

10000/120/2222

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10000/120/2222

Q/455

1 - B.L.U. - TURIN - LIAISON

REPORTS

NOV. 1945 - JUNE 1946

(a) N.T.R.

(b) Gen PREMILRI ex- Commander of CREMONA Inf Div is still in TURIN area under authy. This is causing a certain amount of difficulty with the present commander.

Employment of Tps

(a) Army less CC.RR.

Movement of tps of Cremona to conform with Public Security role, has taken place this week, 22 Regt is now concentrated in the NOVARA - VERCELLI area, and 21 Regt in the TURIN area, see att location statement. Units of the 7 Arty Regt are deployed with the Inf Regts and in some cases Bns. The moves were carried out without any noticeable incidents.

All units are carrying out Pecco exercises of their areas, to ensure all ranks have a good knowledge of the new area.

All units of the Cremona Div have been visited by GSO I & GSO II and with the exception of 3/21 Bn a favourable impression was made.

(b) CC.RR.

Normal duties.

Training

(a) Army less CC.RR.

Trg Exts

The C.A.A.R. has been visited regularly, and the trs appears to be running smoothly, the absence of various types of arm has caused a number of requests to this BLU but all the arm required has already been listed by your letter TRG/42/1 of 15 Apr 46 as not available in this theatre.

ACTION

This office
letter A 1/15
dated 1 Jun 46.

TO: 10-2313	
FROM: A/3	
SUBJECT: 3227	
DATE: 11/6/46	
INITIALS: M.	
REMARKS: 94	
FILE NO: 100	

11/6/46
M.

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(ii). Other Tps

Cranona Inf units have been carrying out section leader tactical exercises in the past fortnight, mainly to train unexperienced and newly promoted section leaders.

The 1/21 Bn was visited during one of these exercises and on the whole useful trg was being carried out. 7 Arty Regt have carried out various inter-Regimental cadres for new officers and NOOs to the Regt.

144 Bn Engr. After a lot of work by this BLU, we have arranged to obtain a release of Bailey Br egpt from 179 CRE for this unit, as all the WE Bailey bridging egpt was used in action; and has never been replaced. The Bn is now able to get down to real trg, to teach the new recruits Bailey Bridging.

(b) CC.RR.

Carabinieri trg has been intense during the past month, the arrival of Staghounds, M/cs etc, necessitating courses for a large percentage of the tps.

Intelligence(a) Activity of Italians - Other Countries

Although the situation in Val d'Aosta appears to be normal, the French propaganda is still very active both through local elements as well as through individuals of the valley residing in France. The topic which is mainly exploited is the economic one, owing to the very serious conditions of the valley itself and of course this topic finds a very fertile field through the campaign which promises that annexation will give all that the people of the valley are now lacking. In addition to the political activity, there is also a very intense activity of smugglers, carried out in Aosta by all sorts of trawes, who not only carry out a contraband activity but also a political one, attracted as they are by the money which is being offered them.

Reliable infm report that in Val di Susa everything leads to believe that the pro-annexation campaign will soon be resumed. Signs will probably be posted at

3228

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Reliable infm report that in Val di Susa everything leads to believe that the pro-annexation campaign will soon be resumed. Signs will probably be posted at Oulx, Cesana and Bardonecchia, supporting annexation to France. The high amount of French currency which has been noticed in the Valley corroborates the infm.

It would appear that some one thousand maquisards are at Cervières-Briançon, ostensibly to attend a commemoration. Symptoms of an annexation campaign also in Val Chisone, where signs of the G.A.D. have been posted.

...../3

- 3 -

In the Domodossola area, the local Montecatini plant have engaged about 150 foreign non-skilled elements to the inhabitant's great surprise as the unemployed on the spot are many and the amount of work is reduced to such an extent that no new engagement is justified.

It is reported that clandestine wireless sets are still operating both in Italian and in an unknown language. It is impossible to identify the sets as there is no radio finder.

The presence of Slav elements is confirmed in Val Vigizzo and in Val Grande.

(b) Frontier Activity

N.T.R.

(c) Relations between Tps & Populace

As regards the Carabinieri, who are now enjoying the people's complete trust, through their activity against crime, it is feared by the people themselves that the outcome of the elections which will be held on 2 Jun 46 may effect the strength and efficiency of the corps who now represent the only safeguard in maintaining public order.

The peoples' interest towards the soldiers is increasing. The campaign of the political parties in respect of military personnel has increased considerably as the day of elections approaches.

(d) Political current among Tps.

A violent campaign is now being carried out for the purpose of obtaining the soldiers' votes on behalf of the republican and left parties. At least 2000 are copies of several leaflets (in bright colours) issued to soldiers. The leaflets invite the military personnel to vote for the republic, charging the monarchy with very serious responsibilities and asking their votes for the communists. An underground campaign is aiming to persuade the people that the result of the election means the disbandment of the Italian Army, and the immediate return of the soldiers to their homes.

So far it has not been possible to ascertain which is the source of this propaganda, although it is surmised that it originates from the extreme left parties.

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So far it has not been possible to ascertain which is the source of this propaganda, although it is surmised that it originates from the extreme left parties.

On the 8 May at Casale Monferrato's C.A.R. an attempt was made to persuade the soldiers to go back to their homes, by divulging unreliable rumours. The attempt was unsuccessful as most of the soldiers remained at their place. It has been ascertained that many soldiers have provided themselves with civilian clothes, as they believe that after the elections have taken place they will be released or at least asked to return to their homes.

Amongst the units no political tendency has the priority over the others. The feeling is that the majority of the tps are rather apathetic, but it is difficult to foresee their reactions after the elections are over.

(c) Subversive Elements

No subversive elements amongst the units, have been reported.

The anti-militarist campaign carried out by the socialist and communist press is of a subversive and instigating nature. Military authorities, officers and General Staff are attacked and the aim is that of splitting the discipline of the units and invite the soldiers to set themselves free from the orders of their commanders.

The report of the incident at Casale C. I. R. is att at topix "u" and details of an incident which took place between an officer of the 3/24 and an ex-officer called Ulysses of the communist paper "L'Unita", the latter is an ex-fascist well known to Lt BMA and used to write fascist propaganda.

BMA approached him and took a copy of an earlier article written by Ulysses, which was fascist propaganda, naturally the communist ex-officer was not pleased. However BMA was punished for taking an interest in politics. Full report from Territoriale is att re both incidents.

(d) Public Security

N.T.R.

(e) Economics

The situation remains unchanged.

III-A Domestic

- (a) At present this unit is complete to 75. Further infm has been received from OZE of four rfts (two of which have already arrived) as being posted to 1 BLU, it is hoped that authy can be obtained to keep these surplus ORs to replace personnel proceeding on release in the near future.

Italian(b) Deficiencies

Specialists
Tradesmen etc

Telephone Mechs
Armourers
Pioneers

Percentage of deficiencies
in total manpower under comd

20%
15%
-
17%

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Italian

(b) Deficiencies

Specialists
Tradesmen etc

Telephone Mechs
Armourers
Pioneers
Drivers
Driver Mechs
Cooks
Typists
Blacksmiths
Bakers
Nursing Orderlies
Fitters
DRs
Masons
Lineamen
Sappers

Percentage of deficiencies
in total manpower under comd

20%
15%
-
47%
26%
-
9%
10%
-
11%
15%
25%
40%
-
-

...../5

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Discipline

The following cases were reported to the Military Tribunal :-

Deserters	62
Absentees	21
thefts	8

1 C.A.R.

Absentees 12 May - 25 May	65
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Morale

N.T.R.

Domestio Tpt

N.T.R.

Aoon

N.T.R.

Italian

Tpt

Main points in Cremona Inf Div Tpt is :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	403	304	254	50
5-ton	368	356	296	60
15-omt	299	262	206	56

Main points of No 1 C.T.A.

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	18	8	4	4
Cars	16	14	7	7
Trucks	80	51	43	9

3223

IV Q

Main points in Terr Comd veh state for No 1 C.A.R. :-

Morale

N.T.R.

Domestic Tpt

N.T.R.

Aoon

N.T.R.

ItalianTpt

Main points in Cremona Inf Div Tpt is :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	403	304	254	50
3-ton	368	356	296	60
15-ton	299	262	205	56

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3223

Main points in Terr Comd veh state for No 1 C.A.R. :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	4	4	4	-
3-ton	2	2	2	-
Trucks	18	14	10	4

WZJECommand Wksp TURIN

This wksp is now working to its full capacity under the present conditions. The stores section is compelled to operate in four different places, and although a certain amount of centralizing has been done, a considerable amount of time is wasted daily in going from one store to another making issues etc.

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The Genio have not taken any interest in starting repairs to the wisp site and this is badly hampering any future improvements to the wisps.

Output Figures are :-

	<u>27 Apr</u>	<u>4 May</u>	<u>11 May</u>	<u>18 May</u>
"B" Vehs	8	11	9	12
Trailers	-	-	-	-
M/Cs	2	7	1	2
Recovery	3	2	3	4

Personnel employed

Military	6	6	7	6
Civilian	54	54	54	54

Div Wisps CREMONA Inf Div

A great improvement has been made in the lay-out of this wisp by the new wisp officer. They have been badly handicapped by the heavy rains during the past month.

The engine dismantling shops are now working and they have another shop solely for the repairs to bodywork. The Electricians shop is now functioning properly, a textile coat for the repairs of waterproof covers etc has been opened and also a small section for the vulcanizing of inner tubes. Various forms of lifting eqpt have been acquired and these improvements are very welcome signs after such a long time.

Royal Arsenal TURIN

To date 600 butt plates for rifles have been manufactured and issued to Cremona Div wisps. Immediately Cremona are completed all output will be diverted to Mantova Div. The Arsenal has received an order from the Ministry of War to manufacture a further 10,000 butt plates. This figure should be reached in two months.

Orders have been given that all CC.RR. vehs entering wisps are to be given the highest priority, and will take precedence for spares and labour over all other vehs.

RAOC

3229

Military	6	6	7	6
Civilian	54	54	54	54

Div Wkspcs CREMONA Inf Div

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Orders have been given that all OC.RR. vchs entering Wkspcs are to be given the highest priority, and will take precedence 23 for spares and labour over all other vchs.

RAOC

(a) Clothing

The position in the Territorial Command depots is extremely satisfactory. Ample stocks of uniforms and boots are held and no difficulty is being experienced.

The new Battle Dress is being manufactured in small quantities; it is of type similar to the British ED and differs only in colour and style of pockets and epaulettes.

There is no immediate prospects of Summer clothing being available this year. Contracts have been placed for 10,000 sets but these will not be completed until the end of Sep 46. Material for summer clothing is of a superior quality, superior in fact to British ED. It is being manufactured in the form of a battle dress.

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Arms & Amn(a) Army loss CC. RR.

Cremona Inf Div state that arms in desperate need of cleaning due to the shortage of pullthroughs etc. a qty of these are being manufactured in the Arsenal Milan.

(b) CC.RR.

N.T.R.

General

A case regarding boots in respect of certain units of Cremona has been cleared up, and results in the units being at fault. Sufficient boots are held in Terr Depot to cater for any demands within reason. Owing to shortage of labour and materials in the military factory repairing was taking a long time; however, arrangements were made with the Commissariato of Cremona for all boots to be withdrawn and the materials for their repair issued with them, this has been done.

C.E.H.

A recent visit to this unit by ADOS of HQ MIA has cleared the picture as regards to MIA Blankets, and has promised to make further enquiries with CAG.

Medical

The numbers have been admitted to hosp during the past month :-

Medical cases	175
Contagious diseases	28
Surgical	71
Optical cases	13
ENT	19
V.D.	77
Skin Diseases	34
Under observation	30

Public Relations

3221

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A recent visit to this unit by ADOS of HQ BIA has cleared the picture as regards to BIAA Blankets, and has promised to make further enquiries with CMO.

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Medical cases	175
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Skin Diseases	54
Under observation	50

Public Relations

See this office letter A 11 dated 28 May 46.

3221

W. F. H. H. H.
Lt Col
GSO I

Appx "7" to 1 HUJ Progress
Report No 11 dated 1 Jun 46

SOLDIERS

REMEMBER : WHO IS LEADING YOU OUT OF YOU ?

WHO CAN LEAD AGAIN OUT OF YOU THAT HAS BEEN HERE SO FAR?
DEMOCRACY AND FASCISM
SOLDIERS !

ARE YOU FREE CITIZENS OR NOT?

DO YOU WISH TO WORK QUIETLY FOR YOUR OWN FAMILIES OR NOT?
HAVE YOU GOT A FAMILY TO KEEP OR TO ASSIST?

YOU MUST THEN VOTE FOR THE COMMUNIST PARTY!

YOU MUST VOTE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE WORKERS

ONLY THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN
FREEDOM
PEACE
WORK
BREAD

SOLDIERS remember the 10 of June 1940

OFFICERS remember from the 10 June -
to the 8 Sept.

Imperialism
Lack of responsibility
aggressive war
FASCISM
HUNGER, DISEASE
PRISON, EXHILATION
HOMES, FAMILIES AND
SO ON DESTROYED.

SOLDIERS OFFICERS : On the 2nd June LET US SAY "NO" to that
treacherous institution called monarchy.

BY VOTING for the Italian Communist Party.
BY VOTING for the Democratic Republic of the workers.

you WILL VOTE for the people.

AGAINST the fascist and monarchist system.

WHO CAN MAKE AGAIN ONE OF YOU THAT HAS BEEN MADE SO FAR?
MONARCHY AND FASCISM

SOLDIERS !

ARE YOU FREE CITIZENS OR NOT?

DO YOU WISH TO WORK QUIETLY FOR YOUR OWN FAMILIES OR NOT?

HAVE YOU GOT A FAMILY TO FEED OR TO ASSIST?

YOU MUST THEN VOTE FOR THE COMMUNIST PARTY!

YOU MUST VOTE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE WORKERS

ONLY THIS YOU WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN

FREEDOM
 PEACE
 WORK
 OR AD

SOLDIERS remember the 10 of June 1940

OFFICERS remember from the 10 June --
 to the 8 Sept.

Imperialism
 Lack of responsibility
 aggressive war
 FRETTEING
 DEATH, DISGRACE
 PRISON, HUMILIATION
 HONOR, FAMILIES AND
 IN THE DESTROYED.

SOLDIERS OFFICERS : On the 2nd June LET US SAY "THANKS" to that
 treacherous institution called monarchy.

BY VOTING
 BY VOTING

for the Italian Communist Party.
 for the Democratic Republic of the workers.

you WILL VOTE for the people.

AGAINST
 AGAINST

the fascist and monarchist classes
 enslavement and war.

ALICE "A" COLE.

SOLDIERS

OFFICERS

WHAT HAVE THE KINGS GIVEN ITALY ?

1. They have rendered useless the 5 days of Milan (1848)
2. They have rendered useless the defence of Brescia "La Leonessa.
3. The Defeat of Novara (1849)
4. The Defeat of Custoza (1849)
5. The fall of Mazzini's Roman Republic (1849)
6. The treason against Garibaldi at Aspromonte (1862)
7. The second defeat of Custoza (1866)
8. The defeat of Mentana (1867)
9. The defeat of Adua (1896)
10. The defeat of Caporetto (1917)
11. The civil war of Fiume (1919)
12. The fascist civil war from 1919 to 1922
13. The March on Rome (1922)
14. The haughty M.V.S.I. (Fascist Militia) 1923
15. The Special Tribunal
16. The compulsory volunteering for the war of destruction of Spanish Freedom.
17. The Fascist - German War (10 June 1940)
18. The continuation of the war on 25 July 1943
19. The betrayed people who were left alone against the nazi - fascist crucifixes (8 Sept 1943)
20. The neo - fascist monarchial reaction, of an underground and instigating nature, which took place after our Country had been liberated, and threatens the newly acquired democratic freedoms.
21. The last elopement of a dummy who feared the judgement of his people.

SOLDIERS! OFFICERS!

DO NOT FORGET THESE DATES, REMEMBER THESE STAGES OF TELSON AND OF SHAME.
LET THE SECOND OF JUNE MARK THE WORD "END" TO THIS CHAIN OF CRIMES AGAINST
THE FREEDOM OF THE PEOPLE.

VOTE FOR THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

VOTE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE "WORKERS". !

APPX "B" 204 All Progress
Report No 1 dated 1 Jun 46

ATTEMPT TO INSTIGATE DESERTION AT 1 C.A.R.

Attached hereto are copies of two articles which appeared on the newspaper 'Unità' on 11 May 46, regarding an attempt to instigate towards desertion which took place at Casale Monferrato's Casermatte Funzionali, occupied by two Recruits Bns of C.A.R.

Personal investigations were carried out immediately by the Inf G.A.C. -
The investigations revealed :-

The Army Major who lectured the troops as stated on the article appeared on the 11 instant, is Major FABROCCINI, O.C. III Recruits Bn. The facts as depicted in the paper do not comply with the truth; Major Fabroccini after addressing his soldiers on matters of internal nature (8 May), spoke to his subordinates re the Costituente and the referendum; his speech was of a non-political or propagandistic nature but simply depicted the facts as history, presents them and nothing more.

Late in the afternoon of 8 May (holiday and troops to report back at 2400 hrs) the C.A.R. was informed that amongst the soldiers there was rumour that :-
at the COMO and CUREO C.A.R. soldiers had left the Bns and returned to their homes.

Night-time the same thing would have taken place at Casale Monferrato.

The C.A.R. Commander took immediate action, and instructed the officers accordingly. At the time of reporting back to the Bns all the officers and the majority of the NCOs had returned to their Units.

The following facts were remarked at the Casermatte Funzionali :-

A certain agitation amongst the personnel of 9 Coy (III Bn).

animated discussions between groups of soldiers.

soldiers moving from one coy of the Bn to another.

No disciplinary act.

Order was restored by officers, NCOs and recruits as well, who succeeded in persuading their comrades to behave.

Soldiers were complaining of:-

the 14 instant, is Major F. BROCCINI, O.C. III Recruits Bn. The facts as depicted in the paper do not comply with the truth; Major Broccini after addressing his soldiers on matters of internal nature (8 May), spoke to his subordinates re the Costituzione and the referendum; his speech was of a non-political or propagandistic nature but simply depicted the facts as history, presents them and nothing more.

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Animated discussions between groups of soldiers.

Soldiers moving from one coy of the Bn to another.

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Order was restored by officers, NCOs and recruits as well, who succeeded in persuading their comrades to behave.

Soldiers were complaining of:-

Omitted payment of the promised 2,000 Lire.

Suspension of family allowance (see letter in this connection dated 7 May 46

I had dealt personally with the problem of the 2,000 Lire with the Minister of War who visited the C...Rs on 20 Apr. The Minister himself told the soldiers he would see to the matter personally.

Failure to promise the personnel to post them near their families.

It would appear, however :-

that on 8 May civilian runners on n/cs operated between NOV.R. and C.S.M.E.

That rumours of disturbances had been divulged amongst the soldiers off-duty and at the same time in public dances, inns and salons.

Our impression was that the whole was carefully planned and arranged. No instigating element appeared to be amongst the top; many of them, instead, urged their comrades to behave.

Appx "F" (Cont)

However, this a sure demonstration of an underground activity and under the circumstances I have directed to continue and intensify a campaign of persuasion.

No connection exists between the speech of Major Fabrocini on the morning of the 8 inst and the facts which took place on the same night.

The two articles mention that :-

- (i) Monarchy propaganda leaflets were found in the Bks: "This is ~~true~~". A pack of these leaflets was found in the Casemette Funzionari's yard and a copy was posted to every Coy's Routine board. It was revealed that other propaganda leaflets from other parties were found in the Bks. Investigations to identify the origin of the leaflets have proved negative.

- (ii) A soldier was placed in guard-house because he was singing "Red Flag".

This is not true; the fact stands as follows :-

Two soldiers reported back to their Bks on the night of 25 Apr with 15 minutes delay and singing at the top of their voices political hymns in the Bks. Upon being approached by an officer they started singing again as soon as the officer was some steps from them. On the following day the two soldiers were placed in the guard-house for a period of ten days.

- (iii) Argument at NOVI between a regular officer and a certain nicknamed "Ulisse".

The officer named 2/Lt BIMA Antonio from 24 Inf Regt. The argument did really take place - The officer was in plain clothes - BIMA has been placed under arrest for 20 days.

(Sgd) D di PRALORNO
C.O.C.

Appx "F" (Cont)

TO THE CASERMETTER; OF C SAIR

ATTENT TO DESERTION ESTABLISHED BY MONARCHY

C SAIR 11 May

Last Sunday at about 1100hrs, an Army Major felt it necessary to address the top of Casale's Casermette. He maintained that "Casa Savoia" is one of the few reigning dynasties who can actually state of having ruled Italy without ever overlooking the welfare of its people.

These, more or less, are the words spoken by the animated monarchist major. The trouble is that at about 1600 hrs, certain serious talks were ventilated amongst the dormitories, with the final issue of inviting the soldiers to desertion.

It will not be very difficult to detect in these manoeuvres the finger of the S.A.M. (Squadre Azione Mussolini) whose intentions were upset by the prompt intervention of some soldiers and officers with real anti-fascist feelings.

During this attempted desertion no officer responsible for disciplining appeared on the spot, which leads us to believe they were fully aware of the facts and were spurring desertion in order to provoke the intervention of the Allied Forces with the hope that Elections be postponed. Everything makes us believe that this attempt will be repeated, inasmuch as the Casermetter's HQ have made no inquest to identify the culprits.

3216

SOLDIERS AND OFFICERS

We are taking up again a matter which caused us to receive many a letter from soldiers and officers, who expressed their understanding and their affection, and one from an officer who deplored our attitude.

An argument which took place at Novi during one of our meetings spurs us to deal with the matter again, in view of the fact that the matter appears to be of interest and widely discussed.

Both the officer who wrote us the letter of criticism, as well as our argument at Novi have somewhat degenerated to a personal insult. These facts which probably do not occur in well-to-do families, but at least in the army one, are altogether not very nice ones.

We clarified the situation, with extreme sincerity, and as a matter of fact the officer of Novi apologised with no end of beautiful words, but the fact remains to prove that at the eve of elections animosity is felt not amongst communists but instead amongst those who stand up for monarchy.

Re the soldiers again. These officers state that their soldiers' rations are good and we're pleased of this; at any rate, in some like the treatment is not what may be called 'good' and the letters received from several soldiers confirm our statement. However, the worst complaint does not refer to food but rather to the soldiers' morale. Many an officer treat their soldiers very strictly and openly make them to understand that those who do not stand for the King will have a feeling of uneasiness in the Birs. Of course, this does not include all the officers, and in our frequent articles regarding the soldiers we have always stated this. On the contrary, to our very distinguished contradiction of Novi we wish to say that in his Caserma 'someone sings "Giovinezza" at about midnight and no officer has ever complained or taking action in this respect.

At Casale, instead, a soldier was placed under arrest for 10 days because he was singing "Red Flag". Exactly at Casale hundreds of leaflets were distributed in the yard and the corridors whilst the soldiers were out, and the leaflets were in favour of monarchy. Again, at Casale a mass desertion was planned and instigated, by God knows who, and no officer tried to prevent it, not even the picket guard, but only the soldiers with a communist and socialist feeling who felt there was a catch and a propaganda which smelt of monarchy.

Subject :- Progress Report No 10

To :- HQ Land Forces Sub Comm AG (MIL)

RM

HQ 2 B L U

1 British Liaison Unit
G 6/4

1 May 46

II C Organisation

(e) Domestic

Capt R.D.P. WILKINSON S & T leaves for release with
A/S Gp 27

ACTION: This
office letter
A 1/10 of 1 May
refers.

- (b) General PRIGORI ceases to command 'CRIMONA' Inf
Div as from 5 May 46. General PIZZORNO of this
Terr HQ takes over cmd.

Employment of Trg

- (a) Army less CC.RR.

Normal duties.

- (b) CC. RR.

Normal duties being performed.

Training

- (a) Army less CC. RR.

Trg on a reduced scale is being carried out by all units.
The main object of trg at the moment is to ensure a uniform
standard of trg for the recruits who will eventually join
the Bns from the C.A.Rs. A shortage of manpower within
the Bns makes any large scale trg almost impossible.

- (1) Trg Nsts

3214

III C Organisation

(a) Domestic

Capt R.D.P. WILKINSON S & T leaves for release with
A/S Gp 27

ACTION: This
office letter
A 4/10 of 1 May
refers.

- (b) General PRIMAVERI ceases to command 'CHILDONIA' Inf
Div as from 5 May 46. General PIZZORNO of this
Terr HQ takes over comd.

Employment of Tps

- (a) Army less CC.RR.

Normal duties.

- (b) CC. RR.

Normal duties being performed.

Training

- (a) Army less CC. RR.

Trg on a reduced scale is being carried out by all units.
The main object of trg at the moment is to ensure a uniform
standard of trg for the recruits who will eventually join
the Dns from the C.A.Rs. A shortage of manpower within
the Dns makes any large scale trg almost impossible.

3214

- (i) Trg Este

Situation at the C.A.R is favourable and instr is
being carried out as per programme.

- (b) CC.RR.

Normal trg is being carried out.

Intelligence.

- (a) Activity of Italians re Other Countries.

In Val d'Aosta the situation is now normal again, and
in Val di Susa no new events have taken place in
connection with the philo-French campaign.

...../2

AG 455

- 2 -

It is anticipated, however, that the G.A.D. organization will resume it's pro-annexation to France campaign during the conference which is taking place in Paris between the four Powers.

(b) Frontier Activity

It is reported that illegal emigration into France and Switzerland has been carried out during the month, also emigration activity still persists.

Several German prisoners have been repatriated after escaping from P.S.V. camps in France.

A number of people involved in the demonstration in MOSRA on the 26 Mar have been arrested.

(c) Relations between Tps & Population

There has been no hostility between tps and population, although the Socialist newspapers are well carrying out their anti-militarist campaign.

The CC.PR. continue to improve and they have had a number of successes in arresting dangerous criminals lately.

(d) Political Current among Tps.

The anti-militarists campaign carried out by the left-wing press has not had a great effect on the soldiers. The majority of the tps do not participate in political demonstrations.

(e) Subversive elements

It is reliably reported that along the border between the ASRI & CUNDO Provinces armed anti-militarist and anti-monarchist gangs have been formed. They advise youths not to report for the call-up but instead join their gangs. Three of these gangs are reported to be acting in the areas of Forloto, Castino and Moneigligio.

(f) Public Security

The public safety situation is still serious. Robberies, murders and a recent prison mutiny have caused a feeling of uneasiness amongst the population, who fear that P.S. agents are unable to maintain order. One independent newspaper last week accused the P.S. forces of having

3213

There has been no hostility between the tps and populace, although the Socialist newspapers are still carrying out their anti-militarist campaign.

The OC.RR. continue to improve and they have had a number of successes in arresting dangerous criminals lately.

(d) Political Current among tps.

The anti-militarists campaign carried out by the left-wing press has not had a great effect on the soldiers. The majority of the tps do not participate in political demonstrations.

(e) Subversive elements

It is reliably reported that along the border between the ASTI & CURNO Provinces armed anti-militarist and anti-monarchist gangs have been formed. They advise youths not to report for the call-up but instead join their gangs. Three of these gangs are reported to be acting in the areas of Porleto, Castino and Monesioglio.

(f) Public Security

The public safety situation is still serious. Robberies, murders and a recent prison rioting have caused a feeling of uneasiness amongst the population, who fear that P.S. agents are unable to maintain order. One independent newspaper last week accused the P.S. force of having communists as it's officers and it quoted an example of P.S. agents being on duty outside a house on NOVARA during a Communist meeting. In general, the public opinion is not very favourable towards the P.S. organisation.

(g) Economics

The economical situation still appears to be very serious and it is not envisaged that it will improve in the near future.

In the industrial sector shortage of raw material and fuel has caused the majority of the firms to be almost idle. The firms are quite concerned about the matter as they are allowed to discharge only a very low percentage of their surplus personnel and are at a loss as to how to face the situation.

..... /3

- 3 -

A great hostility is envisaged between the firm and the workers on account of the Trade Union having rejected the proposal of paying an Easter bonus to the workers. On the other hand, the latter are pressed by the high cost of living and instigated by the workers' organizations of the left parties, who are still asking for higher wages and bonuses, regardless of the serious production situation.

An improvement in the food situation, which could quell at once all hostilities between workers and employers, is of course impossible, due to the very serious situation throughout Europe.

III A Domestic

(a) The following rfts have arrived :-

1 Duty NCO
1 L/Cpl Ration NCO
1 RME Clerk

of these, one was complete with authy to return to UK on PYTHON. We can only presume this is another O23 blunder.

(b) Italian

Morale

Officers and NCOs are still affected by the present situation. In addition to their being seriously worried regarding the financial condition, their morale is further affected by the anti-militarists campaign which is particularly carried out against the officers by certain presses, the aim of which can easily be imagined.

Furthermore, they also resent the fact that certain elements, which were compromised with the Nazi-fascists have once more joined the army.

The tps morale in general, shows no change.

"A" Points

A Court of Inquiry is being held 4 May, to inquire into the loss of Triumph m/c WD No C 5425435; the proceedings of which will be forwarded in the next report.

3212

(a) The following rfts have arrived :-

- 1 Duty NCO
- 1 I/Cpl Ration NCO
- 1 REME Clerk

of these, one was complete with authy to return to UK on PYTHON. We can only presume this is another O2J blunder.

(b) Italian

Morale

Officers and NCOs are still affected by the present situation. In addition to their being seriously worried regarding the financial condition, their morale is further affected by the anti-militarists campaign which is particularly carried out against the officers by certain presses, the aim of which can easily be imagined.

Furthermore, they also resent the fact that certain elements, which were compromised with the Nazi-fascists have once more joined the Army.

The tps morale in general, shows no change.

"A" Points

A Court of Inquiry is being held 1 May, to inquire into the loss of Triumph n/o WD No C 5425455; the proceedings of which will be forwarded in the next few days.

IV Q Domestio

- (a) N.T.R.
- (b) N.T.R.

Italian

Main points in Cremona Inf Div veh state are :-

WE	Held	Efficient	Inefficient
403	304	250	54
368	356	280	76
299	256	204	52

M/Cs
3-ton
15-cwt

...../4

- 4 -

Main points of No 1 C.T.A. :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	18	8	3	5
Cars	16	12	8	4
Trucks	80	51	33	48

Main points in Terr Comd veh state for No 1 C.A.R. :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	4	4	4	-
3-ton	2	2	2	-
Trucks	18	14	10	4

REMARKS

N.T.R.

During the past month a veh competition has been held throughout the 2nd Inf Regt "CHROMA", and has resulted in a great improvement in the standard of veh maint and cleanliness.

Bns and Coys at ASTI, ALBESMILLA, MOVI LIGHT and TURIN were inspected, the judging being done by the O.C. Regimental Wkps, the ASM and electrician.

Points were awarded for the cleanliness and efficiency of engine, transmission, body, fittings and superstructure. The following points were considered when judging the vhs :-

- (a) Mileage of each engine
- (b) Improvements effected to each veh (not illegal modifications)
- (c) Strength of vhs on WE as opposed to vhs submitted for inspection.

- (d) Organising ability and spirit shown by unit wkps.

The results were :-

1 st	2 nd	Bn	Prize	4000	Live & 4 special leaves
2 nd	nd	Reg Coy	"	3000	" " 3 "
3 rd	rd	1st Bn	"	3000	" " 4 "
4 th	th	Mortar Coy	"	3000	" " 2 "
5 th	th	Arty Coy	"	2000	" " 2 "

3211

M/Cs
3-ton
Trucks

4 4 4
2 2 2
18 14 10

REMARKS

N.T.R.

During the past month a veh competition has been held throughout the 21 Inf Regt "CREMONA", and has resulted in a great improvement in the standard of veh maint and cleanliness.

Bus and Coys at ASTI, ALESSANDRIA, NOVI LIGURIO and GALLIN were inspected, the judging being done by the G.O. Regimental Wsps, the ASTI and electrical.

Points were awarded for the cleanliness and efficiency of engine, transmission, body, fittings and superstructure. The following points were considered when judging the vehs :-

- (a) Mileage of each engine
- (b) Improvements effected to each veh (not illegal modifications)
- (c) Strength of vehs on WE as opposed to vehs submitted for inspection.

- (d) Organising ability and spirit shown by unit Wsps.

The results were :-

1st	2 Bn	Prize	4000 lire	4 special leaves
2nd	RMQ Coy	"	3000	"
3rd	1st Bn	"	3000	"
4th	Mortar Coy	"	3000	"
5th	Arty Coy	"	2000	"

the 3 Bn was apparently disqualified.

During an inspection at ALESSANDRIA it was noticed that owing to petrol shortage the Comd Officer had laid down, that 50% of the Bn vehs would be kept off the road for 10 days. These vehs were blocked up and a maint gang was working on them. At the time of visit all were runners and in a well cared for condition. At the end of the 10 days the change over is effected and the remaining 50% get a good maint period. This is all in addition to the normal parade maint system.

The vehs of this Regt are in an exceptionally good condition and are comparable with the best British Regts.

RACQ

Clothing & Eqp

(a) All demands are being met in this respect.

Eqpt was inspected at No 1 C.A.R. and found to be in a good condition.

It is suggested that with all future issues of stores from M of W in Rome, a copy of the consignment invoice be passed to the BLU concerned. The officers i/o of clothing & eqpt stores are highly delighted when items of Allied eqpt are received, and are so keen to put them to use that issues have been made before this office is even aware of their receipt from Rome; and in many cases they are not convergent with the types of eqpt. Checking then becomes rather difficult when stores are spread out through the Rear Comd.

(b) Satisfactory.

Arms & Am

(a) N.T.R.

(b) N.T.R.

C.E.M.

An investigation is being carried out on the question of BIELLA Blankets, results of which will be forwarded as soon as possible.

Am

N.T.R.

POL

N.T.R.

Sups

N.T.R.

Medical

The amount of cases admitted to hosp during period :-

Medical	190
Contagious diseases	21
Surgical	62
V.D.	80

3210

receipt from Rome; and in many cases they are not conversant with the types of eqpt. Checking then becomes rather difficult when stores are spread out through the Four Coral.

(b) Satisfactory.

Arms & Amm

(a) N.T.R.

(b) N.T.R.

C.B.M.

An investigation is being carried out on the question of BIFILIA Blankets, results of which will be forwarded as soon as possible.

Am

N.T.R.

POL

N.T.R.

Sups

N.T.R.

Medical

The amount of cases admitted to hosp during period :-

Medical	190
Contagious diseases	21
Surgical	62
V.D.	80
Skin diseases	46
accidents	8
Optical cases	14
E.N.T.	25
Under observation	

3210

[Handwritten signature]
Lt Col
G30 I

Subject :- Progress Report No 2

1 British Liaison Unit
G 6/1

15 Apr 45

To :- HQ Land Forces Sub Comm AG (MILIA)
ROME

II C EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS

(a) Army less CC.RR.

No change.

(b) CC.RR.

Units of the CC.RR. have been employed on election duties, students in their fifth month at the school at Moncalieri, have also been att to outside units on election duties to gain practical experience.

Training

(a) Army less CC.RR.

Normal trg is being carried out, although on a reduced scale, owing to the shortage of tps.

(b) CC.RR.

No change.

Trg Bats

Recruits at the C.A.R. still arriving. Since the 1 Apr 536 recruits have arrived. This is upsetting the programme quite a bit, the C.A.R. is struggling along with it's programme as well as possible but is short of 16 NCO instructors and 13 subalterns.

30 yd ranges - three are completed with six firing bays on each. Three more will be finished in a week. This will allow two ranges per Bn which is considered sufficient. Safety precautions and constructions of the ranges is

3200

(a) Army less CC.RR.

No change.

(b) CC.RR.

Units of the CC.RR. have been employed on election duties, students in their fifth month at the school at Moncalieri, have also been att to outside units on election duties to gain practical experience.

Training(a) Army less CC.RR.

Normal trg is being carried out, although on a reduced scale, owing to the shortage of tps.

(b) CC.RR.

No change.

Trg Ests

Recruits at the C.A.R. still arriving. Since the 1 Apr 536 recruits have arrived. This is upsetting the programme quite a bit, the C.A.R. is struggling along with it's programme as well as possible but is short of 16 NCO instructors and 13 subalterns.

30 yd ranges - three are completed with six firing bays on each. Three more will be finished in a week. This will allow two ranges per Bn which is considered sufficient. Safety precautions and constructions of the ranges is satisfactory.

A 300 metre range is situated quite close to the Bks, can now be used. C.A.R. have been advised by 1 BLU that it is not considered that the slight difference in ranges is important enough to warrant the abandonment of a very conveniently sited range.

INTELLIGENCE

(a) Ref progress report No 8 - Demonstration at AOSTA.

Investigations have revealed that the demonstration had been organised by elements from the other side of the Alps who had supplied the necessary funds to the leaders of the annexation movement in Val d'AOSTA.

3203

..... /2

5455

- 2 -

(b) N.T.R. People are still emigrating illegally, particularly from Valle d'AOSTA. The C.C.R.R. have arrested several persons.

(c) N.T.R.

(d) Notwithstanding the political campaign against the call-up this has given quite a satisfactory result; a great number of men delayed in reporting, mostly due to the fact that many had attempted to be exonerated.

The senior tps and the recruits of the big centres have so far not shown any political tendency.

(e) It is reported that in the ASTI area and in the Langhe armed anti-militarist gangs have been formed, possibly with a political organisation. Some gangs appear to be of a remarkable consistency, carefully armed, to carry out veh and food requisitions. Elements belonging to such bands have posted signs, copy att at appx "an".

The socialist press is still carrying out a campaign against the call-up and against militarism generally.

(f) The situation is still unchanged. Robberies and crimes continue throughout the region. During the past month 15 murders were committed, and 30 arrests were made.

(g) The situation remains unchanged in the economical, commercial and industrial field. The food situation seems to be getting worse, regardless of the apparent availability of food on the black market.

III A DOMESTIC

(a) Deficiencies against WE:-

Sjt Duty NCO
L/Cpl Ration NCO
L/Cpl Dvr Mech
Dvr Batman

(b) Italian

The economical situation as regards officers and NCOs is getting worse, as they have by this time almost exhausted all their savings and funds. This, is affecting their morale and service.

3208

3208

(e) It is reported that in the ASTI area and in the Langhe armed anti-militarist gangs have been formed, possibly with a political organization. Some gangs appear to be of a remarkable consistency, carefully armed, to carry out veh and food requisitions. Elements belonging to such bands have posted signs, copy att at appx "11".

The socialist press is still carrying out a campaign against the call-up and against militarism generally.

(f) The situation is still unchanged. Robberies and crimes continue throughout the region. During the past month 15 murders were committed, and 30 arrests were made.

(g) The situation remains unchanged in the economical, commercial and industrial field. The food situation seems to be getting worse, regardless of the apparent availability of food on the black market.

III A DOMESTIC

(a) Deficiencies against WE:-

Sjt Duty NOO
I/Cpl Ration NOO
I/Cpl Dvr Mech
Dvr Batman

(b) Italian

The economical situation as regards officers and NOOs is getting worse, as they have by this time almost exhausted all their savings and funds. This, is affecting their morale and service.

IV Q DOMESTIC

(a) N.T.R.

(b) Italian

Main points in Cremona Inf Div veh state are :-

	<u>VE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
N/Os	403	304	251	53
3-ton	368	356	285	71
15-cwt	299	256	200	56

...../3

Main points of No 1 O.T.A. :-

	<u>VE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	18	8		
Cars	16	12	6	2
trucks	80	55	9	3
			41	12

Main points in Terr Comd veh state for No 1 C.A.R. is :-

	<u>VE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	4	4		
3-ton trucks	2	2	4	
	15	12	2	2

RAAC.

N.T.R.

RAOC

N.T.R.

Clothing & Eqpt

- (a) Satisfactory - An order placed for 4000 pairs of trousers has been delayed through suitable material not being available, this will be cleared by the end of April.

Boots & Socks - Satisfactory.

Of the recruiting quota of 3,800 to be equipped in the Command, 3,600 have been suitably clothed and the remainder will be completed within the next few days.

- (b) N.T.R.

Arms & Amm

- (a) All amm advised has been received. There is still an urgent need for spares to carry out necessary repairs, cleaning material is urgently required, as stock in Divisional Dump is reduced to practically nil.

The stores of the C.A.R. was visited and assistance was given on small adm problems, it was noted that pouches Bren which had recently been received were of 3 types, but after checking

3-ton
trucks

2 2
15 12

4 2
2 15

2 2

RMCT.

N.T.R.

RACC

N.T.R.

Clothing & Eqpt

(a) Satisfactory - An order placed for 4000 pairs of trousers has been delayed through suitable material not being available, this will be cleared by the end of April.

Boots & Socks - Satisfactory.

Of the recruiting quota of 3,800 to be equipped in the Command, 3,600 have been suitably clothed and the remainder will be completed within the next few days.

(b) N.T.R.

Arms & Amm

(a) All arm advised has been received. There is still an urgent need for spares to carry out necessary repairs, cleaning material is urgently required, as stock in Divisional Dump is reduced to practically nil.

The stores of the C.A.R. was visited and assistance was given on small adm problems, it was noted that pouches Bren which had recently been received were of 3 types, but after checking and sorting two suitable pouches were issued to each recruit of the C.A.R. An Ord rep is investigating and assisting in this matter.

The following arms have been received with deficiencies as quoted, action is being taken to have deficiencies made up :-

..... /4

3207

4,095 Enfield Rifles (7 of which were broken) Mod No I & III
 190 Bren Light m/c (2 without gas regulators)
 190 Bren spere barrels (9 without gas regulators)
 192 Sten automatics
 91 Pistols ..
 5 Mortars - 2"
 48 PLATs

(b) M.T.R.

POL

The position is still far from satisfactory and a consistent supply of M.T. spirit is still not forth coming. The average daily requirements of the whole of No 1 Terr Comd is approx 25,000 litres daily, at present C.M.P. are only able to supply 19,000 litres or 15,000 litres daily. During the month of Mar the Grenada Inf Div were not able to draw 400,000 of the 500,000 litres which was their Mar allocation.

The position is still uncertain and any action that can be taken to ensure an even flow will be most welcome.

Medical

The Mil Hosp have stocks for 3 - 4 months, there is a great shortage of drugs for curing personnel committed to hosp with V.D. Other shortages of medical supplies are, syringes, needles, rubber gloves and clinical thermometers, these can be bought on the free market but the prices are much too high.

Lt Col
GSO I

3206

Appx "A" to 1 EBU Progress
Report No 9 dated 15 Apr 46

FARMERS OF THE LANGHE AREA.

Our return to these mountains must not cause an unpleasant feeling amongst you, but on the contrary you must join us, as our purpose is to fight openly all forms of capitalist militarism.

Farmers! Do not forget that we need your co-operation as our aim is to assist all labourers, therefore you as well, because you are the workers of the land.

You must trust us as you know us and in the name of our dead comrades you cannot deceive us. Come to us from everywhere whenever you wish to fight for your rights against the vexations of yesterday's enemies, who today are concealing themselves in many ways, but which are always tyrannic ones.

ITALIAN ANTI-MILITARIST GROUPS (G.I.A.M.)

PEOPLE, CALL-UP-MEN, SOLDIERS FORCED TO SERVE THE ARMY

This is to invite you to co-operate with the G.I.A.M. (Italian Anti-Militarist Groups) for the purpose of abolishing militarism and capitalism.

PEOPLE! you can co-operate with us by joining us and supplying us with all useful items.

CALL-UP! Do not report. Do not serve under the vile House of Savoia. Sabotage their army and join our groups.

SOLDIERS! Make a general desertion from the monarchist army.

UNITY MEANS STRENGTH AND ONLY WITH STRENGTH WE SHALL BE ABLE TO FIGHT THE ARISTOCRATIC CLASS.

Subject: Progress Report No. 8

1 British Liaison Unit
C 6/1

1 Apr 46

To: HQ Land Forces Sub Comm AG (CMIA)
ROME

HQ No 2 BLU

III C EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS

(a) Army less CC.RR.

No change

(b) CC.RR.

No change

Training

(a) Army less CC.RR.

The two regts of Cremona have been running ROC schools, one of these of 21 Inf Regt was visited by GSO I & GSO II last week, the school was very satisfactory, it was pleasing to see that ROCs of the Alpini Regt were also students at the school. Normal unit trg is being carried out, although the release of 1921 class has seriously reduced strength of the units.

(b) CC.RR.

No change.

INTELLIGENCE

(a) The situation in Valle d'AOSTA still shows pro-annexation tendencies. On the 26 Mar a violent demonstration took place in AOSTA for the purpose of liberating 4 French newspaper men who had been arrested for illegally entering into Italy. Newspaper cutting att at Appx "F". In Valle di Susa the pro-annexation movement appears to have diminished, probably due to the arrests made recently by the CC.RR.

3204

(a) Army less CC.RR.

No change

(b) CC.RR.

No change

Training(a) Army less CC.RR.

The two regts of Cremona have been running IOC schools, one of these of 24 Inf Regt was visited by GSO I & GSO II last week, the school was very satisfactory, it was pleasing to see that HCOs of the Alpid. Regt were also students at the school. Normal unit trg is being carried out, although the release of 1921 class has seriously reduced strength of the units.

(b) CC.RR.

No change.

INTELLIGENCE

(a) The situation in Valle d'AOSTA still shows pro-annexation tendencies. On the 26 Mar a violent demonstration took place in AOSTA for the purpose of liberating 4 French newspaper men who had been arrested for illegally entering into Italy. Newspaper cutting att at Appx "P". In Valle di Susa the pro-annexation movement appears to have diminished, probably due to the arrests made recently by the CC.RR.

(b) A number of people are still crossing the frontier in Valle d'Aosta, Valle di Susa and Northern zone of NOVARA. The majority, however, are apprehended and handed over to our frontier posts. The majority are not natives of the valleys.

It is reliably reported that there is an increased activity in smuggling in the Southern part of the Swiss border and the NOVARA area, especially in the mountain pass of Ribellison and Val Canavino, several arrests have been made.

3204

...../2

- 2 -

(c) The CC.RR. continue to receive support from the civilian population, they get praise from even the most ardent left-wing newspapers which at one time were very hostile towards them.

The whole organization of the police agents is causing a great deal of worry to the civilian population.

The position regarding the call-up remains the same, although in the main, the tps themselves seem to be in very good spirits and quite contented in spite of the socialist anti-call-up policy. Copy of a leaflet distributed in VERCELLI against call-up is att at appon "G".

(d) The first results of the elections have caused no particular interest amongst the tps.

Disciplinary action has been taken against the people concerned in political activity, as reported in progress report No 7.

(e) N.T.R.

(f) Contrary to expectations elections have taken place without any incident.

A riot took place in TURIN's prison when the forces called in to maintain order had to use arms. Investigations have revealed the absence of a reliable organization at the present.

Armed gangs are still operating and carrying out robberies although of late the CC.RR. have received good results for their hard work in arresting a number of armed bandits. Of special interest has been the arrest of the Villarbasse murder gang with the exception of one man who is still at large.

There have been no strikes or demonstrations of any serious nature in Piemonte during the past fortnight.

(g) N.T.R.

(h) No sign of any improvement in the situation.

(i) It is reported that the civilian population are angry at the treatment meted out by the Belgrade Government to

3203

(a) The first results of the elections have caused no particular interest amongst the tps.

Disciplinary action has been taken against the people concerned in political activity, as reported in progress report No 7.

(e) N.T.R.

(f) Contrary to expectations elections have taken place without any incident.

A riot took place in TURIN's prison when the forces called in to maintain order had to use arms. Investigations have revealed the absence of a reliable organization at the present.

Armed gangs are still operating and carrying out robberies although of late the CC.RR. have received good results for their hard work in arresting a number of armed bandits. Of special interest has been the arrest of the Villarbasse murder gang with the exception of one man who is still at large.

There have been no strikes or demonstrations of any serious nature in Piemonte during the past fortnight.

(g) N.T.R.

(h) No sign of any improvement in the situation.

(i) It is reported that the civilian population are angry at the treatment meted out by the Belgrade Government to Italian prisoners. Very strong rumours have been circulating re this subject.

One of Tito's Agent was arrested here in TURIN on the 16 March and his mission is reported to be that of liaising with espionage agents.

In spite of the Communist party propaganda the anti-Tito feeling is assuming quite large proportion in Piemonte.

...../3

III A DOMESTIC

(a) See att personnel state.

1 EIU is now operating the TURIN EIS with no additional staff, a patrol point, with the loan of 1 OR RASC and drawing rations for other units in TURIN.

(b) N.T.R.

IV C DOMESTIC

(a) Commanding officers jeep, off the road, the mileage called for by "A" type EIU vans demands good class reliable vehs, otherwise the inspection of units will inevitably suffer.

(b) Italian

Main points in Cremona Inf Div veh state are :-

WE	Held	Efficient	Inefficient
M/OS	403	304	263
3-ton	368	356	285
15-ton	299	256	205

Main points of No 1 C.T. A. :-

WE	Held	Efficient	Inefficient
M/OS	18	8	6
Cars	16	12	9
Trucks	80	54	45

(c) RASC

N.T.R.

Blankets 1 Territorial Command ordered to collect stocks from BIELLA as per your letter, Q151 of 23 Mar refers.

S & T

N.T.R.

(a) Commanding officers jeep, off the road, the mllangs called for by "A" type BLU vahn America good class reliable vahn, otherwise the inspection of units will inevitably suffer.

(b) Italian

Main points in German Inf Div vahn state are :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/On	403	304	263	41
3-ton	368	356	285	71
45-ton	299	256	205	51

Main points of No 1 C.T. A. :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/On	18	8	6	2
Cars	16	12	9	3
45-ton	80	54	45	9

(c) MAC

N.T.R.

Blankets 1 Territorial Command ordered to collect stocks from BILIA as per your letter, Q151 of 23 Mar refers.

S & T

N.T.R.

3202

Handwritten signature

Lt Col
CSO I

Appx 6 to 13 L U
Progress Report No 8

"CREMONA 21st Inf Regt
Trg Centre

Time - table of classes

Discipline	28 hrs
Behaviour	6 "
P.T.	42 "
Administration	8 "
Hygiene and first aid	8 "
Garrison	12 "
Exs Life and Guard Duty	6 "
Map reading	16 "
Route March (No 4)	12 "
Bath	24 "
Arms	35 "
Target - practice	51 "
Close drill	50 "
Inspection of kit and bunk	10 "
Introduction	1 "
Dismissal	1 "
	312 hrs

Target practice time table

Enfield	9 hrs
Bren MG	9 "
Thompson	6 "
2" Mortar	9 "
PIAT	9 "
Hand grenades (36, 77 & 69)	9 "
	51 hrs

Time table of Arms Trg

Enfield	9 hrs
Bren MG	9 "
Thompson	5 "
2" Mortar	4 "
PIAT	4 "
Hand grenades (36, 77 & 69)	4 "
	35 hrs

3201

Behaviour	0
P.T.	42
Administration	8
Hygiene and first aid	8
Garrison	12
Blks Life and Guard Duty	6
Map reading	16
Route March (No 4)	12
Bath	24
Arms	35
Target - practice	51
Close drill	50
Inspection of kit and bunk	10
Introduction	1
Dismissal	1

	312 hrs

Target practice time table

Enfield	9 hrs
Bren MG	9
Thompson	6
2" Mortar	9
PLAT	9
Hand grenades (36, 77 & 69)	9

	51 hrs

Time table of Arms Trg

Enfield	9 hrs
Bren MG	9
Thompson	5
2" Mortar	4
PLAT	4
Hand grenades (36, 77 & 69)	4

	35 hrs

3201

Demonstration at AOSTA

"Opinione" (Lib) 27 Mar 46

Under the title "Tumults at AOSTA", people at AOSTA demonstrated yesterday with particular violence. Some hundreds of peasants from many villages came to AOSTA carrying flags and placards asking for a plebiscite and freedom, overcome the opposition of police and tps. A delegation went to the President asking for a plebiscite and the liberation of four French newspaper men (Journé of the "Libre Soir". Severac of the "allobroge", Boissière and Ramus of the "Dauphinois Libre") who had been arrested the night before, they had come into Italy without an passport. As their requests were not satisfied, a group broke into the building, abused President CHABOD and threw documents and files out of the windows. The crowds then disarmed the soldiers, took hold of the armoured cars and went to the Carabinieri Bks. Ex Capt of Alpini, Remy CHABOD who is alleged to have opposed the peoples' will while trying to take a tank, was beaten and undressed by the mob and hardly succeeded in escaping. Some soldiers too were beaten. When the mob arrived with the tanks at the Carabinieri Bks they freed the newspaper men and carried them in triumph. A tank manned by demonstrators was attacked by soldiers and many shots were fired, but fortunately nobody was wounded. Many speeches were held, a newspaper man thanked the crowd and then the soldiers asked for their tanks, promising to withdraw to their camps. Their request was soon complied with. The demonstration seems to have been organized for a political purpose by the Valdostani living in France and has been disapproved by the population. Strong rifts of Carabinieri were sent from TURIN, but it was not necessary to employ them.

YOUTHS DO NOT JOIN THE ARMY

The Italian anti-militarist movement addresses its call to all of you, both workers and employees, with a view to advising you not to let yourselves be siezed by the bloody and filthy hands of the militarists.

Y O U T H S : Your will is abused, overwhelmed by the compulsory call-up.

DO NOT REPORT

Do not participate to a game which means the abolition of all Freedom.

Youths, Mothers, Wives, Workers, everyone.

Do not let yourselves be dragged to a catastrophe even worse than the previous one.

Do not join the army.

Use all means to oppose the reactionary forces.

C.A.V.
Antimilitarist Committee of Vercelli

3190

NO1.....BLU (1A)

Authorized W.E.		On 3 Civilians employed within 2		A/S GP	On held surplus to 21
<u>Clerks GD RASC</u>		1 Sgt Sjt BRYANT J	42		
	1 Cpl Cpl Mc MILLAN A	66			
	1 Pte Pte BIRD F	51			
<u>SERVICES</u>					
<u>Clerks RASC</u>		1 WO1 S/Cdr CHAMBER S.C.	26	21	
	1 L/Cpl L/Cpl HILSON G	58			
<u>Clerks RASC</u>		1 L/Cpl L/Cpl FORBES H	56		
<u>Clerks RASC</u>		1 L/Cpl Civilian - Male			
<u>ADA STAFF</u>					
Duty NCO	1 Sgt Sjt POWELL V	28			
Ration NCO	1 L/Cpl				
Dvr Mech	1 L/Cpl	DEFICIENT			
Butcher/Dvr	1 Pte	DEFICIENT			
Acc Cook	1 Pte	DEFICIENT			
	Pte HESLOP J	28			

102 ARMS

TOTAL DEFICIENCIES AS AT 1 Apr 46 :-

Ration L/Cpl
L/Cpl Dvr Mech
Ration Dvr

NO1.....D L U (1A) 1214

OR & Civilians employed within E			A/S GP	OR held surplus to E	A/S GP	Civilians held surplus to E.
Sgt	Sgt	IRY NT J	42			Interpreters Typist- Female
Cpl	Cpl	Mc NEEHAN A	66			
Pte	Pte	HARD T	54			
WOI	S	Cdr CHAPMAN S.G.	26	PR		Interpreters Typist- Female
L/Cpl	L/Cpl	BILLSON G	38			
L/Cpl	L/Cpl	FORRES H	56			
L/Cpl		Civilian - Male				
Sgt	Sgt	POWELL V	28			Interpreter Typist - Female
L/Cpl		DEFICIENT				Labourers 2 Male
L/Cpl		DEFICIENT				Laundry hands 2 female
Pte		DEFICIENT				Labourers 4 Female
Pte	Pte	HEDDOP J	28			

REMARKS

Def Apr 56.....

DEFICIENCIES AS AT 1 Apr 56 :-

Ration L/Cpl
L/Cpl Dvr Mech
Hawson Dvr

Subject: Progress Report No 7

RECEIVED
100-19-MAR-1948
1 British Liaison Unit
C 6/4

15 Mar 48

To: The Land Forces Sub Comm AG (MIA)

RUEB

HQ 2 D L U

II C AMERICAN OF 22/4/48

(a) Army Zone 00.00.

With reference to the duty being carried out by two of GRENAD. In assisting the V2 South African and Div, the CO I of this unit visited the VI South African Div Feb 24 and discussed this duty with the South African CO. He stated that he had been informed, not officially, that this duty would probably finish in about a fortnight. In view of the release of the 1924 class and the volunteers the GOC of GRENAD is extremely concerned about the shortage of men and personnel of his Div and is desirous that this duty performed for the VI South African Div should terminate as soon as possible.

A serious breach of discipline at this unit is still under investigation. Our letter A 6 dated 14 Mar refers.

(b) CO. 00.00.

The CO. 00.00. has been called out on several occasions to assist in the maintaining of public order. On the 26 of Feb they were called out during the various demonstration at the Carriacou Theatre, and on the 2 of Mar were ordered to deal with the 1924 prisoners during the election, where they promptly re-established order.

Training

(a) Army Zone 00.00.

Try has been greatly hampered by the very bad weather we have experienced during the last fortnight. A certain amount of indoor try has been carried out, mainly consisting of non-physical exercises for officers.

3197

2197

It and discussed this duty with the South African G. He stated that he had been informed, not officially, that this duty would probably finish in about a fortnight. In view of the release of the 1924 class and the volunteers the SOC of Canada is extremely concerned about the shortage of cars and personnel of his day and in addition that this duty performed for the VI South African Div should terminate as soon as possible.

A serious breach of discipline at this unit is still under investigation. Our letter A 6 dated 14 May refers.

(b) CC, RR.

The CC, RR. has been called out on several occasions to assist in the maintaining of public order. In the 26 of Feb they were called out during the various demonstrations at the Carignan Theatre, and on the 2 of Mar were ordered to assist with the 100th prisoners during the rioting, where they promptly re-established order.

Training

(a) Army Reserve CC, RR.

Arg has been greatly hampered by the very bad weather so have experienced during the last fortnight. A certain amount of indoor arg has been carried out, mostly consisting of board-table exercises for rifle and horse and some revision for the men.

(b) CC, RR.

Numerous driving courses are being held both by the Mobile Co and the school at Carignan, to ensure a steady flow of cars at all times. Special emphasis is being made to the arg of motorcyclists and maintenance classes being held here in TUNEL.

*****/2

A 6 425
C-14

- 2 -

INTRODUCTION

(a) It is again reliably reported that in the Valle d'Aosta a certain amount of propaganda is being carried out for pro-communism to France. Propaganda leaflets have been posted in various parts of the valley during the last months. A campaign was carried out by the press and the Unione Valdoise for the people of the Aosta Valley to fight for their rights.

(b) N.T.R.

(c) Relations between the two populations

The consideration of the people for the CC.M. is increasing as the distrust towards the other police forces increases, due to the numerous crimes committed here by P.S. Agents.

The call-up of class 1921, has caused varying reactions amongst the people of Piemonte Region, according to the effects the socialist propaganda has on the people. The point of view of the people can be divided as follows :-

- (1) some are favourable in establishing forces which can eventually maintain public order.
- (ii) others, especially farmers, are unfavourable to the call-up as it would deprive them of labour.
- (iii) whilst a third party of the people consider that the Army is unable to supply the new recruits with the essential clothing and equipment to make efficient soldiers.

Ref my Progress Report No 5, Umberto CULIO, the editor of the "Piemonte Avanti", who has been running a violent anti-army campaign, including scurrilous attacks against CULIO in 1921, is being charged by the Attorney General with insulting the Magistrates. Copy of the notice attached at Annex "A". Copies of articles met the Army; one of them defending CULIO after Caluso's attack on them is also attached at Annex "B".

(4) Political tendencies of the

Nothing much of importance to report. It has been ascertained that some soldiers posted at AOSTA

3193

forces abroad, due to the numerous crimes committed here by P.O. Agents.

The call-up of class 1924 has caused varying reactions amongst the people of Montevideo Region, according to the attitude the socialist propaganda has in the people. The point of view of the people can be divided as follows :-

- (i) some are favourable in establishing forces which can eventually maintain public order.
- (ii) others, especially farmers, are unfavourable to the call-up as it would deprive them of labour.
- (iii) whilst a third party of the people consider that the army is unable to supply the new recruits with the essential clothing and apt to make inefficient soldiers.

Ref my Telegram Report No 6, Umberto GALLO, the editor of the "Correo America", who has been sending a violent anti-army campaign, including several attacks against General Inf. Lav, in being charged by the Attorney General with insulting the Magistrate. Copy of the notice attached at Annex "1". Copies of articles red the army's case of them defending General after Gallo's attack on them is also attached at Annex "2".

(d) Political independence of Uruguay

Nothing much of importance to report. It has been ascertained that some soldiers posted at Villarica were carrying out political activity. In a café, some soldiers distributed leaflets asking for the formation of a Republican Army. During a communist meeting a soldier delivered a very violent speech against the Monarchy. A local newspaper of the Antiochia Party "The Worker" published an article bearing the signature "some soldiers" of a republican trend which criticized the Army. Another article in reply to the aforementioned and written by an officer belonging to the same unit of the soldiers was supposed to be published in support of Monarchy. Action is being taken to stop all political activities in the unit.

*****/3

3196

- 3 -

(c) Subversive Elements

The propaganda carried out by the Socialist Party against the call-up is on the increase and is actively investigating the youths not to report. In the military circles such campaigns is declared by the senior soldiers who fear that their release will be deferred.

(d) Public Security

On the night of the 28 Feb a large ball was to be held at the Carignano Theatre in Turin, proceeds to go to charity. About half an hour before the ball was due to commence a party of about 500 agitators stormed the square, entered the theatre and prevented the ball from taking place. Cars were turned over and tyres slashed; ladies in evening dress insulted and roughly treated by the mob. The civilian police agents who had been posted in force were completely useless in maintaining public order. After the mob had left the Carignano Theatre they visited various other places of amusement and carried out exactly the same procedure. Order was only maintained by the arrival of O.G.S. in armoured cars who patrolled the streets for the whole of the night. This incident is an eye-witness to what can happen when the mob got the upperhand, over the useless police agents here. Two copies of press reports of this incident are attached at Sept '34. Mistrust of the people against P.S. agents has increased even more since this affair.

From the N. W. area it is reliably reported that agitators are trying to cause disturbances there. The arrival of Italian troops in Valle d'Aosta and especially in VALLE D'AOSTA, is having a good effect on the public order.

Crimes are still very numerous in the Turin area; each week brings to light fresh crimes committed by civilian police agents. Crimes reports taken at Turin from TURIN'S newspapers are att at Sept '34.

(e) Economy

The economical, industrial and financial situation remains unchanged. It is still very serious.

(f) Morale of Officers and Troops

B.T.B.

2193

2193

*****/b

Corrigano Theatre in Turin, proceeds to go to church. About half an hour before the ball was due to commence a party of about 500 agitators stormed the square, entered the theatre and prevented the ball from taking place. Cars were turned over and tyres slashed. Ladies in evening dress assaulted and roughly treated by the mob. The civilian police agents who had been posted in force were completely useless in maintaining public order. After the mob had left the Corrigano Theatre they visited various other places of amusement and carried out exactly the same procedure. Order was only maintained by the arrival of C.C.'s. In secured cars who patrolled the streets for the whole of the night. This incident is an eye-witness to what can happen when the mob get the upperhand, over the useless police agents here. Two copies of press reports ref this incident are attached at Annex "C". Mistrust of the people against P.S. Agents has increased even more since this affair.

From the NIVONA area it is reliably reported that agitators are trying to cause disturbances there. The arrival of Italian troops in Valle d'Aosta and especially in VALCHAMARINE, is having a good effect on the public order.

Crimes are still very numerous in the TUMI area; each week brings to light fresh crimes committed by civilian police agents. Crimes reports taken at random from TUMI'S newspapers are set at Annex "D".

(a) Economy

The economical, industrial and financial situation remains unchanged. It is still very serious.

(b) Mobile of Officers and Troops

N.T.N.

III. PERSONNEL

(a) See att personnel status.

Lt Col W.A. VALLER, DSO secured the appointment of GSO I
1 B.L.U.

Capt H. HUNTER posted to Geneva.

Capt B. HAZENHOF arrived as RMO officer.

Maj G. HUNTER posted as LSA & QID, not yet arrived.

Italian Government, no change.

(b) Italian

With the release of 1921 Class and volunteers, Germany will be in a very serious situation. I held conference with the SAC of Terr Coal, and recommended that to meet the situation, one day per day in should be disbanded, rather than one day per day. War Office to be advised of this move, each in losses approx 200 men by this latest release, especially serious in the driver situation.

German Wages have been ordered to stop the employment of civilian labour, this together with the loss of the 1921 Class and the two under 18 yrs of age will have the wages desperately short of personnel, as the figure will be approx 50 % of the U.S. Can therefore the U of War be requested to authorize the employment of civilian labour within the U.S. of the wages.

IV 8 DISCUSSION

(a) U.S.R.

(b) Italian

Main points in German War War state are :-

	<u>U.S.</u>	<u>Italy</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>Germany</u>
W/Os	403	304	262	42
3-ton	568	300	229	79
15-ton	299	257	212	15

Main points in German War state for No 1 C.A.R. is :-

	<u>U.S.</u>	<u>Italy</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>Germany</u>
W/Os	4	4	4	"
3-ton	2	2	2	"
trucks	15	11	10	1

(c) U.S.R.

U.S.R.

Clothing

Notes - present position satisfactory.

Notes - present position satisfactory.

3194

(a) N.F.R.

(b) Italian

Main points in Current and Div veh state are:-

	<u>Field</u>	<u>Insufficient</u>	<u>Insufficient</u>
403	224	262	42
363	308	229	79
299	257	212	45

N/Os
3-ten
15-out

Main points in Current veh state for No 1 C.A.R. is:-

	<u>Field</u>	<u>Insufficient</u>	<u>Insufficient</u>
4	4	4	-
2	2	2	-
15	14	10	4

N/Os
3-ten
trucks(c) RAO

N.F.R.

Shipping

Design - present position satisfactory.

Design - Coordinator has received release of wool for socks, and manufacture will start as soon as possible.

Marketing - Fair stocks

Design - position satisfactory.

Design - Design for small arms and mortars are in urgent need, these do not appear to be forthcoming.

RAO

N.F.R.

Lt Col
G.D. I

Page 12 to 1 IIII
Report No 7 dated 15 May

Gazzetta d'Italia 3rd Mar 46

The Attorney General is going to charge Umberto Calosso with insulting the magistrature, if found guilty, according to paragraph 290 of the Penal Code, he may be sentenced from 4 to 6 years imprisonment.

Commenting on the Brandimarte trial, the paper further says that only Calosso's and his paper's articles caused the trial to be transferred from Turin to Florence.

ARTICLES RE: ARMY

The "Sentin" (and) Vercelli 1 March 1946

Publishes a sharp denial to the accusations moved by a paper of Turin of a few days ago with two articles entitled "Scandale in the Army", in which it was stated that a few serious facts had happened at the 22nd Inf. of the Cremona, billeted in Vercelli, such as: the dismissing of officers belonging to the left wing and disciplinary measures taken in front of soldiers favourable to Left Wing Parties. The paper says that every accused has been acquitted point by point in a routine order issued by the Commandant of the regiment to his soldiers on the 25th of February last. The routine order puts in full evidence the uprightness, dignity and perfect military discipline of the Commandant, of the officers and of the men of the glorious "Cremona".

The "Corriere Bielese" (and) Biella 7 March 1946

Under the title "To release the eldest classes" says:
"I have followed the campaign by the Sempere Avanti, against the enlistment of the 2-3rd quadrimestre of the 1924 class and frankly think that this campaign was started in the wrong way. There are several reasons. First of all my protest against this enlistment without requiring a speedy release for the soldiers of the 1921-22-23 classes? These young men have been in the army for 3-4-5 years continuously, many of them, although North Italians, were in Sardinia or Sicily on the 6th of September. They were left in the lurch and suffered from hunger for several months; then they were sent to the mainland to the Allies; with whom they collaborated during the Liberation War. Now they have to go on serving in the Army while other young men of the same class are remaining at home. We wonder how long they will continue staying in the army. They too have a family, they too want to work and to start studying again. Moreover this campaign is wrong as it tends to get people to disobey the Government's orders now that our companions who are in the Government are trying to restore a normal life in our country. It is everybody's duty to collaborate with the Government in order to do this. I have thought it right to say my word on this matter inasmuch as the campaign on the Sempere Avanti was echoed by the article "Vento di Mial" on this paper, written by Strona. The Sempere Avanti changed then its tone maintaining that the conscription army should be abolished and that the army is of no use in which we Socialists agree. While approving such a campaign as a problem which is to be solved by the Costituente, we cannot ignore the condition in which we are living. Reasons of equity and justice require that all men belonging to the 1921-1922-1923 classes be released as soon as possible. To ask for the postponing of the enlistment of the 1924 class till after the Costituente means to postpone too the release of the elder

Left Wing Parties. The paper says that every accused was taken to the point in a routine order issued by the Commandant of the regiment to his soldiers on the 25th of February last. The routine order puts in full evidence the uprightness, dignity and perfect military discipline of the Commandant, of the officers and of the men of the glorious "Grenada".

The "Corriere dellesse" (sec. Miella 7 March, 1946)

Under the title "To release the eldest classes" says:

"I have followed the campaign by the *Sempre Avanti*, against the enlistment of the 2-3rd quadrimestre of the 1924 class and frankly think that this campaign was started in the wrong way. There are several reasons. First of all my protest against this enlistment without requiring a speedy release for the soldiers of the 1921-22-23 classes? These young men have been in the army for 3-4-5 years continuously, many of them, although North Italians, were in Sardinia or Sicily on the 8th of September. They were left in the lurch and suffered from hunger for several months; then they were sent to the mainland to the Allies; with them they collaborated during the Liberation War. Now they have to go on serving in the army while other young men of the same class are remaining at home. I wonder how long they will continue staying in the army. They too have a family, they too want to work and to start studying again. Moreover this campaign is wrong as it tends to get people to disobey the Government's orders now that our compatriots who are in the Government are trying to restore a normal life in our country. It is everybody's duty to collaborate with the Government in order to do this. I have thought it right to say my word on this matter inasmuch as the campaign on the *Sempre Avanti* was echoed by the article "Vento di Maia" on this paper, written by Strona. The *Sempre Avanti* changed then its tone maintaining that the conscription army should be abolished and that the army is of no use in which we Socialists agree. While approving such a campaign as a problem which is to be solved by the Constituent, we cannot ignore the condition in which we are living. Reasons of equity and justice require that all men belonging to the 1921-1922-1923 classes be released as soon as possible. To ask for the postponing of the enlistment of the 1924 class till after the Constituent means to postpone too the release of the older classes. This situation is very serious and we cannot help taking it into consideration. Waiting for the decisions to be taken by the Constituent we must accept all provisional rules as our compatriots who are in the Government have done. We all should feel bound to obey the Government's orders, so we must invite all young men to join up when they are due. By doing so they will do a good turn to those who are going to be released and sent back to their families. The situation of these un lucky young men will be thus improved. That is the advice we feel our duty to give in order to contribute to the restoration of normal conditions of life which are necessary for the democratic renewal of our Country.

PUBLIC ORDER

The Christiana e Libertas (act) 2 March

Reporters that some partisans came to the paper and stated that they themselves organized the demonstrations against the Grosse Hall. Of course they did not know that by taking upon themselves the responsibility of making such an insubordinate thrust they would render a good service to those who have partisans and all progressive forces of the country. Yet the result was this: the Mayor, his assistant and the majority of the guests were abused by the rioters. He agreed that the workers do not like demonstrations when the riot displays their wealth, but this is no reason for behaving like undisciplined people.

The "Opinion" (lib) 2 March

Commenting on the tumults of the Grosse Hall says: What was to be done to avoid such an undisciplined demonstration? He had to block the passages to the square and they had the small groups of agitators coming forward. He had been informed that police, which knew of the demonstration, had gathered several hundreds of agents. If this is true, police was very clever in disappearing by 2200 hrs; very few agents were in the square; those agents, whose officers we do not know, waited for the rioters to get near the theatre, to get them up to 50 (no more than that), including various persons, and then allowed them to invade the theatre and to their disposable forces. The main body of the police intervened too late, when the use of main forces would have caused serious consequences. He who organized the service is responsible. Unfortunately we lack officials who have an experience of such tasks, which requires strategic and tactical skill. It is necessary to find a quick remedy especially in view of the elections that mean the return to normal life and cannot be put off. If our policemen cannot keep public order in such easy circumstances what will they do during the elections when all things will be tense?

Somebody may say: Fortunately we have Mayor Ravada, who ensures public order through his absolute command of the masses. He is sure of this but we are not sure. Popularity can be lost at once and the Mayor evening Ravada himself was whistled and his insults. Agents provocateurs? "Amalgamation" were not sufficient to suppress the demonstration. The only remedy is to reform the institutions that are not capable of performing their tasks first of all the police.

Appendix D to 1 HII Progress
Report No 7 Dated 15 Mar.

REPORT ON CRIME

The "Popolo Nuovo" (Christ, Dem.) 24th March 1946

Reports that at Novara two members of the Civil Police robbed a woman of 200,000 lire. One of them was arrested but succeeded in escaping from his cell. The paper, commenting on this escape, says that we cannot help expecting other policemen to have had a finger in the pie. It is necessary to re-organise the civil police as it has proved to be infected by criminality or else there will never be public order.

The "Giustizia e Libertà" (ant) 24th March 1946

Reports that 4 robberies were committed in Turin yesterday in an hour's time:

By 2400 hrs a tradesman in Via Mazzini was forced by a armed man in uniform to surrender his wallet.

By 2415 hrs in Via Garibaldi a doctor was robbed by three men of his gold watch and 100 lire.

By 2430 hrs two robbers behind a window of his bicycle near the Martirato.

By 2200 hrs a man armed with a Thompson gun seized a surveyor in Via Corbucci di Pausanico and took away his wallet and contents.

No. 1 BLU ("A" Type)

3
2
1

Authorised WE		OR & Civilian s employed with WE		A/S Gp	OR Held surplus to
<u>Clerks GD RASC</u>	1 Sjt	Sjt	WILLIAM J.	12	
	1 Cpl	Cpl	Mc MILLAN A	56	
	1 Pte	Pte	WILLIAM T	58	
<u>Services</u>					
<u>Clerks PAOC</u>	WOI	WO I	CHURCH A.G.	26	121
	1 L/Cpl	L/Cpl	WILLIAM G	30	
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	1 L/Cpl	L/Cpl	WILLIAM R.	56	
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	1 L/Cpl	Civilian - Italian			
<u>ADM Staff</u>					
Duty NCO	1 Sjt	Sjt	WILLIAM V	26	
Ration NCO	1 L/Cpl		WILLIAM V		
Dvr Mech	1 L/Cpl		WILLIAM V		
Batman/Dvr	1 Pte		WILLIAM V		
ACC Cook	1 Pte	Pte	WILLIAM J	26	

REMARKS

TOTAL EMPLOYED AS AT 14 Mar 46 :-

1 L/Cpl Dvr Mech
 1 L/Cpl Ration NCO
 1 Dvr Batman

No. BLU ("A" Type)

69
197

& Civilian s employed with WE	A/S Gp	OR held surplus to WE	A/S Gp	Civilians held surplus to
THOMAS J. Mc MILLAN A MID T	42 66 54			Interpreter typist 1 Female
CHAMBERLAIN J.G. CHAMBERLAIN G	25 10 58			Interpreter typist 1 Female
CHAMBERLAIN H. an - Italian	56			
CHAMBERLAIN V CHAMBERLAIN CHAMBERLAIN CHAMBERLAIN J	25 80			Interpreter typist 1 Female Laborers 2 Male Laundry help 2 Female Lab workers 4 Female

Date..... 14 Mar 46

REMARKS

APPROVED AS AT 14 Mar 46

1 Lt Col Dyer Hoch
1 Lt Col Nathan HCS
1 Dyer Nathan

Subject :- Progress Report, No 6

1 British Liaison Unit

C 6/1

2 Mar 46

To :- HQ Land Forces Sub Comd AC (MPLA)
RMS

HQ 2 D L V

II G ENGAGEMENT OF TROOPS

(a) Army less CO. HQ.

Normal duties are being carried out by the Army with the exception of Avrs "CHROMA" being used to assist VI South African Armal Div. My report No 5 refers.

(b) CO. HQ.

Normal duties are being carried out by the CO. HQ. including street patrols by the Mobile Bn.

Training

(a) Army less CO. HQ.

In the Oromana Inf Div a great deal of sand table exercises are being carried out to train offrs and NCOs. These schemes are working extremely well and offrs and NCOs are showing a great interest in this form of trg.

In the Alpini Regt the normal guard duties being performed prevent any trg above that of section trg being carried out.

(b) CO. HQ. Trg.

I visited the CO. HQ. School at Moncalieri and the Mobile Bn with Major Hillis, CO. HQ. ID. I was extremely impressed by the state of the bks, rooms, the turnout of the men and the general air of discipline existing in these Units.

I find a great deal of good trg being carried out under capable offrs instructors, and I find in general, the morale higher than in the average Inf Unit.

(a) Army Loss CC, RR.

Normal duties are being carried out by the Army with the exception of Ave "CHILL" being used to assist VI South African Arm Div. My report No 3 refers.

(b) CC, RR.

Normal duties are being carried out by the CC, RR, including street patrolling by the Mobile RM.

Training(a) Army Loss CC, RR.

In the Cremona Inf Div a great deal of sand table exercises are being carried out to train officers and NCOs. These schemes are working extremely well and officers and NCOs are showing a great interest in this form of trg.

In the Alpini Regt the normal guard duties being performed prevent any trg above that of section trg being carried out.

(b) CC, RR, Trg.

I visited the CC, RR. School at Mancalieri and the Mobile RM with Major HILLS, CC, RR, SO. I was extremely impressed by the state of the barracks, rooms, the turnout of the men and the general air of discipline existing in these units.

I find a great deal of good trg being carried out under capable officers/instructors, and I find in general, the morale higher than in the average Inf Unit.

Intelligence

(a) It is reliably reported from Italian Military sources and confirmed from British Security Organisation that in the Valley of Aosta, Slav elements are in close touch with Italians of the extreme left parties. Also illegal wireless transmitting is reported to be going on in this area.

In Val d'Aosta the pro-independence party has posted signs making the people of the valley to make a last effort to obtain an international guarantee of their rights. The proclamation is signed by the leaders of the Union Valdostaine.

In Val di Susa an active propaganda pro annexation to France is still going on by exploiting the dissatisfaction caused by the food problem, the inefficiency of public services, the high taxes, the generally bad economical conditions.

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2 1/2

A. G. G. G.

- 2 -

There are 12 known propaganda agents in the Val di Susa.

The ex-Belgian partisan reported in my progress report No 5 para (b) has been arrested by British S.I.B. agents, to answer to a number of charges.

(b) Frontier Activity

Traffic of arms continues in the NOVARA area, especially in the localities with no troops or police elements.

The areas mostly exploited are Val Sesia, Val Grande and the Pieve del Conte, Piedimulera and Vogogna areas.

Along the whole of the French and Swiss border people are illegally emigrating. The Swiss authorities are concerned both as regards emigrating as well as illegal trading which is carried out by well-armed gangs. The Swiss authorities are taking action by adding more border troops, whilst the Guardia di Finanza due to the shortage of men and means, are unable to face the situation.

(c) Relations between troops and population

The propaganda carried out by the Socialist party against the calling up has hindered the good relationship between the tps and the people. In Aosta, notwithstanding invitations to entertainments, lectures and shows, relations between tps and civilians are unsatisfactory. The former are despised by the partisans. The partisans, however, do not enjoy the peoples' consideration on account of their bullying attitude, but no action is taken for fear of reprisals. The same applies to the BLMMA area.

Relations between tps and civil police are unsatisfactory, throughout a great part of the Region. The CC.RR., on the contrary, are enjoying the peoples' esteem. An increase of the means available to CC.RR. would help a lot in this respect.

Anti-Army propaganda in TURIN'S newspapers has intensified during the past 10 days. Slandorous articles have appeared against GRAMSCI and against the Army in general, accusing the Army of being reactionary, to use the now well-worn phrase. The worst paper of the lot is the "Sempere Avanti", run by Calosso, an Italian who returned to Italy from England after the war had ended. He used to broadcast from Radio London. This propaganda is not only having a harmful

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3187

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Relations between troops and civil police are unsatisfactory, throughout a great part of the Region. The CC.RR., on the contrary, are enjoying the peoples' esteem. An increase of the means available to CC.RR. would help a lot in this respect.

Anti-Army propaganda in TURIN'S newspapers has intensified during the past 10 days. Slanderous articles have appeared against CREMONA and against the Army in general, accusing the Army of being reactionary, to use the now well-worn phrase. The worst paper of the lot is the "Scapre Avanti", run by Calosso, an Italian who returned to Italy from England after the war had ended. He used to broadcast from Radio London. This propaganda is not only having a harmful effect on the military, but the educated civilians as well take a poor view of this propaganda, as the Army is unable to reply to any of the attacks made against them. Newspaper cuttings att marked Annex "1".

(d) Political tendencies

There are very few elements in the Army who take any active part in party politics. In general, the COs of units have the situation well in hand and are respected by the men.

The political campaign against the call-up has caused a drop in morale in the older classes, who fear that through this action their release may be held up. The suggested policy of exempting the ex-partisans from call-up has given the people the impression that the new Army will only be made up of ex-fascists or young people who were compromised with the Germans. There are two other points of outstanding importance at the moment, hostility towards Yugoslavia and a bitter feeling towards Sicilian separatists.

- 3 -

(e) Subversive elements

There appear to be no subversive elements in the Army.

A subversive attitude has instead been taken by certain newspapers of the left parties, and by certain members of extremist parties who, through lectures and articles are endeavouring to arouse disturbances amongst the population and the tps.

(f) Public Security

Crime is still on the increase in Piemonte. Public feeling has been aroused by yet another armed robbery carried out by auxiliary police agents. One of the robbers was seriously injured during the robbery, there is providing undisputable evidence that the robbers were members of the auxiliary police forces.

Public security will never be assured in Piemonte until the bad auxiliary police agents are removed. They are holding positions of trust purely on political grounds and a large number of them are undesirable ruffians. Newspaper cuttings att marked Appx "B".

The whole of the population fear disturbances which may occur during the future elections. It is reliable reported from NOVARA that in the Valle Antigorio two well known gangsters have re-appeared in the area. They had been arrested for concealing large arms dumps in the Noceno area and have now been released "on parole".

The arrival in the same area of an ex-leader of the action party and a commander of a communist Ede would appear to be more than incidental.

(g) Economics

The general situation is getting worse. The prices of food are on the increase and bread is now 20 lire per kilo. Most of the food must be purchased on the black-market, notwithstanding SERRA's efforts. Wages and salaries are too low as compared to the actual prices. The ex-prisoners of war and ex-servicemen are unemployed. With the law allowing firms to discharge surplus personnel the number of unemployed will increase. The discharges are left to the internal commissions discretion who in the majority of cases disregard all other factors and consider only the political

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The whole of the population fear disturbances which may occur during the future elections. It is reliable reported from NOVARI that in the Valle Antigorio two well known gangsters have re-appeared in the area. They had been arrested for concealing large arms dumps in the Paceno area and have now been released "en parole".

The arrival in the same area of an ex-leader of the action party and a commander of a communist Ude would appear to be more than incidental.

(g) Economics

The general situation is getting worse. The prices of food are on the increase and bread is now 20 lire per kilo. Most of the food must be purchased on the black-market, notwithstanding SEPRA's efforts. Wages and salaries are too low as compared to the actual prices. The ex-prisoners of war and ex-servicemen are unemployed. With the law allowing firms to discharge surplus personnel the number of unemployed will increase. The discharges are left to the internal commissions discretion who in the majority of cases disregard all other factors and consider only the political tendencies.

Many firms have closed down for lack of raw material and coal. Strikes have shown that the workers are unable to cope with the situation. In the commercial field the situation is very serious, as the people are not in a position to purchase goods or other articles, for the simple reason that they can hardly afford to buy sufficient food.

A further drawback is represented by the impossibility, at the moment of trading with foreign nations.

(h) Morale of Offrs and Tps

R.I.R. The offrs resent the lack of consideration for the army, and are further affected by the economical treatment which does not enable them to face the most essential necessities of life.

The Tps are depressed on account of the poor clothing and equipment which has so far been issued and of the very little progress made in the way of welfare.

- 4 -

III A DOMESTIC

(a) See att personnel state.

Major Bourne D.A. 3 MG left 24 Feb with 4/8 Gp 24. Capt M. Del Carretto OC Italian Increment reported for duty 19 Feb 46. Capt H. Harper acting D.A. 3 MG.

Italian Increment - No change.

(b) Italian

Terr Comd approx 15% below WB.

Cremona Inf Div approx up to strength by holding non-specialists against vacancies for specialists.

IV C DOMESTIC

(a) One surplus Dodge 15-cwt despatched to RVE, MONZA. Vahs now held in accordance with WB.

(b) Italian

Main points in Cremona Inf Div veh state are :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	397	393	267	36
3-ton	366	367	282	85
15-cwt	293	287	242	45

Main points in Terr Comd veh state for No 1 C.A.R. are :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	4	2	2	Nil
Cars	8	2	2	Nil
Trucks	15	6	5	1

Veh state of No 1 C.T.A. is :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	18	8	6	2
Cars	16	11	8	3
Trucks	80	54	39	15

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The veh state of the OC.R.R. shows no noteworthy change
 The state of the OC.R.R. has been drawn as under :-

IV Q DOMESTIC

- (a) One surplus Dodge 15-cwt despatched to RVP, MONZA.
Vehs now held in accordance with WE.

(b) Italian

Main points in Cremona Inf Div veh state are :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	397	303	267	36
3-ton	366	367	282	85
15-cwt	295	257	242	45

Main points in Terr Comd veh state for No 1 C.A.R. are :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	4	2	2	Nil
Cars	2	2	2	Nil
Trucks	15	6	5	4

Veh state of No 1 C.A.R. is :-

	<u>WE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	18	8	6	2
Cars	16	11	8	3
Trucks	80	54	39	15

The veh state of the 03.RR. shows no noteworthy change apart from M/C, which have been drawn as under :-

	<u>Drawn from "A" NVP</u>	<u>Drawn from 7 NVP</u>
Ariel	3	
Matchless	8	
Ariel	39	
(c) <u>BAGG</u>		10

Census returns of eqpt held at 14 Nov 45 are being consolidated and difficulty is being experienced in translating items into English. It is anticipated that another 14 days work will be necessary before completion.

Clothing

- (i) Socks are still urgently needed, position becoming acute.

Action
Q 10/1 of 1 Mar
refers

- 5 -

Opificio

- (ii) The leather for the Opificio has arrived, 2 lorries from BUESOLA and 2 waggons from Sicily. Rate of production 200 pairs daily. This is only 50% of normal output, but the object is to make the work last, thereby retaining in employment highly skilled civilians, until the stock of leather is larger.

Blankets

- (iii) Are still arriving in small quantities from BIELLA, pending clarification of position by DISWO.

Boat

- (iv) Except for cooking utensils which are in short supply, position is satisfactory.

Arms & Amm

Monthly release of Trg Amm has arrived.

S & F

RCI. CIP Turin has not yet received its full allocation for Mar, but unspecified amounts have been advised on rail.

Med.

Terr Comd have not yet received a directive regarding routine med inspections of supply personnel, cooks, mess orderlies etc. Both military and civilians are effected.

W. D. Hamilton

Major
GSO II

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1/20/43
1/20/43

1

No.....HLU ("A" Type)

Authorized WE		OR & Civilian s employed with WE		W/S Gp	C. hold surplus to
<u>Clerks GD RASC</u>	1 Sgt	Opl	REBERT J.	42	
	1 Cpl		CIVILIAN - Male		
	1 Pte	TO I	CHARLES S.C.	26 BR	
<u>Services</u>		1/Cpl	BURTON G.	38	
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	TO I	1/Cpl	FORBES H.P.	56	
	1 1/Cpl		CIVILIAN - Female		
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	1 1/Cpl				
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	1 1/Cpl				
<u>AIR RASC</u>		Sgt	FRANK V.	27	
			DEFICIENT		
			DEFICIENT		
			DEFICIENT		
		Pte	THOMAS J.	28	
					Opl. BAYNEST R
					Cdrn ADAM T.

Opl. BAYNEST R. Atty held to hold this NOC in lieu of Opl. BAYNEST R. against vacancy for 1/Cpl Dvr Mech Cdrn ADAM T. Held in lieu of Dvr Batman.

TOTAL DEFICIENCIES AS AT 1 Mar 46 :- 1 Sgt Clerk RASC GD
 1 1/Cpl Ration NOC
 1 1/Cpl Dvr Mech

1

No.....RLU ("A" Type)

00
00

& Civilian s employed with		Gr. held surplus to	A/S Gp	Civilian s held surplus to
DEFICIENT		Gr.		Interpreter Typist 1 Female
BRADY J.	42			
CIVILIAN - Male				
CHARLES S.G.	26			Interpreter Typist 1 Female
BRADY G.	38			
ROBERT R.F.	56			
CIVILIAN - Female				
PAUL V.	27			Labourers 2 Male
DEFICIENT				Laundry Hands 6 Female
DEFICIENT				
THOMAS J.	28	Opl. DAVENPORT R Cdr. ADAM T.	27 27	
				March 46

WFO in lieu of Dvr Recd. Against vacancy for 1/Opl Dvr Recd

Date.....

AS AT 1 Mar 46 :- 1 Sjt Clerk HNDK 00
 1 L/Opl Station HNDK
 1 L/Opl Dvr Recd

ARTICLES AGAINST THE ARMY

25 Feb 48

Published under the following title. "We must speak about the Army". Many reasons lead us to speak clearly about the Army, reasons which we want to list before beginning the speech, the length of which only depends on the importance and seriousness of the argument. First of all we must speak about the Army because the solicitations to do so received by democratic soldiers and officers inspire it and a newspaper can only be glad of accepting the public's voice, even if this public is by chance dressed in grey-green or khaki; whoever wears the soldier's uniform is not allowed to remain stranger to the people's life and has the right of being considered a part of the People. It is necessary to speak about the Army because a regional daily paper the "Temple Avanti" of Sunday 17th has published for public opinion documents of exceptional importance in this delicate moment of our national life. It is necessary to speak about the Army because of incidents that have happened in our province (Biella, Vercelli, Caviglioglio) that must not be kept from the public's knowledge. These incidents as they are, may not be of great importance; but they could become very serious if we keep in mind the trend that monarchic elements, that is, reactionaries, are trying to give the Army. Finally we must speak about the Army because in front of the recent calling of classes a great preoccupation is noted in the families and a greater confusion among the young people. Before examining the argument we must answer the questions that have been sent to us; the democracy that reigns in the Army does not allow us to publish the names of those who write to us and for the same reason we have not even asked the name of those who spoke to us. We have been asked to bring to the public's attention the fact that to-day the State spends many millions of lire to pay the best salaries to the officers who since the 8th of September have the only merit of not having enlisted in the fascist ranks even though they did nothing for the liberation; this, while every man and woman of the partisan regions has given much more and has often suffered great dangers with it receiving as asking any compensation, the ex-intensives are begging for work, and the ordinary soldiers have no right to back salaries. Our attention has been called on certain cases that we will not publish because it has not been possible to take the necessary steps to prove them. However these cases answer to the truth and are quite justified by what we believe is the Army's situation; that is, cases of democratic officers, who, considered useful when we had to fight have now been systematically dismissed from the ranks in an attempt of returning from the People's Army to the Royal Army. Finally we must satisfy the soldiers of the "Orcagna" who showed us the No 82 of their paper "La Spiga" in which it is said; "The General, the editor's office and the command receive many anonymous letters which are destroyed". However one letter was not destroyed and is published. "We beg urgent interest for the release of class 1921. It is more than 5 years that we are in the service and we should like to know when we may go."

"La Spiga" ironises on the poor grammar of this letter, but does not stop

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the soldiers to be deceived by democratic soldiers and officers impose it and a newspaper can only be glad of accepting the public's voice, even if this public is by chance dressed in grey-green or khaki; whoever wears the soldier's uniform is not allowed to remain stranger to the people's life and has the right of being considered a part of the people. It is necessary to speak about the Army because a regional daily paper the "Tempe Avanti" of Sunday 17th has published for public opinion documents of exceptional importance in this delicate moment of our national life. It is necessary to speak about the Army because of incidents that have happened in our provinces (Biella, Vercelli, Cuneo) that must not be kept from the public's knowledge. These incidents as they are, may not be of great importance; but they could become very serious if we keep in mind the trend that monarchic elements, that is, reactionaries, are trying to give the Army. Finally we must speak about the Army because in front of the recent calling of classes a great preoccupation is noted in the families and a greater confusion among the young people. Before examining the argument we must answer the questions that have been sent to us; the democracy that reigns in the Army does not allow us to publish the names of those who write to us and for the same reason we have not even asked the name of those who write to us. We have been asked to bring to the public's attention the fact that to-day the State spends many millions of lire to pay the back salaries to the officers who since the 8th of September have the only merit of not having enlisted in the fascist ranks even though they did nothing for the liberation; this, while every man and woman of the partisan regions has given much more and has often suffered great damages without receiving or asking any compensation, the ex-internees are begging for work, and the ordinary soldiers have no right to back salaries. Our attention has been called on certain cases that we will not publish because it has not been possible to base the necessary steps to prove them. However these cases answer to the truth and are quite justified by what we believe is the Army's situation; that is, cases of democratic officers, who, considered useful when we had to fight have now been systematically dismissed from the ranks in an attempt of returning from the People's Army to the Royal Army. Finally we must satisfy the soldiers of the "Greson" who showed us the No 82 of their paper "La Spiga" in which it is said: "The General, the editor's office and the command receive many anonymous letters which are destroyed". However one letter was not destroyed and is published. "We beg urgent interest for the release of class 1921. It is more than 5 years that we are in the service and we should like to know when we may go."

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"La Spiga" ironizes on the poor grammar of this letter, but does not stop to think on the reason of these anonymous letters. The soldiers we spoke to, gave us the answer that can easily be imagined by anybody; any manifestation of opinion, request of explanation or comment are considered a breach of discipline.

This is considered "democracy" in the Army, the democracy which we all have had the occasion of learning in the old Royal Army and which gave the known results on the 8th of September 45.

22 Feb 46

Published under the following title. "White Slaves Trade". Lawyer Brosio actual Secretary of War, after having issued the ordinance on the re-calling of classes, has felt it necessary to have his decision approved by the cabinet. He do not know what the socialist ministers thought about it, but we hope that they will have to give an account at the nearing National Congress of the Party. In the meanwhile the army is being more or less well retrained and from hearsay it seems that it will accept in its ranks ex-army commissioned officers of what was the fascist republican army who lend a hand to the army officers of pure monarchic faith in order to keep high the traditions of the Sabaudia Dynasty. Therefore the commanders will be more or less the same as before, that is officers who thought more of the condition of the miles than the welfare of their men, and the system will not of course be much different. Now, in front of the war that we have lost, in front of the smashed economy, is it still necessary to feed an army with our last resources? The paper continues saying that it is the general hope that at least for six or seven years there will be no other war and therefore we must think only of the reconstruction, expanding our money for this task and not for the restoration of the regiments. During this period we must not feed any army be it of slaves or volunteers, but only good and honest police forces.

The same paper publishes an open letter addressed to lawyer Brosio and to the Italian Democratic Government in which it is said: Dear Minister please tell me, are we not in a democratic period? Then what means the order of a future re-calling in service issued by you a month? Why such a decision so imperialistic and so military like? You are perfectly right when you say that classes 1924 shall replace older classes who have more than 60 months of service and when you bring in cause the terms of the "Long Amistice", but you are wrong to re-call a class without consulting the public opinion, represented by a cabinet and a Consulta. If you need a few thousand men, why not ask for volunteers? Are you aware of the fact that the City of Milan received 20,000 applications for the 1,000 vacancies as night watchmen? Do you think this insufficient? In Italy there is not only Milan. For the moment let us think of leaving our men at home, calling for volunteers and if the situation asks for compulsory service until normal times when the government will be able of taking decisions, do not compel young men, as slaves, to make an oath for a king dislited by most of them. For many years the Italians have been considered as cannon flesh. Are you not of the opinion that it is high time to put a stop to this?

April 1971 to 4 11 77
 Bureau Report No 6

25 Feb 46 "The New Orleans"

The mayor of Orleans has been elected last night in the New Orleans by two robbers who threatened him with firearms. With great promise of reward he fired at one of them who was severely wounded and succeeded in stopping the other until the flying squad arrived. The wounded robber was an agent of the Civil Police, the other two belonged to the Police.

26 Feb 46 "The New Orleans"

"The New Orleans"

"The robbery committed in Saturday night by two Civil Police in an episode of the greatest gravity. The laws have no fear as to see that two policemen instead of one regarding the safety of the citizens are it a robbery themselves and against people with arms. We do not intend to exaggerate a single fact, unfortunately since last October, 23 crimes have been committed in which policemen were more or less involved. We know what a difficult task it is to organize against a Police and we also know how eager Quastore agents are to solve this problem. Of course this problem cannot be solved in a few months. The event of Saturday night caused great concern among the Civil Police; we have learned that in an emergency attempt to re-organize it, a who is in was dispatched and 27 officers were dismissed. These steps taken within a section of the Police are not sufficient to restore the delicate situation which has arisen in the last months. The point is another. There is an ordinance, if we are not mistaken, issued to punish robbers; public opinion, worried and alarmed by the robbery wave, expects to hear from the authorities and Police whether this ordinance is being applied for everybody with the same any strictness that inspired it. The population is awaiting to see that the two robbers of Saturday night perished ruthlessly by the authorities responsible for public order.

27 Feb 46 "The New Orleans"

Commenting on the ordinance on the registration of fire arms issued by the Home Secretary, says, that only the honest people will do this, whereas the others will go on keeping and carrying arms in order to commit robberies. In the other hand when we see that the policemen themselves often behave as robbers we do not know what to do. We hope - the paper further says - that the new Prefect will re-organize together with the Quastore, the civil police because we cannot stand that seeing many honest and gallant agents there may be robbers.

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Subject Progress Report No 5

1 British Liaison Unit

G 6/1

To: HQ Land Forces Sub Comm AC (MMIA)
Rome

HQ 2 BLU

II G EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS

(a) Army less CCRR

Normal duties being performed.

(b) CCRR Normal.

TRAINING

(a) Army less CCRR

In Cremona Inf. Div Coys training schemes, etc. are being carried out. As specialist training is going on. In the Alpini Regiment only individual training is, as yet, being attempted. The Alpini Regt are running a small cadre for officers and NCOs on British weapons.

(b) CCRR training

The CCRR training is making slow progress.

INTELLIGENCE

(a) It is reliably reported from Italian military sources that in Northern Italy there are several Italians who are in close liaison with elements from foreign countries. According to information the area of Novara is the most prominent. The meeting place of these people is reported to be the Albergo Terminus

Normal duties being performed.

(b) CCRR Normal.

TRAINING

(a) Army less CCRR

In Cremona Inf. Div Coys training schemes, etc. are being carried out. A specialist training is going on. In the Alpini Regiment only individual training is, as yet, being attempted. The Alpini Rgt are running a small cadre for officers and NCOs on British weapons.

(b) CCRR training

The CCRR training is making slow progress.

INTELLIGENCE

(a) It is reliably reported from Italian military sources that in Northern Italy there are several Italians who are in close liaison with elements from foreign countries. According to information the area of Novara is the most prominent. The meeting place of these people is reported to be the Albergo Verminus in Domodossola. Their purposes and aims are not yet known. A certain individual by the name of PORTA, a printer of Domodossola, is reported to be one of the Italians liaising with foreign agents. The same sources report a meeting at the Fornara home in Novara on the 19 of Jan, which was attended by 4 Italians:- ZAMPETTI, COLOMBO, MORHARA and BONFANTINI, a Russian citizen and a French one.

It is rumoured that the Prefect of Novara, Prof. BONFANTINI, is to go to France to collect 5 million Francs for the Socialist Party. This money is to be brought into Italy by smugglers who, it is alleged, will leave Chamonix on 25 Feb 46 for Bardonecchia.

...../2

- 2 -

It is also rumoured that in Vespolate (Novara), the ex Partigiani Brigade, known as 'Balbis' is being re-organised. An ex Belgian partisan has arrived at the place wearing an American uniform and driving a Jeep, the number of which is in our possession.

(b) Frontier Activity:-

Contraband activity is still being carried on at the Swiss border.

In Val d'Aosta the CORR stopped a gang of 140 persons for attempting to expatriate illegally on the 7th Feb. They were, apparently, trying to leave Italy to obtain work elsewhere. It is reliably reported from a British Officer that in Aosta itself there is, quite definitely, a French propaganda under-current at work. It does not appear to have much of an effect on the population.

(c) Relations between tps and population:-

Relations with the civilian population are quite good in Piemonte. In the Aosta area relations with the people have improved noticeably.

(d) Political tendencies amongst tps:-

The parties of the left appear to have changed their propaganda with a view to establishing a feeling of friendship amongst the soldiers. Noticeably in the press, numerous articles have been published praising the combat groups and the soldiers as a whole. This new form of approach to the soldiers does not appear to be meeting with any measure of success. I attach as Appendix 'A' cuttings from Turin papers ref subject.

3173

(e) Subversive Elements:-

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(e) Subversive Elements:-

No details have been reported of any soldier being concerned in any subversive activity.

(f) Public Security:-

Crimes in the Piemonte area are still numerous. The press have been making a great deal of crimes committed with violence during the past two weeks in numerous cases auxiliary police agents have been involved in the crimes. This is not having a very good effect on the civilian population. In general the police are not respected as they should be either by the civilian population or by the soldiers.

- 3 -

(g) Economics:-

As from the 1st of Feb industrial firms are allowed to discharge surplus personnel. This represents a very serious problem which is affecting the morale of the people living in the industrial centres such as Turin.

(h) Other Information:-

Press:- The press, during the past fortnight has been carrying out a campaign against the calling-up of classes. The Socialist press in Piemonte were the most prominent, but even this campaign during the past few days appears to have changed. Attached as Appendix 'B' is a copy of a newspaper report at the start of the campaign and a further cutting from the same newspaper published only a few days ago. The proclamation ordering these classes to report for military service has, in general, not been interfered with in Turin. This is a definite improvement to what conditions were here 5 months ago.

- (i) The morale of officers and men remains unchanged. It is not good.

III A DOMESTIC

- (a) See attached personnel state. The DIA & QMG departing on release on 24 Feb with 24 A/S Group

→ B Italian

- (b) Italian increment discontented at their drop in pay on reverting from Cremona to Territorial Comd.
- (a) Territorial Comd has total percentage deficiency of approx. 15%
- (b) Cremona Div is more or less up to strength, but has deficiency of specialists against a surplus of non-

2177

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- (b) Cremona Div is more or less up to strength, but has deficiency of specialists against a surplus of non-specialists.

3177

IV Q DOMESTIC

(a) One surplus Jeep despatched to MIA, Rome and the other to 4 BLU.

(b) Italian.

Transport. Main points in CREMONA veh state are:-

	W.B.	Held	Efficient	Inefficient
M/Cs	397	303	262	41
3-ton	366	367	282	85
15-cwt	299	257	207	50

- 4 -

Main points in Terr Cnd veh state are for
1 C.A.R.:

	<u>W.E.</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>
M/Cs	4		2
Cars	2		1
Trucks	15		5

State of 1 C.T.A. is:-

	<u>W.E.</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	18	8	6	2
Cars	16	11	8	3
Trucks	80	56	44	12

The veh state of the CCRH shows no noteworthy change apart from progress in delivering of the 60 M/Cs. This is well in hand and necessary report will be sent. All the 60 M/Cs are now in Turin.

(1) E.A.O.C.

Census returns of equipment held as at 14th Nov have now all been received from CREMONA div.

Clothing:-

(i) Socks still urgently needed.

(ii) Turin "Opificio" is getting leather from Brescia.

In spite of two days a week without electric power, the 48 hour week is being maintained.

(iii) Commissariato still worried about blankets at Biella. No sign yet of any release by 2 District.

(iv) 6,000 pairs of boots, American pattern, have arrived. They were badly packed and, therefore, in need of slight repairs before issue.

Bot position is now reasonably satisfactory.

Arms & Amn:-

The veh state of the CCRK shows no noteworthy change apart from progress in delivering of the 60 M/Cs. This is well in hand and necessary report will be sent. All the 60 M/Cs are now in Turin.

(1) R.A.O.C.

Census returns of equipment held as at 14th Nov have now all been received from CREMONA div.

Clothing:-

(i) Socks still urgently needed.

(ii) Turin "Opificio" is getting leather from Brescia. In spite of two days a week without electric power, the 48 hour week is being maintained.

(iii) Commissariato still worried about blankets at Biella. No sign yet of any release by 2 District.

(iv) 6,000 pairs of boots, American pattern, have arrived. They were badly packed and, therefore, in need of slight repairs before issue. Boot position is now reasonably satisfactory.

Arms & Amn:-

Nothing yet arranged for official issue of oil and flannelette for arms maintenance. This is assuming particular importance with reference to C.A.R. and hand-over of British equipment. Shortage of cleaning materials in units is having a strong effect on serviceability of their arms.

C.E.M.

2 District has asked for and is being given detailed lists of material of Army origin collected by Recovery Commission. Authy for collection is War

Action Q4
of 14 Feb

...../5

- 5 -

Ministry circulars and legislative decree.
Publication of latter had been approved by
A.M.G. for this area.

POL

C.I.P. Turin, has not received its full allocation
for distribution. Matter taken up with CIP,
Genoa and MMIA. It is understood that the matter
is now in hand and the position will right itself.

Land
27/2

J. W. Kamet
Major
GSO II

Field
16 Feb 46.

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APPENDIX "A" to 4 HCU
Progress Report No 5

Newspaper Article taken from the "Unita" dated 10 Feb

Under the title "Welcome to the third Bn of the OZSSMA says :-

"The first Bn of the the OZSSMA, which in our town showed a spirit worthy of its contribution of blood and sacrifices for Italy's freedom, has left us and has been replaced by the 3 Bn, which was awarded with the Golden Medal during the Liberation War. These boys of the OZSSMA with their officers has been preceded by a liar and slander campaign, which they proved by their behaviour to be not true. The General, Colonel and senior officers has been described as anti-popular men who were chasing to WWII with political views contrasting with the peoples'. Those who set these rumors flying had a particular purpose. As usual, facts denied rumors. As fighters for Italy's honour, the soldiers of the OZSSMA and nearly all the officers from the General to the Colonel were unanimous in collaborating and working with the people. They gave up their sugar, they gave part of their rations to the children in need, they did their best in order to help poor people. Therefore we greet the boys of the 3 Bn with a sincere and frank feeling of friendship, as we are sure that they will keep in close touch with the population as the boys of the first Bn did. The popular army is being organised on such a basis and democracy has achieved victory also in the army.

Newspaper Article taken from the "La Rocca" dated 30 Jan.

Under the title "Soldiers at Saluzzo"

The paper says that since a few days ago Saluzzo gives hospitality to a detachment of soldiers belonging to the "Gran na". We recognise that at first sight we were touched by a feeling of pity and compassion, being so used to connect every thing that is military, with the painful years bygone, with our present misery. But soon after we were filled with a feeling of comprehension and affection; they are our dear brothers who have suffered and still suffer being compelled to serve a symbol that no longer exists, bound to a broken tradition. Saluzzo will not belie its well known spirit of hospitality towards these brothers.

APPENDIX "B" to 1 BLU
Progress Report No. 5

Press Reports from "LAVORO AVANTI" Socialist Newspaper,
reference the Fall Up.

21 January

Commenting on the re-calling of the 1924 class, it says that the War Secretary, availing himself of the dictatorial power which derives from his possession of several billions appropriated by the Fascist budget, has ordered two "quadrimestri" on the 1924 class to join up the army.

This has caused great concern among the young men and their families of which our paper is the mouthpiece. Consultore Michele Sina has sent to the War Office the following note which will be discussed at the Consulta.

"Whether the War Secretary does not think suitable to suspend this ordinance, waiting for the Costituente to determine a new organization of the army, more adequate to the political and economic situation of Italy. The War Secretary, as is known, is a civilian but he seems to begin feeling like a general."

2 February

One fine day several tens of thousands of young men will receive their "post-card" which forces them to leave civil life again in order to tread the snow at the "rhythm" of the drums or of the sergeants, owing to the fact that "The War Office" did not examine this question more carefully. We want to know the reason why the Socialist Ministers and Consultori have not yet tried to tell their minds on this problem. Anyhow it is certain that the concerned authorities are trying to pass this bill as if it were a matter of little importance such as the increase of the tax on dogs.

The people must know once for ever why they want to take away thousands of young men from the reconstruction work in order to aggravate the meagre State Budget.

The people must be informed about this on the eve of the Constituent Assembly, which perhaps will free us from the nightmare of conscription, they must know why we should reorganize regiments and repair barracks. We had better weld our 8 millions of bayonets (supposing we have them) which are not even fit to kill frogs, in order to give our factories some iron.

Do they want to give a job (to their jaws, of course!) to those persons who used to wear a uniform only to show their superciliousness and to make money?

Are they trying perhaps to save the Ministry?

3175

This has caused great concern among the young men and their families of which our paper is the mouthpiece. Consulatore Michele Giusa has sent to the War Office the following note which will be discussed at the Consulta.

"Whether the War Secretary does not think suitable to suspend this ordinance, waiting for the Constituent to determine a new organization of the Army, more adequate to the political and economic situation of Italy. The War Secretary, as is known, is a civilian but he seems to begin feeling like a general."

3 February

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Do they want to give a job (to their jaws, of course!) to those persons who used to wear a uniform only to show their superciliousness and to make money?

Are they trying perhaps to save the Monarchy from the doom which is going to be pronounced by the people through the elections?

...../2

- 2 -

14. Delmarva

The GUN of Piedmont informs that leaflets are being spread in town signed "The young soldiers from military service" which asks all young men from WYOMING and the Province born between 1920-1925 to take part in a demonstration against the enlistment of these classes in Plaza San Carlo.

The GUN Piedmont warns the young men against these intrigues tending to trouble public order and organization its confidence that the young generation which fought during the Liberation War will not listen to such an appeal.

3174

No.....1.....BLU ("A" Type)

Authorized WE		OR & Civilian s employed with WE		A/S Gp	OR held surplus to
<u>Clerks CD RASC</u>	1 Sjt 1 Cpl 1 Pte	Cpl	Deficient Bryant J. Deficient	42	
<u>Services</u>					
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	WOI 1 L/Cpl	WO I L/Cpl	Chapman S.C. Millson C	26 OR 38	
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	1 L/Cpl	L/Cpl	Forbes S.P.	56	
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	1 L/Cpl		Deficient		
<u>ADM Staff</u>					
Duty NCO	1 Sjt	Sjt	Powell V	20	
Station NCO	1 L/Cpl		Deficient		
Dvr Mech	1 L/Cpl		Deficient		
Batman/Dvr	1 Pte		Deficient		
ACC Cook	1 Pte	Pte	Heslop J.	28	Cpl Davenport R Gdsn Adam T

REMARKS

Cpl Davenport R. Authy held to hold this NCO against vacancy for L/Cpl Dvr/Mech
Gdsn Adam T being held in lieu of Dvr/Batman.

TOTAL DEFICIENCIES AS AT 15 Feb 46 :- 1 Sjt Clerk CD RASC
1 L/Cpl Station NCO
1 L/Cpl Clerk Tech RASC
1 L/Cpl Dvr/Mech
1 Pte Clerk CD RASC.

No.....1.....BLU ("A" Type)

273

OR & Civilian s employed with ME	A/S Gp	CR Held surplus to	A/S Gp	Civilians held surplus to
pl Deficient Bryant J. Deficient	12			Interpreter Typist 1 Female
S I Chapman S.C.	26 BR			Interpreter Typist 1 Female
/Cpl Ellison A	38			
/Cpl Forben W.B.	56			
Deficient				
St Powell V	20			Labourers 2 Male
Deficient		Cpl Ravenport R	27	Laundry hands 2 Female
Deficient		Cpln Adam F	27	
to Heslop J.	28			

REMARKS

Date.....15 Feb 46.....

At R. Auby held to hold this AC against vacancy for 1/Cpl Dvr/Mech.
being held in lieu of vx/Batman.

REMARKS AS AT 15 Feb 46 :- 1 Sjt Clerk (D) RASC
1 1/Cpl Ration WFO
1 1/Cpl Clerk Tech RASC
1 1/Cpl Dvr/Mech
1 Pte Clerk (D) RASC.

Subject: Progress Report No. 4.

1 British Liaison Unit

G 6/1

To: HQ Land Forces Sub Comm AC (MILIT)
Rome

HQ 2 BLU

II G TRAINING

Normal unit trg albeit much hampered by snow. Separate report att on C.A.R.
CO. RR. LO submitting reports on CO. RR. activities.

INTERNATIONALS - Activities ref other countries - Relatively reported from Ital in sources.

Propaganda on behalf of annexation to France resumed in ALBA VALLE di SUSA. Carried out by French and Italian elements. Cards distributed Supporters of the movement sign a request to join and French French motherland. The recently increased land tax and the abrogation of a fascist law which exempted land above 800 metres from unified agricultural taxes has swayed population in favour of France.

Continued propaganda in VAL d'AOSTA for annexation to France. Meetings have been held. Some talk that mil occupation of the valley will take place during the political elections in Italy.

Association of Friends of France set up in VERBA. At first assumed a cultural nature later extending to industrial and commercial fields. A similar association, but with few members, set up in ALESSANDRIA.

FRONTIER ACTIVITIES

Frequent illegal crossing of frontier in VALLE di AOSTA area through the Pirena tunnel, where Italian and French workers are carrying out repairs. Considerable traffic in automotive weapons as France has large quantities.

French propaganda agents alleged often to cross the frontier of PIAZZA S. BERNARDO in VALLE d'AOSTA. French customs control is strict but Italian control is poor.

RELATIONS BETWEEN TROOPS & CIVILIANS

3172

R/C

II G TRAINING

Normal unit trg albeit much hampered by snow. Separate report att on C.A.A.R.
O.C.R.R. is submitting report on C.A.R.R. activities.

INFORMATION - Activities ref other countries -

Relatively unreported from Italy all sources.

Propaganda on behalf of annexation to France resumed in ALBA VALLE di SUSIA. Carried out by French and Italian elements. Cards distributed Supporters of the movement sign a request to join ancient French motherland. The recently increased land tax and the abrogation of a fascist law which exempted land above 800 metres from unified agricultural taxes has swayed population in favour of France.

Continued propaganda in VAL d'AOSTA for annexation to France. Meetings have been held. Some talk that mid occupation of the valley will take place during the political elections in Italy.

Association of Friends of France set up in VERBA. It first assumed a cultural nature later extending to industrial and commercial fields. A similar association, but with few members, set up in AINTRAUBIA.

FRONTIER ACTIVITIES

Frequent illegal crossing of frontier in VALLE di SUSIA area through the Fregus tunnel, where Italian and French workers are carrying out repairs. Considerable traffic in automatic weapons as France has large quantities.

French propaganda agents alleged often to cross the frontier of FICOLE G. BRANCON in VALLE d'AOSTA. French customs control is strict but Italian control is poor.

RELATIONS BETWEEN TROOPS & CIVILIANS

Satisfactory. There has been the occasional altercation in VAL d'AOSTA through civilians prising the work of partisans in the war and degrading the part played by the soldiers. This is now settling down. A Communist paper "l'Amico del popolo" referring to a row at BLIGNIA involving a few Gramma soldiers stated :- "soldiers of the Gramma should not allow themselves to be turned into a gang similar to units such as Forno and Folgore which are causing a lot of trouble in southern Italy."

TROOPS' POLITICAL TENDENCIES

Majority of troops show a complete apathy as regards politics. The very few elements belonging to extremist parties are not apparently carrying out any political activity.

3179

R/p/2/46

R/p/4/46

D/455

TECHNICAL SITUATION.

The feeling is making headway that the Allies have not fulfilled their promises as the general situation is deteriorating. Fiat and Lancia are, of course, for lack of coal and electric power. Shortage of raw materials is affecting all industries with consequent unrest among workers.

PROSS AND CALL UP.

Socialist newspapers particularly "Lavoro Avanti" are campaigning against the call up with the argument that an army is not needed and emphasis on general overwork to military service when economic conditions are in such an upset. The Action newspaper distinguishes e libertas reports that people are favourably impressed by the fact that the volunteers have to state their profession. It seems that they will be employed in reconstruction and that the army will only be a sort of preparation work that precedes the real work with axes and picks. At any rate, only a small percentage will be employed as material for tactical experiments.

MORALE

That of officers is still affected by economical situation and by the favourable treatment accorded to personnel compared with the fascist republic.

The morale of the troops is not high but the situation generally cannot be called very serious. Great discontent is caused by soldiers seeing men of their own classes in the north who have never been called up.

III A. DOMESTIC

(a) See attached personnel state. Capt R. RIVETI has departed on leave on 25 Jan. Maj HILLIS, CC. BR. 10, is now with the RIR. The DIA & CIB, Maj B. B. B. will depart on 21 Feb on release 4/3 Op 24. Action has been taken to bring Italian troops down to the new US.

.....u/3

3171

- 3 -

B. SUMMARY

- (a) Terr Cond has total percentage deficiency of 15%. Rtsa demands are regularly submitted.
- (b) Cremona is approx up to strength but it has a deficiency of specialists against a surplus of non specialists. Specialist deficiencies include 136 avt, 150 wireless operators and 68 motor cyclists.
- (c) It usually takes a month to obtain permit to enter TERRITORY and other prohibited areas.

IV. C. DEMERITS

- (a) The XII now holds 2 Hqs sent up from RTR, one went for ST LO and other for CC. RR. LG. No written authy from MIA received for holding these vobs.

ITALY

- (b) Transport. Main points in GERMANIA vob state are :-

	<u>RE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Sufficient</u>	<u>Insufficient</u>
M/Gs	449	319	266	53
3-ton	372	370	284	89
15-cwt	299	257	204	53

Main points in Terr Cond 1 C.R.A. are :-

	<u>RE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Sufficient</u>	<u>Insufficient</u>
M/Gs	16	6	4	2
Cars	16	9	7	2
15-cwt	80	56	44	15

There is no change from last report of CC. RR. vob situation. The 60 M/Gs allotted are not yet to hand due to distribution confusion, now being rectified.

- (c) REAR 50 Area have now taken a hand with the 10 tanks at the Arsenal, (see last report) They ask for details stating that unless officially authrized by HQ and held within military celling, it would be contrary to existing policy for them to be armed at all, certainly for them to be handed to Italians authorities other than as enemy.

- (d) RATG Census returns of eqpt held as at 14 Nov are as

317

action
up of 2 Feb.

(a) The BIA now holds 2 MIPs sent up from BIA, one sent for ST 10 and other for CO. 10. 10. No written reply from BIA received for holding these MIPs.

ITALY

(b) Transport. Main points in current veh state are :-

	<u>HE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Sufficient</u>	<u>Insufficient</u>
M/Cs	419	319	266	53
3-ton	372	373	281	89
15-cwt	259	257	208	53

Main points in Year Card 1 C.T.A. are :-

	<u>HE</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Sufficient</u>	<u>Insufficient</u>
M/Cs	18	6	4	2
Cars	16	9	7	2
15-cwt	80	56	44	15

There is no change from last report of CO. 10. 10. veh situation. The 60 M/Cs allotted are not yet to hand due to distribution confusion, now being rectified.

(c) HE. 59 Area have now taken a hand with the 1st tanks at the Arsenal. (see last report) They ask for details stating that unless officially authorized by GEF and held within military ceiling, it would be contrary to existing policy for them to be armed at all, certainly if it were to be handed to Italian authorities other than as camp.

(d) RAC. Census returns of eqpt held as at 14 Nov are now almost entirely to hand.
H of War asked for release of 33,000 blankets from BIA for use in C.I.Rs. District requested to release. They are still collecting their own allotment.

317

Action
III/4/41
of 2 Feb.

8.6.41

9181-14-07
.....

- 4 -

Clothing

- (i) Socks still urgently needed. See last report.
- (ii) Boot position is still bad. The TUNIS "Opificio" has not received the promised leather from Sicily. All machines have stopped. Workers are becoming dissatisfied.

- (iii) Blankets at BUELLA. None yet released by Distrito.

Action. MIL/4/01 of
2 Feb.

Arms & Amm

No outstanding deficiencies among units.

Various arm dumps handed over by Distrito to ARMS/UNITA. Should there be 20mm am or under, they will pass it to Direcciones Artilleria.

Nothing yet arranged for source or distribution of oil and cleaning material for arms maint.

Medical

The Military Hospitals of ALEXANDRIA and NOVARA, receive civilian treatment. Requests for medical drugs and items are submitted to respective Prefectures. They are only able to provide in very small part. Alcohol, Iodine, general tonics and calcium for injection purposes are particularly difficult to obtain.

Field
2 Feb 46

J. W. Hammett
Major
USC II

3162

NO. 1.....BLU (1A' 12PE)

Authorized M.E.		Or Civilians employed within 2		A/S GP	Or held surplus to 12	A/S GP
<u>Clerks GD RASC</u>	1 Sgt		Deficient			
	1 Cpl	Cpl	BRYANT J.W.	42		
	1 Pte	Pte	SPARKMAN K.J.	36		
<u>SERVICES</u>						
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	1 WO I	WO I	CHAPMAN S.G.	26 DR		
	1 L/Cpl	L/Cpl	NILSON G.	38		
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	1 L/Cpl	L/Cpl	FURBER H.P.	56		
<u>Clerks RASC</u>	1 L/Cpl		Deficient			
<u>ADM STAFF</u>						
Duty NCO	1 Sgt	Sgt	POWELL V.	28		
Ration NCO	1 L/Cpl		Deficient			
Dvr mech	1 L/Cpl		Deficient			
Battman/Dvr	1 Pte		Deficient		Cpl DAVENPORT R	27
Acc Cook	1 Pte	Pte	HENLOP J.	28	Gdsm ADAM	27

REMARKS

Pte SPARKMAN K.J. Authy requested from Adv Rfta Sub S₉C to post to 2 BLU to fill Cpl DAVENPORT R. Authy held to hold this NCO against vacancy for L/Cpl Dvr/Mech. Gdsm ADAM being held in lieu of dvr battman.

TOTAL DEFICIENCIES AS AT 2 Feb :-

- 1 Sgt Clerk GD RASC
- 1 L/Cpl Clerk Tech RASC
- 1 L/Cpl Dvr/Mech
- 1 L/Cpl Ration NCO.

REF.

Appendix "E" to 1. N. J. progress
report No 4.

NO...1.....BLU (1st type)

316

Civilians employed within E	A/S GP	OR held surplus to E	A/S GP	Civilians held surplus to E.
Deficient BRYANT J.W. SPARKMAN K.J.	42 36			Interpreter Typist 1 Female
CHAPMAN S.G. Cpl RILSON G.	26 DR 36			Interpreter Typist 1 Female
Cpl FORBES H.P. Deficient	56			
Bjt POWELL V. Deficient Deficient Deficient HESLOP J.	28 28	Cpl DAVENPORT R Gdsm ADAM	27 27	Labourers 2 Male Laundry hands 2 Female.

REMARKS

Date : 2 Feb 46

J. Authy requested from Adv Rpts Sub 3_g to post to 2 BLU to fill Cpl vacancy.

Authy held to hold this NOO against vacancy for L/Cpl Dvr/Mech.

held in lieu of Adv Rpts.

ES AS AT 2 Feb :-
1 Bjt Clerk ED RASO
1 L/Cpl Clerk Tech RASO
1 L/Cpl Dvr/Mech
1 L/Cpl Ration NOO.

Subject: FRANCOSA Report No 3

To: HQ Land Forces Sub-Comd AC (MIL)
Rome.

HQ 2 B L U

1 British Liaison Unit

0 6/4

G Div
G Div
G Div

II G DISSEMINATION

- (a) Departure of GSO I, Lt Col J.B. Slater, MBE on release 16 Jan 46.
Posting of Capt G. Bentley, Ordnance Officer to 64 Area 16 Jan 46.
- (b) Serious shortage of Subofficers and Corporals in the
German Inf Div.

REPLACEMENT TROOPS

- (a) Army less CG. RH

No VI Coy of the 2nd In 24 Inf Regt employed guarding park of
6 B A Armd Div vols. German Inf Div have provided 120 Armd
to enable 6 B A Armd Div to carry out disposal orders for
the divisional tpt. The 8 A Div is short of Armd.

- (b) CG. RH Normal.

TRAINING

- (a) Army less CG. RH

Normal unit trg is being carried out.

DISSEMINATION

- (a) Propaganda activity

In the Valle d'Aosta people are illegally entering France and
Italians living in France are returning to Italy through the
Valley. They state that to obtain permission from the French
authorities takes too long.

- (b) Relations between top and population

In the town of Aosta a very formidable demonstration took place
when the Alpine Division moved in there (only at the main station
previously displayed through the town is still herewith noted

(b) RECENT ACTIVITY OF SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS AND CAPABILITY IN THE
GRANDE INF DIV.

REPLACEMENT OF PERSONNEL

(a) ARMY LOSS CC.ER.

No VI Coy of the 2nd Inf Regt employed guarding post of 6 S A Armd Div units. Grande Inf Div have provided 420 cars to enable 6 S A Armd Div to carry out disposal orders for the divisional cpt. The 3 A Div is short of cars.

(b) CC.ER. ROMEAL.

TRAINING

(a) ARMY LOSS CC.ER.

Forward unit try in being carried out.

INSTALLATIONS

(a) Pro-war activity

In the Valle d'Aosta people are illegally entering France and Italians living in France are returning to Italy through the valley. They state that to obtain permission from the French authorities takes too long.

(b) Relations between the and population.

In the town of Aosta a very favorable demonstration took place when the Alpine moved in there (only of the mountainous area). Very friendly relations exist there between the Alpine and the civilian population. The left-wing political parties still give dances and parties to the town where a lot of subversive propaganda is put out.

(c) CC.ER.

In general people are not satisfied with the CC.ER. owing to the poor state of their sight and organization. In the Valle d'Aosta area, for example, where their duties are numerous the local CC.ER. Section has no means of transportation nor sufficient personnel or equipment.

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(d) Political current amongst the

The attitude of the top politically is apathetic. They show little or no interest in politics.

(e) Subversive Elements.

To date there has been only one case of a soldier carrying out subversive propaganda. Trouble is caused from the press and speeches made by various politicians. The soldiers hear the Army decorated and feel resentment. This may provoke sometimes trouble.

(f) Public Security.

Public security is not good owing to the numerous thefts and crimes in the Region. The people believe that if the Prefects and Questors were replaced by non-political men the whole security situation will improve.

(g) Normatives.

Continued pay and action difficulties such as have occurred in the Institute-Machini and VENT, and the closing down of other firms such as the S.I.A.I. Morobetti have made the people aware of the serious economical situation of the country.

C.A.B.

(a) The last visit to the C.A.B. at Chiusi showed a tremendous amount of work in progress. At the main line at Luc d'Aceta Caserma, whole walls are being pulled down, to enlarge rooms, new walls are being built to divide other parts of the base, the kitchen is being moved completely to another part of the base, but one gets the impression that a tremendous effort is being made to make the C.A.B. a success. I talked to the civilian contractors responsible for the alterations to the base, and they assured me that the work would be finished by Feb 15th.

(b) I have no hold-ups to report, the organization for the work, and the organization for providing the necessary materials is working smoothly.

III A DOMESTIC

(a) See spec. attached showing personnel state. Capt. MURPHY has been allotted vacancy as IIR 42.

(b) Italian

2166

(f) Public Security.

Public security is not good owing to the numerous thefts and crimes in the Region. The people believe that if the Freemasons and Quakers were replaced by non-political men the whole security situation will improve.

(g) Economy.

Continued pay and service difficulties such as have occurred in the Italian-Marchetti and P.I.M., and the closing down of other firms such as the S.I.A.I. Marchetti have made the people aware of the serious economical situation of the country.

C.I.A.B.

(a) The last visit to the C.I.A.B. at Gualand showed a tremendous amount of work in progress. At the main line at D'Acqua Gualand, whole walls are being pulled down, to enlarge rooms, new walls are being built to divide other parts of the line, the kitchen is being moved completely to another part of the line, but one sees the impression that a tremendous effort is being made to make the C.I.A.B. a success. I talked to the civilian contractors responsible for the alterations to the line, and they assured me that the work would be finished by Feb 15th.

(b) I have no hold-ups to report, the organization for the work, and the organization for providing the necessary materials is working smoothly.

III A. DISENTO

(a) See appx. attached showing personnel status. Capr. HENRY LAMB is allotted vacancy on MAP 42.

3168

(b) Italian

Genr Cond has total percentage deficiency of 45%. Consolidated rifle demands are regularly submitted.

(b) Gualand Div is up to strength but has surplus of non specialists and deficiency of specialists. Their specialist deficiencies include 130 Avia, 147 wireless operators, 60 motor cyclists, 24 MT trucks etc.

(c) Leave. To obtain necessary permit to enter ITALY and other prohibited areas is a lengthy process taking weeks.

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IV C. DEMOBILIZATION

- (a) A HRP sent up from R.M.R. is being held against a rumored increased HRP W.B. No correspondence is held here concerning this new veh. R.R.

(b) Italian

Transport. Main points in Italian veh state are:-

	<u>N.R.</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	429	319	203	116
3-ton	372	370	269	101
15-ton	279	257	191	66

Main points in Territorial Command I.C.S.A. are:-

	<u>N.R.</u>	<u>Held</u>	<u>Efficient</u>	<u>Inefficient</u>
M/Cs	18	6	4	2
Cars	16	9	7	2
Trucks	80	56	42	14

Main points in C.S.R. veh state are that Legione C.S.R. are deficient on W.B. to extent of 4,52 M/Cs and 70 cars. Legione C.S.R. R.M.R. are complete with efficient vehs. 60 M/Cs are in the process of delivery to C.S.R. in this case.

(c) R.M.R.

G.I has written to Director of Arsenal recommending that he obtain authority from Ministry of War to repair the 10 M.L.A. tanks which are stored in the Arsenal and to fit HCs instead of larger type of gun as main armament. Arsenal hope to begin work on first M.V. during coming week. 4 M.L.A. Scout Cars have also been located and being inspected with a view to repair.

(d) R.A.C.

Nothing yet arranged for source or distribution of oil and cleaning materials for arms paint.

Clothing.

- (i) 3000 pairs socks have been released for C.A.R. This does not alter position of Italian type in this area. It is considered that 6000 pairs are most urgently needed. 310

- (ii) All type are in bad way for boots. Very few soldiers have a pair of boots fit to wear during winter months. It is estimated that 5000 pairs of boots are needed immediately.

	W.C.	Field	Refugees	2
W/Cs	13	6	4	2
Cars	16	9	7	2
Trucks	80	56	42	24

Main points in C.I.R. veh state are that Legione C.I.R. ALBA and ALBA are deficient on W.C. to extent of 452 W/Cs and 70 cars. Legione C.I.R. TURIN are complete with efficient vehs. 60 W/Cs are in the process of delivery to C.I.R. in this area.

(c) Relief.

G.I. has written to Director of Arsenal recommending that he obtain authority from Ministry of War to repair the 20 M.14 tanks which are stored in the Arsenal and to fit them instead of larger type of gun as main armament. Arsenal hope to begin work on first M14 during coming week. 4 SPA Scout Cars have also been located and being inspected with a view to repair.

(d) Relief.

Nothing yet arranged for source or distribution of oil and cleaning materials for arms maint.

Clothing.

(1) 3000 pairs socks have been released for C.I.R. This does not alter position of Italian type in this area. 3000 considered that 6000 pairs are most urgently needed.

(11) All type are in bad way for boots. Very few soldiers have a pair of boots fit to wear during winter months. It is estimated that 5000 pairs of boots are needed immediately.

Arms and Amm.

Census being taken of all Italian arm in Italian Depots.

(e) P.O.L. - Supply of Anti-Process.

(1) 15 Nov 45 AMTB Pet Sec allocation received through MIA and passed to Territorial Command.

(11) 20 Dec 45. MIA informed that Anti-Process not available at C.I.R.

(11) 8 Jan 46. C.I.R. submit that the sup be expedited as urgently needed in view of existing arm conditions.

Field
16 Jan 46

J. W. Dandridge
Major
GSG II

ASTORIA "P" TO 1 BLU
PROGRESS REPORT No 3

From the newspaper dated 4 Jan (Published in Aosta)

TO PARTISANS

THE ALPINI HAVE COME BACK

Due to the withdrawal of the Allied troops and the handing back of the administration, the 'Piemonte-Aosta' Alpini Battalion entered our Town yesterday.

They will establish here their Headquarters and carry out garrison duties in the Valley.

Later this Battalion will be named "Aosta Battalion".

The newspaper and the Partisans shake hands with the Fighters of the front.

3164

APPENDIX B TO 1 B L U
PROCESS REPORT No 3

TOWN OF AOSTA

CITIZENS

Tomorrow the Alpini of the "Piemonte-Aosta" Battalion are coming back to our Town where they will establish their Headquarters and thus will resume once again its characteristic and longed for traditional appearance.

They are the spiritual sons of the veterans who were decorated with the Gold Medal, of the heroes of Monte Vodice and Sclafoli, who on the ruins of the Nation, hold high the traditional flaming torch of faith and bravery which will never be extinguished.

Upon the Peoples' request they will establish their garrison in our Valley. They are coming to us in the long awaited moment when the various Northern Regions are being taken over by the Italian Administration.

Let us welcome these "Alpini", symbols of our race, with the festivity of our flag, with the affectionate cry of our hearts so that they may feel that the mountain, mother of virtue and bravery, carries in its symbols the promise of faith.

From the Civil Palace, 29 Dec 45

THE MAYOR

AVV. Carlo TORRIONE.

3163

NO.....1.....B L U (TYPE)

Authorised W.E.		OR Civilians employed within B	V/S GP	OR held surplus to W.E.	V/S GP
Clerks GD RASC	1 Sgt 1 Cpl 1 Pte	Sgt HILLHOUSE R. Deficient Pte POWERS NP	24 56	L/Cpl SP.HERMAN. Authy requested from Fin HQ to post to 2 BLH.	36
<u>BAR/DEE</u>					
Clerks RASC	1 WO.I 1 L/Cpl	WO.I (S/Cdr) CHAPMAN S.C. L/Cpl HILLSON G.	26DR 38	S/Sgt JOLLY (45). Authy granted to hold surplus until return from LIAP of WO.I and L/Cpl.	
Clerks RASC	1 L/Cpl	L/Cpl BRYANT J.	42		
Clerks RASC	1 L/Cpl	Deficient			
<u>ARMY STAFF</u>					
Duty NCO	1 Sgt	Sgt POWELL V.	28		
Ration NCO	1 L/Cpl	Deficient			
Dvr Mech	1 L/Cpl	Deficient			
Batman/Dvr	1 Pte	Deficient			
Acc Cook	1 Pte	Pte HESLOP J.	28	Cpl DAVENPORT Gdm ADAM	27 27

REMARKS
 L/Cpl BRYANT J. to be promoted A/Cpl to fill vacancy within WE.
 Pte POWERS NP to be promoted L/Cpl to fill vacancy within WE. - Expected to return from LIAP 2
 Authy held to hold Cpl DAVENPORT against vacancy in WE for L/Cpl Dvr Mech.
 Gdm ADAM being held in lieu of Batman/Dvr.
 Sgt HILLHOUSE R. will proceed to Assembly Centre on 29 Jan 46 (Authy granted
 to defer until 31 Jan 46).
 WO.I (S/Cdr) CHAPMAN S.C. and L/Cpl HILLSON G. expected to return from LIAP 20 Jan 46., and 28 Jan 46.
 TOTAL DEFICIENCIES as at 15 Jan 46:- 1 Pte Clerk GD RASC
 1 L/Cpl Clerk RASC
 1 L/Cpl Ration NCO

NO.....1.....E L U (111 100E)

Appx 'C' to H.L.F.A.
Letter # 374 of 8 Jan 46

3162

Civilians employed within E	A/S GP	OR held surplus to E	A/S GP	Civilians held surplus to E.
HILLHOUSE R. Deficient FORTES HP	24 56	L/Opl SPARKMAN. Authy requested from Etn HQ to post to 2 ELU.	36	Interpreter-Typist - 1 Female
(S/Cdr) CHAPMAN S.C. Pl BILLSON G.	26DR 38	S/Sgt JOLLY (45). Authy granted to hold surplus until return from LIAP of WO.I and L/Opl.		Interpreter-Typist - 1 Female
Pl NUYANT J. Deficient	42			
POWELL V. Deficient Deficient Deficient HENDAP J.	28 28	Cpl DAVENPORT Gdm ADAM	27 27	Labourers - 2 Male Laundry Hands - 3 Female

REMARKS

Date :

L/Opl to fill vacancy within WE.
L/Opl to fill vacancy within WE. - Expected to return from LIAP 20 JAN 46.
Against vacancy in WE for L/Opl Dvr Meeh.
Salary/Dvr.
Assembly Centre on 29 Jan 46 (Authy granted)
L/Opl BILLSON G. expected to return from LIAP 20 Jan 46, and 28 Jan 46 respectively.
16:- 1 Pte Clerk Gd RAO
1 L/Opl Clerk HEND
1 L/Opl Ration HAO

CONFIDENTIAL

1 British Liaison Unit

C 6/1

2 :- Land Forces Sub Com AG (MELIA)
ROME

2 B L U

Subject :- Progress Report No. 2

1. POLITICAL

(a) Political temper runs high, and outcroppings are extremely bitter. Anti-monarchist propaganda intensified after the visit of GIAMININI, Editor of the "JUNO QUADRANTE" to the Lieut General. The misdeeds of the house of Savoy were expounded, and turned into a propaganda against the institution of monarchy rather than against personalities. A suggestion from USA that the king and Lieut General be tried as war criminals has enabled the republicans to claim that their views are supported overseas. This propaganda has some effect not only on the workers, but even on comparatively cultured circles. A violent and defamatory anti-monarchist speech in TRIESTE on 15 Dec was applauded by a large crowd.

(b) Increased propaganda by the action party is reported from the Alpine valleys, where the most influential personalities and partisans are being approached, and considerable sums of money are being offered.

(c) The liberal party remains unchanged. Their representative was refused a hearing at a meeting in TRIESTE at the Camera del Lavoro on 16 Dec, and subsequently accused the communist sinigoi RIVARA, of having openly urged the citizens to take up arms. The liberals and the democrats have rejoined the CLN in ALESSANDRIA; they had withdrawn following arbitrary decisions by the parties of the left. They were probably influenced by the liberal adherence to the CLN government in ROME.

(d) The energy and organising ability of the communist party is noted. Their latest directive deals with: helping to shelter the homeless and destitute; acquisition of fuel at reasonable prices for schools, hospitals, institutions; and welfare centres; institution of cultural centres for workers who wish to improve themselves; development of cooperatives; provision of relief funds; care of the repatriated and unemployed. They have publicly announced their intention to extend their propaganda to middle-class workers, who are today confronted by the same problems as the labourers. They have endeavoured to combat the hostility of the church by publishing opinions favourable to communism expressed by certain priests and churchworkers. Their Christmas parties have attracted a considerable number of civilians and soldiers.

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(d) The energy and organizing ability of the communist party is marked. Their latest directive deals with: helping to shelter the homeless and destitute; acquisition of fuel at reasonable prices for schools, hospitals, institutions; and welfare centres; institution of cultural centres for workers who wish to improve themselves; development of cooperatives; provision of relief funds; care of the repatriated and unemployed. They have publicly announced their intention to extend their propaganda to middle-class workers, who are today confronted by the same problems as the labourers. They have endeavoured to combat the hostility of the church by publishing opinions favourable to communism expressed by certain priests and churchmen. Their Christian parties have attracted a considerable number of civilians and soldiers.

2. ITALY

(a) Right and centre papers continue a big campaign against Jugoslavia, alleging crimes against Italians. Although denied by the left-wing press for political reasons, this campaign gives rise to uneasiness, bringing out the impotence of the Italian government, and the presumed passivity of the Allies towards arbitrary Yugoslav illegalities.

(b) Sentence passed on an ex-fascist journalist was condemned as excessively severe, bearing in mind the light sentences other collaborators have received, and has led to a press campaign tending to convince the public of the incapacity of the judicial and public security authorities. The press has no difficulty in finding examples to illustrate their claims that many fascists remain unpunished, and that while the allies execute their own traitors they treat the betrayers of Italy with sympathy and indulgence.

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R.P.
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- 2 -

- (c) Two new left wing papers have been published; one which claims to be an official organ of ex-partisans, and "The Republican" which is violently anti-monarchist. Fear of being considered reactionary has led to the many printers refusing to print a new monarchist paper.
- (d) The centre and right wing papers do not hesitate to criticise public matters and administration, and do not spare accusations and insinuations against public officials where there may be doubts about irregularities or dishonesty.
- (e) Anti-army propaganda appeared in the socialist paper "Sempere Avanti" on 6 Dec 45. A translation of the article "Who is the new dictator?" is attached as Annex B.

3. INTERNAL ORDER

- (a) Serious crimes continue, and the apparent ineffectiveness of police action is creating consternation in the minds of the public. Scandals involving police officials - such as the arrest of finance guards in TORINO, the arrest of the police chief of COMO, the arrest of a mobile squad in PAVIA, - have seriously discredited the authorities and forces of public order. The grave state of the police, which has not wended out undesirable elements 7 months after the liberation, is discussed in the press, and the public are again feeling that the need is urgent for non-political professional prefects and questori.
- (b) Hidden arms are still being discovered, and the public feels that everyone seems to have arms except honest men.
- (c) Various reports indicate the formation of communist action squads, and armed "red" partisan bands moving towards the mountains, at the same time left wing elements keep trying to convince the workers of the existence of armed monarchist and reactionary groups. I believe there is a measure of truth in all these reports.
- (d) There have been a number of strikes. Those at the end of last month - for the purpose of protesting against the fall of the PAVIA government - were organised by the parties, and became rather absurd. But lately, a number of spontaneous strikes have occurred, in one case against the advice of the Worker's Committee, and have been for the purpose of demanding wage increases and advances on the Christmas bonus.

4. BOUQUILLO

- (a) The recent conclusion of the North Italy wage agreement, after months of discussion, removes what has been a serious threat to public order. The application of the sliding scale principle to the cost of living bonus, which represents an important factor in the total wage, offers the hope of the agreement remaining acceptable, and reduces the likelihood of continual independent and sporadic demands for wage increases from different areas.

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4. ECONOMY

- (a) The recent conclusion of the North Italy wage agreement, after months of discussions, removes what has been a serious threat to public order. The application of the sliding scale principle to the cost of living bonus, which represents an important factor in the total wage, offers the hope of the agreement remaining acceptable, and reduces the likelihood of continual independent and sporadic demands for wage increases from different areas.
- (b) Unemployment has increased. Spinning mills at CUNEO have had to discharge workers due to shortage of raw materials. The inadequacy of transport, including shortage of rail wagons for bringing supplies from PAVIA, has helped to aggravate the situation.
- (c) There is a potential shortage of flour for Jan. Complaints have been heard from CUNEO over a distribution of maize flour instead of wheat flour.
- (d) The British Trade Union delegation visited TURIN. The visit does not appear to have created any profound impression. It provided an opportunity for a press attack against the left wing by the *Gazzetta d' Italia*. A translation of the article dated 14 Dec is attached at Appx "F".
- (e) To sum up all the foregoing, the population continues to live in a tense atmosphere, and the violence of press polemics and political propaganda dispel any chance of calmness. There does not however appear to be any single thread running through day to day events leading to an imminent possibility of large scale disorder.

The object seems to be to win political supporters and discredit opponents prior to the elections, both sides warning that any attempt to use force will be met by force. This struggle is set against a background of a disrupted economy, at times near to breaking down, and disorganised and inefficient public services. No wonder I have not heard the population described as "apathetic" this month.

5. MORALE

(a) There has been a marked deterioration in morale during the last month. Married officers cannot live on their pay; they are all living on their savings, and becoming increasingly alarmed at the rapidity with which these are dwindling. Lodgings for families are difficult to find, and are very expensive; the family allowance is entirely inadequate. The cost of living bonuses and wage increases have raised labourers' earnings above the pay of many officers. Many have lost their homes, furniture and spare clothing during the war and have no reserves to fall back on.

(b) A considerable number of officers of the rank of Lt Col and Major are worried as to whether there will be jobs for them. They feel that they are likely to be placed on the unemployed list in six or twelve months time, and are wondering whether they should start looking round for civilian employment now. Any guarantee of security it is possible to give them would take a load off their minds.

(c) A further factor causing alarm and worry to the officers is the rapidly deteriorating condition of the troops. All officers are most seriously concerned about this. They appear to be doing what they can to combat it, but their efforts are limited by lack of material means.

(d) The troops are beginning to feel neglected. There are serious clothing shortages. I got General PRILANO to make a special issue of boots to III Alpini Brigade were reduced to taking boots from men returning to barracks to fit up men going out on guard duty. The issue was made on the General's own responsibility from stocks held at the disposal of the Ministry after the TURIN allotment had been exhausted. The supply situation is aggravated by the shoddy material being issued. I have seen underwear in holes and falling to pieces after being worn once. Shirts last a few weeks instead of months, and replacements are not available. Boots wear out excessively quickly, and the snow of the next two months will make matters worse.

(e) The reduction of the messing cash allowance has limited what the officers can do for the troops. During the month a troop of artillery staged a 24 hour hunger strike to express dissatisfaction with their food. The artillery has always had the highest morale, and has had good officers who have spared no efforts to provide for the well being of the troops.

General PRILANO called a corporal in to talk to him about the demonstration. During the conversation the corporal said: "You see, Signor Generale, that although I have only one uniform I am able to turn myself out smartly" (The General told me that in truth he was well turned out) "But", continued the corporal, "when I parade my section for guard and correct a man for his turnout, what am I to say when the man tells me he has no socks, and says 'Give me socks and I will turn myself out well and do my duty well?'".

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- 2159
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- (f) The drop in pay alone would not have produced the present grave situation, but it is the cumulative effect of all the adverse conditions which does the harm. An order has been issued that no claim for replacement may be submitted if any tinned food is found to be bad on opening. Of course the Italians are getting a considerable amount of war-surplus-expired canned foodstuffs as old allied dumps have been cleared. An isolated detachment or platoon up near the Swiss frontier is therefore to undergo real hardship if it happens to find half a case of herrings bad.
- The drop in pay has been felt, of course, and gave rise to one incident of indiscipline, when troops at one of the canteens took cakes and refused to pay, saying: "We can't afford to pay these prices now our pay has been reduced".
- (g) A shortage of soap of reasonable quality prevents the troops feeling cleanly turned out, with well washed skirts and under-clothing, and together with the poor state of their clothing, lowers their morale, their sense of personal dignity, and their prestige in the eyes of civilians.

- 4 -

The difference in pay between Div troops and Territorial troops depresses these latter. They are doing the same work and don't see why they shouldn't have the same pay. This feeling of inferiority is aggravated by incidents like the cinema management in ALESSANDRIA allowing a 50% reduction to CRETINA troops and a 33% reduction to III Alpini Bn.

- (h) The inadequacy of funds and supplies for welfare centres results in the present welfare organisation being unable to provide comfort for the troops in off duty hours. The existing welfare centre is doing good work, but it represents a very humble contribution to the problem by comparison with what the Allies do for their own troops, and in view of the wide dispersion of units.
- (i) These conditions give rise to subversive propaganda; even in the press the present condition of the army has been represented as a reactionary scheme for the conservation of class privilege and good jobs at the expense of the poor soldier who has fought and suffered for his country. Along with this continues the press campaign to discredit the regular officers.
- (j) Officers' clothing is a problem. Quite a number wear civilian dress. A new uniform costs many months pay, and as they do not know what the future colour and style is to be they cannot afford to take a chance; Cremona Div have fitted up ten officers in second hand bottle dress.
- (k) The conviction is growing, among the most senior and responsible officers, that the whole scheme for the regeneration of the Italian Army is a mistake. It is obvious, they say, that Italy cannot afford an army of 140,000. It would be better to have a very much smaller army with officers and men reasonably paid. It is obvious, they say, that Italy cannot clothe an army of 140,000. It would be better to have a smaller army, properly clothed, properly fed, properly equipped, and for which we can afford welfare facilities.
6. "C"
- (a) Cremona troops have completed their work in connection with ABC's grain collection drive. 202,173 quintals of illegally held grain were seized. Further successful raids for hidden arms have been accomplished by Cremona. Territorial troops have taken over Cremona guard duties in the TURIN and ALESSANDRIA areas.
- (b) A three-day mutiny as a protest against delay in being brought to trial was staged by detainees at TURIN civil prison. Cremona CC RR reinforced the TURIN CC RR legion and questura agents, and two mobile columns of Cremona stood by outside the prison. After a show of force by the CC RR order was restored on the third day. The Regional Public Security officer told me he was pleased to see CC RR, questura and Cremona working together so well. He thinks it will help to develop a bond between them, and a common loyalty.
- (c) Up to Christmas try was going on at speed, both in Cremona and the Alpini

continues the press campaign to discredit the regular officers.

- (j) Officers' clothing is a problem. Quite a number wear civilian dress. A new uniform costs many months pay, and as they do not know what the future colour and style is to be they cannot afford to take a chance; Cremona Div have fitted up ten officers in second hand battle dress.
- (k) The conviction is growing, among the most senior and responsible officers, that the whole scheme for the regeneration of the Italian Army is a mistake. It is obvious, they say, that Italy cannot afford an army of 140,000. It would be better to have a very much smaller army with officers and men reasonably paid. It is obvious, they say, that Italy cannot clothe an army of 140,000. It would be better to have a smaller army, properly clothed, properly fed, properly equipped, and for which we can afford welfare facilities.
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- (c) Up to Christmas try was going on at speed, both in Cremona and the Alpini Regt. In general classes were well organized, and Cremona div 3rd held a number of well executed outdoor battle exercises and firing demonstrations. The Alpini regt has only got as far as individual weapon try.
- (d) The advance party of 144 Regt II has moved from CASALE to TURIN, to prepare for the evacuation of CASALE by Cremona so as to make way for the TTC. The Territorial Regts are carrying out work for the TTC.
- (e) 1 Pack Tpt Coy has arrived at BERNINO. General BRUNO said they were in a pitiable condition, and immediately released such clothing and equipment as he had available.

...../5

- 5 -

- (1) HQ and 1 Rifle Coy of the "AOSTA" Bn Alpini from Legnano Dir arrived in AOSTA on 30 Dec 45 and came under command of 1 Alpini Regt. The town was decorated with flags, and the civil authorities welcomed the unit, which was extremely well received. I am 1 Alpini regt will shortly be moving to under command Legnano. The move of additional troops to AOSTA is dependent on availability of barracks. The 1st troops are staying in AOSTA until about 15 Jan 46.
- (2) The necessary staff for the TURIN military prison have not yet been provided. My "I" report for Dec, ref 0 2/4 dated 2 Dec 45 refers.
7. A/Q
- (a) Petrol allotment to Territorial HQ is insufficient. One alpini Bn which has to send four trucks twice a week on 120 mile trip to collect rations, and has several guards to provide in outlying villages, has an allowance of 100 gallons per week.
- (b) Part of vehicles previously blocked by USMIS have been withdrawn and remainder will be withdrawn after minor repairs have been completed.
- (c) 7 AOSTA is collecting Italian arms of 20 mm and less, and mines and grenades, from various dumps at present guarded by Italian military and civilians, and concentrating them in three dumps.
8. ORD
- (a) Boot repair is being hastened. Present manufacture of new boots could be doubled if more leather were available. Present supplies remaining are sufficient for 7 days at 60 M/L/W rates.
- (b) Marching out states. Records of transfer of "A" and "B" Vols, Arty Regts and War Office Controlled stores to charge of Italian government have been completed and despatched to Stats (d) Census (HK) MEF.
- (c) Final stocktaking census required by DEMS 2 District and demanded from Oremia Div on 24 Nov has not yet been completed. It is promised for 10 Jan 46.
9. REMS
- Territorial workshops are not satisfactory. I have told the CO, in the presence of Capt. HORTON, what should be done by 10 Jan 46. I will visit the workshops again on that date. With a little energy and drive a marked improvement can be made at once without waiting for the Genie or crying for outside help.
10. CC HR

No progress towards better equipment or efficiency. The job is too big for them unless we hasten arms, clothing and transport. I have written...

remainder will be withdrawn after minor repairs have been completed.

- (c) 7 MORA is collecting Italian gun of 20 mm and less, and mines and grenades, from various dumps at present guarded by Italian military and civilians, and concentrating them in three dumps.

8. GO

- (a) Boot repair is being hastened. Present manufacture of new boots could be doubled if more leather were available. Present supplies remaining are sufficient for 7 days at 60 SLIM rates.

- (b) Hauling out stores. Records of transfer of "A" and "B" Vets, Army lights and War Office Controlled stores to charge of Italian government have been completed and despatched to Statu (G) Census GRU RUM.

- (c) Final stocktaking census required by DEOS 2 District and demanded from Cremona Div on 24 Nov has not yet been completed. It is promised for 10 Jan 46.

9. HOME

Territorial workshops are not satisfactory. I have told the CO, in the presence of Capt. HARTLEY, what should be done by 10 Jan 46. I will visit the workshops again on that date. With a little energy and drive a marked improvement can be made at once without waiting for the Genio or crying for outside help.

10. CO FR

No progress towards better equipment or efficiency. The job is too big for them unless we hasten arms, clothing and transport. I have written under separate cover - my Q 7 dated 29 Dec - detailing their needs and requesting your help in finding out where the hold up occurs.

11. Attached are appendices as follows :-

Appendix A	-	LOCATION STATEMENT
" B	-	STAFF LIST OF FRU
" C	-	STAFF LIST - ITALIAN
" D	-	RETURN OF FR MT.

Field
/ Jan 46
JHS/FM

Blair
Lt Col
GS

WHO IS THE NEW DICTATOR ?

Military spirit hard to die and urgency that weakens suspicion.

Those who are longing to maintain dictatorship need not loose hope. There is a candidate for a dictator. He is at the Ministry, which is still called the Ministry of War and it only needs to identify this person, so as to give him this supreme title. He has the makings of a dictator and he is also showing his willingness to be one.

"It is known - says a Milan paper - that the Italian Army will be reconstituted on a new basis."

To whom is it known? To the public no. When was the public informed of this decision, to reconstitute the Army? Who has taken this decision? Not the "Consultative", it has had a few meetings and has not discussed this argument, although it intrusts in the first place the people who form the army and who do not get rich like others who also form part of the army. The Government? It would be strange that a democratic government would have taken a decision without informing the Nation. The Minister? Apart from the efficiency of Minister Jacini, which will certainly be superior to that possessed by the late ex-Corpsal, Marshall of the Empire, it would be incredible that the Minister alone could decide in such a vital matter, and without discussions, in a democratic regime.

It was understood at Naval HQ, situated in Turin, that the fate of the Navy is most uncertain as decisions are still awaited from the Allies. It is to be presumed that the Allies, although not having taken any decisions regarding the Navy, have already decided for the Army? Would the new Army, therefore, be reconstituted with the consent of the Allies? And are we to do without consent of the Italians, as regards both the Army and the Navy, whilst there is still lack of the most necessary mercantile marine?

But the most interesting part is this: "The Minister of War has decided, notwithstanding the crisis of the government, the reconstitution and the strengthening of the Italian Army, both morally and materially". Was not this future dictator in the Ministry, still called of War, any foresight that, he takes decisions apart from the government crisis? Has the Ministry, perhaps nothing to do with this crisis? Is the Minister irrevocable? Or have the Ministerial decisions nothing to do with the Ministers, whether they are old or new? Or was this decision to reconstitute the Army so urgent that it could not wait the formation of a new government, if not the debate in the "Consultative"? In any case, the unknown dictator having decided the reconstitution of the Army, it would have been interesting to know the criteria of this reconstitution and strengthening of the Army both morally and materially. The Milan paper states this legitimate desire giving the following particulars: "The infantry will be considerably reduced. It is probable, however, that Cavalry Regts will be changed into armoured regts. Experts are still studying the question of the artillery and engineers. To-day, however, it can be considered certain that the Regiments that have a tradition behind them and have a certain appeal on the people, would be kept. We have no objection to this programme of material reconstitution except that it should be submitted to the representatives of the people, in other words the "Consultative", where our concerns in accordance with the socialist traditions

Minister Jacini, which will certainly be superior to that possessed by the late ex-Corporal, Marshall of the Empire, it would be incredible that the Minister alone could decide in such a vital matter, and without discussions, in a democratic regime.

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It is not surprising that this reconstruction of the Army has been left in the hands of the old "troopers" who have only looked after their own interests, not caring for that of the soldier and who never trouble to get to know the feelings of the soldier or have interested themselves in his needs.

If a true democratic and republican regime is established in Italy, as we are hoping, military problems will not be any more reserved to "experts" but they will also be popularized, even more so that besides these "experts" there are hundreds of thousands of refugees officers and soldiers that have acquired a more rich experience.

...../2

- 2 -

At the present it remains to be explained how at the Ministry of War there is one with the powers and the temperament of a dictator. In addition, it remains to be explained also, the hurry with which the reconstruction of the army has been undertaken. This urgency awakens suspicion. At a moment like this, in which we are even short of grantorates and general comforts for the police who are responsible for public order and for hunting criminals, the 1926 class is called up, (with cards as laid down in the good old days of the fascists).

Most young men of this class were either deported to Germany or were working with the partisans or were in hiding to escape the German raids. A grave discontent is caused in families, so much so, that according to the news in one of the papers, quite a lot do not present themselves and there is no means of compelling them to do so. How are they going to be clothed, armed and fed? Would it not have been better to use these means to help the refugees? A paper which certainly is not suspicious, "La Gazzetta d'Italia" has published on Sunday that the soldiers are very badly off in the barracks. Their pay being 24 or 34 Lire a day according to their seniority, they certainly cannot satisfy their appetite which they must feel after having eaten their daily ration.

For the improvement of the nation there is an additional 1.5 Lire which is the cost of 5 chestnuts of which at least one is rotten! Under these conditions the dictator sitting at the Ministry of War arranges for the moral and material reconstruction of the army.

Explaining the fact that the Army is hastily being reconstructed to wage another war - as it is the desire of these groups of youngsters who go shouting "Long Live the War" and who of course, are being instigated by certain men bidding behind the scenes - Why then is it hastily being reformed when it is the only organization of which the Country does not feel the need?

This question must be answered.

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For the improvement of the nation there is an additional 5 Lire which is the cost of 5 cigarettes of which at least one is rotten! Under these conditions the dictator sitting at the Ministry of War arranges for the moral and material reconstruction of the Army.

Knowing the fact that the Army is hastily being reconstructed to wage another war - as it is the desire of these groups of youngsters who go shouting "Long Live the War" and who of course, are being instigated by certain men hiding behind the scenes - Why then is it hastily being refurnished when it is the only organization of which the Country does not feel the need?

This question must be answered.

to 2 AM Progress
No. 2 of 1 Jan 45

Friday 14 December 1945

C A Z Z E T T A D ' I T A L I A

LUGLIO PROLETARIO

The night before last, at the Giardino Restaurant, across the PO, the food was excellent. To begin with an hors d'oeuvres composed of ham, sausages, Russian salad, eggs with mayonnaise, mushrooms, cucumbers, anchovies with green sauce was served. We then had a very good 'risotto' with butter and truffles and parmesan cheese. The dinner reached its peak when roast-beef with potatoes, spinach and salad was served; the dinner ended with cream cake, various quantities of cheese and fruits of the season. Huge quantities of white spumante and "grignolino" helped to make the dinner even the more sumptuous. We might add that wines flowed freely, because according to reports the quantity of wine which was drunk was beyond all expectations. In honour of whom was all this luxury spent for? In honour of the five representatives of the British Trade Unions, LITHILL, MULLOCK, TETTER, etc., who are visiting Italy in order to contact our country's Trade Unions, and to find out about the hardships of our workers. This dinner was also attended by the Mayor of Turin, two vice-mayors, the two general secretaries for C G I L, HQ. DI VERVARO and ALLARDI, the representatives of the Camera Del Lavoro, military representatives, representatives of AMG and British news reporters who were in our town on business.

The Guest is sacred, we know that. The guest must be honoured, he must be treated with respect. But to honour the five British guests was it really necessary, to treat 93 persons to dinner (32 guests and 5 drivers)? We reckon that all this luxury must have cost at least 1000 Lire per person; the Camera del Lavoro had to pay, therefore, 93,000 Lire at the expense of the workers who pay down certain sums meant for other purposes. Why wasn't this sum spent in a better way, by inviting to a modest feast party the poor people of the town.

It is easy to guess what the guests must have thought of this, as they are coming from a country where war ravages are still in force and where nobody is allowed to spend in public restaurants more than 10 shillings, equivalent to 200 Lire. They must have thought that Italy has surplus food, or perhaps they must have made up their minds that in Italy there are some people who are quite irresponsible of their actions.

COPY

No. 425

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spinach and salad was served; the dinner ended with cream cake, various quantities of cheese and fruits of the season. Huge quantities of white spumante and "grignolino" helped to make the dinner even the more sumptuous. We might add that wines flowed freely, because according to reports the quantity of wine which was drunk was beyond all expectations. In honour of whom was all this luxury meant for? In honour of the five representatives of the British Trade Unions, LAWLER, BULLOCK, TESSER, etc., who are visiting Italy in order to contact our Country's Trade Unions, and to find out about the hardships of our workers. This dinner was also attended by the Mayor of Turin, two vice-mayors, the two general secretaries for CGIL, H9. DI VITARIO and LILLARDI, the representatives of the Camera Del Lavoro, military representatives, representatives of AMG and British news reporters who were in our town on business.

The Guest is scored, we know that. The guest must be honoured, he must be treated with respect. But to honour the five British guests was it really necessary, to treat 93 persons to dinner (82 guests and 5 drivers)? We reckon that all this luxury must have cost at least 1000 Lire per person; the Camera del Lavoro had to pay, therefore, 93,000 Lire at the expense of the workers who pay down certain sums meant for other purposes. Why wasn't this sum spent in a better way, by inviting to a modest Xmas party the poor people of the town.

It is easy to guess what the guests must have thought of this, as they are coming from a country where war nations are still in force and where nobody is allowed to spend in public restaurants more than 10 shillings, equivalent to 200 Lire. They must have thought that Italy has surplus food, or perhaps they must have made up their minds that in Italy there are some people who are quite irresponsible of their actions.

Subject: Liaison Report No 5.

Mr. L.A. L.O.,
KUALA,
c/o 7 AREA.

Phone: 23720-9 ext 130.

200/3/11
5 Nov 45.

Report for week 29 Oct - 4 Nov.

1. Heavy rain storms during this week have hindered out-of-doors activities and have made travel difficult. Fortunately there was a break in the weather on the morning of 4 Nov long enough for 6888 Central Postal Directory to hold a successful ceremonial parade. In the reported absence of Lt. Col. Gregory and Col. Dudley, Brig. General de-putised on behalf of the Allied, while Lt. Col. was represented by this IC. A large crowd looked on and did a little clapping. An attempt by two thousands of civilians carrying republican and communist flags to join in the march past was tactfully averted without any time by a staff officer of the Division. I enclose a translation of the address given by the 6888 Central Division.

2. It is noted that, in contrast to past experiences, orders and directives from the Ministry of War are reaching territorial HQ very promptly, and sometimes before Allied machinery to implement them has been activated. An recent example has been an order for Lt. Itin and U.I. Itin to draw the Allied part of their ration from Allied DIBs, which the Italians were ordered to carry out by 1 Nov, although no directives have yet come through at all.

Contributions: Mr. L.A. L.O. (4)

Capt. 4
Liaison Officer.

was a driver in the weather on the morning of 4 Nov long enough for
 6888 Central Postal Directory to hold a successful ceremonial parade. In the re-
 created absence of Lt. Gen. Sweeney and Col. J. J. Delaney, Brig. Gen. G. H.
 putted on behalf of the allies, while Lt. J. J. Delaney was represented by this
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 and directives from the Ministry of War are reaching territorial HQ
 very promptly, and sometimes before allied machinery to implement
 them has been activated. An recent example has been an order for
 Sir-Itis and Sir-Itis to draw the allied part of their rations from
 allied PDs, which the Italian were ordered to carry out by 3 Nov,
 although no directives have yet come through IT channels.

Distribution: HQ, R.I.A. (4)

ITA 100 B. 12411

ITA 100 B. 12411

[Signature]
 Capt.,
 Liaison Officer.

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9 455

13th 6P