

acc

10000/120/2158

RE 1/4/4

opened m
MAR. 1946

10000/120/2158

RE/4/4 Stores + Equipment - General

3851
3878

opened March 9, 1946 closed Feb. 17, 1947
Mar. 1946 - Feb. 1947

ENGINEER BRANCH
G.H.Q.
C.M.F.

Tele : PADUA 22280

RE 33

SUBJECT : Loading Tables - Bailey Bridge

ENC/2/307

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission, AC.
M.M.I.A.

24 JAN 47

Reference your RE/4/2 dated 23 SEP 46.

The information required by you can be found
in the following pamphlets:-

M.E. Vol. III Part II, pages 52 - 60

Royal Engineers Reconnaissance Pocket
Book 1944, pages 56 and 63.

49

Not available with me.
hope further action
h.c.

G.W. MUSCOTT,
CAPT. R.E.
for Brigadier
Chief Engineer

3877

32

Telephone :-
489081 Ex 467

LAND FORCES COMMISSION, AD(MIA) CPT.

RS 4/4

13 January 47.

1st Branch
CPL. CPT.

Subject :- Loading Tables.

30

1. Ref. our RS 4/2 dated 25 Sept. 46.
2. No reply has been received to the a/m letter. Will you please expedite.

see folio 46 on RS 4/5

R

Major-General,
CPL. MIA.

WFOO 7/11a

3876

REPLY

AGI 671/46 is repeated for information and compliance.

1. The existence of a dipole in an electrical circuit connected with the initiatory device of a demolition system may cause premature firing of the circuit, if that circuit is in close proximity to a radio or radar short wave transmitter. Many such transmitters now work on wavelengths of a metre or less, and this fact must be taken into account during demolition by electrical means.
2. It is common practice for a person to be detailed at the exploder end of a demolition circuit to hold up the two firing leads above his head as a visible assurance to personnel working at the firing end of the circuit that the exploder is in fact disconnected.
3. This practice of holding the free ends of the leads over the head will cease forthwith and the free ends will be kept as close together as possible at all times. The ends of the firing leads will be turned out at right angles for just a sufficient length to allow two very short bared ends to reach the terminals of the exploder dynamo. From this right angle bend the two leads will be bound together with bare copper (or tinned steel or copper) wire for a length of about 3 feet, with the turns about 1" apart. This precaution will prevent the circuit from acting as a dipole, but the additional precaution of allowing the free ends of the firing leads to lie on the ground until the moment comes for them to be connected to the exploder dynamo will always be observed.
4. A device which will allow the old practice of holding the free ends above head to be resumed in in the course of development, and its availability will be notified in due course.

(Applicable to all troops.)

1204/4

3475

Subject :- Landing Tables.

30

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

RE A/2

23 September 46.

To :- 'E' Branch,
G.S. G.P.

1. Reference Chap. 15 (Sec 59) of M.E. Vol III - Bailey Bridge (Normal uses) can you please arrange to supply details of lorry loads for fixed span bridges and floating bridges and the combinations of these units to form the 4 positions referred to.
2. Even if the Bailey is again under revision at home due to alterations in design, perhaps you could obtain landing tables which were used by Bridging Coys. during the War.
3. The Italian War Ministry are asking for these in connection with the proposed formation of a Bridging Bn.

J.C.
J.C. O'NEILL, Major R.E.
for Major General
M.M.I.A.

3874

Direktorat Jenderal Kebudayaan
Jl. Jendral Sudirman No. 60 Jakarta 10110

TO: MILITARY MAIL

FROM: SBU 211750

TELEGRAMMA

Fatevi correntisti postali

Pagamenti e riscossioni in tutte le località del Regno. Fra correntisti i pagamenti e le riscossioni mediante postagiro sono eseguiti senza limitazione di somma ed in esenzione da qualsiasi tassa.

SPAG

785020

CONFIDENTIAL

75
28

Subject :- Removal of Engineer Stores out of Italy.

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(H.M.I.A.)
RE &
15 August '46.

To :- O.C. & R.I.V.
BOLZANO

24A
240

1. The Engineer Branch of the War Ministry have forwarded a letter from an Italian Liaison Section at the following address:-

A.C.S. - U.S.P.R.T.
APO 757
U.S. Army.

2. The letter states that a certain Mr. THOMAS with possession of authority from U.S. Army is proceeding to BOLZANO and Ferrara with the object of transporting certain materials for building construction from these areas to BAVARIA.

3. The War Ministry have asked if further particulars can be ascertained and if these materials, which are presumably captured materials are of use to the Italian Army that they should not be removed but released to the Italian Army. It appears that they come under control of the U.S. Army.

4. Can you please make investigations and report any results obtained and action taken.

J.C. GIBSON, Major R.F.,
for Major General,
H.M.I.A. 3872

Copy to:- Ministry of War.

TRANSLATION

From M of W
to NMIA

Date 14 /8/46
58883/M

~~FE~~
27

Subject : Enemy captured materials transferred from
Italy to Germany

Italian Liaison Section A.P.O. 757 U.S. Army (A.C.S. USPET) has informed in letter copy of which is enclosed that a certain Mr. Thiele in ^{possession} of authority of 3 American Army would have left for Bolzano and Ferrara in order to transport from these towns to Bavaria some building enemy captured materials once belonging to 5 Army and by which were released to 3 Army .

We do not know the kind, the quantity and the place where above materials are stored; will therefore your Mission let us know the a/m data ,deciding also if it is possible that same materials ,if useful for Army requirements, be released to Italian Military Administration.

for the Minister

sgd. O. Crivaro

3871

URGENTISSIMO



Ministero della Guerra

DIREZIONE GENERALE GENIO DIVISIONE MATERIALI SEZ. 2

N° 56883/M di prot.

Roma, li 14 NOV 1945

OGGETTO: materiale di preda bellica trasferiti dall'Italia in Germania -

ALLA LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSARIO AC (M M I A)

R O M A

L'Italian Liaison section A.P.O. 757.US A R M Y (A.C.S.- U.S.P.E.T.) con lettera allegata in copia ha comunicato che certo Sig. Thiele munito di autorizzazione della 3^a Armata Americana avrebbe intrapreso un viaggio per Bolzano e Ferrara allo scopo di organizzare il trasporto da dette località in Baviera del materiale da costruzione di preda bellica già della 5^a armata e da questa ceduto alla 3^a.

Lo scrivente ignora specie, quantità e località di deposito di detto materiale; prega pertanto cotesta Missione di far conoscere i dati di cui sopra è cenno, segnalando se è possibile che il materiale stesso, qualora ritenuto utile per le esigenze dell'Esercito, venga ceduto all'amministrazione militare. -

P. IL MINISTERO

of course

TRANSMISSION

OGGETTO: materiale di preda bellica trasferiti dall'Italia in Germania -

ALLA LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSARIO AC (M M I A)

R O M A

L'Italian Liaison section A.F.O. 757.US A R M Y (A.C.S.-U.S.P.E.F.) con lettera allegata in copia ha comunicato che certo Sig. Thiele munito di autorizzazione della 3^a Armata Americana avrebbe intrapreso un viaggio per Bolzano e Ferrara allo scopo di organizzare il trasporto da dette località in Baviera del materiale da costruzione di preda bellica già della 5^a armata e da questa ceduto alla 3^a.

La scrivente ignora specie, quantità e località di deposito di detto materiale; prega pertanto cotesta Missione di far conoscere i dati di cui sopra è cenno, segnalando se è possibile che il materiale stesso, qualora ritenuto utile per le esigenze dell'Esercito, venga ceduto all'amministrazione militare. -

P. IL MINISTRO

TRANSMISSION	
IN	11/10
65	15/10
OUT	15/10

3370

copie

A.C.S. - U.S. S.T.
ITALIAN LIAISON SECTION
A.P.O. 757-US ARMY

N° 04479/G di prot.

5 luglio 1946

AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA - Gabinetto

R O M A

OGGETTO: Materiali di preda bellica trasferiti dall'Italia in Germania.-

Si è presentato oggi un certo Sig. THIELE per chiedere il visto d'ingresso in Italia insieme con tre suoi collaboratori.

egli è munito di autorizzazione del Comando della 3^a Armata Americana a scopo del suo viaggio in Italia è da organizzare il trasporto, da Polzano e Ferrara, in Baviera di materiale da costruzione già di preda bellica della 5^a Armata, e da questa ceduto alla 3^a.

Trattandosi di materiali di primaria necessità anche in Italia, si reputa opportuno segnalare la cosa a codesto Ministero per eventuali passi presso le competenti autorità Alleate.-

P. C. S.
IL CAPO SEZIONE

IL COLONNELLO CAPO SEZIONE
F/to Attilio Bruno

Fed. 7

CONTESTO: Materiali di preda bellica trasferiti dall'Italia in Germania.-

Si è presentato oggi un certo Sig. THIEZ per chiedere il visto d'ingresso in Italia insieme con tre suoi collaboratori.

Egli è munito di autorizzazione del Comando della 3^a Armata Americana a scopo del suo viaggio in Italia e da organizzare il trasporto, da Bolzano e Ferrara, in Baviera di materiale da costruzione già di preda bellica della 5^a Armata, e da questa ceduto alla 3^a.

Trattandosi di materiali di primaria necessità anche in Italia, si reputa opportuno segnalare la cosa a codesto Ministero per eventuali passi presso le competenti Autorità Alleate.-

P. O. G.
IL CAPO SEZIONE

Fel Zammarini

IL COLONNELLO CAPO SEZIONE
P/ro Attilio Bruno

3869

LROY V MEDY NR 138839/46 QVR 1/2
 FROM HQ(D) D CANCELLO 891416 D
 TO CC 184 ITALIAN ENG N// ENG/O HQ FOLGORE DIV FLORENCE
 INFO MILIA ROME 18 BLU NAPLES
 CM DISTHREE CE A DV ENG CME

RE 3887 (.) UNCLASS (.)
 CTV 9 JULY BY RAIL IN WAGONS 23978 135113 466135 465223 22502 846N 46-
 4768 264453 77493223 131012 743112 9574 463735 248853 413539 28113 56-
 825 84679 ITEMS (.) BAILLY BRIDGE SET 5 3' NO (.) ERECTION GEAR SETS
 1 NO (.) TGA/// TOTAL WEIGHT 156 TONS (.) VOUCHER E/1229 REPEAT///
 REPORT B/1229 (.) COMPLETE REFERS (.) ITALIAN TA/// TRAIN GUS/// GUARD
 REPORTED 0800 HOURS (.) TRAIN DEPARTED 1115 HOURS

SENT 18 10/46 1043 VS AR TKS
 RECD AT 101043 JS AR TKS K

RECEIVED 11 JUL 1946
 2445

38.0

RECEIVED 11 JUL 1946
24-71

5974 RE

82
24

MMIA
6/10

LRGT V MEDY NR 100037 OVR 2
FROM ES(B) D CAC/// CANCELLO 391220 B
TO OC 120 ITALIAN ENG BN CGO HQ FRIULI DIV LEVICO
INFO MILIA ROME 10 BLU NAPLES CE DISTHREE
CE & DW GHQ CMF

h

BT
RE 3824 (.) UNCLASS (.)
CTY 9 JULY BY RAIL IN WAGONS 7///487582 7448268 77492779
44815 4413526 445395 256887 415664 414988 426841 10913
342899 32493 8394 443198 77496583 77264522 445151 418284 ITEMS (.)
BAILEY BRIDGE SETS 2 NO (.) ERECTION GEAR SETS 1 NO (.) TOTAL VI///
WEIGHT 156 TONS (.) VOUCHER B/1828 REPEAT B/1828 (.)

BT
SENT NR 1// SR 37 1030 WS B N
RECD AT 101042B JS AB TKS X

3867

770
23

Rx

ENGINEER BRANCH
A. P. H. Q.
C. M. F.

SUBJECT: Engineer Equipment for
the Italian Army.

200/015/000

TO : LHM, GND.

Lead Person Sub Com A.C. (MILIA).

20 Jun 46

COPY TO : GND, GND.

Financial Advisor, GND.

2300 CAVALLO

10 BLA

21

1004

This office letter EMB/B15/CPS of 20 Jun 46 will be amended
as follows:

Excludes all para 2 and substitute

12.

The Equipment will be leased from 2300 CAVALLO and consigned
by rail as follows,

a) 2 Sets Bailey Bridge and one set Protection Cover to,

Officer Commanding,

120 Italian Engineer Bn,

c/o HQ PAVIA DIVISION,

DEVIC.

(Nearest rail station VERONA JR 4762).

b) 2 Sets Bailey Bridge and one set Protection Cover to,

Officer Commanding,

130 Italian Engineer Bn,

c/o HQ PAVIA DIVISION,

DEVIC.

For the Chief Engineer,

10 JUL 74
This office letter EAC/015/OPS of 20 Jun 74 will be amended as follows:

Delete all para 2 and substitute

2. The Equipment will be issued from ESOO CAMPBELL and consigned by rail as follows:

a) 2 Gato Railway Bridge and one set Erection Gear to,

Officer Commanding,
120 Italian Engineer Bn,
c/o HQ BRITISH DIVISION,
LEWIS.

(Nearest rail station THREE MR 47621).

b) 2 Gato Railway Bridge and one set Erection Gear to,

Officer Commanding,
124 Italian Engineer Bn,
c/o HQ POLISH DIVISION,
FLORENCE.

For the Officer Engineer,

(Signature)

3866

C.E. HOUSE,
Major, R.E.,
30 II (Ops).

RECEIVED 25 JUL 74

Subject:- Engineer Regiment - Bailey Bridge

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
RM 4
22 June 46

To:- Eng. Branch,
G.H.Q., G.M.F.

Ref my RM 4 of 14 June 46 and subsequent conversation with Major House, P.E. on 22 June.

1. The a/c letter should be cancelled. I have since received an up to date distribution list of Bailey Bridge to the Italian Engineers from the Ministry of War and it appears that neither the PRIME Div nor the BOLONE Div have any BS sept at all.
2. In order to conform with the policy laid down for distribution of BS the 4 sets now to be transferred should be dispatched as follows:-

2 sets :- H.Q. PRIME Div at LEBICO

2 sets :- H.Q. BOLONE Div at VIGORRE.

N. Marshall

J.C. O'DONNELL, Major, P.E.,
For Major General.
M.M.I.A.

Copies to:- C (SD) G.H.Q.
C (SD) M.M.I.A.
C (Eng) M.M.I.A.
C M.M.I.A.
Italian Ministry of War
Genlt. Italian P.E., Civitavecchia.

C O P Y

ENGINEER BRANCH

A.F.H.Q.

C. M. P.

SUBJECT: Engineer Equipment for
the Italian Army

MSG/015/OPR

20 June 46

TO : DOW GNC
Land Forces Sub Com A.U. (AMIA)

COPY TO: G(SD) GHQ
Financial Adviser GHQ
ESBD Cancelllo
10 BLU

1. Authority is granted for the issue of the following Bridging Equipment to the Italian Army:-

Bailey Bridge - 4 Standard sets
Erection Gear - 2 Sets

2. The equipment will be issued from ESBD Cancelllo and consigned by rail as follows:-

(a) One set to the Italian SMC Civitavecchia c/o Major Chapman B.E.

(b) 3 sets to 22 "Officina Riparazioni Genio"

P 4 V I A

3. The equipment will be priced and three additional vouchers issued, headed "Issued to the Italian Army" in red ink. These vouchers will be signed by the appropriate Italian Authority (ie Italian Unit Commander or an official of the Italian War Ministry), the official name and Unit being clearly printed on the voucher to facilitate accounting. One of these vouchers will then be transmitted to the Financial

RE-4

RE-21

1. Authority is granted for the issue of the following Bridging Equipment to the Italian Army:-
- Bailey Bridge - 4 Standard ones
 Erection Gear - 2 Sets
2. The equipment will be issued from EMBU Cancelli and consigned by rail as follows:-
- (a) One set to the Italian SMC Uritaveconia C/o Major Chapman P.M.
 (b) 3 sets to 22 officina Riparazioni Genio PAVIA
3. The equipment will be priced and three additional vouchers issued, headed "Issued to the Italian Army" in red ink. These vouchers will be signed by the appropriate Italian Authority (ie Italian Unit Commander or an official of the Italian War Ministry). The official name and Unit being clearly printed on the voucher to facilitate accounting. One of these vouchers will then be forwarded to this office for onward transmission to the Financial Adviser; the other two will be retained by MIA.
4. This office will contact 10 BDU when the rolling stock is known to arrive at an Italian train guard.

For the Chief Engineer;

(signed) C.B. HOUTE
Major R.M.
SU II (Ops)

3D DISTRIBUTION

3D
TRG
Q
ORD
RE

336405

2073

Subject:- Equipment for Italian Army - COMBUSTION

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
RE A
14 June 46.

To:- G.H.Q. G.M.F.

Ref your HQ/815/OPS of 11 June 46.

I understand from the War Ministry that large type compressors of the type made by Alfa Romeo and Ingersoll Rand and which were previously used in the Italian Engineers are NOT available.

A light portable type - the DIATTO - would be available. I have not seen this type, personally, but from its description I consider it would not be very suitable for equipping Field Park Coy's with.

J.C.
J.C. O'FERRILL, Major, R.E.,
For Major General,
M.M.I.A.

Copy to:- G (80) - internal.

3863

72
19

Subject: Bridge Equipment - Bailey Bridge

Lead Person Sub Coordination A.C.
(M.H.L.A.)
H.A.
H.A.

To: Col. H.A.L.

Ref your signal 0 45005 of 13 June from H.A.L., and telephoned reply today.

1. In consultation with the Italian War Ministry it was decided that one of the four sets of Bailey Bridge should be dispatched to the Italian H.A.L. at Civitavecchia (c/o Major (Engineer), H.A.L.) to supplement their present holding for bridging purposes. The other three sets should be dispatched to

22 Aviazione Sperimentale Centro,
Rome

where they will be held for issue to Divisions as required.

2. The War Ministry have now received returns of the Bridging Equipment held by Divisions and I expect to know the position when these returns have been received into units of Bridging Equipment.

[Signature]
J.A. CROFTON, Major, H.A.L.,
For Major General,
H.A.L.

Copied to: C (HQ) H.A.L.A.
C (HQ) H.A.L.A.
C H.A.L.A.
Commandant Italian H.A.L. - To expect delivery of one set H.A.L.
War Ministry - Ref conversation today with Gen. Rostini.

3662

FROM: LIAISON OFFICE
TO: LIAISON OFFICE, DE COMMISSION A.C. M.B.I.A.

UNCLASSIFIED FROM RE: MFG CMA (L) REFERENCE SD/100/10 OF 11 MAY 65 (L)
HIGHEST APPOINTMENT OF DESIGNATE FOR FOUR MONTHS

RE: CENTER 3 LK AN EXT
ON LIAISON RE: SD 5 011

27 JUL 1946

MMIA
KE
N/6/13
3861

ENGINEER BRANCH
A.P.H.Q.
C. M. F.

RE

69
16

SUBJECT: Equipment for the Italian Army.

ENG/815/OPS

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

11 Jun 46

Reference your RE/4 of 23 Apr 46. ~~467~~

Could you please investigate the availability of compressors either as trailers or as prime movers from indigenous sources as a possible alternative to the use of British Equipment which is in short supply.

A definite decision will be made on receipt of your reply.

For the Chief Engineer,

C. House

RECEIVED 12 JUN 1946

C.B. HOUSE,
Major, RE,
SO II (Ops)

3560

Subject:- Engineer Equipment for the Italian Army

12

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(M.H.I.A.)
RE 4
16 May 46

To:- 1st (RD)

1. Reference para 5 of minutes of Engineer Conference held at this H.Q. 16 April and para 4 RE 4 dated 29 April.
2. No accurate information has yet been received from the Italian Ministry of War as to the present holdings of Bailey bridging by the Italian Army. It is not anticipated that such information will be forthcoming.
3. Accordingly, it is estimated that four sets of Bailey bridging should be sufficient to make up the holding of thirteen sets agreed to in the a/m conference.
4. It is requested that C (RD), G.H.Q. be asked to authorise the issue, on loan, of this equipment.


R.M.J. HEDDER, Major,
S.O.R.E.,
M.H.I.A.

3859

Subject: Italy, Equipment for Italian Army

42

9

Lead Person Sub Commission A.O.
(H.M.I.A.)
12/4
24 April 1945

To: 'C' (D) C.W. O.H.B.

1. Reference Engineer Conference held at this HQ 16 April, it is requested that the following equipment be issued on loan to the Italian Army.

2. Engineer Equipment

For the Italian S.M.N.,
1 Landing Bay,
1 Red Floating Bay.

This equipment is considered necessary to enable Italian engineers to gain a working knowledge of heavy British bridging equipment.

3. Radio

2 sets for ops, to be held in reserve (one set in each Corps Field Post Company).

1 set for training in Italian S.M.N.

4. Radio

At the s/n conference it was agreed that 13 sets should be the holding of the Italian Army and that a demand be made taking into account the present holding. Despite repeated requests by this HQ The Italian Ministry of War has not, as yet, furnished any data as to their present holdings of radio. Accordingly, no firm demand can be made at the moment, but will be made immediately the necessary information is received from The Italian Ministry of War.

3.5

(M)

1. Reference Engineer Conference held at this H. 15 April, it is requested that the following equipment be issued on loan to the Italian Army.

2. Engineer Railcar.

For the Italian S.M.N.,
1 Landing Bay,
1 and Floating Bay.

This equipment is considered necessary to enable Italian engineers to gain a working knowledge of heavy British bridging equipment.

3. Field.

2 sets for ops, to be held in reserve (one set in each Corps Field Park Company).

1 set for training in Italian S.M.N.

4. Italian.

At the a/m conference it was agreed that 13 sets should be the holding of the Italian Army and that a demand be made taking into account the present holding. Despite repeated requests by this HQ The Italian Ministry of War has not, as yet, furnished any data as to their present holdings of Railcar. Accordingly no firm demand can be made at the moment, but will be made immediately the necessary information is received from The Italian Ministry of War.

3058


R.M.J. FENNEL, Major M.E.,
for Major General, 3058
S.M.I.L.

Copy to: Engineer Branch, Hq. C.M.F.

Internal: 'OP' (70)
'OP' (70)

WCM/100

Subject: Spec. Equipment for Italian Army.

(41) 8

Lord Percival (Lt. Commander A.C.
(H.M.I.A.)

2 April 46.

TO: 'C' (30) CSM, C.M.F.

1. Resulting from Engineer Conference held at this HQ 16 April, it is requested that 2 No. 14 drivers be supplied, on loan or issue, to the Italian Engineer School, so that Italian Engineers may gain a knowledge of modern British mechanical equipment.


R. F. J. HILLARD, Major R.A.,
for Major General,
H.M.I.A.

Copy to: Engineer Branch, CSM, C.M.F.

Internal: 'C' (20)
'C' (30)

3857

SUBJECT: Equip. Requirement for Italian Army.

7

Joint Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(M.H.I.A.)

10/4

3 APRIL 46.

TO: 101 (HQ) G.S. U.S.A.

1. As agreed during Engineer Conference held at HQ M.H.I.A. 16 April, it is requested that equip. assignment as follows be made available to the Italian Army:-

- (a) One motor air compressor with tools for each of 7 Field Park Coy., and 1 No. for training use at the Engineer School; 8 No. compressors in all.

W.H.
R.H.S. HINDS, Major R.E.,
for Major General,
M.H.I.A.

Copy to: Equip. Branch, G.S. U.S.A.

Internal: 101 (HQ)

3855

3856

SUBJECT: Engineer Regt. for the Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.

(M.M.I.A.)

RE A.

15 March 46.

TO: 5

1. Further to SE/A dated 11 March below listed is estimated needs of
 Bailey bridging shown as for Ops and Trg.

(a) Bailey Bridging.

Ops.
 7 1/2 Platoons.
 (i.e.) 1 1/2 Pls for each
 of 5 Pd. Pk. Coyrs.

Trg.
 2 1/2 Platoons.
 (This for Eng. School
 Civitavecchia, and
 does not allow for
 unit trg. within
 Divn)

(b) Pontoon Bailey.

1 Pontoon Platoon
 (Eng. School)

[Signature]
 R.N.J. RICHARD, Major,
 S.O.R.E.,
 M.M.I.A.

3855

Subject: Engineer Equipment for the Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub-Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
HQ AF.
HQ/4.

11 Mar 46.

To: "C".

Reference CR. letter RSD/84/3 of 17 Feb.

1. It is considered that the following engineer equipment will be required--

(a) Ballistaria.

No. 2 for each of 5 Field Park Coy's.	=	10
No. 2 for Engineer School	=	2
Total		12

(b) Air Compressor (with tools).

No. 2 for each of 10 Field Coy's.	=	20
No. 4 for Engineer School	=	4
Total		24

2. Bailey Bridge requirements of field units will be met if supplied to British scale.

3. Bailey Bridge requirements for training at the Engineer School, (i.e.) 24 Bailey Platoons, and 1 Bailey Platoon Platoons, have already been requested by G/AFHQ this in TFC/42/2 of 16 Feb addressed to C/AFHQ HQ.

4. Reference explosives, the Ministry of War state that whilst being able to supply explosives of old type, they are unable to supply modern explosives such as Plastic W. or fire such as Cord. x. This naturally calls for a policy decision as to whether or not the older type of explosives are suitable for Italian Engineer units.

(All)

total 12

b) Air Compressors with 200 lbs.
50.2 per each of 10 Field
No. 4 for Engineer School

20-4

Total
\$84

1

2. Battery spare requirements of field units will be met if supplied to British scale.

3. Bailey bridge requirements for crossing at the railroad, (i.e. 24 Bailey planks, and 1 Bailey can on tractor, have already been requested by GTRC) this is in T-42/2 or 18 Feb. as to GTRC's cost.

4. Reference explosion, the industry is set a rate that might being able to supply explosives of old type, they are unable to supply modern explosives such as RDX or PETN even on order. This naturally calls for a policy decision as to whether or not the older type of explosives are suitable for Indian nuclear arms.

G. M. J. W. Ward, Mayor.

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SUBJECT: Conference - Italian Army Equipment

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AC, (MMIA)

SD/109

9 Mar 46

TO : GHQ (GSD) COM

1. Further to this HQ SQ.054 of 5 Mar, herewith 10 copies of proposed agenda of an AMIQ conference on Provision of Equipment for the ITALIAN Interim Army.
2. The date suggested for the conference is 18 Mar 46 at 1400 hrs.
3. Will you please signal your approval or otherwise of the above suggestions so that the requisite preliminary work can be done.

Attest
Major General.
M.M.I.A.

Internal:

Q
IS
Sigs
Inf
Ord
MMIA
War Diary (two)

RAC/op

365.

IMPOSED AGENDA

FOR

AFHQ CONFERENCE ON EQUIPMENT OF ITALIAN ARMY.

1. Object of Conference.

- (a) Based on AFHQ Directive of 2 Nov 45.
- (b) Changed conditions and postponements necessitate review of means and sources of supply of equipment.
- (c) Statement of present equipment position by M.M.I.A.. Consideration of Post War as well as Interim Army.
- (d) Need of ensuring serviceability and maintenance of equipment issued, particularly if payment is insisted on.

2. Supply of Arms and Ammunition.

- (a) Firm decision required on the recommendation that Arms and Ammunition for Army (less Carabinieri) should be of British origin.
- (b) Provision of requisite spares, replacements and maintenance for as long as provision remains a British commitment.
- (c) Training commitment urgent, now being met by loan - further loans needed for Inf Regts.

(d) Review of requirements by M.M.I.A.

(e) Question of responsibility for scaling

(f) Question of local manufacture for Carabinieri etc.

(a) Definition required preferably to include 'V' vehicles and their instruments etc. essential to operation of weapons and possible signal equipment.

(b) Review by M.M.I.A. of requirements in addition to arms (in item 2 above).

3. Lethal Warlike Equipment.

- (a) Firm decision required on the recommendation that Arms and Ammunition for Army (less Carabinieri) should be of British origin.
- (b) Provision of requisite spares, replacements and maintenance for as long as provision remains a British commitment.
- (c) Training commitment urgent, now being met by loan - further loans needed for Inf Regts.
- (d) Review of requirements by M.M.I.A.
- (e) Question of responsibility for sealing
- (f) Question of local manufacture for Carabinieri etc.
- (a) Definition required preferably to include 'Vehicles and their instruments etc. essential to operation of weapons and possible signal equipment.
- (b) Review by M.M.I.A. of requirements in addition to arms (in item 2 above).
- (a) M.M.I.A. statement of present position.
- (b) Insufficient available from Theatre surpluses. Alternative solutions to be considered.
- (c) Recommend at least the five Inf Divs be completed to full W.E. and full scale of spares up to end of 1947 be provided soonest.
- (d) Remainder of Italian Army to improvise from Italian and other miscellaneous sources.

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/....4 (c)

3. Lethal Warlike Equipment.4. Inf and Spares.

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4. WT and Spares (contd).

(e) Essential that no equipment is forced on Italy without adequate maintenance.

(f) Question of responsibility of working out details of spares and replacements.

5. Repair and Maint. Services and Replacements.

(a) Need for greater assistance if proper use is to be made of all equipment issued.

(b) Make recommendations re technical vehicles and machines to British Workshops.

(c) Can supplies be obtained from reserves, surplus or manufacture outside this Theatre.

6. Specialist Equipment.

Engineers - Bridging & Machines (MIRA)
 Signals - Wireless & Lamp } state-
 Mechanical - Workshops machines } ment on
 Medical - Drugs } each case

7. Captured Enemy Material.

Situation now cleared up by GIIQ Letter 5072/Q (CZAS) of 4 Mar 46, but much valuable material has meanwhile been lost.

8. Financed.

Original Directive stated that financial arrangements would be made known later.
 Italian finances are in poor shape and some terms of reference either imposed or agreed are desirable.
 What is present position.

9. British Personnel.

Decisions on above matters may involve considerable staff study and proper-
 ation of schedules etc. Those M.M.I.A.
 responsibility will this be. M.M.I.A.
 Staff and Services already fully
 occupied. Technical assistance will
 be needed in any case on OMD and REEF
 sides. M.M.I.A. increment should
 remain.

10. Any other points.

(c) Can supplies be obtained from reserves, surplus or manufacture outside this Theatre.

Engineers - Bridging & Machines (MMA)
Signals - Wireless & Line (state-
Mechanical - Workshops machines (sent on
Medical - Drugs (each case

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What is present position.

Decisions on above matters may involve considerable staff study and preparation of schedules etc. Those responsible will this be. M.M.I.A. Staff and Services already fully occupied. Technical assistance will be needed in any case on ORD and HEMS sides. M.M.I.A. increment should remain.

6. Specialist Equipment.

7. Captured Enemy Material.

8. Finance.

9. British Personnel.

10. Any other points.

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