and ordinary side of training came under observation there is no reason to believe that when the bn can be concentrated and trained to tactics the standards of excellence will not be maintained.

(b) are the commander and instructional staff of the bn have now returned from the NO. During the exercise they will be studying the lay-out of the school and the organization of the training.

A detailed report on the progress of repair work and provision of equipment is attached in the programme specified by you.

5 Terr Bn have agreed to provide one platoon of specially selected men from 5 Inf Regt organised and equipped similarly to a platoon of an Inf Div. These will be attached for one month's training to the Gren Regt at Bologna. It is hoped that by the end of this period they will be fit for

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duty as a Demo pl with 6 Cal. If the result is unsatisfac-  
 tory it may be necessary to ask for a pl of the Demo pl for  
 the first course at the end.

(c) Italy. In view of the dispersion of 5 Inf Regt it has  
 been difficult to form a picture of its CM training. Now  
 that the Regt is concentrated and has been relieved of  
 most of its Guard duties it is hoped to make a beginning of  
 training of a formal nature. See reports on the beginning with  
 what takes place and the instructions. Pl returns from OHSAKO,  
 it will be possible to undertake a more ambitious programme.

5.

ITALY(a) SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES

- (i) ESS believe that a small group of Yugo-slavs (four  
 in number) working in SOLOKA are bringing money  
 and arms into the country to put at the disposal of the  
 Communist party. It is reported that 100,000,000 lire  
 will be used to party in this way.
- (ii) ESS continue to receive reports of the organization  
 of a military set-up in the Communist party. The head  
 of the SOLOKA region branch of this set-up is suspect-  
 ed as being the organizer of the incidents that took  
 place at GROSSE MONTANA and SAVIGNY (two villages that  
 were systematically looted by a band of about fifty  
 to sixty bandits). These incidents are regarded as  
 training exercises for the set-up as well as designed  
 to acquire funds for it.
- (iii) One open attempt has been made by the Communist party  
 to encourage discipline in the Italian army. It  
 Communist party gathering in which a soldier was encouraged  
 to take the stand and openly abuse his officers as  
 corrupt and of fascist sympathies.
- (iv) ESS report that the head of the Christian Democratic  
 party in SOLOKA area, stated to them that he was  
 organizing his party on lines to contact the communists,  
 is. forming groups of people and making them mobile  
 so that they could be maneuvered during the elections  
 and used to neutralize communist

in number) working in BOLOGNA area bringing money and arms into the country to put at the disposal of the Communist party. It is reported that 100,000,000 Lire will accrue to party in this way.

(ii) FSS continues to receive reports of the organization of a military set-up in the Communist party. The head of the BOLOGNA region branch of this set-up is suspected as being the organizer of the incidents that took place at GROSSE TORRE and VIGANO (two villages that were systematically looted by a band of about fifty to sixty bandits). These incidents are regarded as training exercises for the set-up as well as designed to acquire funds for it.

(iii) One open attempt has been made by the Communist party to encourage indiscipline in the Italian army. At a Communist party gathering in 1944 a soldier was encouraged to take the stand and openly abuse his officers as corrupt and of fascist sympathies.

(iv) FSS report that the head of the Christian Democratic party in BOLOGNA area, stated to them that he was organizing his party on lines to combat the communists, is, arming groups of people and making them mobile so that they could be mobilized during the elections and used to neutralize communist pressure on voters or electors and to put on some pressure of their own. This man is an ex-servant of Italy and may be regarded as having sympathies in the army.

(b) PUBLIC OPINION ON ARMY AND CURIA

285

(1) FSS report that the parades of the 25th Regt in through the streets of Bologna has had the effect of sending up public esteem of them. It is generally reported that the CC RR are regarded as the only force upon which law-abiding citizens can rely to maintain the fairness of election and a reasonable state of public law and order.

(ii) The Director of PUBLIC AFFAIRS and members of his staff expressed surprise and pleasure on the arrival of the Grenadier on 27th Regt in their town. They said they did not know that Italy had in being such a well

disciplined force the outward aspect of which encouraged confidence in it.

(iii) It is the opinion of the writer of this report that a half-hearted effort cannot be expected to acquire more than a half-hearted confidence in it from the public (with the possible exception of the Ku Klux Klan), since turn-out is usually slow, and swiftness on the whole makes no effort to carry themselves with pride or to behave with dignity in public.

#### (c) PUBLIC SECURITY

(1) The state of public law and order in Dallas continues to present a grave picture. No improvement can be stated to have taken place during the past month - nor does there seem to be any likelihood of improvement until equipment is got to the CC RR. Murders and abductions normally finishing in murders show an increase on the previous month. The most grave fact under this heading was the arbitrary murder of a whole family by a gang of a dozen masked bandits. The motive of this act is obscure and probably involved personal hatreds.

(ii) The CC RR have carried out numerous arrests after their investigations of crime. A large number of the gang that took part in the raid on S.W. 1080 mentioned in (a) (ii) above, have been arrested. Here the bandit tactic of threatening the CC RR with death if arrests continue has been frequently used. It has had no evident effect - nor been carried out in this instance. However the CC RR carrying out the arrests were in strength. It is probable that similar tactics applied to small CC RR stations would have considerable effect until they can feel backed up by strong and efficient reserves.



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(ii)

285

6. DOMESTIC:

Personnel position is shown in ~~AMR~~ <sup>our</sup> letter A/4/2 of 5 Feb 46. Dvr ROYDS and Dvr NOBLETT have been recalled to RCIC (your A 360 of 28 Jan 46 refers) and this MLU will then be without British tpe personnel.

7. DISBANDEMENTS:

When all disbandments operations now in progress are over, total Br-Iti strength in 6 Territorial Commands will be scarcely more than 200 men.

The 217 Area is now taking an active interest in the disposal of vehs of 1 and 2 Lt GT Coys, and no further difficulties are anticipated.

8. CALL-UP:

War Ministry Circular No 13 dealing with the forthcoming call-up has been received and is being studied by the Territorial Command before drafting the detailed instructions to the Military Districts. The big problems are likely to be (a) organising transport facilities from Down to Military Districts and thence to the CAR ensuring that there are no bottlenecks, and (b) careful regulation of the medical inspections and postponements granted in order to make certain that the correct number of the men of best physique including tradesmen are sent to the CAR.

9. WELFARE:

Welfare activities in 6 Territorial Commands are largely centred round the "Cese de Soldato" (canteens) which have been established in most centres under arrangements of local freemasons. In BOLINGHA there is a cinema attached to the canteen which is also used twice a week for plays. It seems that the Welfare Officer attached each Presidio, spends rather more time on "Assistents" in the form of grants to needy soldiers and families. Funds for ordinary welfare activities are not generous (eg. there was no extra grant for Xmas). Forthcoming arrangements are as follows:

- (a) Mobile canteens run by the corps Assistents Naminila,
- (b) A mobile cinema,
- (c) Organisation of two canteens in F3340 (for the CAR force in barracks and one out).

7. DISBANDEMENTS :

When all disbandment operations now in progress are over, total Bo-Iti strength in 6 Territorial Command will be scarcely more than 200 men.  
HQ 217 area is now taking an active interest in the disposal of vans of 1 and 2 It OT Coy's, and no further difficulties are anticipated.

8. C&ML-UP :

War Ministry Circular No 13 dealing with the forthcoming call-up has been received and is being studied by the Territorial Command before drafting the detailed instructions to the Military Districts. The big problems are likely to be (a) organising transport facilities for Comani to Military Districts and thence to the GAR ensuring that there are no bottlenecks, and (b) careful regulation of the medical inspections and post-mortems granted in order to make certain that the correct number of the men of best physique including tradesmen are sent to the GAR.

9. WELFARE :

Welfare activities in 6 Territorial Command are largely centred round the "Casa do Soldado" (canteens) which have been established in most centres under arrangements of local President. In BULOCHA there is a cinema attached to the canteen which is also used twice a week for plays. It seems that the welfare officer attached each Presidio, spends rather more time on "Assistencia" in the form of grants to needy to soldiers and families. Funds for ordinary welfare activities are not generous (eg. there was no extra grant for Xmas).  
Forthcoming arrangements are as follows : -  
(a) Mobile canteens run by the corps Assistentes Feminillo,  
(b) A mobile cinema,  
(c) Organisation of two canteens in P&S&R (for the GAR (one in barracks and one out),  
(d) Organisation of a band for 6 Indep Regt. A bandmaster has been put in charge of this; progress will be notified.

10. INTERVIEW AGENT :

The agent wishes to start an efficient team. Distinction in the following subjects can have been determined as follows in your premises. It is hoped that these will shortly be completed. A territorial command are cooperating.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE :

- (a) Last remaining by unit will be clear of ALL THE UNIT
- (b) Nothing further has developed regarding MANDALIC BARBERS
- (c) Attempts have been made to obtain release of the AMBASSADOR. Information has been received in an effort to get STUCKY BARBER. Information has been received in an effort to get STUCKY BARBER. Information has been received in an effort to get STUCKY BARBER.
- (d) It may now be necessary if the two are not in the area. It may now be necessary if the two are not in the area. It may now be necessary if the two are not in the area.
- (e) Some in preparation for the arrival of 30 best from the team. Some in preparation for the arrival of 30 best from the team. Some in preparation for the arrival of 30 best from the team.
- (f) It was thought that the best would not come with them. It was thought that the best would not come with them. It was thought that the best would not come with them.
- (g) No further orders have been received by territorial command to return work.

12. GENERAL :

Progress report is attached. Information for the two barracks has been incorporated into our report. They are advancing and can be considered as one unit. In future reports are required repeatedly, this can be done.

NO

13. TRANSFORMER OF THE :

Efforts by this unit to obtain release of last surviving vehicle local unit for 30 is have not proved entirely successful. Some three weeks ago a territorial command at our suggestion requested the military to release all on the majority of the vehicles starting unassigned in the area. After considerable delay release for 3 vehicles only were received. No further vehicles have been requested by territorial command, no further vehicles have been made. It is not known if it is in accordance with policy that information should be made up for the territorial unit, but it is not clear. Information is some 73 trucks from an information (compared) invariably with the area, some other vehicles would seem to be the only solution.

12. BAR :  
The above report is attached. Information for the bar has been incorporated into one report as they are adjacent and should be considered as one unit. If future reports are required separately, this can be done.  
No

13. REPAIRS :

Reports by this unit to obtain release of 4,000 uniforms were on local BVI for as they have not arrived actively successful. Some three weeks ago 6 Territorial Corpsmen at our suggestion requested the Ministry to release all of the majority of the men standing unassigned in the BVI. When consideration was given for 2 years only were received, and in the office of a District Command by 6 Territorial Command, no further releases have been made.  
It is not known if it is in accordance with policy that Legion should be made up in the Territorial BVI's, but since the Legion stores for some 70 brackets down in establishment (comparing accordingly with the (VVI), some bulk releases could come to be the only solution.

14. CLOTHING :

(a) Work on the installation (by Legion stores) of 4,000 uniforms out of 12,000 stores of material released by the Ministry in to begin in a day or two. A large excessive delay is, 2051 (lining material the dress uniforms were obtained for 2051 (Garrison) on 1 Feb (this is almost two months after the date of the Ministry of War release for the (VVI).  
(b) BOLTONS Legion is still awaiting two consignments of boots (which repaired) ex BART; one is for 50 ex BVI Legion released 2 Dec 45 and the other is for Ministry assignment of 1788 released 15 Jan 46. This BVI is taking steps to hasten delivery.

15. CLOTHING REPAIR :

The repair shops are shortly moving to CASTLE, This will allow for expansion and installation of some machinery which is now being brought up from BART.



Subject: Progress reports

6 British Liaison Unit's  
Tel + Messing 113  
Ref 1/1/1  
18 Jan 46

To : Land Forces but down as  
301/1/1/1

G DIT  
A/B  
A  
R

Per your DIT/GR dated 17 Dec 45.

1. Herewith this progress report to 2.
2. Please inform on subsequent of A 16 below.

EDHE/BR  
GNS

*Ed Heaton*  
Major  
for  
11 Dec 45  
G DIT

To : USO II  
6 British Liaison Unit

Receipt is acknowledged to copy to/.....  
of enclosure to 6 British Liaison Unit's letter 5/1/46 dated  
18 Jan 46.

RECEIVED BY THE BUREAU OF MILITARY

*RD*

1. Herewith this BID progress report No 2.  
2. Please acknowledge on envelope AF 416 below.

EDH/aa  
G/S

*Edmund*  
for  
0800 11  
6 111

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

TO : 080 11  
6 British Liaison Unit

Receipt is acknowledged of copy no/s.....  
of enclosure to 6 British Liaison Unit letter W/1/2 dated  
18 Jan 46.

(Signature).....

(Unit or Station).....

2855

Date..... 18

Q 4-50

*W/1/2*  
*R/S*

6 BIN - PROGRESS REPORT No 2Period 1 - 15 Jan 46G1. EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS(a) Army less CC RR

One battalion only of 6 Inf Regt is concentrated as a unit and can be considered therefore a real factor in studying the maintenance of public law and order. This bn. is at BOLOGNA.

The remaining two bns. are split up in nine different localities.

This state of affairs has been represented to HQ 6 Terr Comd as most unsatisfactory from all points of view and it has been agreed to concentrate the remaining two bns in two different localities, MODENA and FERRARA, by the end of this month. Concentration more speedily is not possible owing to accommodation shortage.

(b) CC RR

The BOLOGNA Mobile Bn CC RR is not concentrated as a unit. It is split up as follows : -

150 men at FERRARA (M 1286)
50 men at MODENA (L 5666)
50 men at REGGIO EMILIA (L 1671)
12 men at SAVIGNO (L 6737)
300 men at BOLOGNA (L 8948)

This dispersion has been occasioned by demands from prefects of the respective provinces in which detachments are located for reinforcement of their CC RR

as a unit and can be considered therefore a real factor in studying the maintenance of public law and order. This bn. is at BOLOGNA.

The remaining two bns. are split up in nine different localities.

This state of affairs has been represented to HQ 6 Terr Cnd as most unsatisfactory from all point of view and it has been agreed to concentrate the remaining two bns in two different localities, MODENA and PARRARA, by the end of this month. Concentration more speedily is not possible owing to accommodation shortage.

(b) CC MR

The BOLOGNA Mobile Bn CC MR is not concentrated as a unit. It is split up as follows : -

- 150 men at PARRARA (N 1286)
- 50 men at MODENA (L 5866)
- 50 men at MAGGIO EMILIA (L 3673)
- 12 men at SAVIGNO (L 8737)
- 300 men at BOLOGNA (L 8948)

This dispersion has been occasioned by demands from prefects of the respective provinces in which detachments are located for reinforcement of their CC MR Groups. These demands have been accepted by the Ministry of the Interior and the CC MR ordered to make dispositions accordingly.

This dispersion requires careful scrutiny. If the Ministry of the Interior accedes to the demands of prefects and permits dispersion of force in the Mobile Bns under its control, it would be possible for the strength of these units to be undermined and for them to be drawn off from areas in which any large scale activity endangering public law and order was being planned.

.....2/...

2. TRAINING(a) C.A.R.

Planning of the major constructional receipts for the barracks at PUSANG is complete and concentration of the necessary material has begun to take place. It is expected that detailed work on the barracks will commence during the latter half of this month.

The admin plan for equipping the CAR has been drawn up and supplies are en route, or order to civilian firms.

The details, lay-out of the school, planning for supply of training equipment, and planning of training areas remains to be dealt with on the return from CASANO of the senior instructional staff in the month of February.

Meanwhile the necessary study of ground has been initiated by subordinate officers. Planning of areas will have to take place as complete records are not held within 6 Terr Cnd.

3. COMMUNICATIONS(a) CU NR

The following statistics of Comms available to CU NR show up a very grave deficiency: -

(i) Of 500 CU NR stations in the area of 6 Terr Cnd only 150 stations have telephonic comms with their HQs.

(ii) This over-all figure of 30% in communications is not a fair one in that in the four provinces over which fighting was sustained, ie FORLI, SAVENNA, BOLOGNA, FERRARA, the figure is only 10%.



to civilian forces.

The details lay-out of the school, planning, for supply of training equipment, and planning of training areas remains to be dealt with on the return from CASANO of the senior instructor staff in the month of February.

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(ii) This over-all figure of 30% in communications is not a fair one in that in the four provinces over which fighting was sustained, i.e. SUDAN, BAVENSA, SOLOMONA, TAMBORA, the figure is only 10%.

(iii) In the province of BUKI (including BUKINI) the figure is NIL.

The state of CC RR transport has already been made the subject of a report. Lack of transport increases the seriousness of the a/m deficiency **2849**

A

#### 4. DISARMAMENT

The problem of 1 and 2 BR Coy seems not

.....3/....

to be coming to a head. However no progress is being made at the moment as 2 District have issued a "hold-everything" order.

It is considered a matter of some importance that these units should now be finally dissolved. Apart from the fact that men and vehicles are deteriorating after months of inactivity, the reasons for the delay cannot be grasped by Italian staffs who are putting their own, not always flattering, interpretation on whole matter.

In the opinion of 6 BUL, the position can be summarised as follows: - An AMHQ letter dated 26 Aug 45 ordering the disbandment of these units by 16 Sep 45 and giving specific instructions therefor, has, for reasons unknown, been disregarded by HQ 2 District. It is hoped that a settlement at HQ-District level will soon be arrived at, as the time and energy expended by MILA LO's and 6 BUL over these two units since Sep 45 has been at the expense of more important work and unproductive of results.

4

5. CLOTHING CC HQ

(a) SOLEMAN Legion has now received 12,000 metres of uniform material released by Ministry of War. This is enough for 4,000 uniforms which should take about 2 months to produce locally. Work has not started owing to non-delivery of lining material and thread which should have been released in PIVAN. The matter is urgent as there are still some 200 men in the legion without a uniform. A BUL has been contented in attempt to hasten.

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1

(b) The 5,000 metres of material released ex CCM Depot COLMANO has been received. It is planned to manufacture greatcoats out of this, as the great-coats issued by Ministry of War are practically all

dated 26 Aug 45 ordering the disbandment of these units by 16 Sep 45 and giving specific instructions therefor, has, for reasons unknown, been disregarded by HQ 2 District. It is hoped that a settlement at GHQ-District level will soon be arrived at, as the time and energy expended by MHA IC's and 6 JMW over these two units since Sep 44 has been at the expense of more important work and unproductive of results.

5. CLOTHING OF MIA

(a) 301st Airborne Division has now received 12,000 metres of uniforms material released by Ministry of War. This is enough for 4,000 uniforms which should take about 2 months to produce locally. Work has not started owing to non-delivery of lining material and thread which should have been released in MILAN. The matter is urgent as there are still some 200 men in the Legion without a uniform. JMW has been contacted in attempt to hasten.

(b) The 9,000 metres of material released ex CEF Depot BOLZANO has been received. It is planned to manufacture greatcoats out of this, as the greatcoats issued by Ministry of War are practically all too small. Here again lining material and thread is lacking. The Legion has taken the matter up with Comando Generale dell'Arma. Buttons are available.

(c) Of other articles of clothing required, Legion shirts are most urgently required. 2847 repaired coats received are not of good quality and will require early replacement.

Subject : Progress Reports.

6

G  
A

19 Q104

6 British Liaison Unit.  
Tel : Vicksburg 119.  
Ref : G/4/2.  
4 Jan 46.

To : Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.  
H.Q. M.M.I.A. ROME.

Ref your SD/113 dated 27 Dec 45.

1. Herewith this unit Progress report No.1., covering period 15 Dec 1945 - Jan 1 1946.
2. Attached are appendixes A to D as detailed in your letter.
3. Please Ack on substitute AF below.

*[Handwritten signature]*

G.S.O. II2846  
6 B.L.U.

FDHP/jc.  
CMF.

has Appx A.

Q.450

CONFIDENTIAL6 D.L.U. Progress Report No 1Covering period 15 Dec 1945 - 1 Jan 19461. GENERAL

(a) Domestic. This unit is now occupying offices alongside 6 Terr. Cnd. H.Q.

The occupation of these new offices and their systematisation; the employment of new staffs and their training, has been the major preoccupation of the past fortnight.

The period has seen an expansion of activities directed mainly towards making a detailed study of CO HF problems.

(b) Italian. No difficulties are being encountered in approaching both H.Q. 6 Terr. Cnd. and H.Q. Bologna Legion CO HF. All officers of these H.Qs. are ready to give what information and assistance lies within their power.

The largest problem presented during these approaches so far has been that of the CO HF. In the country districts the advantage everywhere seems to lie with the bandit. CO HF forces are dispersed from station to station, varying in groups of from five to ten in strength. Unbacked by adequate reserves at "Terenza" (platoon), Compas, and Group (3rd) H.Q.S.; cut off from these H.Q.S. in that in very few areas are telephone comms. working; unserved by vehicles capable of meeting conditions imposed by terrain on communications and mobility; and not armed equally to the bandits, CO HF out-stations present an unhappy picture.

A full and detailed study is being made by this unit of conditions throughout Emilia and a plan of minimum essential requirements will be submitted to H.Q. MMIA at the earliest possible moment.

G2. ORGANISATION



mainly towards making a detailed study of CC RR problems.

(b) Italian. No difficulties are being encountered in approaching both H.Q. 6 Terr. Cmd. and H.Q. Bologna Legion CC RR. All officers of these H.Qs. are ready to give what information and assistance lies within their power.

The largest problem presented during these approaches so far has been that of the CC RR. In the country districts the advantage everywhere seems to lie with the bandit. CC RR forces are dispersed from station to station, varying in groups of from five to ten in strength. Unbacked by adequate reserves at "Tenenza" (platoon), Company, and Group (bn) h.q.s.; cut off from these h.q.s. in that in very few areas are telephone comms. working; unserved by vehicles capable of meeting conditions imposed by terrain or communications and mobility; and not armed equally to the bandits, CC RR out-stations present an unhappy picture.

A full and detailed study is being made by this unit of conditions throughout Emilia and a plan of minimum essential requirements will be submitted to H.Q. MIA at the earliest possible moment.

3

## 2. ORGANISATION

(a) Domestic. The W.D. of civilian personnel for this unit has not yet been implemented except in the case of a general dutymen. The reason for this is that we have not yet established mess or billet for officers or G.Ms.

A CC RR liaison office is being set up with ~~284~~ unit, to assist in compiling the plan referred to in para 1 (b). A CC RR captain is already at work in this sphere; the civilian clerks will assist.

(b) Italian. (CC RR). Some difficulty is being encountered in obtaining the over-all CC RR picture for 6 Terr. Cmd. area. Two provinces in the north-west of the area come under Genoa Legion, and two in the south-east under Ancona Legion. Reports so far from these two corners have been sketchy and the

...../1.

CC RR picture at the moment known to this office, represents only the area covered by Bologna Legion. It is hoped that the CC RR Liaison office referred to in Para 2 (a) will assist in achieving a balanced over-all picture.

The operation of gangs of armed bandits, from fifty to sixty strong, in the Emilia region, present the CC RR with something of a military problem. The organization and lay-out of the CC RR should be based on the existence of posts on the ground backed by reserves, and above all by mobile reserves. This for the moment is not the case. Further, rapid communications must be available between posts and H.Q.s. Since telephones are not working over widespread areas, and the CC RR are without other means of communication such as wireless, motor-cycle, or car, but must rely on bicycles in some cases, and good luck in others, this condition is in no way satisfied.

3. TRAINING

(a) F.T.C. A suitable site in Ferraro has now been found for this F.T.C., to take the place of Modena which is most unsatisfactory. Permission for the alteration in plan has yet to be given by M. of W., in view of an increase in expenditure that will be necessary if the new site is chosen.

Ferraro offers three distinct advantages. Good personnel accommodation (better than at Modena); training areas available in the immediate vicinity of the school (as opposed to Modena where they were some thirteen miles apart); an altogether more temperate and favorable climate than Modena, with better opportunities for recreation during the hot months.

(b) A range has been handed back to Italian Military Control in the Bologna area. This will be available for the Inf. bn. of the independent regiment stationed in Bologna. It is hoped that the same may be achieved for each bn. of 6 Inf. regiment in due course.

4. INTELLIGENCE

(a) Evidence is accumulating that arms are being smuggled into Emilia from the sea in the Lake Comacchio area. Guarding this area effectively is beyond the powers of the isolated and

3. TRAINING

(a) T.F.C. A suitable site in Pesaro has now been found for this T.F.C., to take the place of Modena which is most unsatisfactory. Permission for the alteration in plan has yet to be given by M. of W., in view of an increase in expenditure that will be necessary if the new site is chosen.

Pesaro offers three distinct advantages. Good personnel accommodation (better than at Modena); training areas available in the immediate vicinity of the school (as opposed to Modena where they were some thirteen miles apart); an altogether more temperate and favorable climate than Modena, with better opportunities for recreation during the hot months.

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4. INTELLIGENCE

(a) Evidence is accumulating that arms are being smuggled into Emilia from the sea in the Lake Comacchio area. Guarding this area effectively is beyond the powers of the isolated and weak posts of CC RH without the assistance of an efficient coast guard service. So far evidence is not available whether the organizing genius of this smuggling consists of individual working for personal gain, or of organizations, either native or foreign, working for political ends.

(b) There has been no improvement in public confidence in CC RH and army from that reported in my Monthly Routine Intelligence Summary No 1.

(c) The picture with regard to subversive elements is one of activity on a small but vigorous scale.

The Communist...../3

The Communist party is reported to be studying the strength and deployment of allied troops in Emilia. An anti-communist student demonstration in Bologna with Trieste as its motif was broken up by workmen, who, it is reported, were moved to the scene by transport supplied from sources controlled by the Sindaco. Two active little groups indulging in hearty propaganda are the Squadra D'Azione Mussolini, and the Fronte del-I'Uomo Qualunque. The first is openly neo-fascist - the second denies that it is so. The efforts of both are opposed to the communists. Finally there is a monarchist organization rapidly spreading over Emilia. Details of the strength of these organizations and the percentage of the population they include are not available. However it seems we have our fingers to fan in Emilia should the occasion arise.

(d) Reports on public law and order will be sketchy in that the detailed examination of it, with the assistance of the CC RR Liaison Office has not been possible this month. The major fact is the raid carried out on Savigno (10833) during the night of the 11th December by a band of about 60 bandits. This raid was a repetition of the Gaggio Montana incident - CC RR post was immobilised and the village systematically looted. It seems probable that in some parts of Emilia (particularly in the Appennines) public security is non-existent, and banditry is limited only by the whims of the persons concerned and the difficulties their encounter in transporting and disposing of their loot.

## 5. LIAISON

A liaison visit was made to Ancona during the period covered by this report. Contacts were made with H.Q. 61 Area, and with Italian military establishments in the town.

61 Area have few Dr-Iti troops under Command and relations between them presented no problem. Consequently the fact that 712 Adm. Regt. had not moved up from Bari at that time was not given much prominence.

## 6. MOVES & LOCATIONS

(a) One Bn., III/87 Regt. Triuli Inf. Div. has moved



major fact is the raid carried out on Savigno (16838) during the night of the 11th December by a band of about 60 bandits. This raid was a repetition of the Reggio Montana incident - CC NR post was immobilised and the village systematically looted. It seems probable that in some parts of Emilia (particularly in the Appennines) public security is non-existent, and banditry is limited only by the whims of the persons concerned and the difficulties their encounter in transporting and disposing of their loot.

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61 Area have few Br-Iti troops under Command and relations between them presented no problem. Consequently the fact that 712 Adm. Regt. had not moved up from Zari at that time was not given much prominence.

#### 6. MOVES & LOCATIONS

(a) One Bn., III/87 Regt. Friuli Inf. Div. has moved into the Reggio Emilia area. The remaining two Bns. of 87eInf. Regt. are expected to follow in due course.

(b) 712 Adm. Regt. should be moving into the Ancona area at the time of writing this report.

2843

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#### 7. DOMESTIC

This DIU has at present no deficiencies in military personnel WE. The full position is shown in my letter A/7/I dated 3 Jan 46. One clerk is on LIAP (reported in my A/2/I dated 29 Dec 45); he should return mid-February.

Disbursements...../4.



8. DISBANDEMENTS

Disbandment of various units is continuing, and personnel are disposed of under orders of 6 Territorial Command without undue delay. Men are absorbed into local admin units as much as possible but in cases where a large number of specialists become available (eg. a GTCoy), the Infantry Divs take the majority. The only difficulties have been presented by 1 and 2 GT Coyevhich are still partially in existence. This is through no fault of any Italian HQ. HQ 217 Area have now assumed a certain responsibility and it is hoped that there will be little further delay.

9

9. DOMESTIC

For the tpt situation of this DIV, which is satisfactory, see attached Appendix 'D'.

Spacious and well-heated office accommodation has been provided by Territorial Command adjoining their own offices and preliminary work such as painting, white-washing, installation of bells and telephones etc. has at last been satisfactorily completed.

10. ACCOMMODATION

The main obstacle to the occupation of the more serviceable barracks in the Region is still DP & MSC. The view of 6 Territorial Command, felt somewhat strongly, is that the refugee problem has died down sufficiently to allow a partial release of the accn still controlled by this body.

At present we are dealing with the local AC team over the M'Asoglio Barracks Bologna, and you will be informed if developments are unsatisfactory.

II. RATIONS

In recent days all the Food Distribution Depots in the Territorial Command have been visited with the exception of

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At present we are dealing with the local AC team over the D'Angelo barracks Bologna, and you will be informed if developments are unsatisfactory.

#### II. RATIONS

In recent days all the Food Distribution Depots in the Territorial Command have been visited with the exception of that at Piacenza. Certain quantities of supplies in Ancona and Forli originally drawn from 13 CRASC Depots have been examined by Analysis Commission and condemned.

Some difficulties are arising over the fresh vegetable and fruit issues to Dr-Iti units. In some cases certain quantities are being left uncracked on the hands of the Distribution Depots owing to reduction in Dr-Iti strength. It is evident that units would prefer to be able to purchase their <sup>own</sup> ~~own~~ and vegetables on the market rather than have these issued after handling at two depots.

Transport...../5

12. TRANSPORT CC RR

Distribution of the 63 M/Cs released by 2 District to MVP Bologna for CC RR has been held up owing to conflicting instructions. The original orders on the subject from SMGR, which have not yet been amended, allotted all 63 to Mobil En Bologna. Subsequently Mobil's Sme Ladua, Bologna and Milan, having received allocations from the Comando Generale similar to those contained in your signal ST/1306, laid claim to their shares. Territorial Command are now releasing on the basis of your above-quoted signal.

13. CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT

The clothing repair workshop in Bologna, now in the process of expansion, has insufficient machinery for its boot-repair department to meet present and future needs.

Territorial Command are giving this matter close attention especially as the boots of the bn of Friuli Div, which has lately arrived in Reggio Emilia, are reported to be in a poor state.

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2841

Subject: - Division Report No C/3.

CONFIDENTIAL

2 S.S.I. 601011A,  
C/O 117 Area.

FROM: VICTORIANO 119.

DOI/S/C, 2 Dec 45.

Division Report for week ending 1 Dec 45.

(5)

1. General.

U.S.A. I also reports of this type will be discontinued and reports and returns by 1st/2d hour in each. Directive #2 will be re-dered monthly from this office.

On 27 and 28 Nov I visited 4000, calling on 410 (Special), and 61 areas. Orders have just been received by 1st area for the formation of 710 4th Regt. Richards 710 and 1st has been looking after the 1st/2d troops in 4000 area.

*Rich's note*

2. 1st Points.

No 9 Territorial Command is ready to receive 507 sq bn in 1st Coy, which I visited, is still waiting for final instructions from 216 area (I am preparing this matter). 1st Coy are in process of converting into the two new untrained Coy; 452 sq bn 1st is still in 4000 area, waiting for orders for movement of 205, 267 & 258 Coys, and for disbandment of 1st and 258 Coy; as order from 1st has finally closed the remains of 205 Div, and 717 has been the 1st of clearing it up.

3. 1st Points.

I inspected 76 Food Depot at 4000. It appears very well. Factory, the system will be checked in 4 clean up wire shop, a close copy of the system system.  
Col Transit Corp, which I visited, is very badly deteriorated. See my DOI/S/C of 2 Jan.

4. 1st Points.

I inspected during this week to have 5 S.I.I. operating on a proper footing with 1st staff. No 5 Territorial Command is providing 1st area above mentioned.



action of 7th Adm Regt. Hitherto 715 Adm Regt has been looking after the 5-111 troops in acoona area.

*2. 1st note*

2. '01 points.

No 6 territorial command is ready to receive 507 64 Bn in acoona as soon as 2 District moves it.  
1st Coy, 715 Regt is still waiting for changed instructions from HQ. 2nd Coy (A) is awaiting the order to move into the process of moving into the new authorized Coy; 3rd Coy is still in acoona area, waiting for orders for movement of 25th, 257 & 268 Coys, and for disbandment of HQ and 269 Coy; an order from HQ has finally cleared the remains of 709 Bn, and 717 Regt has the job of clearing it up.

2. '01 points.

I contacted 75 Wood Depot at acoona. It appears very satisfactory, the relations well worked in a clear and airy shed, a close copy of the battery system.  
Col. G. G. G. visited, is very busy, accompanied. He is 301/3/0 of 2 Reg.

1. '01 points.

It is hoped during this week to have 6 U.I.L. operating on a proper footing with full staff. 3rd territorial command is providing office administration.

*Handwritten signature*  
110 6 U.I.L.

*P. 450*

*Handwritten initials*

Subject:- Liaison Report No C/2.

CONFIDENTIAL.

6 B.L.U. BULBURA,  
c/o 217 Area.

Phone: VICKSBURG 119.

BOI/3/6, 25 Nov 45.

Liaison Report for week ending 24 Nov 45.

1. General.

I think I have succeeded in establishing in the minds of 217 Area and 6 Territorial Command the extent of their responsibilities towards 717 Adm Regt. Area has published a helpful letter defining the functions of 717 and of 6 B.L.U. Instructions from the Ministry of War on changes from BR-III to III-III state that there is some confusion about who coming through and consequently there is still some confusion about who administers which. The Ministry keeps on sending unhelpful signals to 717 laying down its location. It might be pointed out that this is an operational matter for 2 District to decide.

2. 'B' Points.

Area has ordered 717 to send a rep to V.HQMA with a view to moving its HQ there shortly.

Disbandments: 1 and 2 GI Coys are still held up over banding in their transport. The fault is not theirs, but is due to the difficulties encountered in getting orders for disposal out of the British authorities. The Air Brigades are in the process of listing their stores and having their vehicles classified.

3. 'C' Points.

As noted last week, the Italian Depots are drawing rations in bulk from DIOs for BR-III's. On 24 Nov I was informed over the phone by Capt. Craig that Air Force units are no longer to draw rations from the Depots in this Command.

4. 'A' Points.

I have received from 217 Area an order, enclosing HQ letter HQ/AL(268 3712) of 17 Nov, to supervise the formation of No 6 B.L.U. (Type A). I do not propose to take any action on this until I receive further evidence from you. I am writing you a letter on this subject.

5. District

functions of 717 and of 6 B.L.U. Instructions from the Ministry of War on changes from BR-III to III-III states are somewhat slow in coming this way and consequently there is still some confusion about who administers whom. The Ministry keeps on sending unhelpful signals to 717 laying down its location. It might be pointed out that this is an operational matter for 2 District to decide.

2. '3' Points.

Area has ordered 717 to send a rep to V.ROSA with a view to moving its HQ there shortly.

Disbandments: 1 and 2 GT Coys are still held up over handing in their transport. The fault is not theirs, but is due to the difficulties encountered in getting orders for disposal out of the British authorities. The 4th Engineers are in the process of listing their stores and moving their vehicles classified.

3. '4' Points.

As noted last week, the Italian Depots are drawing rations in bulk from DIDs for BR-III's. On 24 Nov I was informed over the phone by Capt. Craig that Air Force units are no longer to draw rations from the Depots in this Command.

4. 'A' Points.

I have received from 2117 Area in order, enclosing HQ letter 1100/41(3rd 3712) of 17 Nov, to supervise the formation of No 6 B.L.U. (Type 4). I do not propose to take any action on this until I receive further guidance from you. I am writing you a letter on this subject.

5. Domestic.

During the coming week I propose to make a short tour of my area of responsibility, visiting 210 (Spec) Area and 81 Area.

2837

*[Handwritten signature]*

Capt.,  
CC 6 B.L.U.

Distribution: HQ S.A.I.A. (4)  
File.

29/11  
RP

P. 450

Subject: Liaison Report No 6/A.

CONFIDENTIAL.

1. Lt. Col. W.C. BULLOCK,  
C/O 217 Area.

20/1/45, 16 Nov 45

3

Liaison Report for week ending 17 Nov 45.

1. General.

I took over this office from Capt. Thruys in Allan on 10 Nov, and opened here on 13 Nov. During the week I have contacted most of the 217 Area Staff, Gen. Verica and some of his staff and Col. Dextoni, Cdr of 717 Adm Regt. With Gen. Verica I made a short tour of ex-107 from Russia (I could not altogether share the Italians' horror at their condition. Those I saw were certainly badly dressed, but I did not notice any marks of starvation); the new and young Base del Soldato; the Officers Club; the troops reception zone in the station, on which work is still in progress. Gen. Verica is an officer who looks at Lavatorio.

2. 'U' points.

I find some confusion, which I am engaged in sorting out, over the role and responsibilities of 717 and 987. Up to now it has been in Bologna, W/C 251 Div in Allan, and with some, but not all, Br-5th troops in the Bologna Garrison Command under its command. 217 Area was not even aware of its existence. During the next few days I shall be checked the orbit of Br-5th and ensure that every-one concerned knows that they are W/C 717. I have suggested to 2 District Staff, in view of its commitments, the Staff would be better placed in Verona than in Bologna.

Disbandments: Delaying tactics are anticipated from the 11 Engineers, who will probably (I offer this only as a surmise) not feel satisfied with the retention of only two Coys. 252 has Gp took over 11s signals on 13 Nov and is awaiting positive orders for its personnel. 2 GP Coy attempted to hand in its Colours 4, 5 & 6 when this was met with refusal from 16 VP. Literally no office in this VP knows how these should be disbanded. I have written hopefully to 28 Vab Coy.

3. 'V' points.

District has decided that the British portion of the station for Br-5th will be handed over to 217 Area (17 to Bologna). No difficulties are anticipated because each of the lines that are concerned is close to a DLT.

I visited the O&A Workshops at G. Vercia with 217 Area 217 28830



of 717 Adm Regt. With Gen. Corrice I made a short tour of ex-POW from Russia (I could not enter since the Italians' horror at their condition, those I saw were certainly badly dressed, but I did not notice any signs of starvation); the new and roomy Camp del Soldato; the Officers Club; the trooper recreation room in the station; on which work is still in progress. Gen. Corrice is an officer who looks at Lavaterics.

2. 'A' Points.

I had some confusion, which I am engaged in sorting out, over the role and responsibilities of 717 Adm Regt. Up to now it has been in Bologna, w/o 211 Div in Milan, and with some, but not all, Br-171 troops in the Bologna Territorial Command under its command. 217 Area was not even a part of its assistance. During the week last week I could be confident that every-thing was handled smoothly in the area. I have so far been able to 2 District Regt, in view of its new commitments, the Regt will no longer have any role in Bologna.

Disbandments: Delaying tactics are anticipated from the 11 Engineers, who will probably (I offer this only as a suggestion) not feel satisfied with the retention of only two Coy. 252 Regt. The 1st Coy attempted to head in its class 1, 3, 4, 5 vabs this week but met with refusal from 10 Ws. Apparently no office in this Regt knows how these should be discussed etc. I have written hopefully to 11 Regt Coy.

2. 'A' Points.

I visited the CAIS Workshops at S. Maria with Major 217 21730 occupied by 1 170 Workshops. After this letter will be slowly operation-ally changed for construction now proposed to 4 11 Regt in Bologna only if Territorial HQ can offer any or better specifications for it elsewhere.

Investigate the possibility of handing over to the Italians the parts now occupied by 1 170 Workshops. After this letter will be slowly operation-ally changed for construction now proposed to 4 11 Regt in Bologna only if Territorial HQ can offer any or better specifications for it elsewhere.

I visited the CAIS Workshops at S. Maria with Major 217 21730 occupied by 1 170 Workshops. After this letter will be slowly operation-ally changed for construction now proposed to 4 11 Regt in Bologna only if Territorial HQ can offer any or better specifications for it elsewhere.

4. 'A' Points.

via letter 3/30/2 of 14 Nov last. He believes that I shall shortly be the sole representative of 6 and Bologna Type A and 5 B12 Bologna Type B. Until further orders I retain the name and functions of 2114-16, but I should be grateful for clarification of this point.

Copy to: 2114 H. Italy. 450  
Capt., Liaison Officer.

20/11  
RGP



CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: Liaison Report - 5 Nov 45

AMIA LO BOLGONA  
c/o HQ 217 Area

Bel/3 4 Nov 45

To: Land Forces Sub Com AC  
(AMIA) ROME.

copy Senior AMIA LO MILAN

2

GENERAL

Discussions on the New Army have aroused considerable interest here. Gen CERIGA's views are largely in agreement with those of the GOC, but he feels quite strongly on two points: the importance of keeping the Military Districts and cutting down the services by greater reliance on civil services eg. hospitals, transport services etc.

I have heard the view expressed here that the sooner the different categories of the Italian Army are abolished the better. The continued existence of Br-iti Service Tps ("Verdoni") with their divided loyalties and separate adm, causes confusion and lack of cohesion.

BR-ITI ORG.

W.e.f. 10 Nov 209 Adm Div closes down PADUA and comd is taken over by 717 Adm Regt ( Col BERICHINI ex 402 Pioneer Regt) with HQ in BOLGONA. Initially the 'present' strength of the Regt will be almost 4000. But with the dissolution of 252 Pack Gp, the final disappearance of units now disbanding and the move of 518 Gd Bn, the strength should fall rapidly to 1400. Demob of 1920 class has not been taken into account in the above figures.

DISBANDEMENTS

1 and 2 Coy are still not disbanded. In the case of 1 Coy there seems to be a hitch in the orders for the disposal of the vehs. 2 Coy is going ahead but orders for disposal of the vehs are still awaited from District. The OC of the latter coy has received an order from the War Ministry to have his unit liquidated "improvemente" by 8 Nov. I have told him not to worry unduly about this as the thing is not in his hands.

RAILWAY ENGINEERS

If these units are to remain in being (Monthly Liaison Letter No.1, para 3 (ii)), I feel something should be done to put them on a better footing. The chief evils seem to be:-

(a) Too little interest on part of...

the different categories of the Italian Army are still better. The continued existence of British Service Tps ("Verdoni") with their divided loyalties and separate adms, causes confusion and lack of cohesion.

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DISBANDEMENTS

1 and 2 Gf Coys are still not disbanded. In the case of 1 Coy there seems to be a hitch in the orders for the disposal of the vehs. 2 Coy is going ahead but orders for disposal of the vehs are still awaited from District. The CC of the latter coy has received an order from the War Ministry to have his unit liquidated "improrogabilmente" by 8 Nov. I have told him not to worry unduly about this as the thing is not in his hands.

RAILWAY ENGINEERS

If these units are to remain in being (Monthly Liaison Letter No.1, para 3 (ii) ), I feel something should be done to put them on a better footing. The chief evils seem to be:-

- (a) Too little interest on part of the Inspectorate in ROME.
- (b) Too many HQs. With only three bns left, one of the Gp Hqs should be scrapped. I Gp ("Perotti") in BOL-EGNA could effectively look after the three bns.
- (c) 2 Bn (VERONA) had all its American tps and now has only a lot of old crooks, mainly German, salvaged last Spring from the banks of the Po. This should be completely re-equipped with Italian vehs.

I am told that 3 and 6 Bns are now non-existent. Brit stores (incl vehs in case of 6 Bn) have been transferred to the remaining units.

St/

*Quinto*  
*Quinto*  
Captain  
JMTA LG

St/ 2-12

Subject: Liaison Report - 27 Oct 45

MAIL LC BOLIGNA  
c/o HQ 317 Area  
Sol/3 28 Oct 45

To: Land Forces Sub Com AC  
(MAIL) Rome.

copy General MAIL LC MILAN

105

ACCOMMODATION

17 Area have notified the release of the disband  
barracks in TRECIO MILAN. For the moment Territorial Command  
can think of no use for it, so they are going to occupy it with  
a holding party.

Gen BOLIGNA is going to Rome today to try to settle  
the question of FANO. I fancy he wishes to renew acquaintance  
with Maj MERLAN.

L.S. BOLIGNA

Train Co Control have reported that 507 Bn will  
shortly be released. They have also reported unfavorably on  
its discipline, attributing the trouble mainly to bad adm. I have  
warned Territorial Command of this and we agree that it will be  
better to move it to LONDA where it will be directly under the  
supervision of the 13 Regt Lt.

No part of 507 Bn has yet reached Rome. With  
British LT assistance, it could move in echelons with intervals  
allowing work to proceed on the barracks. Florence Command have  
confirmed that the fourth Coy is now free.

LT

War Ministry have given the "go ahead" for work  
on the BUSTO park.

6 Repair Unit, with the assistance of a mechanical  
excavator, is clearing a parking space which can be expected to  
accommodate some 150 to 200 vehs in the open.

The old G.A.R.L. Stores Depot at FICHERA is being  
put on its feet again, and may, I am told, receive some of the  
vehs ex CHEBI. I am also told that it is to depend from MILAN  
Territorial HQ. Is this so?

COMMISSARIANO

Gen BOLIGNA's recent visit was a timely one and  
should have been up a bit. The stocking of the Globbing Depot

the creation of PANG. I fancy he wishes to re-ass acquaintance with Maj BULLAN.

1.00. 20000000

Word of General have confirmed that 507 Bn will shortly be released. They have also reported unfavourably on its discipline, attributing the trouble mainly to bad adm. I have warned Territorial Command of this and we agree that it will be better to move it to MODENA where it will be directly under the supervision of the 1st Regt Bn.

As part of 9th we have jet reached 1st Bn. With British HQ assistance, it could move in echelons with intervals allowing work to proceed on the barracks. Florence Command have confirmed that the fourth Coy is now free.

1.1

War Ministry have given the "go ahead" for work on the SUBRIG park.

5 Repair Unit, with the assistance of a mechanical excavator, is clearing a parking space which can be expected to accommodate some 150 to 200 vehs in the open.

The old C.A.R.E. Stores Depot at FICENZA is being put on its feet again, and may, I am told, receive some of the vehs ex QUART. I am also told that it is to "depend from" MILAN Territorial HQ. Is this so?

COMMISSARIATO

Gen PELLICANI's recent visit was a timely one and should have been up a bit. The stocking of the Clothing Depot should also improve in consequence.

MINE-CLEANING COMPANIES

I am arranging for these coys (56, 563, 564) working in the RAVENNA area to be placed directly under the Genic of the Territorial Command for adm and to cease having anything to do with 209 Div.

2835

RAILWAY LIAISONERS

The disbandment of 5 Bn is being speeded. The plan is to make 13 Bn swallow it whole. The personnel, not being very numerous, should prove quite digestible, but as regards Brit stores and vehs I have told Gruppo "Terrotti" that 2 District authority must first be sought.

*Capitano*  
Captain  
MATA 50

Q 450



