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Reorganisation of ITI Army MT.
in The North

July - Sept. 1945

CONCLUSIONS

27

12/1610

29 Sept 15

Lowell Ferguson Public Const. Ass'n. (MILWA.)
RCHMS
Serial 1 Bureau AGO 501 Box 506

TO: 1- SMT Liaison Officer E.E. JAMES c/o 66 Area.
 (1) (1) (1) E.E. JAMES c/o 66 Area.

1. Enclosed report by HAIT on visit to Territorial Commands in North Italy is passed to you for information.
2. Will you please let us have your comments in due course indicating if any improvement has been effected in points which required action to be taken by appropriate Territorial H.Q.

DADT with rate

WV/eq

AKHT, Local Working Club Cuzco A.C. (H.B.L.A.).

1655

1010

Daily Report on Visit to the

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. The general standard of vehicle maintenance was not high, but, in view of the fact that the tank system is new to ITI-ITVI units, this was not surprising. In order to improve both vehicle maintenance and the general standard of discipline and administration within ITI-ITVI units it is suggested that:-

(a) A second Italian Unit Maintenance Inspectors be formed for inspecting the transport of MS-Group units, on a VI/TO similar to No 800 Italian U.M.I. already exist.

(b) That Territorial Commands be required to make monthly inspections of units within their territories, and submit written reports to the Ministry of War, who could submit copies of such reports to this HQ for information. It does not appear at present that Terr. Units are fully aware of their responsibilities regarding the efficiency of units under their command.

2. It was found that these units whose formation had been ordered in the Rome area, and who had subsequently been moved North, were better organized than those which had been formed under the North Territorial Commands. In some cases, units in the latter class whose formation had been ordered over a month ago were in fact non-existent, whilst in other cases such units had only a hazy idea of their proper functions. It would seem desirable, when possible, to form new units in the Rome area, where they can be inspected both by this HQ and the Ministry of War before moving to their final destinations.

3. It is my personal opinion that, except in cases when an Allied officer can devote the greater part of his time to the question (as in the case of Bologna, when Maj MURKINS is personally handling the problem) no large quantity of Italian Army vehicles will be recovered from Germans, and that Territorial Commands are afraid to take any really energetic steps in this direction. I discussed the question with Maj MURKINS and with local MIA I/Os, and gained the impression that they were of the same opinion. If it is the policy that MIA should continue to press the Italian Army to effect such recovery, there would appear to be a good case for the re-instatement of the 5 Sgt Central officers which were authorized to be held on the strength of this HQ.

4. It is submitted that paras 2(a) and 3 above properly concern O. and NMEG at this HQ, and that, since para 1 (b) probably applies to units other than ITI units, the question of monthly unit inspection is a general one for staff consideration.

5. In view of the large number of vehicles in need of repair, and limited facilities available, it is suggested that the period during which vehicles may be held by Repair Units and returned to their original units on

26

2. It was found that those units whose formation had been ordered in the Rome area, and who had subsequently been moved North, were better organized than those which had been formed under the North Territorial Commands. In some cases, units in the latter class whose formation had been ordered over a month ago were in fact non-existent, whilst in other cases such units had only a hazy idea of their proper functions. It would seem desirable, when possible, to form new units in the Rome area, where they can be inspected both by this HQ and the Ministry of War before moving to their final destinations.

3. It is my personal opinion that, except in cases when an Allied officer can devote the greater part of his time to the question (as in the case of Bolzano, when Maj SPURKE is personally handling the problem) no large quantity of Italian Army vehicles will be recovered from German hands, and that Territorial Commands are afraid to take any really energetic steps in this direction. I discussed the question with Maj SPURKE and with local MIA HQ, and gained the impression that they were of the same opinion.

If it is the policy that MIA should continue to press the Italian Army to effect such recovery, there would appear to be a good case for the re-instatement of the 5 Tpt Central officers, which were authorized to be held on the strength of this HQ.

4. It is submitted that para 2(a) and 3 above properly concern Q, and MIA at this HQ, and that, since para 1 (b) probably applies to units other than HQ units, the question of monthly unit inspection is a general one for staff consideration.

5. In view of the large number of vehicles in need of repair, and the limited facilities available, it is suggested that the period during which vehicles may be held by Repair Units and returned to their original units on completion of repair be extended from 48 hrs to 7 days.

WMA/eg

24 Sept 45.

D.A.D.T.

W. A. D. T. Key

PLACES 4th September.

Visited - Territorial H.Q.
No 7 C.P.F.
No 4 S.V.P.
No 1482 Amb Car Sec.
MICA LG.

1. GENERAL. Production of vehicles from No 5 Repairs Unit just about balances V.O.R., hence it is not likely that the Adm Rep Coy will ever be brought up to strength from production in this area.
2. Ascertained from Maj WAF KIM Guard Coyes had all been provided with Sp's, and from Maj MIMI that 240 Adm Rep had a large number of inefficient vehicles, also 20 surplus efficient Load-Carriers. Arranged, in collaboration with VAN KIM, that inefficients be towed immediately to MILAN Repairs Unit by 24 Recovery Section, and - as a temporary measure - that efficient ones be transferred to BULZANO Rep. Command. The latter will not; however, be available until 24 Sept, and it may prove advisable to alter these instructions and have them transferred to GMSA instead.

7. C.P.F. Site and billets poor. C.O. (Capt. CALABRIA) inefficient - agreed that be posted. Abs 442 and 406 received and in partial use, the drivers had evidently not been properly instructed in the correct method of compilation. No revised work tickets yet received. Ph and Min of War to secure an immediate temporary supply. Unit was 40 men under strength. Gen. Col. MORANT noted this and sent word to Min of War.

1482 AMBUANCE CAR SECTION. Good. C.O. competent though nervous. 442 and 406 in use not correctly, but an effort being made. Site good - vehicles under cover. Following vehicles held 4 Sept :-

V/O	L/O	AMB
4	1	12

No 4 C.P.F. Good. All vehicles held under cover, although the park is small and could not hold more than about 15 or 20 vehicles. Records mentioned were good, although not many vehicles pass through the park. Charging plants held for batteries and operating.

FIGURES - Revised 18 Sept.

number of inefficient vehicles, also 20 surplus efficient foot-carriers. Arranged, in collaboration with VAN KIRK, that inefficient foot-carriers to MILAN Repairs Unit by 24 Recovery Section, and - as a temporary measure - that efficient ones be transferred to MILANO Terr. Command. The latter will not, however, be available until 24 Sept, and it may prove advisable to alter these instructions and have them transferred to GENOA instead.

7. C.I.A. Site and billets poor. C.O. (Capt. CALABRESE) inefficient - agreed that to be posted. Also 492 and 496 received and in partial use, the drivers had evidently not been properly instructed in the correct method of compilation. No revised work tickets yet received. Planned Min of War to secure an immediate temporary supply. Unit was 40 men under strength. Gen. Col. MARINI noted this and sent word to Min of War.

1192 AMMUNITION GAR SECTION. Good. C.O. competent though nervous. 412 and 496 in use not correctly, but an effort being made. Site good - vehicles under cover. Following vehicles held 4 Sept :-

<u>W/O</u>	<u>L/O</u>	<u>AMMO</u>
1	1	42

No 4 P.V.L. Good. All vehicles held under cover, although the park is small and could not hold more than about 15 or 20 vehicles. Records mentioned were good, although not many vehicles pass through the park. Charging plant held for batteries and operating.

FLORIAN - Revisited 18 Sept.

Visited. MAIA LO
Terr H.Q.
No 7 P.O.L. Post.

1650

1. Checked up on points raised on previous visit. The end had still not received the new type of work tickets, nor had they received reinforcement personnel to make No 7 C.I.A. up to strength. Agreed with Maj VAN KIRK that Maj. KIRK, formerly chief of staff 240 Adm Div, should go to Florence and act as War Ministry Tpt representative for Florence and Bologna. This is in accordance with the War M.'s wishes. Also confirmed previous instructions that surplus efficient vehicles of 210 Div. should go to Bolzano Terr. Comd. Current holdings of No 7 C.I.A. were :-

<u>W/O</u>	<u>L/O</u>	<u>L/O</u>
12	8	43

- 2 -

2. Re 7 P.O.L. Post. Discovered that the post itself could only hold about 20 barrels of P.O.L. and part of the AUG allocation was held in bulk tanks in another location, under civilian arrangements, and issued to the P.O.L. post when required. Arranged with the Ufficio Servizio and Maj VAN KINK that the unit should move into a new suitable location, near the Adm's Pst Coy, as soon as possible. Maj VAN KINK stated that the premises would be available on 1st October.
3. Accounting was in order.
4. Agreed with Gen. Col. ALOIA that, if the 48/70s of lead carriers on Admin Pst Coys are increased, there will be no necessity for P.O.L. posts to hold separate Pst on their charge.
5. The Ufficio Servizio, in accordance with our advice now maintains a record of the vehicle holdings of all vehicles in their command.

1657

Report - 5 Sept.

Visited:- MSIA 10
Platoon No 3 G.T. Coy
246 Sub Area

1. The detachment of No 3 G.T. Coy located at Leghorn is in a pitiful condition. They have no billets, are sleeping mainly in the cabs of their vehicles in the station yard, with a few men in an adjoining shed containing oil and spare tyres, on an earthen floor. The vehicles that were not on detail were very dirty, as were the troops, and it did not appear the the detachment had been properly affiliated to a workshop in the area for inspections and maintenance.
2. I informed the MSIA 10 of the position, and then visited 246 Sub Area, who agreed that although they were in no way responsible for this detachment, they would try and find a better site for it and affiliate it to a local British workshop.
3. The actual strength of the detachment based on Leghorn was 56 loadcarriers, but I asked the MSIA 10 to return all except one platoon to Genoa as soon as sufficient vehicles came back from detail.

6 Sept.

Visited: Territorial HQ

MEMO 10

No 2 Admin Tpt Coy

No 3 G.F. Coy

56 BHJ.

1. Capo of MARE said that No 26 Recovery Section had found quite a large number of vehicles of Italian Army type, but had been unable to recover them, since the majority are in the hands of civilian firms and expatriates, who are alleged to be waiting for A.M.G. on transport of civil foodstuffs. Spoke with G.O.C. of the Territorial Command, who showed me a letter sent out by the Prefecture saying that such vehicles would NOT be surrendered to the Territorial Command. Obtained copies of relevant correspondence and gave them to Col. PIGNATI for transmission to Rome.
2. Had a conference with 5/Grps of Vellois Service MARE, and gave instructions that the many inefficient vehicles at present held by No 2 CMA should come to be shown on the strength of that unit, but be held by the Repairs Directorate pending repairs. Repairs Directorate showed me suitable accommodation for a temporary inefficient vehicle park, where such vehicles will henceforward be kept.
3. POL appeared to be properly allocated, and a list of ITR-201 units within the command was maintained.
4. Gave instructions that any vehicles required surplus to M/20 of tpt units should be sent to No 7 R.V.R. at Milan.
5. Average production of efficient vehicles - 2 weekly.
6. Visited No 2 C.F.A. with Capt Cotton, and arranged for him to be supplied with daily availability states in respect of this unit. 13 efficient load carriers were held by the unit, of which 9 were in use. Premises were not good but a new location has been found and the Coy is moving this week. G.O.C. Coy appeared alert and making the best of a bad location.
7. No 442s, 406s or new type work tickets had been received by the Territorial Command, although these were despatched by War Ministry. The task system is therefore not in operation.
7. Obtained list of tyres not obtainable in Genoa, and forwarded it to Rome.
8. The following daily commitments in connection with supplies were notified by L.O. Genoa:-

(a) until 20 Sept.

from B.S.D. to R.E.
from B.S.D. to local Bulk
and Distribution Depots

Loans

Total 1850

3. POL appeared to be properly allocated, and a list of ITH-III units within the command was maintained.
4. Gave instructions that any vehicles repaired surplus to US/RO of top units should be sent to No 7 B.V.P., at Milan.
5. Average production of efficient vehicles - 2 weekly.
6. Visited No 2 C.S.A. with Capt Cotton, and arranged for him to be supplied with daily availability status in respect of this unit. 13 efficient load carriers were held by the unit, of which 9 were in use. Premises were not good but a new location has been found and the Coy is moving this week. O.C. Coy appeared alert and making the best of a bad location.
7. No 412s, 406s or new type work tickets had been received by the Territorial Command, although these were despatched by War Ministry. The task system is therefore NCP, all operation.
8. Obtained list of types not obtainable in Genoa, and forwarded it to Rome.
9. The following daily commitments in connection with supplies were notified by L.O. Genoa:-
- | | Lowries |
|---|---------|
| from B.S.D. to R.M. | 8 |
| from B.S.D. to local Bulk and Distribution Depots | 12 |
| Total | 1650 |
-
- | | Total |
|--|-------|
| B.S.D. to R.M. | 6 |
| B.S.D. to Bulk and Distribution Depots | 1 |
| Total | 7 |
9. Visited 56 BIL and spoke with G-3 - in absence of Q or SE (after - re J G.I. Coy. He is arranging to send a Mr M.T. Gft, to watch, help and if necessary live with the unit for a time. The BIL was helpful, but it was plain that they were barely aware of their responsibilities in connection with this unit. They agreed, however, that it had been officially placed under their command by Diabro, and will, I think, take more interest in it in the immediate future.

/cont'd

SECRET (cont'd)

Ascertained that the Mantova had its own Petrol Point, and already dressed in bulky tires should, therefore, be no difficulty should the Group be switched over to driving from GP.

10. No 3 G.C. Coy.

Good, in comparison with 1st-1st Coy. The premises, vehicles and men were clean, and the setting G.C. Coy appeared to know his job. Finally agreed with G.C. Coy that the load carrying vehicles were dispersed as follows:-

No	Region	Legion	Group	Total
No 1 Pl	-	-	5	5
No 2 Pl	-	31	-	31
No 3 Pl	-	19	13	32
No 4 Pl	-	7	26	33
Workshop Pl	31 (a)	-	-	31
TOTAL	31	57	44	132

(a) of which 3 are still at Cosmo being repaired.

I told him that the Legion detachment would be reduced to 1 platoon as soon as possible.

11. In general, the Territorial had seemed alive, but was not very conversant with detailed transport procedure such as striking vehicles off strength when inefficient. Comd is anxious to see Maj Richards.

1849

MEMO. 8 Sept.

Visited:- Territorial Command,
No 1 Admin Rpt Coy
"A" B.V.P.
7 A.C.R.A.

Contacted:- MAYA LO
AMC

1. General.

The Territorial Col stated that they had been told to "go slow" in recovering any vehicles from civilian ex-partisans, and gave the impression that AMC were obstructing the work. On checking with the AMC transportation officer (Maj SAUNDERS), I found that this was not the case, and that AMC had almost 1000 vehicles which they could allocate to civilian use if essential services were likely to be interrupted by the recovery of Italian Army transport. Major Saunders was of the opinion (confirmed by Capt O'Donnell) that the Territorial Command was afraid to attempt any large-scale recovery. I subsequently checked with Senior MAYA LO, MBAY that he had given no "go slow" instructions, and informed O'Donnell accordingly. Understood from AMC that their War Materials Disposal Section are now interested in the recovery of Italian Army transport, but was unable to contact this section owing to the fact that it was Saturday afternoon.

2. POL appears to be rigidly controlled by the Ufficio Servizi, and recommend that a POL post be formed at TERNI to relieve the Ufficio Servizi of some of the detailed work.

3. No 1 A.T.O. Good.

Vehicle strengths were		
M/C	B/V	L/C
14	18	20

but a number of Ops 39s were held and being operated as loadcarriers. I told them that these might be retained until full complement of 3 ton vehicles was received. Many inefficient vehicles were held on the strength of the unit, and I advised them that they should not be shown on the strength of the Coy but on the strength of the Repairs Directorate. A lot of the vehicles so held could be made immediately efficient if the necessary tyres were available. Requests for these tyres had been passed to the Ministry of War, who had stated that none were available in Rome, and that they would have to be bought by the Territorial Command locally. This has not been found practicable, owing to the very limited number available, their bad quality and enormous price.

4. AMs 442 and 465 received and in use. New type of work tinsels NOT yet received.

5. The Rpt Coy, B.V.P. and Repairs Unit premises were all within the same barracks, but there did not appear to be confusion between the three units. Unit petrol store was good, and included compressed bulk petrol. It did

1000 vehicles which may have been lost. Major Sanders was of the opinion (confirmed by Capt O'Donnell) that the Territorial Command was unable to get any large-scale recovery. I subsequently checked with Senior MALL 15, WILK that he had given no "go slow" instructions, and informed O'Donnell accordingly. Understood from MALL that their War Materials Disposal Section are now interested in the recovery of Italian Army transport, but was unable to contact this section owing to the fact that it was Saturday afternoon.

2. POL appears to be rigidly controlled by the Ufficio Servizi, and recommend that a POL post be formed at TULLO to relieve the Ufficio Servizi of some of the detailed work.

3. No 1 A.V.C. Good.

M/C	P/V	M/C
14	18	20

Vehicle strengths were

but a number of Spa 59s were held and being operated as Landrovers. I told them that these might be retained until full complement of 3 ton vehicles was received. Many inefficient vehicles were held on the strength of the unit, and I advised them that they should not be shown on the vehicle of the Coy but on the strength of the Repairs Directorate. A lot of the vehicles so held could be made immediately efficient if the necessary tyres were available. Requests for these tyres had been passed to the Ministry of War, who had stated that none were available in Rome, and that they would have to be bought by the Territorial Command locally. This has not been found practicable, owing to the very limited number available, their bad quality and enormous price.

4. ABs 412 and 406 received and in use. New type of work tickets MUF yet received.

5. The 2nd Coy, A.V.C. and Repairs Unit premises were all within the same barracks, but there did not appear to be confusion between the three units. Unit petrol store was good, and included underground bulk tanks. It did not prove possible to check quantities accurately owing to the fact that the dipstick which was allegedly in use would not reach to the bottom of the tanks.

6. "A" A.V.C.

Not well sited, but the unit is in the course of moving to another part of the barracks which had just been vacated by an expatriate transport organisation. There will be ample space for holding efficient vehicles under cover in the new site. Advised C.J. Park to start daily availability telegram immediately, and to prepare his ledgers etc at once.

/cont'd

- 2 -

My Air Mail.

As a temporary measure, specialists have been provided from the local Arsenal to carry out local repairs, and work in a suitable site within the Rpt Coy's boundaries. They have collected a considerable quantity of machinery, but are also held up by the acute shortage of tyres.

The A.C.O. Sub.

Visited this formation, (who recently took over the job from the local sub-unit) by accident, but had an interesting talk with the Italian A.C.O. regarding the recovery of XII Army Vehicles from enemy hands, and gained the impression that this formation was almost over-enthusiastic to assist XIII and the Italian Territorial Command in this work.

1647

UNUS 13 Sept.

Visited: Carr. HQ.
No 5 C.T.A.
3rd M.V.P.

1. CENTRAL - The Territorial Command seemed lively and efficient. Up to date, the following vehicles had been recovered:

M/O	M/V	M/O	Trailers	Buses	Motors
6	15	90	11	16	2
					10

and the following efficient vehicles held by No 5 C.T.A.

M/O	M/V	M/O	Trailers	Motors
3	8	33	2	7

2. No vehicles have yet been recovered from ex-partisans, and I recommended that a definite plan for such recovery be put into operation, in conjunction with Maj. SMITH and A.M.O. Lists showing vehicles as yet unrecovered, in possession of civilians, including partisans, gave the following figures - most of which are thought to be vehicles of Italian Army types:

	MOTORS	VEHICLES	TOTAL
Lorries	291	538	1018
Trailers	37	68	179
Cars	6	203	245
Motorcycles	33	54	100
Autofurgoncini	10	4	14
Asin lorries	-	7	7
Buses	-	-	4

3. The above figures include vehicles which were originally bought by the Ministry of War, though not all of military type.

4. No. 5 C.T.A. Efficiently operated - premises fair, but the unit has new premises, which I expected, and which are much better. These are at present undergoing repairs, and it is hoped to move the unit in about a fortnight. Gave instructions that all efficient ambulances held by the unit should be transferred to No 4 Ambulance Section at MILAN. The unit is at present consisted of 2 officers and 1st. Col. SMITH hopes to provide

0777

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	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>TYPE/NO</u>	<u>VEHICLE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
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Trailers	37	68	14	179
Cars	6	203	36	245
Motorcycles	33	34	13	100
Autofurgondini	10	4	-	14
Auto laurus	-	7	-	7
Buses	-	-	4	4

3. The above figures include vehicles which were originally bought by the Ministry of War, though not all of military types.

4. No. 5 C.T.A. Efficiently operated - premises fair, but the unit has new premises, which I expected, and which are much better. These are at present undergoing repairs, and it is hoped to move the Coy in about a fortnight. Gave instructions that all efficient subordinates held by the Coy should be transferred to No 4 Ambulance Coy Section at MILAN. The Coy is at present deficient of 2 officers on U.S. Lt. Col. MERRILL hopes to provide these in the near future. The unit has had difficulty in obtaining clothing, but recently received a new consignment of shirts and underwear, and it is thought that, within 10 days, all men will be properly clothed. The C.O. appears competent, and disciplined, and average for III-XXXI Spt units.

5. Aps 406 and 412 received, new types of work tickets not yet received. Aps 406 and 412 were being completed by Coy HQ, and not yet been distributed to the drivers. I impressed on the C.O. Coy the necessity for immediate distribution, and told him that lectures should be given by him to ensure that all drivers were familiar with the tank system before they received these manuals.

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WORK (contd.)

6. Mr. E.V.P. - At present living with No 5 G.C.A., S.N.R.E. have received a suitable site for the park at THIRISO, and I agreed to the immediate move of the unit to this area, where it is anticipated the Territorial workshops will be established, together with the insufficient vehicle park. Field Terr Command that all vehicles recovered surplus to U.K. of No 5 G.C.A., would go to this U.V.P., and explained system of sending daily telegram to War Ministry regarding availability to the Ministry of War.
7. P.O.L. discussed method of income, and explained position regarding the 20 which we have withheld for several commands. advised Territorial Command to contact Maj SMYX regarding the detailed allocation of each month's allotment, and also to contact him in case of any difficulty in connection with P.O.L.
8. Spoke to Maj MUNDO regarding recovery of vehicles for ex-partisans and asked him to inform Maj SMYX of the position.

1645

MILAN - 10 September,

Visited) MILA 10 H.W. ITALY
 No 3 Terr. Command
 No 3 C.S.A.
 No 7 R.V.P.

1. GENERAL. Encountered the same difficulty regarding recovery of vehicles held by ex - partisans - some 467 in all - and the same reluctance by Terr HQ to attempt recovery. Discussed the matter with Maj RUMS in absence of Maj EDWARDS - and it appeared that A.M.G. have not contacted in this area. The Capo S.M.R.M. was not energetically inclined in this direction, and stated that, in his opinion, since A.M.G. had sent Italian Army vehicles in the first place, they should be responsible for getting them back. I informed him that it was an Italian Army responsibility, and that Maj RUMS had already told the C.O. of 23 Recovery Command to liaise with Transportation Branch A.M.G. and proceed immediately with recovery of these vehicles. I got the impression that the Command did NOT intend to proceed with this. On subsequently meeting Major EDWARDS in MILAN it transpired that his opinion of the Capo S.M.R.M. MILAN was also low.
2. Discovered that No 3 Ambulance Car Section had not really been formed. Ambulances on the strength of this unit at TURIN are driven by drivers of No 1 Admin Tpt Coy, and those at MILAN by drivers of No 3 Admin Tpt Coy. Gave orders for its immediate formation.
3. Production averaged about 5 load carriers a week.
4. Suggested that some of the Cyres on vehicles standing idle in the Inefficient Vehicle Park might be transferred to FISH and done.
5. No 3 C.S.A. ABs 412 - 406 and work tickets alleged to have been being filled in by Coy H.Q. office. and data regarding vehicles was in operation. The task system was not, therefore, yet
6. Number of efficient vehicles held by the Coy was as follows :-

M/C	-	10
F/V	-	10
L/C	-	41

 of which 11 in use on MILA order transporting ex P.F. from Switzerland.
7.

Accommodation	-	normal standard III-III
Clothing	-	sufficient
Sanitation	-	average.

- him that it was an Italian Army responsibility, and that Maj. HEND had already told the G.O. of 23 Recovery Convulsion to liaise with Transportation Branch A.M.C. and proceed in entirely with recovery of these vehicles. I got the impression that the Comd. did not intend to proceed with this. On subsequently meeting Major EDWARDS in MILANO it transpired that his opinion of the Capo S.M.N.M. MILAN was also low.
2. Discovered that No 3 Ambulance Car Section had not really been formed. Ambulances on the strength of this unit at FURIN are driven by drivers of No 1 Adm Tpt Coy, and those at MILAN by drivers of No 3 Adm Tpt Coy. Gave orders for its immediate formation.
 3. Production averages about 5 load carriers a week.
 4. Suggested that some of the tyres on vehicles standing idle in the Inefficient Vehicle Park might be transferred to FURIN and GENOA Commands, but have to see Maj. EDWARDS later to confirm that this may be done.
 5. No 3 O.F.S. Alls 412 - 406 and work tickets alleged to have been received only 2 days ago, and data regarding vehicles was being filled in by Coy H.Q. office. The task system was not, therefore, yet in operation.
 6. Number of efficient vehicles held by the Coy was as follows :-

M/C	-	10	of which 11 in use on MILA order transporting ex P.M. from Switzerland.
P/T	-	10	
L/C	-	41	
 7. Accommodation - normal standard IVI-III
 Clothing - sufficient
 Sanitation - average.
 8. All except 2 vehicles were in service at the time of my visit. 164
 9. No 7 R.V.P. Sided too near Tpt unit and Repair Unit to be healthy. I instructed Rear Command to secure new site in either PIACENZA or TONI and inform MILA of result.
 G.O. N.V.P. is also O.C. Inefficient Vehicle Park, pending absorption of the latter in the Repair Unit. Agreed that Passenger Vehicles and Motorcycles could now be issued by ROME - since MILAN, GENOA and SURIN now complete to R.R. in this type.

MILANO - 12 September,

Visited : Gen. H. G.
No 4 Admin Sgt Coy

1. GENERAL. Fortunately met Maj EDWARDS RMC, and discussed recovery of vehicles and the carrier in which the North German 376 load carriers held by civilians in the MILANO area on 17 Sept, and anticipated that he may find and recover about 100 of Italian army type amongst them. He arranged to recover 20 Italian army type load carriers from the FALCONE division, and anticipates early release of a further 35 load carriers from a dump in MESSINA. Agreed that Admin Sgt Coy should be made up in the following order of priority:

MILANO
GENOVA
MILAN
TREN
UDINE
BOLZANO.

This appears to be the only covered in which actual steps are being taken to recover vehicles from civilians.

2. It was agreed by Maj EDWARDS and Gen. Col. MARIANI that the Director of Repairs be sacked and, as a result of inspecting No 4 Admin Sgt Coy, that the G.C. Coy should also be removed from his post.

3. No 4 G.T.A.

received. All 412 and 406 received. New type of radio-tickets not received. Drivers should have knowledge of the tank system.

4. Many vehicles were still held on charge to the company although in need of major repairs. Instructed the coy re the proper procedure. Effective vehicle strength was as follows :-

M/O - 1
P/W - 10
L/C - 22

5. Billets were filthy, no provision had been made for a mess-room for the men and the G.C. was plainly inadequate. In the absence of a military workshop, insufficient vehicles are held within the depot provisions.

REMARKS
COSTA
MILAN
TURIN
BOLOGNA
BELLARINO.

This appears to be the only command in which actual steps are being taken to recover vehicles from civilians.

2. It was agreed by Maj EDWARDS and Ten. Col. MISHAKI that the Director of Repairs be sacked and, as a result of inspecting No 4 Admin Spt Coy, that the C.C. Coy should also be removed from his post.

3. No 4 C.I.A.

ADs 412 and 406 received. New type of work-tickets not received. Drivers should little knowledge of the task system.

4. Many vehicles were still held on charge to the company although in need of major repairs. Instructed the Coy re the proper procedure. Effective vehicle strength was as follows:-

W/O - 1
P/V - 10
L/O - 22

5. Billets were filthy; no provision had been made for a mess-room for the men and the C.C. was plainly irresponsible. In the absence of a military workshop, inefficient vehicles are held within the camp premises.

6. No 4 AMBULANCE GAR SERVICE. No provision had actually been made to form the unit, and no ambulances received to date. Impressed on the Ufficio Servizi that the men and stores must be assembled at once, and ascertained that there was room to locate this unit within the premises of the Admin Spt Coy. Arranged with Maj EDWARDS that 10 ambulances now in the FERRARA camp should be allocated to this unit.

7. Confirmed with Maj EDWARDS that he would liaise with interested LO's prior to assigning recovered vehicles to the Ferr Command concerned.

8. TYRES. Maj EDWARDS says that the only tyre dump of any size is that at VERONA under 2 DISTRICT control. He is going to contact Maj MULLA to try and obtain AFHQ outlets for 20% of these tyres to be released to the Italian Army.

BOACIA 17 Sept.

Visited : Terr. HQ.
No 6 G.P.A.
No 5 P.O.I. Post
No 62 Ambulance Car Section.
NOVA 10.

1. GENERAL. The S.M.R. and Vehicle Bureau appeared competent and instructed. A total of 375 vehicles of all types and conditions of efficiency have been recovered by this unit, and this Admin Coy is up to strength in lead carriers. There remain approximately 100 new vehicles in the Mellarin dump, which the end had been unable to recover, since their suitability for such recovery was only valid when the dump was controlled by 1 platoon. Sold them to contact Capt. GEMME who could obtain 2 District authority for their release.

2. Owing to the large number of Military Districts within the command, I consider they have a good case for increasing the E.S. of cars on the Admin Coy to 15.

3. A large number of vehicles are required for collecting wood for the winter, and the command asked for 100 L. could be allocated for this duty. I told to submit the full facts and figures to Capt. GEMME who would then contact Mr. MESA if an additional allocation appeared necessary. In future allocations - they require a higher proportion of Diesel to Petrol - 50% of each.

4. Discovered that No 5 P.V.P. had not in fact been formed - it appears that the Ufficio Ordine at the Ministry of War failed to provide any O.R.s, and only the officer exists. Got Lt. Col. MEXARI to send a telegram to the Ministry of War on the spot to rectify this, and arranged a suitable site for the unit at PUNIO.

5. Instructed the Territorial Command that all vehicles produced surplus to 10/10 of their type units would now go into No 5 P.V.P.

6. Only a limited quality (about 20) of Aka M12 received from the Ministry of War, and no 406's or Fortis Tibeto. The tank system was not, therefore, properly in operation, although it did appear that an effort was being made to carry it out without all the necessary documents.

7. No. 6 G.P.A. One of the best M12-III K4 units I encountered. Had arrived into now provides 2 days previously, but were already setting down well. Vehicles held on the date of inspection were:

1642

2. Owing to the large number of Military Districts within the command, I consider they have a good case for increasing the U.S. of cars on the Admin Tpt Coy to 15.
3. A large number of vehicles are required for collecting wood for the winter, and the command asked/here U.S.A. could be allocated for this duty. I told/No submit the full costs and figures to Capt. MURPHY who would then contact the MIA if an additional allocation appeared necessary. In future allocations - they require a higher proportion of Diesel to Petrol - 50% of each.
4. Discovered that No 5 E.V.P. had not in fact been formed - it appears that the Ufficio Ordinamento at the Ministry of War failed to provide any O.R.s, and only the officer exists. Got Lt. Col. MURAH to send a telegram to the Ministry of War on the spot to rectify this, and arranged a suitable site for the unit at MURIO.
5. Instructed the Territorial Command that all vehicles produced surplus to W/P/O of their Tpt units would now go upto No 5 E.V.P.
6. Only a limited quality (about 25) of A/C 442 received from the Min of War, and no 406's or 407's. The tank system was not, therefore, properly in operation, although it did appear that an effort was being made to carry it out without all the necessary documents.
7. No. 6 C.F.A. One of the best VII-LXX Tpt units I encountered. Had moved into new premises 2 days previously, but were already setting down well. Vehicles held on the date of inspection were:
- | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 2/0 | 2/1 | 1/0 | 2/0 | 1642 |
| 13 | 11 | 59 | 3 | |
- O.C. and officers appear keen and efficient. Up to strength in men, but deficient of 1 officer.
8. No. 62 Ambulance Coy Section. The unit is virtually commandeered by the Medical Directorate instead of by the O.C., and is split into 3 parts - the vehicles and men live in the local military hospital, on whom they are dependent for clothing, food and all necessities, the O.C. has an office with the Medical Directorate at least half a mile away, and the unit's petrol store is in the basement of a building used for housing medical supplies, approximately 3/4 of a mile away from the other elements.
9. Arranged with the Territorial Command that the unit should be collected together and moved as soon as possible to a new site adjacent to the Tpt Coy. The unit was deficient of 11 men.

<u>COMMAND</u>	<u>C. O. C.</u>	<u>CAPO S.M.R.E.</u>	<u>CAPO UFF. SERVIZI</u>
FLORENCE	Gen. DE SIENNE	Col. FIGGIONI	Lt. Col. CAITANI
GENOA	Gen. PRATTINI	Col. CHIAVARINO	Lt. Col. ROMEO
TURIN	Gen. DI FRALORNO	Col. BERTI	Lt. Col. BARBARINO
MILAN	Gen. MARIAS	Col. CERNEVALE	Ten. Col. PARISI
BOLZANO	Gen. MIGNONI	Col. DURANTI	Magg. ANDREIS
UDINE	Gen. ARNELLINI	Col. PASQUINI	Col. OLIVIERI
BOLAGNA	Gen. CERICA	Col. PIERONI	Magg. PERGOLA

D. C.	CAPO S.M.R.E.	CAPO UFF. SERVIZI	DIR. REPARI	M. of W. TPT L.C.
...	Col. PICCININI	Lt. Col. CAPREANI	Col. BARONATO	Magg. NINI
...	Col. CHIARAVINO	Lt. Col. MONACO	Magg. PIRANI	Magg. CORNERO
...	Col. BERTI	Lt. Col. BARMERINO	Magg. LONE	Magg. CORNERO
...	Col. CARNEVALE	Ten. Col. PARISI	Col. ZUCO	Magg. VITA
...	Col. DIRANTI	Magg. ANDREIS	Lt. Col. MACCARI	Magg. VITA
...	Col. PASQUINI	Col. OLIVIERI	Ten. Col. PAVESI	Magg. VITA
...	Col. PETRONI	Magg. PEROLA	Col. RAMPA	Magg. NINI

Abstract of report b, 23 Recovery Commission to 3 Terr. Command

APPENDIX "B"

TRANSLATION

FROM: 23rd Salvage Commission.

During the month, the research and identification of vehicles belonging to the Italian Army and at present used by firms of transport Cooperatives, has continued.

The investigations require a great deal of time, much tact and circumspection, as much as the vehicles are very seldom to be found with the firms, but on the contrary are in circulation for transport service. Furthermore it is evident that the holders oppose any form of identification of the vehicles and on several occasions the opposition has been emphasized by threats made to those in charge of carrying out the check up.

That not withstanding, the ascertaining has been carried out for a great deal of vehicles, a list of which is shown in enclosure No 4. According to circular M. of W. Cabinet- No. 216700/II dated 1/8/45 Milano M.M.I.A. has intervened in the matter which, from information obtained, has requested instruction to come on the procedure to be adopted for the recovery, bearing in mind that the said vehicles appears to be assigned by the A.M.O. to persons with a regular permit in which, however, it is pointed out that the said assignment is only for administrative purposes, and therefore, the vehicle can not be issued, nor sold to another person.

Considering:

- That the vehicles are detained, (a large part of them) by Partisans, formed into transport cooperatives.
- That the vehicles have been recovered by said partisans during the days of the liberation of Northern Italy, and subsequently returned to running order by same, that is the reason for the opposition, to whoever intervenes to deprive them of said vehicles.
- That the vehicles represent to day work, and gain for the holders; of the present political situation;
- For the time being, it would be advisable to avoid requisitioning by force and to await the return of Lombardy to the Italian administration. After this the return of vehicles to the Italian Army, should be gradual (concerning time and quantity of vehicles) in order not to hamper transportation of supplies for the population, who owing to the lack of railway transport would be deprived of any means of communication in many Communes.

1010. DADT's Report on Visit to North.GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. The general standard of vehicle maintenance was not high, but, in view of the fact that the task system is new to ITI-ITI Units, this was not surprising. In order to improve both vehicle maintenance and the general standard of discipline and administration within ITI-ITI Units it is suggested that :-
 - (a) A second Italian Unit Maintenance Inspectorate be formed for inspecting the transport of NON-Gruppi units, on a WE/TO similar to No 880 Italian U.M.I. already extant.
 - (b) That Territorial Commands be required to make monthly inspections of units within their territories, and submit written reports to the Ministry of War, who could submit copies of such reports to this HQ for information. It does not appear at present that Terr. Cmds are fully aware of their responsibilities regarding the efficiency of units under their command.
2. It was found that those units whose formation had been ordered in the Rome area, and who had subsequently been moved North, were better organised than those which had been formed under the North Territorial Commands. In some cases, units in the latter class whose ~~functions~~ had been ordered over a month ago were in fact non-existent, whilst in other cases such units had only a hazy idea of their proper functions. It would seem ~~desirable~~, when possible, to form new units in the Rome area, where they can be inspected both by this HQ and the Ministry of War before moving to their final destinations.
3. It is my personnel opinion that, except in cases when an Allied officer can devote the greater part of his time to the question (as in the case of Bolzano, when Maj EDWARDS is personally handling the problem) no large quantity of Italian Army vehicles will be recovered from ex-partisans, and That Territorial Commands are afraid to take any really energetic steps in this direction. I discussed the question with Maj EDWARDS and with local MIA IOs, and gained the impression that they were of the same opinion. If it is the policy that MIA should continue to press the Italian Army to effect such recovery, there would appear to be a good case for the re-installment of the 5 Tpt Control officers which were authorised to be held on the strength of this HQ.
4. It is submitted that paras 2(a) and 3 above properly concern Q. and REMS at this HQ, and that, since para 1 (b) probably applies to units other than MT Units, the question of monthly unit inspection is a general one for staff consideration.
5. In view of the large number of vehicles in need of repair, and the limited facilities available, it is suggested that the period during which vehicles may be held by Repair Units and returned to their original units on completion of repair be extended from 48 hrs to 7 days.

1639

for information. It does not appear at present that Terr. Units are fully aware of their responsibilities regarding the efficiency of units under their command.

2. It was found that those units whose formation had been ordered in the Rome area, and who had subsequently been moved North, were better organized than those which had been formed under the North Territorial Commands. In some cases, units in the latter class whose ~~formation~~ ^{formation} had been ordered over a month ago were in fact non-existent, whilst in other cases such units had only a hazy idea of their proper functions. It would seem ~~desirable~~, when possible, to form new units in the Rome area, where they can be inspected both by this HQ and the Ministry of War before moving to their final destinations.
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4. It is submitted that paras 2(a) and 3 above properly concern Q. and REME at this HQ, and that, since para 1 (b) probably applies to units other than LT Units, the question of monthly unit inspection is a general one for staff consideration.
5. In view of the large number of vehicles in need of repair, and the limited facilities available, it is suggested that the period during which vehicles may be held by Repair Units and returned to their original units on completion of repair be extended from 48 hrs to 7 days.

WML/ag

24 Sept 45.

WML/ag

D.A.D.T.

1639

<u>COMMAND</u>	<u>G. O. C.</u>	<u>CAPO S.M.P.E.</u>	<u>CAPO UFF. SERVIZIO</u>
FLORENCE	Gen. DE SIMONE	Col. PICCININI	Lt. Col. CAPITANI
GENOA	Gen. FRATTINI	Col. CHILAVARINO	Lt. Col. MONACO
TURIN	Gen. DI PRALORMO	Col. BERTI	Lt. Col. BARBARINO
MILAN	Gen. MARRAS	Col. CARNEVALE	Ten.Col. PARISI
BOLZANO	Gen. NEXRONI	Col. DURANTI	Magg. ANDREIS
UDINE	Gen. ARMELLINI	Col. PASQUINI	Col. OLIVIERI
BOLOGNA	Gen. CERICA	Col. PETRONI	Magg. PERGOLA

<u>G. O. C.</u>	<u>CAPO S.M.R.E.</u>	<u>CAPO UFF. SERVIZI</u>	<u>DIR. REPAIRS</u>	<u>M. of W. TPT L.C.</u>
SIMONE	Col. PICCININI	Lt. Col. CAPITANI	Col. FARONATO	Magg. NINI
MATTINI	Col. ONILAVARINO	Lt. Col. MONACO	Magg. PIRANI	Magg. CORNERO
FRALORNO	Col. BERTI	Lt. Col. BARRARINO	Magg. LONG	Magg. CORNERO
FRAS	Col. CARNEVALE	Ten. Col. PARISI	Col. ZUCO	Magg. VITA
GRONI	Col. DURANTI	Magg. ANDREIS	Lt. Col. MACCARI	Magg. VITA
MELLINI	Col. PASQUINI	Col. OLIVIERI	Ten. Col. PAVESI	Magg. VITA
RTICA	Col. PETRONI	Magg. PERGOLA	Col. RAMPA	Magg. NINI

Subject:- Guard Units.

M.E.I.A. L.O.,
GENOA

GG(SD)/13

8 August, 1945

To:- ADST
HQ. MMIA ROME

Reference your ST/1010 dated 4 August 45.

This refers to one Guard Company, specified by the local Comando Territoriale as "No.2 Special" which has been formed from 3 Officers 200 ORs which arrived from 304 QM Truck Company 5 Army. These personnel were allotted to 2 Comando Territoriale who presumably hold authority to form unit, although no such record is held by this office.

*Should have been formed with
left co. U.S. 1st unit 210 ch
disbanded - R is
back up with V. Kich.*

C.P. Benatti
C.P. Benatti
Capt. QMC
MMIA.LO. GENOA

P/X

13/9

copy to 1320/2

ST/1010

CPL/lr

1637

22

COPY OF INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM : MMIA LO 1 DISTRICT

DATE/TIME
091000

TO : ITALIAN TERRITORIAL COMD BOLOGNA

INFO : ITALIAN TERRITORIAL COMMAND UNDINE
MMIA (ROME)

UNCLASSIFIED

ALLOT FIVE REPAIRED LOAD CARRIERS FROM VEHICLES RECOVERED FROM
BELLARIA ST TO ST UNDINE COMMAND. THIS HAS PRIORITY FOR URGENT FOOD SHIP
UNLOADING AT VENICE. UNDINE TO ARRANGE COLLECTION FROM BOLOGNA
ON 11 AUG.

"Q" Distribution:-

Action Copy : Q/5/10

Info : Q. 1

FLOAT

S.T.

Mullh.
10/8

ST/1010

copy in ST/1229
ST/1216

1636

✓

Territorial HQ Vehicle State as at 3 Aug 45.

HQ	Motorcycles	Staff Cars	Load Carriers	Remarks
I	8	10	12	
II	4	5	9	
III	8	10	17	

Phone Conversation BIRD - BOURNE - 4 Aug 45.

a) 200 load carriers ex RIMINI at BOLOGNA. 90% expected

Good after slight wait.

b) BOLOGNA Terr HQ have 35 load carriers. Will make up to W/E

in 8 to 10 days time.

c) UDINE have 35 load carriers. up to W/E in two weeks.

d) BOLZANO NOT KNOWN.

e) Nothing known about vehicles from BOLZANO to GENOA

1635 4/8 J

FILMED AS FOUND
IN COLLECTION

07981

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

785020

10/0

SUBJECT:- Recovery of Vehicles.

ST/1010

4 August 1945.

Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MHA)
R O M E

Tel : Rome 489081 Ext 526.

TO :- S.M.P.E., Ufficio Automobiliismo.

1. It is thought that by now a number of efficient Italian Army Ambulances will have been recovered by the Northern Territorial Commands, and, since there are at present no units operating North of Bologna entitled to hold such vehicles on Wz/TO, these should have been sent to the appropriate Efficient Vehicle Park (ref this office letter Q/5 dated 14 July 1945.)
2. It is possible that authority will be given at a later date for the formation of further Ambulance Car Sections, and, with this in view, it is essential that this HQ be kept constantly informed of the number of efficient ambulances, as well as all other types of vehicles, available in all Efficient Vehicle Parks.
3. Up to date, no returns have yet been received regarding the holdings of Nos 6 and 7 Efficient Vehicle Parks at Verona and Milan respectively, and it is requested that you issue orders to implement the rendition of a daily telegraphic report from the appropriate Territorial Commands, on the same lines as those at present received from Nos 1, 2, 3 and 4 Efficient Vehicle Parks.

jac

muu
for Lt. Col. ADST.,
Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MHA).

COPY to :- MHA LO N. 3, ITALY
MHA LO 1 District.

INTERNAL:- R. S. M. E.
SE/1109
SE/1110

1633

Subject :- Transport for Guard Units.

ST/1010

4 Aug 45

Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MIA)

Rome

Tel : Rome 480081 Ext 526

To :- MIA LO, GENOA.

1. Reference your O/31 of 28 July 45, Appx "D".
2. Please notify the designation of the two Guard Companies concerned, with the number of the Bn to which they belong, if applicable.

JMD/ag

Mills
For Lt. Col. ADST.,
Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MIA).

1634

SECRETCOPY

Extract from Appx 'D' to IO GENOA report ref G/31 of 28 July 45.

S & T POINTS.

a. Transport. Italian transport for ITI-ITI Units is still in short supply. 2 Guard Companies has arrived from 5th Army with only one vehicle for all domestic purposes and also for changing and feeding scattered guard detachments. This is hopelessly insufficient. There is still only a nucleus of vehicles with 2 Admin Transport Company as per attached state. A.M.G. are using a number of vehicles with Italian Army markings.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject:- Visit to 2 C.T.A. CoyST. MMIA .LO. N.W. ITALY
60 Sub Area
C.M.F.

STG/53

2 Oct 1945

To:- ADST M.M.I.A. ROME

Ref your ST/1010 dated 29th Sept 45.

A visit was paid today to 2 Territorial Command Transport Coy and appended below are comments relating to the report of the DADT.

1. Up to the moment no vehicles of Italian Army Type have yet been recovered, although about fifteen have been located in Allied Parks and steps are being taken to effect recovery.

2. Inefficient vehicles are still being held by 2 C.T.A. and are still being shown on returns. The Repairs Directorate have not done anything to operate an inefficient vehicle Park.

6. (a) The Company has not yet moved to the new premises but understand they commence moving 3rd or 4th Oct, the present location then become the Inefficient Vehicle Park. (b) No 412's 400's or new type work tickets have yet been received. -

9. 56 BUU have not yet sent a British MT Sergeant, if at least one British NCO were attached to 3 G.T. Coy an improvement in Maintenance and Discipline would result.

11. (a) All the above points ^{except 9} have been brought to the notice of Territorial Hq.

(b) The Efficient Vehicles State of 2 C.T.A.

as at today is:

Motorcycles 2 - Staff Cars 4
Load Carriers 25 - Misc. 2

Transport Coy and appended below are comments relating to the report of the DADT.

1. Up to the moment no vehicles of Italian Army Type have yet been recovered, although about fifteen have been located in Allied Parks and steps are being taken to effect recovery.
2. Inefficient vehicles are still being held by 2 C.T.A. and are still being shown on returns. The Repairs Directorate have not done anything to operate an inefficient vehicle Park.
6. (a) The Company has not yet moved to the new premises but understand they commence moving 3rd or 4th Oct, this present location then become the Inefficient Vehicle Park.
(b) No 412's 400's or new type work tickets have yet been received. -
9. 56 BLU have not yet sent a British MT Sergeant, if at least one British NCO were attached to 3 G.F. Coy an improvement in Maintenance and Discipline would result.
11. (a) All the above points ^{except 9} have been brought to the notice of Territorial Hq.
(b) The Efficient Vehicles State of 2 C.T.A. as at today is:
Motorcycles 2 - Staff Cars 4
Load Carriers 25 - Misc. 2
- (c) A Lt. CARLINI has arrived from 1002 Workshop Coy RASC and first impressions are good, he has a good knowledge of British MT accountancy (400's, 412's and work-tickets, etc.) and is very keen and should be of great value to 2 C.T.A.

→ ADST

Ref - 6 (A) I am enclosing herewith the copy

S/Capt. RASC.
ST. MMIA. IO.
N.W. ITALY.

- 9. In view of the nature of letter to be sent to 2 DIST. I feel that further efforts to intensify the work 3 C.T.A. would be fruitless.

AG/LT

5/10.

Subject:- Italian Military Vehicles.

1D/2552/3/Q

18 Jul 45.

MMIA LO (att 1 District)

Reference this Branch letter 1D/2552/3/Q of 12 Jul 45.

1. The following vehicles are ready for collection by MMIA from German VRD and Wkspg. VRD is at map ref 7904 and Wkspg at 6824.

	<u>VRD</u>	<u>Wkspg.</u>
Cars 4-Str.	44	1
Cars 6-Str.	1	
Trucks 15 cwt.	8	
Lorries 1 ton.	11	
Lorries 3 ton	195	40
Lorries 5 ton	23	
Lorries 6 ton	2	
Tp Carriers	2	
Buses	4	1
Ambulances	6	
Tractors	2	
Half Tracks	1	
	<u>296</u>	<u>42</u>

2. Will you please arrange for MMIA to contact 21 Armd Bde (FW Ince) with regard to collection of the above vehicles.

(signed) D.M. Roberts Major
for Col i/c Adm.
No. 1 District.

CMF

BMR/KJM

Copy to:- 21 Armd Bde (FW Ince) your Q347 of 14 Jul refers.
Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (MMIA)

"C" Distribution:-

Circulator,
P.E.M.E.
S.T.

1630

DRAFT

Subject :- Efficient Vehicle Parks for Northern Italy.

ST/

Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MIA)
Rome
Tel : Rome 489081 Ext 526

19 July 45

MINISTRY OF WAR.

1. Efficient Vehicle Parks in North Italy are now established at Milan, Florence and Verona. Orders will shortly be issued for the disbandment of No 5 E.V.P. in Sardinia, and its re-constitution in Bologna.
2. In order to provide 2 further Efficient Vehicle Parks, which will later be required at Turin and Genoa, you are required to proceed as follows :-
 - (a) Reduce the strength of the following E.V.P.s to 1 offr and 20 men each :-

No 1	E.V.P.	ROME
No 2	"	NAPLES
No 3	"	GENOA
No 4	"	FLORENCE
 - (b) With the 2 offrs and 40 men thus saved, form immediately 2 further E.V.P.s of 1 offr and 20 men each at Rome. These will be temporarily re-designated "A" and "B" Efficient Vehicle Parks, and will be held in readiness to move forward to the North on instruction from this HQ.
3. It is appreciated that Efficient Vehicles operating on the low establishment of 1 offr and 20 men will probably require assistance from Territorial Units regarding the provision of personnel for Guard duties, and you are requested to instruct Territorial Units that it is their responsibility to ensure that

2. In order to provide 2 further Efficient Vehicle Parks, which will later be required at Turin and Genoa, you are required to proceed as follows :-

(a) Reduce the strength of the following E.V.P.s to 1 offr and 20 men each :-

- No 1 E.V.P. ROME
- No 2 " NAPLES
- No 3 " BARI
- No 4 " FLORENCE

(b) With the 2 offrs and 40 men thus saved, form immediately 2 further E.V.P.s of 1 offr and 20 men each at Rome. These will be temporarily re-designated "A" and "B" Efficient Vehicle Parks, and will be held in readiness to move forward to the North on instruction from this HQ.

3. It is appreciated that Efficient Vehicles operating on the low establishment of 1 offr and 20 men will probably require assistance from Territorial Units regarding the provision of personnel for Guard duties, and you are requested to instruct Territorial Units that it is their responsibility to ensure that such parks are adequately guarded.

4. You are requested to ensure that the action required by paras 2(a) and 2(b) above is completed by 30 July, and that "A" and "B" Efficient Vehicle Parks are complete in all respects by that date.

*not sent
see 15.
G.*

MMW/ag

Copies :- MILANO, Florence (for Maj Fossett)
" " Naples
" " 54 Area.

Internal:- G.
E F

Subject: Int Notes for ADW in visit to the North.

Unit - MIA 10, N.S. Italy (BMD)

Units in Area.

- (a) No 3 Admin Tpt Coy.
- (b) No 7 E.V.P.
- (c) No 3 P.O.L. Reserve Post,

No 3 Admin Tpt Coy - Latent known holdings

H/O - 1
E/V - 7
L/O - 7

Even information given on Lo's signal dated 30 June. Letter received from War Ministry asked for the H/O of this unit to be increased to a total of 150 vehicles. H/O of unit

Unit	Vehicle	Personnel
H/O - 1	14/0 - 30	
E/V - 7	2/0 - 40	
L/O - 7	1/0 - 60	13, all remain.

When the vehicle command also explained that PCL allocation insufficient hardly likely in view of their vehicle holdings.

No 7 E.V.P. } No special remarks - see
No 3 PCL Post } "General Remarks" - paras 6 and 7.

Miscellaneous - 24 vehicles to be handed over to L.O. on 13 July.

Notes.

Units in Area.

- (a) No 2 Admin Tpt Coy

HS as for No 3 E.V.P.

From information given on 10's signal dated 30 June.
Letter received from War Ministry dated for the
HE/10 of this unit to be increased to a total of
150 vehicles.

	<u>Yeha</u>	<u>Personnel</u>
as is	M/O - 50 P/V - 10 L/O - 60	150 all ranks.

When territorial command also complained that PUL
allocation insufficient hardly likely in view of
their vehicle holdings.

No 7 B.V.P.) No special remarks- see
No 3 PUL Post } "General Remarks" - paras 6 and 7.

Miguellemotte - 24 vehicles to be handed over to
L.S. on 13 July.

GENERAL

Units in Area

(a) No 2 Admin Spt Coy

WR as for No 3 A.T.O.

Laborer known holdings efficient vehicles

M/O - 3
P/V - 2
L/O - 2
Amb - 1

No special points.

REMARKS

Units in Area

(a) No 6 Admin Spt Coy
(b) No 6 P.O.L. Reserve Post.

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- 2 -

No 6 A.S.O. 200 am Nov 2 and 3 A.S.Os.

Change - W/O - 10
 P/V - 8
 I/O - 34

No special points.

No 6 P.O.L. Reserve Post.

See note 6 under "General Remarks".

ITEM.

Units in Area.

(a) No 6 P.V.L.

(b) No 4 Admin Coy - will arrive during week 8 - 15 July. Coy will have to retain its vehicles from those recovered in the North. Coy will only arrive with about 30 - 35 men, but we have arranged for reinforcements to be made available from 422 Coy A.C. which is debarking at Florence on 22 July. If of War have been instructed to arrange for the movement of these personnel from Florence to join the coy in its new location.

REMARKS.

(a) No 4 Admin Coy - all remarks under No 4 Admin Coy apply.

ITEM.

(a) No 5 Admin Coy - all remarks under No 4 Admin Coy apply.

GENERAL REMARKS.

(a) No 6 P.V.5.

(b) No 1 Admin Coy - will arrive during week 8 - 15 July. Coy will have to obtain its vehicles from those reserved in the North. Coy will only arrive with about 30 - 35 men, but we have arranged for reinforcements to be made available from 222 Coy A G which is assembling at Maseru on 22 July. A of War have been instructed to arrange for the movement of these personnel from Maseru to join the coy in its new location.

MILITARY.

(a) No 4 Admin Coy - all resources under
No 1 Admin Coy apply.

ADMIN.

(a) No 5 Admin Coy - all resources under
No 1 Admin Coy apply.

GENERAL REMARKS.

1. IVI Vehicle holdings all units - lists by make type and tags are required.
2. Locations all units.
3. Personnel strength all units.
4. Probable Coy commitments each Territorial Cdr.
5. Amount of Coy still to be recovered
location of main dumps and who controls them.
Exact procedure whereby vehicles regain possession of IVI Army vehicles - do they do it through L.G. or by themselves?
6. P.C.L. "General Remarks" - are they in general doing a useful job? of so, we ought to have one with

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- 3 -

each Territorial HQ. - If not, we might do away with all of them and use the ceiling space gained to increase HQs of Admin Bpt Coys.

7. B.V.P.

- (1) Essential they are in a position to give daily statement of holdings to Territorial Command who are required to telegraph them to H of War for our use.
- (11) Are accurate records being maintained of vehicles received?
- (111) Are they quite clear that they must on no account release vehicles without HQA authority?
- (1v) Would it be advisable to move No 7 B.V.P. to India area, to cover N.E. Italy under 4 District? At present, both No 6 and 7 B.V.P.s are in 2 District Area.

8. HR-TX OF Coys.

To what extent are Nos 1 and 2 of Coys being employed by Nos 1 and 2 Districts? Also, are Groups of Coys properly and fully employed? What proportion of these Coys could be made available to work for IRI Terr. Units in stocking food depots?

INTER OFFICE MEMO

ST/1006

To : - ADST.

92

1. At present, the only Efficient Vehicle Parks authorized to operate in that portion of Italy North of Florence are Nos 6 and 7 E.V.Ps, at Turin and MILAN respectively. All efficient vehicles recovered surplus to the requirements of existing Admin Spt Coys in the North will be passed to these parks to await assignment to units by MMIA.

2. With the anticipated recovery of many vehicles, and the opening up of repairs shops in each of the Territorial Commands, it is felt that provision should be made to form 4 new Efficient Vehicle parks, so that each territorial cmd shall have one.

3. There is no room within the present ceiling of Category 1 (c) Sec 6, nor are there any units, in my opinion, which are redundant. In fact, it is probable that the existing nos of personnel authorized for Admin Spt Coys may have to be increased, particularly in the North, if Spt commitments are likely to be heavy. Accordingly, authority would have to be given to raise the IVI-IVI Motor Spt ceiling by 120 all ranks to permit the formation of these units (at their present III/TO).

4. If the necessary authority is not forthcoming, the fact will have to be accepted that there are only 2 locations in the North to which vehicles recovered or repaired by 6 different Territorial Commands may be sent, with consequent loss of time in re-issue, and absorption of manpower in delivering such vehicles over long distances.

MMIA/ag

D.A.D.F.

All

7 July 45

18

tying up of repairs shops in each of the territorial commands, it is felt that provision should be made to form 4 new Efficient Vehicle parts, so that each territorial command shall have one.

3. There is no room within the present ceiling of Category 1 (c) See 6, nor are there any units, in my opinion, which are redundant. In fact, it is probable that the existing nos of personnel authorized for Admin Ppt Coys may have to be increased, particularly in the North, if Ppt commitments are likely to be heavy. Accordingly, authority would have to be given to raise the IRI-TUI Motor Ppt ceiling by 120 all ranks to permit the formation of these units (at their present WE/TO).

4. If the necessary authority is not forthcoming, the fact will have to be accepted that there are only 2 locations in the North to which vehicles recovered or repaired by 6 different Territorial Commands may be sent, with consequent loss of time in re-issue, and absorption of manpower in delivering such vehicles over long distances.

WMS/eg

D.A.D.F.

7 July 45

16.5

Additional note on Original to Q2
9/7/45

MMIA

(1) DISTWO

(2) MILAN

ST/1001

~~RESTRICTED~~ RESTRICTED

(1) FOR ST (2) FOR MMIA LO (.) ADST MMIA DUE ARRIVE 09 TO DISCUSS SUPPLY AND
TRANSPORT POSITION ALL CATEGORIES ITALIAN ARMY TROOPS

Reuter

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*File**allied by*

LT COL

✓

INTER OFFICE MINUTE

ST/001

To :- Q/2
(in absence
of ADST).

1. Now that AFHQ have agreed to the release to MMIA of ITI Army Tpt recovered in the North, it is desirable that some check should be placed on the number of these vehicles in circulation, and it is thought that the time is now ripe for the issue of Windshield Labels.
2. Issues to units in the South were made via S.M.R.E. to the local Italian Territorial Commands or Admin Divs; except in the case of Sardinia and Sicily, when labels were sent to MMIA LOs for distribution.
3. It is felt that issues to the North would be better made to MMIA LOs who could arrange detailed distribution with the local ITI Territorial Commands, for the following reasons :-
 - (a) Difficulty of communication with the North has resulted in very little information reaching the War Ministry, or this HQ, regarding what vehicles have been recovered. This information, when it does arrive, is out of date. When issues were made through ITI channels in the South, this office was in possession of fairly accurate information regarding vehicles held.
 - (b) Replies received showing vehicle targa nos equated with Windshield Labels already issued have been even slower than was anticipated, and are still outstanding in respect of some 1500 vehicles targa nos.
 - (c) It is felt that issues to MMIA LOs would result in a strict control of ITI Army Tpt in the North, that Tpt holdings of authorised units in the North would therefore be more quickly brought into line with WE/TOs, and, consequently, vehicles surplus to requirements would become more rapidly available for issue from E.V.P.s.
4. It is therefore requested that authority may be given for the issue of Windshield Labels to appropriate MMIA LOs to cover the authorised WE/TOs of all units entitled to hold ITI Army Tpt within the 6 North Territorial Commands.

WJH/eg

in brief help
for info

3. It is felt that issues to the North would be better made to MMIA LOs who could arrange detailed distribution with the local ITI Territorial Commands, for the following reasons :-

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4. It is therefore requested that authority may be given for the issue of Windshield Labels to appropriate MMIA LOs to cover the authorised WE/TOs of all units entitled to hold ITI Army Tpt within the 6 North Territorial Commands.

WMM/ag

21 June 45

Copy to :- ST/1005

II.

- (a). W/S Labels to be issued through War Hai and Terr HQ. in numbers corresponding to authorised holding of units in North.
- (b). War Hai to be urged to expedite return of allocated vehicles to targa numbers. "No further releases will be completed" if this is not done.
- (c). "Control" of and sent for who report W/S Labels North of Rome etc delayed till 1 & 2 Districts assume responsibility for Army areas

23/6 RBC & v.

in brief for

after 5th 11/8

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