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Advanced Rft. Unit

1800
1802

MARCH 1945

(COPY)

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

AG 370.092/001 GCT-0

27 March 45

SUBJECT : Holding of surplus Rfts - PECENO Italian
Combat Force Rft Trg Centre - CEBANOTO : President
Allied Commission
FOR: Land Forces Sub Commission (MMIA)

1. Reference is made to 'F' British Liaison Unit letter G/1/1/6 dated 27 Feb 45, a copy of which was left with this headquarters.
2. In para 8, 'F' BLU asked that consideration be given to the formation of a CRU to hold surplus trained personnel who could not be absorbed into the Combat Groups.
3. No forward holding is necessary at the present time. If, when the battle moves forward, such a holding becomes necessary, it is considered that the Combat Transit Camp can be used for the purpose. This camp has a holding capacity of over 2,000 and is split between the/Ls of C.
L30
4. When trained rfts become available from the Training Centre, the anticipated weekly outflow from the Centre to the Combat Groups will be 1,000. You will regulate the intake of rfts to the Centre to correspond approximately with this anticipated outflow of 1,000. Should any surplus trained rfts become available it is considered preferable that they should be held at the Centre rather than in a CRU.
5. It is requested that this procedure be made clear to the Italian authorities concerned.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

R.H. FRIESE
Captain AGD
Ass't Adjutant General

180

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Employment of Specialists.

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

A/OL2
16. March 45

TO : Ministry of War.

Copy to: "FM ELU, RTC ICF,
OC British Cadre 802 BRD ORVINO
OC British Cadre 803 BRD AFRAGOLA
OC British Cadre 804 BRD TRANI

1. It is desired to make a complete review of the requirements and availability of specialists throughout PR-LTI services and Combat units and their reinforcement depots.

2. You are requested to make this review as soon as possible, covering the following points :-

- (a) A calculation should be made of the numbers of the different types of specialists held on the W.E. of all the units served by each reinforcement depot, e.g. numbers of different specialists throughout the Combat Force for RTC ICF, throughout 230 Division for 804 BRD, TRANI. By taking a proportion of this figure, say 5%, we can then arrive at the maximum numbers which should normally be held at each depot to meet wastage. Any surplus that is not required for new units would be available to meet a possible deficiency elsewhere.
- (b) The holdings of the different types of specialists at RTC ICF should be worked out as soon as possible by ELU, on the basis of the overall figures for each are given in one SD/45/1 of 9 March 45.
- (c) A comparison should be made between the above figures and the actual holdings in depots, and deficiencies in units as revealed in the weekly returns from Groups, and the first of the new weekly and bi-monthly returns from BRD's and Administrative Divisions. On the basis of this comparison your concrete proposals are requested for the transfer of specialists to the places where they are most urgently required.
- (d) It may be that in certain units specialists are held surplus to establishment or are being employed outside their proper trade. Your 14000/Job of 12 March, Para III 3, covers this point as far as Combat Groups are concerned. Please instruct

1. It is desired to make a complete review of the requirements and availability of specialists throughout ER-III services and Combat units and their reinforcement depots.

2. You are requested to make this review as soon as possible, covering the following points :-

(a) A calculation should be made of the numbers of the different types of specialists held on the W.I. of all the units served by each reinforcement depot, e.g. numbers of different specialists throughout the Combat Force for RTC ICF, throughout 230 Division for 804 BRD, TRAIL. By taking a proportion of this figure, say 5%, we can then arrive at the maximum numbers which should normally be held at each depot to meet wastage. Any surplus that is not required for new units would be available to meet a possible deficiency elsewhere.

(b) The holdings of the different types of specialists at RTC ICF should be worked out as soon as possible by RTC, on the basis of the overall figures for each arm given in one SD/45/1 of 9 March 45.

(c) A comparison should be made between the above figures and the actual holdings in depots, and deficiencies in units as revealed in the weekly returns from Groups, and the first of the new weekly and bi-monthly returns from BRD's and Administrative Divisions. On the basis of this comparison your concrete proposals are requested for the transfer of specialists to the places where they are most urgently required.

(d) It may be that in certain units specialists are held surplus to establishment or are being employed outside their proper trade. Your 14000/Mob of 12 March, Para III 3, covers this point as far as Combat Groups are concerned. Please instruct the Administrative Divisions to count out all their units for specialists in the same way.

(e) It will be necessary to see how far the overall availability of specialists is sufficient to meet present requirements, and what further measures can be taken to meet possible deficiencies.

3. Once this review has been made, it will still be necessary to study each set of returns closely so that the available manpower can always be used to the best advantage.

INTERNAL: S/G/29/38

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S. P. Doherty
Major General
M.M.I.A.

SECRET

SUBJECT: Advanced Reinforcements Unit.

LAND FORCES STAFF (L.F.S.) A.C.
(S.A.I.A.)4/012
15 March 45

TO : Ministry of War.

Copy to: "F" MU, RTO ICF.

1. It is under consideration that as the line moves forward it will be necessary to establish an Advanced Reinforcements Unit (AMU) between RTO ICF, CESAMG and the Combat Groups.

2. It is anticipated that the unit will be organized on the following lines:-

- (a) It will be established as close to the battle line as is convenient for its task of providing reinforcements to all groups.
- (b) It will hold reinforcements on the scale of 400 for each Group, the proportions between different arms of the service being the same as those at RTO ICF.
- (c) Reinforcements will be posted from CESAMG to the AMU, and from the AMU to Groups. A posting staff will therefore be required at the AMU.
- (d) Reinforcements will arrive at the AMU fully equipped, but as the AMU will receive men returning from hospitals in the forward area, it will be necessary to hold a certain stock.
- (e) Detachments of 50 Combat Group Transit Camp will be established at railheads between the AMU and the Groups. In addition the AMU may have a certain amount of troops carrying transport to carry reinforcements forward.
- (f) The AMU would be commanded by a Colonel.

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3. You are requested to prepare for the selection of suitable personnel.

1. It is under consideration that as the line moves forward it will be necessary to establish an Advanced Reinforcement Unit (ARU) between KTC ICF, CESAMU and the Combat Groups.

2. It is anticipated that the unit will be organized on the following lines:-

- (a) It will be established as close to the battle line as is convenient for its task of providing reinforcements to all groups.
- (b) It will hold reinforcements on the scale of 400 for each Group, the proportions between different areas of the Service being the same as those at KTC ICF.
- (c) Reinforcements will be posted from CESAMU to the ARU, and from the ARU to Groups. A posting Staff will therefore be required at the ARU.
- (d) Reinforcements will arrive at the ARU fully equipped, but as the ARU will receive men returning from hospitals in the forward area, it will be necessary to hold a certain stock.
- (e) Detachments of 50 Combat Group Transit Camp will be established at railheads between the ARU and the Groups. In addition the ARU may have a certain amount of troop carrying transport to carry reinforcements forward.
- (f) The ARU would be commanded by a Colonel.

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3. You are requested to prepare for the selection of suitable personnel for the staff of this unit, and consider other details of its organization.

INTERNAL
G(S)
S/C/29/27/2

Q

ok

W. P. D. J. C. S.

Major General
M. A. I. A.

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