

785020

ACC

10000/120/3406

SD/45

Co

D

785020

10000/120/3406

SD/45

Combat Rpts - General

122
189

Dec. 1944 - Feb. 1945

1995

! ATHQ FOR C-1 ER C-3 ORG MOV

INFO : HQ 15 ARMY GROUP
CC FIFTH ARMY
FIFTH ARMY FOR BR INCR
EIGHTH ARMY
REAR EIGHTH ARMY
DISTONE
DISTWO
DISTTHREE
PENSOUTH
PENBASE
PASC
MOVWET
MOVWET
MOVWENT
MOVROUTE

DELEGAZIONE TRASPORTI 615 REGGIO
IN INCR OUT
ITALIAN RPT DEPOT ORVETO
ITALIAN RPT DEPOT AFRAGOLA
SIGNALS BARLETTA FOR O'DONNELL
FIFTH ARMY FOR MMIA LO
FIFTH ARMY PER INCR FOR MMIA LO
DISTONE FOR MMIA LO
DISTREE FOR MMIA LO
PENSOUTH FOR MMIA LO
52 AREA FOR MMIA LO
54 AREA FOR MMIA LO
ALCOM SICILY FOR MMIA LO
BLU ICF RTO CESANO FOR MMIA LO
MMIA LO SARDINIA

55 2570

SECRET

FIRST (4) 225TH MOVE ITALIAN TROOPS AS FOLLOWS IN WEEK 18 MAR TO 18 MAR (5)

FIELD IN COLUMNS (.) A NUMBERS (.) B DESCRIPTION (.) C WHERE FROM (.)

WHERE TO (.) I WHO FOR (.)

A	B	C	D	E
1 (.)	COMBAT RFTS	CESANO	PESARO	FRIULI
2 (.)	COMBAT RFTS	CESANO	PESARO	CREMONA
3 (.)	COMBAT RFTS	CESANO	AREZZO	LEGHANO
4 (.)	COMBAT RFTS	CESANO	AREZZO	FOLGORE
5 (.)	COMBAT RFTS	CESANO	BENEVENTO	MANTOVA
6 (.)	SICILY REGALL	REGGIO	ATRAGOLA	BR-ITI DEFOT
7 (.)	SICILY REGALL	REGGIO	ASTRONI	US-ITI DEFOT
8 (.)	APULIAN Y S	LECCE	ORVIE TO	BR-ITI DEFOT
9 (.)	APULIAN Y S	LECCE	TRANI	BR-ITI DEFOT
10 (.)	APULIAN Y S	TARANTO	ORVIE TO	BR-ITI DEFOT
11 (.)	APULIAN Y S	TARANTO	TRANI	BR-ITI DEFOT
12 (.)	APULIAN Y S	BARI	TRANI	BR-ITI DEFOT

188

SD 2370

SECRET

FIRST (.) PLEASE MOVE ITALIAN TROOPS AS FOLLOWS IN WEEK 12 MAR TO 18 MAR (.)

READ IN COLUMNS (.) A NUMBERS (.) B DESCRIPTION (.) C WHERE FROM (.)

D WHERE TO (.) E WHO FOR (.)

	A	B	C	D	E
1 (.)	100	COMBAT RPTS	CESANO	PESARO	FRIULI
2 (.)	100	COMBAT RPTS	CESANO	PESARO	CREMONA
3 (.)	100	COMBAT RPTS	CESANO	AREZZO	LECCE
4 (.)	100	COMBAT RPTS	CESANO	AREZZO	FOLGORE
5 (.)	100	COMBAT RPTS	CESANO	BENEVENTO	MANTOVA
6 (.)	300	SICILY RECALL	REGGIO	AFRAGOLA	HR-ITI DEPOT
7 (.)	200	SICILY RECALL	REGGIO	ASTRONI	US-ITI DEPOT
8 (.)	250	APULIAN Y S	LECCE	ORVETO	HR-ITI DEPOT
9 (.)	500	APULIAN Y S	LECCE	TRANI	BR-ITI DEPOT
10 (.)	250	APULIAN Y S	TRANTO	ORVETO	HR-ITI DEPOT
11 (.)	500	APULIAN Y S	TARANTO	TRANI	HR-ITI DEPOT
12 (.)	500	APULIAN Y S	BARI	TRANI	HR-ITI DEPOT
13 (.)	500	APULIAN Y S	BARI	FROSINONE	ITI-ITI DEPOT
14 (.)	500	APULIAN Y S	FOGGIA	FROSINONE	ITI-ITI DEPOT
15 (.)	500	APULIAN Y S	TRANI	ORVETO	BR-ITI DEPOT

NOTE COORDINATION OF SERVIS 6 - IS WITH DE DONE BY DATA TO 54 AREA WITH LOCAL

MOVEMENTS (.)

- 2 -

16(.) 600 APULIAN Y S CAMPORASSO ASTRONI US-ITI DETCT
ROAD LIFT

17(.) 600 APULIAN Y S POTENZA ASTRONI US-ITI DETCT

18(.) RECAPITULATION PRIORITIES WITH AMENDMENTS FOLLOWS FOR
SARINIA 1920 - 24 CLASSES VIDE MAILA SD 2293 OF 15 FEB SER 53

FIRST AND SECOND THOUSANDS HAVE ARRIVED AT

DESTINATIONS ASTRONI AFRAGOLA THIRD THOUSAND DUE IN
WEEK 8 - 11 MAR DESTINATION REMAINS UNCHANGED ASTRONI (.)

19(.) 1000 FOURTH THOUSAND NAILES TO AFRAGOLA FOR ER-ITI N O T
TRAIN NOW ACCOMMODATING APULIAN Y S IN ACCORDANCE YOUR
FX 28432 OF 16 FEB APR. 3 (.)

20(.) 456 SARDINIA NAPLES ROME ITH-ITI
SUSSESSIMIA REFS

21(.) 523 SARDINIA NAPLES FIRENCE ITH-ITI
MID REFS

PLEASE ALSO ARRANGE NECESSARY ROAD LIFT AREZZO FIRENCE (.)

THIS IS FIFTH THOUSAND VIDE MAILA SD 2363 DATED 28 FEB (.)

22(.) 1000 SIXTH THOUSAND NAPLES ASTRONI US-ITI

23(.) 1000 SEVENTH THOUSAND NAPLES ASTRONI US-ITI

24(.) 1000 EIGHTH THOUSAND NAPLES ASTRONI US-ITI

25(.) 1000 NINTH THOUSAND NAPLES AFRAGOLA ER-ITI

TENTH THOUSAND ALLOCATION LATER

PLEASE ARRANGE IN ACCORDANCE YOUR SHIPPING PROGRAMME AND

SAY WHAT SERIAL YOU EXPECT TO HAVE REACHED BY 15 MAR (.) 187

26(.) 500 LABOUR CASORIA AREZZO ER INCOR 5 ARMY

27(.) 50 ARTIZAN TAG CASORIA AREZZO ER INCOR 5 ARMY
REFS

28(.) 50 PURSHTY IGTS CASORIA AREZZO ER INCOR 5 ARMY

29(.) 100 2-OK TIT REFS CASORIA AREZZO ER INCOR 5 ARMY

28

19(.,) 1000 FOURTH THOUSAND NAILES TO AFRAGOLA FOR BR-ITI N O T
 TR-ANI NOW ACCOMMODATING AMULIN Y S IN ACCORDANCE YOUR

TX 28432 OF 18 FEB PARA 3 (.,)

20(.,) 456 SARDINIA NAILES ROLE ITI-ITI
 SUSSISTENZA RPTS

22(.,) 522 SARDINIA NAILES FLORENCE ITI-ITI
 MED RPTS

PLEASE ALSO ARRANGE NECESSARY ROAD LIFT AREZZO FLORENCE (.,)

THIS IS FIFTH THOUSAND VIDE MAIL SD 2363 DATED 28 FEB (.,)

21(.,) 1000 SIXTH THOUSAND NAILES ASTRONI US-ITI

22(.,) 1000 SEVENTH THOUSAND NAILES ASIRONI US-ITI

23(.,) 1000 EIGHTH THOUSAND NAILES ASTRONI US-ITI

24(.,) 1000 NINTH THOUSAND NAILES AFRAGOLA EP-ITI

25(.,) 1000 TENTH THOUSAND ALLOCATION LATER

PLEASE ARRANGE IN ACCORDANCE YOUR SHELTING PROGRAMME AND

SAY WHAT SERIAL YOU EXPECT TO HAVE REACHED BY 18 MAR (.,) 187

26(.,) 500 LABOUR CASORIA AREZZO BR INCR 5 ARMY

27(.,) 50 ARTIZAN RPS CASORIA AREZZO BR INCR 5 ARMY
 RPTS

28(.,) 50 FUGESTIV RPTS CASORIA AREZZO BR INCR 5 ARMY

29(.,) 100 LACK TIT RPTS CASORIA AREZZO BR INCR 5 ARMY

30(.,) 500 GD IN RPTS CASORIA ANCONA 1 DIST ITI-ITI

31(.,) 87 RLY ENGR RPTS CASORIA ROME 3 RLY ENGR CCY RAAC

32(.,) 89 RLY ENGR RPTS CASORIA FIANO 2 RLY ENGR CCY 1 DIST

33(.,) 61 RLY ENGR RPTS CASORIA FOGGIA 31 RLY ENGR CCY 8 ARMY

1 - 3 -

Serial	403	GD EN RPTS PART ROAD LIFT	ASORIA	SUMA	3 ARMY ER INCR (59 AREA) FOR 502 503 519 GD ENS ITI-ITI
35(.)	300	LABOUR	CRVETIC	AREZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
36(.)	50	FORESTRY RPTS	CRVETIC	AREZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
37(.)	100	MULETEERS	CRVETIC	AREZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
38(.)	100	ELY ENGR RPTS	CRVETIC	LEGHORN	5 ARMY ER INCR 16 PLY ENGR COY
39(.)	100	ELY ENGR RPTS	CRVETIC	PONTEDERA	5 ARMY ER INCR 8 ELY ENGR COY
40(.)	90	ELY ENGR RPTS	CRVETIC	LEGHORN	5 ARMY ER INCR 18 PLY ENGR COY
41(.)	88	ELY ENGR RPTS	CRVETIC	LEGHORN	5 ARMY ER INCR 5 ELY ENGR COY
42(.)	81	ELY ENGR COY	CRVETIC	LEGHORN	5 ARMY ER INCR 7 PLY ENGR COY
43(.)	79	ELY ENGR RPTS	CRVETIC	CERIGNA	5 ARMY ER INCR 33 PLY ENGR COY
44(.)	100	VARIOUS	CRVETIC	ANCONA	1 DEST
45(.)	400	LABOUR	TRAN	AREZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
46(.)	50	ARTISAN WKS RPTS	TRAN	AREZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
47(.)	100	FORESTRY RPTS	TRAN	AREZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
48(.)	100	MULETEERS	TRAN	AREZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
49(.)	300	GD EN RPTS PART ROAD LIFT	TRAN	SUMA	5 ARMY ER INCR (59 AREA) 502 503 519 GD ENS ITI-ITI
50(.)	300	DRIVERS	TRAN	DESTINATION	381/282 ITI COYS AC
51(.)	503	MINE CLEARANCE COY (ITI-ITI)			
52	ALL-RANKS	10 TONS BAGGAGE			
	FROM 9	MARCH CAPTA VENTURA TO	USCARA		

Copies to:-

 Ministry of War
 Ex SC 40

PRECEDENCE

IMMEDIATE

40(.)	92	RLY INCR RPTS	CRVLTIC	FLORANCE	5 ARMY ER INCR 16 RLY INCR COY
41(.)	93	RLY INCR RPTS	CRVLTIC	LECHMAN	5 ARMY ER INCR 3 RLY INCR COY
42(.)	91	RLY INCR COY	CRVLTIC	FLAT	5 ARMY ER INCR 7 RLY INCR COY
43(.)	79	RLY INCR RPTS	CRVLTIC	CEPHANE	5 ARMY ER INCR 33 RLY INCR COY
44(.)	100	VARIOUS	CRVLTIC	AMONAL	1 DIST
45(.)	400	L430UR	TRAN	ARIZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
46(.)	50	ARMEDEN RPTS RPTS	TRAN	ARIZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
47(.)	100	FORESTRY RPTS	TRAN	ARIZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
48(.)	100	MILITARY	TRAN	ARIZZO	5 ARMY ER INCR
49(.)	500	500 IN RPTS PART ROAD LIFT	TRAN	SIEN	5 ARMY ER INCR (59 AREA) 542 513 519 6D ENS INT-INT
50(.)	500	EXCHG	TRAN	SIEN	542 513 519 6D ENS INT-INT 131/222 INT COYS 40
51(.)	500	MINING/CLIMBING COY (INT-INT)		DESTINATION	
52(.)	200	ALL RPTS	10 TONS BAGGAGE		
		FROM S MARLA OASIS VETERA	TO	USCAR	

186

Copies to:-

Ministry of War.
Rt SC AC
Civil Affairs Sec AC

1 Med
1 GTH
1 RLT
1 Spec Sec
1 R3
1 ST (2)
1

PRECEDENCE

IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATED

18/12/43

G II (P)
Records Clerk

SD/61
SD/43

38

COPY

261700

FROM : FREEDOM SIGNED SAC
TO : MMIA
INFO : 8 ARMY: HQ 15 ARMY GROUP

FX 34032SECRET

FURTHER TO MY FX 28980 OF 17 (*) 8 ARMY AGREE PROVIDED THAT PART
TRAINED REINFORCEMENTS DO N O T REPEAT N O T EXCEED 200 PER COMBAT
GROUP PER WEEK

Precedence ROUTINE

SD DIST:

SD/45 Action copy
Spec Sec

B. WP
28/2

tvs.

185

785020

QVR-1-
 ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
 INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No

N19/27

Classification

SECRET

Precedence

ROUTINE

From

FREEDOM

signed SAC

To

MMIA

INFO

8 ARMY

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP

Date Time Rec'd

261700

Date Time Sent

Reference NR

FX34032

Cite

FHGET

SECRET (C) further to my FX28980 of 17 (C)

8 Army agree provided that part trained

reinforcements do NOT repeat NOT exceed 200

per COMBAT GROUP per week.

A/c SD/45
 Info S/sec
 4 copies

M.M.I.A.	17/27/2
FILE REF	SD/45
Date Recd	27/2/45

184

271050

CIPHER

COPY

37

From : MAIN 8 ARMY
To : MMIA ROME
Info : AFHQ cite FHGAH
Ref : A 1860

26 1120 A

SECRET

Ref AFHQ FX 176009 of 30 Jan (.) Local enlistment
CREMONA gruppo wekk ending 24 Feb 184

Jw
SDDist

Action copy to: SD/45
S/Sec

bp 1/3
WP

183

ARMY FORM C 2186 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Cat

Srl. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

*higher secret*FROM
(A)

Originator

Date-Time of Origin

OFFICE DATE STAMP

*Main 8 Army**26/120A*

For Action

317

TO

TO MMIA ROME

(W) For Information (INFO)

AFHQ c/o FHGAH

-Message Instructions-

-GR-

Originator's No.

*A1860 @ SECRET @ Ref AFHQ EX176009 of 30 Jan 0 Local**enlistment CREMONA gruffa week ending 24 Jan 184*THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT

WIRELESS

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO
FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS THIS MES-
SAGE MUST BE SENT IN CODESORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Time System Op.

THI or TOR

Time cleared

SIGNED

SIGNED

MMIA	<i>A 27/2</i>
FILE REF	<i>50/45</i>
Date Recd	<i>27/2/45</i>

182

36

COPY

FROM : 51 BLU

241515A

TO : MMIA : MAIN 5 CORPS ; MAIN 8 ARMY

A 15/1RESTRICTED.

RETURN OF VOLUNTEERS WEEK ENDING 24 FEB (*) NO 184 (*) MAIN ARMY
SIGNAL A1 OF 02 REFERS.

Precedence -

SD DIST:

SD/45

Spec Sec.

tvs.

14/26/12

181

785020

IRKE V LANE NR 34

QVR 1

FROM 51 BLU 241515A

TO MMIA MAIN 5 CORPS MAIN 8 ARMY

QGX CR --- PT

A 15/1 . RESTRICTED . RETURN OF VOLUNTEERS WEEK ENDING 24 FEB . NO
 184 . MAIN ARMY SIGNAL A 10F 02 REFERS

BT 241515A

TTTTTSENT NR 34 24/2315A PHIL BB K

RECD NR 34 24/2315 A AAA AR K

MMIA	7725
FILE REF	SD/45
Date Recd	25/2/

180

2/3/98

N 136/24

26/25

Disin
 SD/45 } +
 S/sec } 10/10
 180
 Co

Notes on military 5 Combat Gps. 26 Dec. 36

SD/45.

To be maintained.

5 Gps at 9000 = 45,000

Adm Tail 2,500

15% profits 7,050

54,550

Strength

FRUIT 8815

CREW 9,655

ADWANO 9450

FRUIT 9845

MANANA 9600

Adm Tail.

Reift Dept.

(Personnel)
(5 million)

Picano

on loan CCLP.

Strength

44,965

2500

1500

1200

3000

1595

54,550

WE. 5%
910 + 455 = 1365

179

(Signature)

Adm. Trail.	2,500
Drift Dept.	1,500
Picasso	1,200
Loan Coll.	3,000
Shut up	1,595
	<u>54,550</u>

(Ren 2000
- 6 in Jan)

54,550

179

File

WE. 52
910 + 458 = 1368

MESSAGE CENTRE NO. SVC/168

COPY

34

From : MAIN 8 ARMY

NT - ND

To : MMIA

Info : AFHQ

No Ref No.

SECRET

Ref our E-943 MSG Centre No. 82/19 dated 191110 (.)

Figure at end of message should read quote 137 rpt 137

IMPORTANT

SD Dist

SD/45. S/SEC.

Noted 6/24/2

24/178
2

(P) 7/2640 E958

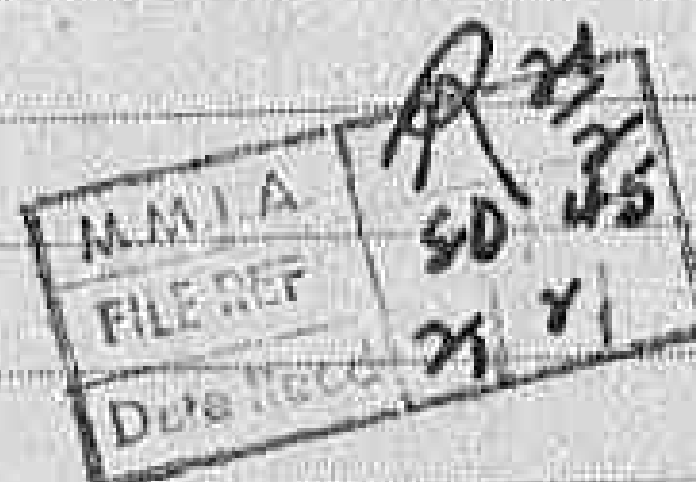
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No : Sve 1608
 Classification : SECRET
 Precedence : PRIORITY
 From : MAIN 8 ARMY
 To : MMIA

Date | Time Rec'd : _____
 Date | Time Sent : _____
 Reference NR : _____
 Cite : _____

SECRET @ ref out E 943 MSG Centre
 no. 82/19 dated 19410 @ figure at
 end of message should read 9405
137 important 137

Done
 9/14/5 } +
 9/15/5 } opo



HEADQUARTERS
 21 FEB 1945

CIPHER

177

TRANSLATION

33

From : SURE, (Personnel and Recruiting Office) Ref No: 12800/Mob
 To : Various Addresses as per original letter. Date: Feb 14 1945
 Info : MMIA
 Subject : Selection of personnel to be used in the Italian Combat Forces.

Dir.
SD/45
5/Sec.

1. This Ministry has repeatedly affirmed the necessity that the personnel intended for the Italian combat forces (combat groups, auxiliary units, training camp) be carefully selected from a moral and professional as well as physical standpoint.

This is all the more necessary, and both because these proposals can be put into effect in that the Italian combat forces represent a small part of our Army and because they are now complete both as to cadres and manpower.

Accordingly, while in the past it was not always possible to pay strict attention to quality, this, as a rule, is now quite feasible.

2. In view of the foregoing, the following orders are hereby reconfi-

- (a) Any personnel to be sent to reinforcement training camps (or - in exceptional cases determined in each instance by this Ministry - to combat groups directly) must:
 - possess the necessary physical qualifications of unconditional fitness, and must belong to classes destined to be used in combat units (1915 or younger, plus, possibly, volunteers of earlier classes)
 - possess the necessary moral and disciplinary - and in the case of officers, professional standards. - have a clear Court record and not be under indictment for any crimes. It should be pointed out in this connection that sometimes the "volunteer for combat duty" is an individual who by means of his application is trying to straighten out a situation compromised by precedents of various kinds (desertion, crimes etc). Therefore all applications of volunteers must be carefully scrutinised before they are accepted and must bear a definite statement by the applicants unit commander concerning the moral fitness of said applicant.
- (b) personnel in any way intended for Italian combat forces - including volunteers for combat duty - must be drafted only upon a definite order or authorisation from this S.M. The names of all men drafted must be reported both to this S.M. and to the reinforcement training camps (or unit to which such men are assigned) and a notification of their arrival at destination must be requested.
- (c) avoid under any and all circumstances the return or dispatch of undesirable personnel to the training camps.
- (d) exercise the greatest care in ascertaining the actual degree of specialisation and ability of all personnel describing itself or classified as specialised before assigning them.

(v 21/2)

176

2. In view of the forgoing, the following orders are hereby reconfi-
rmed:

- (a) Any personnel to be sent to reinforcement training camps (or - in exceptional cases determined in each instance by this Ministry - to combat groups directly) must:
- possess the necessary physical qualifications of unconditional fitness, and must belong to classes destined to be used in combat units (1915 or younger, plus, possibly, volunteers of earlier classes)
 - possess the necessary moral and disciplinary - and in the case of officers, professional standards. - have a clear Court record and not be under indictment for any crimes. It should be pointed out in this connection that sometimes the "volunteer for combat duty" is an individual who by means of his application is trying to straighten out a situation compromised by precedents of various kinds (desertion, crimes etc). Therefore all applications of volunteers must be carefully scrutinised before they are accepted and must bear a definite statement by the applicants unit commander concerning the moral fitness of said applicant.

(v) 211h

- (b) personnel in any way intended for Italian combat forces - including volunteers for combat duty - must be drafted only upon a definite order or authorisation from this S.M. The names of all men drafted must be reported both to this S.M. and to the reinforcement training camps (or unit to which such men are assigned) and a notification of their arrival at destination must be requested.

- (c) avoid under any and all circumstances the return or dispatch of undesirable personnel to the training camps.

176

- (d) exercise the greatest care in ascertaining the actual degree of specialisation and ability of all personnel describing itself or classified as specialised, before assigning it as such.

3. This S.M. relies upon the effective collaboration of commanders of all ranks - especially those at lower levels of command who are in more direct contact with the personnel - in order to ensure strict adherence to these instructions and to all those issued previously in this matter.

----- 2 ----- Cont'd

176
SD 45
202

----- 2 ----- Cont'd Para 3

Commanders of the units to which the unfit or undesirable personnel belongs shall be held directly responsible for any infractions.

4. The above addresses are requested to issue proper instructions to all organisations under it's direct control, and to repeat all infractions.

By order of the Chief of S.M.

Signed : ALESSANDRO Santi.

jw

Translation

From: SMRE, Personnel and Recruiting Office
 To: Various addressees as per original letter
 MMIA, for info.

Ref. No. 12800/1206
 Date: Febr. 14, 1945

Subject: Selection of personnel to be used in the Italian combat forces.

- 1) This Ministry has repeatedly affirmed the necessity that the personnel intended for the Italian combat forces (combat groups, auxiliary units, training camps) be carefully selected from a moral and professional as well as physical standpoint.

put into effect in This is all the more necessary, and ~~because these proposals can be~~ ~~that the~~ ~~carried out because~~ Italian combat forces represent a small part of our Army and because they are now complete both as to cadres and manpower. Accordingly, while in the past it was not always possible to pay strict attention to quality, this, as a rule, is now quite feasible.

- 2) In view of the foregoing, the following orders are hereby reconfirmed:

- a) any personnel to be sent to reinforcement training camps (or - in exceptional cases determined in each instance by this Ministry - to combat groups directly) must:

- possess the necessary physical qualifications of unconditional fitness, and must belong to classes destined to be used in combat units (1915 or younger, plus, possibly, volunteers of earlier classes)

- possess the necessary moral and disciplinary standards in the case of officers, professional - standards.

Dislin
 APC SD/45 } 3
 Info 8/Sec } copies

MMIA	20/2
FILE REF	SD/45
Dispatched	20/2

(2)

- have a clear Court record and ~~report~~ not be ^{under} ~~currently~~ indicted for any crimes. It should be pointed out in this connection that sometimes the "volunteer for combat duty" is an individual who by means of his application is trying to straighten out a situation compromised by precedents of various kinds (desertion, crimes, etc.) Therefore all applications of volunteers must be carefully scrutinized before they are accepted and must bear a definite statement by the applicant's unit commander concerning the moral fitness of said applicant.

b)

personnel in any way intended for Italian combat forces - including volunteers for combat duty - must be drafted only upon a definite order or authorization from this S.M. The names of all men drafted must be reported both to this S.M. and to the reinforcement training camp (or unit to which such men are assigned) and a notification of their arrival at destination must be requested.

c)

avoid under any and all circumstances the return ~~of~~ a dispatch ~~concerning~~ of undesirable personnel to the training camp.

d)

exercise the greatest care in ascertaining the actual degree of specialization and ability of all personnel describing itself or classified as specialized, before assigning it as such.

3)

This S.M. relies upon the effective collaboration of commanders of all ranks - especially those at lower levels of command who are in more direct contact with the personnel - in order to ensure strict adherence to these instructions and to all those issued previously ¹⁷³ in this matter.

(3)

Commanders of the units to which the unfit or undesirable personnel belongs shall be held directly responsible for any infractions.

- 4) The above addressees are requested to issue proper instructions to all organizations under its direct control, and to report all infractions.

By order of the Chief of S.M.

Signed: Alexander Sarti

Wely
hth

IN

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
UFFICIO ORDINAMENTO E MOBILITAZIONE
- Sezione Mobilitazione -

N° 12800/Mob. di prot.

P.M.3800, li 14 febb. '45

OGGETTO : Scelta del personale destinato ad essere impiegato nelle forze italiane di combattimento.

Delucidare Personale da impiegare nelle forze italiane di combattimento

AI COMANDI MILITARI DI REGIONE
AI COMANDI TERRITORIALI
ALLA DELEGAZIONE "T" DELLO S.M.R.E.
AL COMANDO ITALIANO 212
AI COMANDI GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTO
AI COMANDI 209[^], 227[^], 228[^], 230[^], 231[^] DIV.
AL COLANDO DIVISIONE "PICENO" (C.A.C.F.I.C.)
AL "CERSA"
AL "CERSETTI"

LORO SEDI
LORO SEDI
P.M. 179
P.M. 181
LORO SEDI
LORO SEDI
P.M. 92
P.M. 185
P.M. 3800

e, per conoscenza:

➔ ALLA LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION - A.C. (M.M.I.A.) ROMA
AL MINISTERO GUERRA - Gabinetto P.M. 3800
AL MINISTERO GUERRA - Direz.Gen.Pers.Ufficiali P.M. 3800
AL MINISTERO GUERRA - Direz.Gen.Leva Sott.e Tr. P.M. 3800
ALL'UFFICIO AUTONOMO REDUCI PRIGIONIA P.M. 3800
ALLO S.M.R.E. - Ufficio Segr. e Pers. SEDI

~~~~~

- 1) - E' già stata più volte ribadita da questo S.M. la necessità che il personale destinato alle forze italiane di combattimento (Gruppi di Combattimento, unità ausiliarie, centro addestramento) sia accuratamente scelto sia dal punto di vista morale e professionale, sia dal punto di vista fisico. Ciò é tanto più necessario, e per questi stessi motivi realizzabile, in quanto le forze italiane di combattimento rappresentano una piccola parte del nostro Esercito e in quanto le stesse sono ormai completate come intelaiaitura e come massa di personale. Pertanto mentre nel passato non é stato sempre possibile curare nel dettaglio la qualità, ciò é oggi di norma pienamente attuabile.
- 2) - In relazione a quanto sopra, si ribadiscono le seguenti disposizioni:

P.L. 181  
LORO SEDI  
LORO SEDI  
P.M. 92  
P.L. 185  
P.L. 3800

AL COMANDO ITALIANO 212  
AI COMANDI GRUPPI DI COMBATTIMENTO  
AI COMANDI 209^, 227^, 228^, 230^, 231^ DIV.  
AL COMANDO DIVISIONE "PICENO" (C.A.C.F.I.C.)  
AL "CERSA"  
AL "CERSETI"

3, per conoscenza:

➔ ALLA LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION - A.C. (M.M.I.A.) ROMA  
AL MINISTERO GUERRA - Gabinetto P.L. 3800  
AL MINISTERO GUERRA - Direz.Gen.Pers.Ufficiali P.L. 3800  
AL MINISTERO GUERRA - Direz.Gen.Leva Sott.e Tr. P.L. 3800  
ALL'UFFICIO AUTONOMO REDUCI PRIGIONIA P.L. 3800  
ALLO S.M.R.E. - Ufficio Segr. e Pers. SEDE

~~~~~

1) - E' già stata più volte ribadita da questo S.M. la necessità che il personale destinato alle forze italiane di combattimento (Gruppi di combattimento, unità ausiliarie, centro addestramento) sia accuratamente scelto sia dal punto di vista morale e professionale, sia dal punto di vista fisico. Ciò è tanto più necessario, e per questi stessi motivi realizzabile, in quanto le forze italiane di combattimento rappresentano una piccola parte del nostro Esercito e in quanto le stesse sono ormai completate come intellaiatura e come massa di personale. Pertanto mentre nel passato non è stato sempre possibile curare nel dettaglio la qualità, ciò è oggi di norma pienamente attuabile.

2) - In relazione a quanto sopra, si ribadiscono le seguenti disposizioni:

a) - il personale comunque destinato ad affluire al centro addestramento complementi (o, in casi eccezionali e stabiliti volta per volta da questo S.M., direttamente ai Gruppi di Combattimento) dove:

- presentare i necessari requisiti fisici di idoneità incondizionata e di appartenenza a classi destinate ad essere impiegate nei reparti combattenti (1915 e più giovani, salvo gli eventuali volontari di classi più anziane);

Indirizzo
Alc 50/45
Info 5/Sec.

M.M.I.A.	50/45	20/2
FILE REF		
Date Recd		

- 2 -

- possedere i necessari requisiti morali e disciplinari 3;
- per gli ufficiali, professionali;
- non avere a carico precedenti penali o in pendenza denunce per reati. A questo proposito è da rilevare che quasi che volta il "volontario per reparti operanti" è elementare che cerca di sanare, con la sua domanda, una situazione compromessa per precedenti di vario genere (diserzione, reati, ecc.). Perciò tutte le domande di volontari devono essere accuratamente istruite prima di dar loro corso, e portare una specifica dichiarazione, da parte del comandante del reparto di appartenenza, circa la idoneità morale del richiedente;
- b)- avviare il personale comunque destinato alle forze italiane al combattimento - ivi compresi i volontari per reparti operanti - solo in seguito a preciso ordine od autorizzazione di questo S.M.. Segnalare nominativamente tutti gli avviamenti al centro addestramento complementi (o reparti di assegnazione), oltre che a questo S.M., o chiedere conferma dell'arrivo a destinazione;
- c)- evitare nel modo più assoluto la restituzione o l'invio al centro addestramento di personale indesiderabile;
- d)- porre la massima cura nell'accertare la reale specializzazione, e la capacità, del personale che si qualifica ed è qualificato come specializzato, prima di assegnarlo come tale.

- 3) - Questo S.M. conta sull'effettiva collaborazione dei comandanti di ogni grado - e in particolare di quelli dei comandi minori che hanno più diretto contatto col personale - per la stretta osservanza delle presenti disposizioni e dello altro già emanato in proposito. Di eventuali infrazioni saranno ritenuti direttamente responsabili i comandanti dei reparti di provenienza del personale non idoneo o indesiderabile.
- 4) - Gli enti in indirizzo sono pregati di voler dare in proposito le necessarie disposizioni a tutti gli enti direttamente dipendenti, e di segnalare le eventuali infrazioni.

devono essere accuratamente istruite prima di dar loro corso, e portare una specifica dichiarazione, da parte del comandante del reparto di appartenenza, circa la idoneità morale del richiedente;

- b)-- avviare il personale comunque destinato alle forze italiane di combattimento - ivi compresi i volontari per reparti operanti - solo in seguito a preciso ordine od autorizzazione di questo S.M.. Segnalare nominativamente tutti gli avviamenti al centro addestramento complementi (o reparto di assegnazione), oltre che a questo S.M., e chiedere conferma dell'arrivo a destinazione;
- c)-- evitare nel modo più assoluto la restituzione o l'invio al centro addestramento di personale indesiderabile;
- d)-- porre la massima cura nell'accettare la reale specializzazione, e la capacità, del personale che si qualifica od è qualificato come specializzato, prima di assegnarlo come tale.

3) - Questo S.M. conta sull'effettiva collaborazione dei comandanti di ogni grado - e in particolare di quelli dei comandi minori che hanno più diretto contatto col personale - per la stretta osservanza delle presenti disposizioni e dello altro già emanato in proposito. Di eventuali infrazioni saranno ritenuti direttamente responsabili i comandanti dei reparti di provenienza del personale non idoneo o indesiderabile.

4) - Gli enti in indirizzo sono pregati di voler dare in proposito le necessarie disposizioni a tutti gli enti direttamente dipendenti, e di segnalare le eventuali infrazioni.

170

Presi gli ordini dal Capo di S.M.--



P. C. C.
IL COLONNELLO CAPO UFFICIO
(Guido Chiavarino)

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
F.to Alessandro Santi

Chiavarino

32

FROM MAIN 8 ARMY CITE FHGAB 191110
TO MINIA ROME
INFO AFHQ

A 1744

SECRET

REFERENCE AFHQ FX 17600 OF 30 JAN (.) LOCAL ENLISTMENT
CREMONA GRUPPO WEEK ENDING 17 FEB (.) *137

stands

* Correct number to follow. = 137.

cgl

ROUTINE

Action copy Spec Sec
SD/45

R/20/2

20 2 169
SD 45
R 20 2

785020

COPY

Q12

31

FROM: 51 HLU

171210A

TO : MMIA
MAIN 5 CORPS
MAIN 8 ARMYA151/1RESTRICTEDNT
RETURN OF VOLUNTEERS WEEK ENDING 17 FEB (.) NO 137 (.)
MAIN ARMY SIGNAL A 1450 OF 02 REFERS

WB

SD DIST.: S/Sec (Action Copy)
SD/46 ←

C18h

COPY

From : AFHQ signed SAC cite FHCCT 17 1930 A
To : 8 ARMY
Info : 15 ARMY GROUP. 5 ARMYX FOR BR INCR. MMIA
Ref : FX 28980

SECRET

Reinforcements Italian Combat Groups is subject (*) ONE (*) Italian combat reinforcement training depot at CESANO is now starting to train reinforcements (*) Estimate however that approx 8 weeks ~~reinforcements~~ will elapse before properly trained reinforcements will be available from depot (*)

TWO (*) During interim period 8 weeks reinforcements will be sent forward to GRUPPI after careful screening by training staff (*) Propose send those with previous military training first without further training in depot (*) Hereafter standard of training should improve progressively each week (*)

THREE (*) Understand that above arrangements are acceptable to you (*)

Please confirm

PRIORITYSD Dist

Action copy SD/45

S/G/29/43 (Spec Sec file)

785020

QVR 4
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

35/18

E930

D2312

MSG Center No : N9418
Classification : SECRET
Precedence : PRIORITY

Date-Time Rec'd : 171930

Date-Time Sent :

Reference NR : FX28980

Cite : FHACT

From : AFHQ

To : action: 8 ARMY

info 15 ARMY GROUP 5 ARMY for BRG INCR
MMIA

SECRET @ Signed SACMED @ Reinforcement ITALIAN combat groups is subject @

- 1 @ ITALIAN combat reinforcement training depot at CESANO is now starting to train reinforcements @ estimate however that approx 8 weeks will elapse before properly trained reinforcements will be available from depot @
- 2 @ During interim period 8 weeks reinforcements will be sent forward to GRUPPI after careful screening by training staff @ Inpose send those with previous military training first @ without further training in depot @ thereafter standard of training should improve progressively each week @
- 3 @ Understand that above arrangements are acceptable to you @ Please confirm @

(S) J. J. J.

Action copy

5/1/45
5/10/27/43

4
at

167

CIPHER

180940

MESSAGE FORM

FROM: NMIA
TO: AFHQ FOR G-3 Org
INFO: DMT
BLU. ICF. GESANO for MACKAY.
REF: SL 2308

17 1915 A

CLASSIFICATION

RESTRICTED

HAVE STUDIED IMPLICATIONS OF YOUR FX 28432 OF 16 FEB
AND HAVE TALKED WITH MACKAY (.) I AGREE THAT UNDER NO
CIRCUMSTANCES MUST TRG FACILITIES FOR 7800 BE SHARED
AMONG A GREATER NO OF PERSONNEL (.) WILL THEREFORE NEED
ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATION FOR APPROX 3000 PERSONNEL AND
WILL APPLY TO Q(AM) FOR TENTAGE (.) STRONGLY RECOMMEND
THAT A QUITE SEPARATE CAMP BE FORMED TEMP NORTH OF
BRACCTANO AND TWENTY MILES AWAY FROM TRG CENTRE
GESANO (.) MACKAY WILL SEE THAT TRG IS THEREBY NOT
INTERFERED WITH (.) CO-ORD WITH DMT

INFO COPY

PRECEDENCE

AUTHENTICATED

INTERNAL: SPEC SEC (S/S/29/39)
A/Q - MAJ GREGSON PLEASE SPEAK
Q(OS)

SD/45/1

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

2515

CALL

CIRCUIT No.
NR

PRIORITY

TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

SPACES WITHIN **IMPORTANT** LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN

FROM (A)

AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE FHGCT

162100A

TO (FOR ACTION)

MIA

MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS

GR

TO (FOR INFORMATION)

15 ARMY GROUP EIGHT ARMY

(REF. No.)

FX 28432

(SECURITY
CLASSIFICATION) SECRET

COMBAT REINFORCEMENT DEPOT CESANO IS SUBJECT. PARA ONE. UNTIL TRAINING AND ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES AT CESANO IMPROVE AND TO ENABLE TRAINING OF EXISTING REINFORCEMENTS TO CONTINUE UNHINDERED REINFORCEMENT HOLDING AT DEPOT WILL NOT EXCEED FIGURE OF 7800 FOR WHICH EXISTING ESTABLISHMENT AND ARRANGEMENTS WERE DESIGNED.

PARA TWO. WEEKLY MOVEMENT OUT OF DEPOT WILL BE MEANS BY WHICH PRESENT NUMBERS WILL BE REDUCED TO FIGURE OF 7800. THEREAFTER ~~EXCEED~~ INTAKE OF REINFORCEMENT PERSONNEL WILL NOT EXCEED OUTPUT. PARA THREE. PERSONNEL ALREADY ARRANGED TO MOVE TO CESANO IN FUTURE WILL BE DIVERTED TO OTHER DEPOTS EXCEPT THOSE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN CEILING AT 7800. LEVEL. PARA FOUR. AS ACCOMMODATION AND TRAINING FACILITIES INCREASE THE CEILING FIGURE OF THE DEPOT WILL BE PROGRESSIVELY RAISED UNTIL FINAL AUTHORISED CEILING OF 11250 REPRESENTING A 25PER CENT REINFORCEMENT HOLDING IS REACHED. PARA FIVE. THE NUMBER FOUR HOLDING REGT WHICH YOU REQUESTED AUTHORITY TO FORM IN YOUR SS627 OF 14 FEB WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED UNTIL CESANO DEPOT HAS TRAINED SUFFICIENT PERSONNEL TO WARRANT ITS FORMATION AS A HOLDING UNIT.

INFO COPY

DECLASSIFIED 170650A
LOCAL DISTRIBUTION

REL

PRECEDENCE
ORIGINATING
SECTION

A. G. AUTHENTICATION:

ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION:

THI OR TOR

Opr.

165

TIME CLEARED

SD Dione

SD/45/1

SD/45

A/Q

Spec Sec

785020

26

S I G N A L

FROM: MMIA
 TO : MINISTRY OF WAR
 INFO: OC 2 SUB-DEPOT 557 BOD
 RAAC
 BLU RTC ICF
 3 DISTRICT FOR MMIA LO
 EMSOUTH FOR MMIA LO
 REF : SD 2288

15 17 1 A

MS

RESTRICTED

DESPATCH 15 LORRIES OF NO 1 GT COMPANY 17 FEB TO NAPLES STAGING ARRAGOLA
 NIGHT 17/18 FEB (.) LORRIES WILL REPORT AT 0300 HRS 18 FEB TO NO 2
 SUB-DEPOT 557 BOD TO LOAD 14,750 BLANKETS FOR RTC ICF (.) VEHICLES
 WILL RETURN TO CESANO EARLIEST (.) VEHICLES WILL MOVE IN TWO SEPARATE
 PARTIES (.) FOR RAAC (.) YOUR GS/791/1000/994/1 OF 12 FEB REIMRS

S/Sec

PRECEDENCE : IMPORTANT TO ALL

AUTHENTICATED :

[Signature]

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

C (OS)
 Mov (2)
 SD/61
 SD/45
 Spec Sec

164

Subject :- Personnel Moves ex CESANO.

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

Tel :- ROME 478206.

Ref :- Mov/P/4.

15 Feb 45.

To :- Special Section.

G Internal.

Ufficio Trasporti.

O.C. B.L.U. R.T.C. I.C.F.

MMIA LO, c/o R.T.C. I.C.F.

200 Italian FRIULI Gp Rfts - CESANO to PESARO.
200 Italian CREMONA Gp Rfts - CESANO to PESARO.

at 1000 hrs
The above will entrain in 15 box wagons at CESANO Station
on 17 Feb 45 for onward routing to PESARO.

Ufficio Trasporti will communicate these details to
Italian Movement Control at CESANO.

W.A.A. Evans
Capt. RA.
(W.A.A. Evans).
Movements Liaison Officer.

Copy to :- File 844/17.
852/17.

*P10
1/2*

COPY

FROM : AFHQ
TO : ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND
INFO : MMIA DISTONE DISTHREE MAIN EIGHTH ARMY REAR EIGHTH ARMY
15 ARMY GROUP FIFTH ARMY FOR G-4 BRIT INCR

FX 22517

CONFIDENTIAL.

ONE (*) ALL REINFORCEMENTS FOR ITALIAN COMBAT GROUPS WILL MOVE TO
ARMY AREA COMPLETE WITH APPROVED SCALE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT INCLUDING
FOUR BLANKETS GREATCOAT AND RIFLE (*) SIGNED SACRED CITE PHOAN (*)
TWO (*) EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ENSURE REINFORCEMENTS MOVING TO ARMY
AREA HAVE MINIMUM OPPORTUNITY TO DISPOSE OF ANY ITEMS CLOTHING OR EQUIPMENT
(*) THREE (*) THIS INSTRUCTION WILL OPERATE UNTIL ITALIAN REINFORCEMENT
ESTABLISHMENT SIMILAR TO BRITISH ONE ESTABLISHED IN ARMY AREA

Precedence -

SD DIST:

Action copy: S/sec.
SD/45
AQ (2)

ts.

163

C O P Y

22

FROM: MAIN 8 ARMY

091845A

TO: MMIA ~~EX~~
AFHQ

INFO: AFHQ CITE FHGAB

29/27

A 1566SECRET

REF FREEDOM FX 17600 OF 30TH (.) LOCAL ENLISTMENT FRIULI

GRUPPO WEEK ENDING 3RD FEB (.) NIL

WS

SD DIST.

SD/45

Spec Sec

R10
2

C 11/162

CIPHER SECRET

MESSAGE FORM

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

785020

Regime No. 36/10

231

Office Date Stamp

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM
(A)

Originator:

MAIN 8th ARMY

For Action:

Date-Time of Origin

091845A

TO

MMIA AFHQ

(W) For Information (INFO)

AFHQ cila FMGAB

Message Instructions

GR

Originator's No.

A1566 SECRET

Ref FREEDOM FX 17600
of 30th Local enticement
FRUOLI CRUPPO understanding 3rd 10 10 10
nil

SD Berlin

SD/US 7 B

Spec Sec Capro

Originator's No.

A1566 SECRET

Ref FREEDOM FX17600

27 30th @ Local exultant

FRULL CRUPPO ascending 3rd Feb

nil

sp. Pring

sp. 115 7 B

Spec. Sec. Capra

161

This message may be sent
AS WRITTEN by any means

except

..... WIRELESS

Signed

If liable to be intercepted or to fall into
enemy hands this message must be sent IN
CIPHER.

Signed

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

Time

THI or TOR

095036

Time Cleared

System

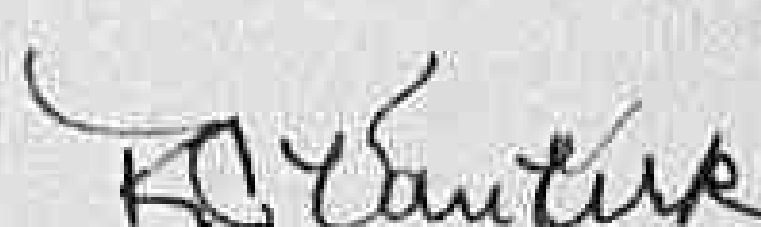
Op

INTROFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

Subject: Enlistments-Italian Army

RCV/jad

D.	BRCH	TC	DATE	
1	Sr MMIA LO	LFSCAC (MMIA)	6 Feb 1945	9/2 Capt. Cicogna states "Movements have now been arranged for: 500 - 8th February from S. Giovanni Val d'Arno 500 - 13th " " Empoli 500 - 17th " " " "The movements of the 13th and 17th have not yet been confirmed from Ministry of War. 1000 have already gone from Florence to Cesano". "Delegation "T" is only authorized to enlist 3500 men and this total is already covered with the Florence Province". "The total should be increased to 3900 with MMIA authority". Reference attached communication. Query: Is Delegation "T" authorized to enlist the 400 men at Pistoia? If so, will send a detachment to enlist them and transportation will be arranged. These are Br-Itis.  R.C. VAN KIRK, Major, Infantry, Sr. (MMIA) L.O., 5th Army  Discuss with Bannan & Spec See ^{2nd} 100 H. M.

COPY

COPY

W.E. Mc BRATNEY
Major, P.C. PISTOIA

Capt CIGOGNA
Liaison Officer
G-4 Section
5th Army Rear C.F.

Dear Capt.

Referring to a phone conversation with Capt Brown of Headquarters A.M.C. 5th Army on Friday I now await your advice that you will be able to provide transportation for 400 men who are to join the Italian Army on Feb 8th.

Please feel at liberty to telephone us at Pistoia 24 and speak to me or my Executive Officer Lt Willmore.

/s/ W.E. McBratney
/t/ W.E. McBRATNEY
Major P.C. PISTOIA

785020

20

SD/45

MESSAGE FORM.

Date Time of Origin.

09 1500 A

FROM : MMIA

TO : FIFTH ARMY FOR MMIA LO
REAR EIGHTH ARMY FOR MMIA LO
PENSOUTH FOR MMIA LO
DISTONE FOR MMIA LO
DISTHREE FOR MMIA LO

REF NO : SD HXX 2269

Security
Classification CONFIDENTIALPROCEDURE OUTLINED IN FY SD/45 OF 04 APPLIES EQUALLY TO MEN
OF 1911, 12, and 13 CLASSES (*) FOR MMIA LO 1 DIST YOUR
LO/915 OF 07 REFERS

Precedence

Authenticated

Int:

AQ

SD/45

ts.

138

R 10/12

DISTHREE FOR WIA LO

REF NO : SD XXX 2269

Security
Classification CONFIDENTIAL

PROCEDURE OUTLINED IN NY SD/45 CT 04 APPLIES EQUALLY TO MEN
OF 1911, 12, and 13 CLASSES (*) FOR WIA LO 1 DIST YOUR
LO/915 OF 07 REFERS

Precedence Routine
Authenticated W. H. F. [Signature]

Int: AQ
SD/45

ts.

328

R^{10/12}

20A
SECRET

Land Forces Sub Com, A.C.

(M.E.I.A.)

File No: SD/41

8 Feb 45.

TO : H.E. Count CASATI.
MINISTER FOR WAR.

1. This is to draw your attention to the fact that personnel enlisting into the Italian Army do so on the same terms as enlistment into any other army, that is to say, personnel are liable to be sent to any type of formation and be used according to the exigencies of the service.

2. I bring the point up at this stage because there is a growing popularity for joining the Combat Gps. As your Excellency well knows, the ceiling for the Combat Gps is approximately one fifth of the ceiling for the whole Army and can NOT be increased. While in no way failing to appreciate the excellent spirit which animates the desire for combat, I feel the time will soon come when volunteer recalls or call-ups for combat may have to be diverted to other units. The employment of these other units, although not as spectacular as the Combat Gps, is just as important in the Allied war effort.

3. Priority for incorporation into the Gruppi is at present the patriot volunteer together with a small proportion of 1924/25 class call-up.

5. I shall be pleased if your Excellency will bring the above to the notice of Territorial HQs and Districts as well as the appropriate branches of the War Ministry.

s/d CLAYTON P. KERR.
Colonel
for
Major General.
M.E.I.A.

tv.

Internal:

AQ
Spec Sec.

SD/45 ←

157

Subject:- Demobilisation.

SD 9/2
Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm.
A.C. (MMIA)
c/o HQ., I District.
Ref LO/G15.

7 February 45.

To:- Land Forces Sub Comm A.C.
M. M. I. A. R O M E.

Reference your SD/45 of 4 Feb.

1. The heading of this letter is "Demobilisation of 1914 class".

2. There are men in this Division of 1911, 12, and 13 classes. Can it be assumed that the procedure outlined applies also to them or are they to have different treatment.

OK
Capt.
MMIA LO., I District.

156

18

SECRETSUBJECT: Reinforcements - Demobilization

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. SD/48 ←
4 Feb 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

Ref SMRE letter 11704/Mob dated 29 Jan 45.

1. The Italian Army is at present understrength and in principle this deficiency should be made up, or a large portion of it, before any demobilization can take place.
2. It is requested therefore that the point raised by Del "T" be deferred and discussed again in two months time.
3. If in the meantime there are certain specified cases of hardship, they should be raised locally with the MMIA LO concerned.

[Signature]
Major General
M. M. I. A.

WB

153

SECRET 17

SUBJECT: Demobilization of 1914 ClassLAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. SD/45 ←
4 Feb 45TO : SENIOR MMIA TO FIFTH ARMY
" " EIGHTH ARMY
PMS
1 DISTRICT
3 DISTRICT

Attached at Appx "A" is copy of letter from Italian War Ministry
and at Appx "B" is copy of MMIA's reply.

You are required NOT to give this matter more publicity than necessary and only to agree to demobilization in exceptional cases after permission has been obtained from HQ MMIA. The views of the employing Allied Unit should first be obtained.

S. M. Ingledew
Major General Lt.-Col.
M. M. I. A.

Internal: A/C

WH

SECRET

Appendix "A" to MMIA letter
SD/45 of February 1945

FROM: SMRE

Ref: 11704/Mob

TO : MMIA

Date: 29 Jan 45

SUBJECT: Rfts units strength

Deleg "T" of this office pointed out that rfts assigned to dependent units are exclusively used, as instructed by Allied Branches, to fill up vacancies in the prescribed W/E. Compliance to such instructions implies that the discharge of soldiers having right to be discharged and who live in liberated ITALY is postponed for an indefinite period on the grounds that these men can only be replaced when the W/E of their unit is up to strength.

In order to avoid such inconveniences which entail discontent and increase absenteeism, I shall be grateful if you will consider also these discharges in assigning rfts.

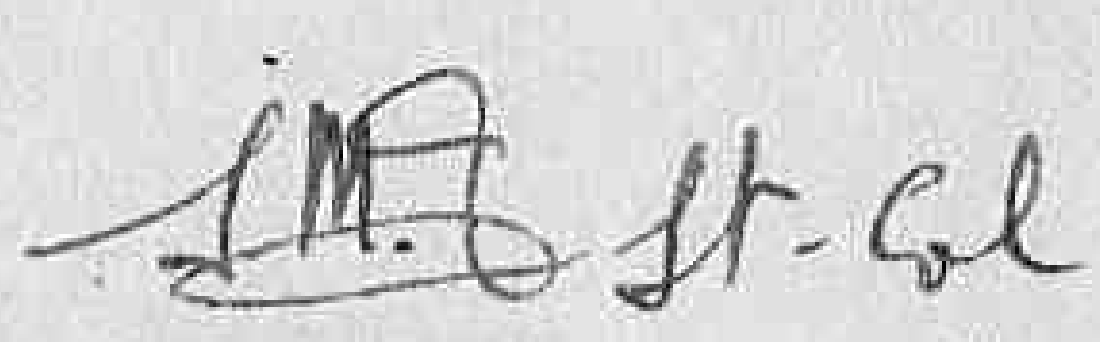
(Sgd) A. SANZI

WB

SECRETAppendix "B" to MMIA letter
SD/45 of February 1945SUBJECT: Reinforcements - DemobilizationLAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.G.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. SD/45
A Feb 45TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

Ref SMRM letter 11704/200 dated 29 Jan 45.

1. The Italian Army is at present understrength and in principle this deficiency should be made up, or a large portion of it, before any demobilization can take place.
2. It is requested therefore that the point raised by Del "T" be deferred and discussed again in two months time.
3. If in the meantime there are certain specified cases of hardship, they should be raised locally with the MMIA IG concerned.


Major General
M. M. I. A.

153

152

16

SUBJECT: Volunteers for Combat Groups

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.

(M.H.I.A.)

File No. 80/40

2 Feb 48

TO : MINISTRY OF WARCopy to: HMIA LC REAR S ARMY

1. It has been agreed by AMW and S ARMY that volunteers for Combat may be enlisted locally into PRINLI and CHINCHA Groups, without passing through REC IOF, up to a maximum number of 500 per Group per month at the discretion of the Group Commander.

2. Will you please arrange for such men to be correctly enrolled into the Italian Army in the same way that the advanced patriot enlistment agencies have been enrolling small numbers in the past.

[Signature]
Major General
H. M. I. A.

Internal: Spec Sec
A/S
C(AE)
AT
Flent
B/S
S/S/19

R_{1/2}

150 151

12
15RESTRICTEDSUBJECT: Specialists from SPS Division

1.230-000000-000, A.C.
(M.H.I.A.)
File No. 00/00
/ Feb 45

TO : 6 ARMY

Copy to: AMIA 10 6 ARMY REAR
SO RU

1. It is understood that SPS Div wish to post to the FRIEDL Group 12 Specialist Wireless Operators from MR-III Service Units under your command.
2. If you agree the detailed exchange and movement should be arranged direct between AMIA 10 and SO RU. It is felt that replacement personnel should be provided by the FRIEDL Group.


Major General
M. H. I. A.

Internal: 2
Min of War
Circ
B/S

WB

R2N

150

Regin & Yee
COPY

SD145

914

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SACMED

30

TO : MAIN 8 ARMY

INFO: MMIA
1st CDN CORPS
"Q" REAR 8 ARMY
15 ARMY GROUPSECRETFX 17600

YOUR A1386 OF 29 JAN (.) ONE (.) NO OBJECTION LOCAL ENLISTMENT
BY PATRIOTS FOR CREMONA AND FRIULI GRUPPI
BUT CONSIDERED 500 PER GRUPPO PER MONTH WILL BE ESTIMATE
LIKELY TO BE EFFICIENTLY ABSORBED (.) TWO (.) REPORT NUMBER OF
LOCAL ENLISTMENT TO MMIA WEEKLY (.) THREE (.) YOUR PARA 4 (.)
ACTION BEING TAKEN SEPARATELY (.) FOUR (.) YOUR PARA 5 (.) AGREED (.)
FIVE (.) FOR MMIA (.) AGREED PIDSLEY (.)

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

WE

SD DIST.:

149

TranslationSecret

From: - SMRE.
To: - MMIA.

Ref: 11704/mob.
Date: - 29th Jan 45.

NB

Subject: - Rpts. units' strength.

SD/MS

Deleg. T' of this office pointed out that rfts. assigned to dependant units are exclusively used, as instructed by Allied Branches, to fill up vacancies in the prescribed W/E. From the adherence to such instructions, it results that the discharge of soldiers having right to be discharged and who have in liberated Italy, is postponed for an indefinite period considering that these men can only be replaced when the W/E of their unit is up to strength.

In order to avoid such inconveniences which entail discontentment and increase absences, I shall be grateful if you will consider also these discharges in assigning rfts.

(Sgd) A. SANTI.

Sgt. FAUNE.

REN



SEGRETO

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
UFFICIO ORDINAMENTO E MOBILITAZIONE
- Sezione Mobilitazione -

N. 11204 / Mob.di prot.

P.M.3800, li 29 gennaio 1945

OGGETTO: Forza reparti - complementi.



ALLA LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (MMIA)

e, per conoscenza:

AL MINISTERO GUERRA = Gabinetto - Ufficio C.A.

P.M.3800

R O M A

Il comando della delegazione "T" di questo S.M., ha rappresentato che i complementi assegnati alle dipendenti unità sono esclusivamente impiegati, su disposizione degli enti alleati, ad integrare la forza dei reparti fino al raggiungimento dell'organico prescritto. Dall'applicazione di tale disposizione, l'invio in congedo dei militari aventi diritto, residenti in territorio liberato, viene praticamente rinviato ad epoca indeterminata, in quanto la loro preventiva sostituzione nei reparti di appartenenza potrà essere attuata solo quando i reparti stessi avranno completato l'organico.

Al fine di eliminare tale inconveniente, che ingenera malcontento e che incrementa le assenze arbitrarie, si sarà grati se codesta M.M.I.A. vorrà compiacersi tener presente il problema della sostituzione dei congedandi nelle assegnazioni dei complementi.



IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(Alessandro Senti)

147

785020

SECRET

RHF/1ja

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512SECRET
By Authority of
SACMT

AG 370.092/001 GCT-O

Initials _____
Date 30 January 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Combat Group Reinforcements.

TO : President, Allied Commission.
FOR: Land Forces Sub-Commission (ALFIA).

1. Reference is made to your S.C.29/27/1, dated 17 January 1945.
2. In view of the high rate of wastage it is agreed that the present authorised holdings of reinforcements for the Italian Combat Groups (15% of WE) is insufficient to keep the Groups up to strength in trained personnel and it is therefore agreed that the figure will be raised to 25%.
3. However, it is pointed out that the figure of 15,000 quoted by you in paragraph 4 of the letter under reference is in point of fact 33 1/3% and not 25% of the total force. The total authorised holding on the five Gruppi will therefore be 11,250.

By command of Field Marshal ALEXANDER:

cc to:
15th Army GpJACK CARTER,
Captain, AGD,
Asst Adjutant General.

8 Feb

146

SECRET

TRANSLATION.

From: SMRE
 To: HQ "T" Deleg.
 HQ 231 Div.
 CESANO Tng. Ctr.

Ref: 881/Cp
 Date: 27/1/45

Subject: Recruiting of volunteers in FLORENCE.

In confirmation of verbal arrangements.

1) Of the 6500 volunteers for the combat groups reported by HQ "T" Deleg., MMIA has authorized the recruiting for the time being of 3500 men in accordance with the undermentioned instructions.

Instructions in respect of the remaining 3000 will be given in due course.

Said personnel will be sent to the CESANO Tng. Ctr.

2) Recruiting. Volunteers will be recruited through the "CERSETI" Commissions following the rules at present in force. Since this personnel is to be posted to combat groups priority will be given as follows:

A-1

Volunteers who have already done military service.

Tradesmen (drivers, wireless operators, mortar gunners, range finders, etc.)

3) Feeding. The men will be attached for rations during the unavoidable period of transit in FLORENCE and during travel to HQ 231 Div. who have already received instructions from MMIA.

4) Transport. By Railway.

a) Entering station: AREZZO.
 Detraining " : CESANO.

b) Rate of transport:

Draft of 500 men each leaving AREZZO every fourth day.

The first two drafts have already been confirmed for the 30th Jan. and 4 Feb. next. HQ "T" Deleg. is requested to approach Allied authorities at AREZZO direct regarding timetable of trains.

c) HQ "T" Deleg. is requested to provide M.T. for said personnel to railhead (AREZZO) using its own tpt. and that which may be placed at its disposal by HQ 231 and 210 Divs. Should these means be insufficient HQ "T" Deleg. may approach 5th Army Rear HQ, Brit. Incr. (Maj. LITTLETON-Tel.162) who has already been contacted by MMIA to this effect.

*need one p.c.
 12.2
 then
 there.*

AFHQ signal

*to 1 Div. just then
 the responsibility*

145

-2-

5) Staff.

HQ "T" Deleg. is requested to provide the necessary cadres and escort personnel to accompany the recruits to CESANO drawing the necessary staff from personnel at their disposal.

Bearing in mind the limited number of offrs. at the disposal of the Delegation and the short interval between drafts, the cadre and staff of the first draft will return to FLORENCE on a vehicle supplied by the CESANO Eng. Ctr. after having finished their escort duties in order to take charge of the third draft the estimated date of departure of which is the 8 Feb. The personnel of the second draft will return to FLORENCE to take charge of the fourth draft, and so forth.

6) BLANKETS.

*Conclude
Q. Sec.* a) Bearing in mind the lack of blankets in FLORENCE the Eng. Ctr. is hereby requested to send 1000 blankets on one of its own vehicles to HQ "T" Deleg. Said trpt. will take place on the 28 inst.

b) The blankets will be issued on personal charge to each volunteer at the rate of 1 blanket per man. Volunteers will be warned that in case of loss the blanket will be debited to them by the Rft. Ctr.

holy c) The staff of the first ~~mmmm~~ draft will take back to FLORENCE the 500 blankets used by their own volunteers in order that they can be in due course issued to the third draft. The staff of the second draft will take back the blankets which will be used by the fourth draft and so forth.

7) Returns. HQ "T" Deleg. and CESANO Eng. Ctr. are requested to report to this SMRE the exact number of volunteers departed and arrived resp. for each draft.

ditto Recruiting ops. to be organized in such a way that 500 men exactly leave with each draft.

8) Discipline. Will be particularly enforced.

FMAJ/ebs

X

S/ep.

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
- Ufficio Operazioni -

n. 881 /Op? di prot. P.M.3800, li 11 gennaio 1945.

OGGETTO : reclutamento volontari a Firenze.-

AL COMANDO DELLA DELEGAZIONE "T"
AL COMANDO DELLA 231^a DIVISIONE
AL CENTRO ADDESTRAMENTO DI

P.M. 179
P.M. 167
CESANO

e, per conoscenza :

AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA - Gabinetto
ALLA A.C. - Sub commission Land Forces
(M.M.I.A.) per il Magg. BAUMANN

P.M.3800

R O M A



A conferma intese verbali.-

- 1) - Dei 6.500 volontari per i Gruppi di Combattimento segnalati dal Comando della Delegazione "T", la M.M.I.A. ha autorizzato, con le modalità appresso indicate, a reclutare per ora 3.500 u.-
Riserva di disposizioni per i restanti 3000.-
Detto personale è destinato al Centro Addestramento di Cesano.-
- 2) - Reclutamento = I volontari dovranno essere reclutati tramite le Commissioni del "Cerseti" con le modalità attualmente in vigore.
Trattandosi di personale destinato ai Gruppi di combattimento, dovrà essere data la precedenza :
 - ad elementi perfettamente idonei alle fatiche di guerra;
 - ai volontari che abbiano già prestato servizio militare;
 - agli specializzati (autisti - radiotelegrafisti - mortaiisti - goniometristi ecc.).-
- 3) - Vettovagliamento per il periodo indispensabile di sosta a Firenze e per la durata del viaggio = a cura del Comando 231^a divisione che ha già avuto istruzioni al riguardo tramite la M.M.I.A.-

e, per conoscenza :

AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA - Gabinetto
ALLA A.C. - Sub commission Land Forces
(M.M.I.A.) per il Magg. BAUMANN



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./.

- 2 -

4) - Trasporto = avverrà in ferrovia.-

- a)- Stazione di carico = Arezzo
Stazione di scarico = Cesano.-

b)- Successione dei trasporti :

Scaglioni di 500 u., in partenza da Arezzo ogni quattro giorni.

I primi due scaglioni sono già stati confermati per il 30 gennaio e 4 febbraio p.v.- Il Comando della Delegazione "T" è pregato prendere diretti accordi con i competenti organi alleati di Arezzo, circa gli orari di partenza dei singoli treni.

c)- Il Comando della Delegazione "T" è pregato provvedere coi propri mezzi automobilistici al trasporto di dette persone fino alla testa di linea ferroviaria (Arezzo), valendosi anche dei mezzi che potranno essere messi a disposizione dai Comandi della 231^a e 210^a Divisione.-

Qualora i mezzi di cui sopra non fossero sufficienti, il comando della Delegazione "T" potrà rivolgersi al Comando Arretrato 5^a Armata - Nucleo Arretrato (maggior Littleton - telef. 162) già interessato al riguardo dalla M.M.I.A.-

5) - Personale d'inquadramento

- Il Comando Delegazione "T" è pregato provvedere, con una congrua aliquota di personale a propria disposizione, all'inquadramento ed accompagnamento a Cesano del personale di che trattasi.-
- Tenuto conto del limitato numero di ufficiali a disposizione e della successione dei singoli scaglioni, il personale d'inquadramento del 1° scaglione, a servizio ultimato dovrà, con un aumento del Centro Addestramento di Cesano, essere rimandato a Firenze per poter inquadrare il 3° scaglione in prevista partenza l'8 febbraio p.v.; il personale del 2° scaglione dovrà essere

Scaglioni di 500 u., in partenza da Arezzo ogni quattro giorni.

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- Tenuto conto del limitato numero di ufficiali a disposizione e della successione dei singoli scaglioni, il personale d'inquadramento del 1° scaglione, a servizio ultimato dovrà, con un ausilio del Centro Addestramento di Cesano, essere rimandato a Firenze per poter inquadrare il 3° scaglione in prevista partenza 1°8 febbraio p.v.; il personale del 2° scaglione dovrà essere rimandato a Firenze per inquadrare il 4° scaglione e così successivamente.-

./.

- 3 -

6) - Coperte =

- a)- Data la mancata disponibilità di coperte a Firenze, il Centro Addestramento è pregato avviare al Comando della Delegazione "T", con un proprio automezzo, 1000 coperte. Il trasporto in questione dovrà essere effettuato il 28 e.m.--
- b)- Le coperte saranno distribuite e date in personale consegna a ciascun volontario, in ragione di 1 per ogni individuo.--
I volontari siano preavvisati che nel caso di smarrimento, la coperta sarà loro addebitata a cura del Centro Complementi.--
- c)- Il personale d'inquadramento del 1° scaglione riporterà a Firenze le 500 coperte che sono servite ai volontari del proprio scaglione per essere distribuite successivamente al 3° scaglione. Il personale del 2°, quelle destinate al 4° e così successivamente.--

7) - Segnalazioni.

Il Comando della Delegazione "T" ed il Centro di Cesano sono pregati segnalare a questo S.M.R.E. il numero esatto di volontari rispettivamente partiti e giunti per ogni scaglione.--

Si raccomanda di organizzare le operazioni del reclutamento in modo che partano esattamente 500 u. per ogni scaglione.--

8) - Disciplina = sia particolarmente curata.--

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
-Alessandro Santi-

- b)- Le coperte saranno distribuite e date in personale consegna a ciascun volontario, in ragione di 1 per ogni individuo.--
- I volontari siano preavvisati che nel caso di smarrimento, la coperta sarà loro addebitata a cura del Centro Complementi.--
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8) - Disciplina = sia particolarmente curata.--



IL GENERALE ADDETTO
-Alessandro Santi-

141

SUBJECT: Combat Group Reinforcements

SECRET

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

S/G/29/43

21 Jan 45.

To: G(SD): AQ: ST: Q(OS): MMIA LO RTO, ICF.

1. Attached is a Summary showing:

- A. Strength and deficiencies of Combat Groups.
- B. Plans for Supply of Reinforcements.
- C. Availability of reinforcements and expectations of arrivals at R.T.C, I.C.F.

2. If the programme shown is maintained the strength of R.T.C, I.C.F. in mid-FEBRUARY will be about 9,500 plus 2,000 permanent staff and attachments. This figure is likely to rise to at least 10,5000 if the APULIA call-up takes place in FEBRUARY.

3. The clothing and equipment programme up to 10 Feb: should cover -

- a. 5,000 already in camp (provided for)
- b. 4,800 passing through camp up to 10 Feb (7,000 reinforcements posted less those going direct to Groups)
- c. 6,500 in camp on 10 Feb (i.e. 9,500 reinforcements plus 2,000 permanent staff less 5,000 under a. above)

16,300 up to 10 Feb.

For requirements up to 4 March this figure should be increased by 4,000 to cover APULIA call-up. Up to 3 March, therefore, clothing and equipment is required for 16,500 men, apart from stocks already delivered and distributed at CESANO.

tvb.JAD.

for Colonel.
M.M.I.A.

140

STRENGTH AND DEFICIENCIES OF COBAT GROUPS.

W.E. of Group: 9000

Group	Posted Strength	Fighting Strength	Deficiency	
			Min	Max
FRIULI	8455	7596	545	1404
CREMONA	8130	7200	870	1800
LEGNANO	9817	9275	-	-
FOLGORE	9195	8690	-	310
MANTOVA	7800	5700	1200	3300
Auxiliary Units WE, } equals 3000	2400			600
R.T.C. Permanent } Staff	500	500		1500
W.E. equals 2000				

B.

PLANS FOR SUPPLY OF REINFORCEMENTS.FRIULI

21 Jan - Patriots ex FLORENCE - 500	20 Jan - Patriots ex SPOLETO etc
Week Ending:	Week Ending
21 Jan	21 Jan
27 Jan	27 Jan
3 Feb	3 Feb
10 Feb	10 Feb
	** 3 Feb
TOTAL	TOTAL
1900	2200

CREMONA

ex CESANO	ex CESANO
ex CESANO	ex CESANO
ex CESANO	ex CESANO
"	ex CESANO
"	ex 120 MG Coy
200	130

TOTAL

1900

TOTAL

2200

Figures for 10 Feb could be exceeded if demands warrant it.

LEGNANO) Drafts week ending 10 Feb - 400

FOLGORE)

MANTOVA

23 Jan	Volunteers ex AFRAGOLA	600
28 Jan	"	500
23 - 30 Jan	" CERSETI	400
1 Feb (approx)	Personnel ex	
	PICENO (Carabinieri Gp)	500
TOTAL		2000

TOTAL

2000

MANTOVA 7800 5700 1200 3300

Auxiliary Units WE, }
equals 3000 }

2400

600

R.T.C. Permanent }
Staff } 500
W.E. equals 2000 }

1500

B. PLANS FOR SUPPLY OF REINFORCEMENTS.

FRIULI

21 Jan - Patriots ex FLORENCE - 500
Week Ending:
21 Jan ex CESANO 200
27 Jan ex CESANO 200
3 Feb ex CESANO 800
10 Feb " " 200

TOTAL

1900

CREMONA

20 Jan - Patriots ex SPOLETO etc 470
Week Ending:
21 Jan ex CESANO 400
27 Jan ex CESANO 200
3 Feb ex CESANO 800
10 Feb ex CESANO 200
** 3 Feb ex 120 MG Coy 130

TOTAL

2200

Figures for 10 Feb could be exceeded if demands warrant it.

LEGNANO) Drafts week ending 10 Feb - 400
FOLGORE)

MANTOVA

23 Jan Volunteers ex AFRAGOLA 600
28 Jan " " 500
23 - 30 Jan " CERSETI 400
1 Feb (approx) Personnel ex
PICENO (Carabinieri Gp) 500

TOTAL

2000

AUXILIARY UNITS

Deficiencies of 600 are nearly all drivers required for 3 G.T. Company and B,C, and D Sections of M.A.C. These will probably not be available from R.T.C., I.C.F. until end of MARCH.

R.T.C., I.C.F. PERMANENT STAFF.

Cadres from PICENO

1500

TOTAL REINFORCEMENTS COMMITMENT
(up to 10 Feb 1945)

6500

Draft for ORVIETO
(for muleteers)

500

7000

contd sheet 2/..

AVAILABILITY OF REINFORCEMENTS - ITALIAN COMBAT FORCE.

C

Strength of Reinforcements at R.T.C., I.C.F. (17 Jan)	4500
Patriots ex SPOLETO (earmarked for CREMONA)	470
Patriots ex FLORENCE (earmarked for FRIULI)	500
120 MG Coy (earmarked for CREMONA)	130
ex PICENO (less Cadres for RTC, ICF and incl PICENO CARABINIERI)	3700
	1000
Volunteers ex SICILY (at AFRAGOLA)	100
" " SARDINIA (at ")	

Reinforcements already allotted to Combat Groups	10,400

REINFORCEMENTS TO BE ALLOTTED

Call up in SARDINIA (1-14 Feb) 3000 due	estimate	2000	SMAC estimate 3000
Call up in LAZIO (20-31 Jan) 670 m	say	600	
PATRIOTS VOLUNTEERS		3500	6500

TOTAL

6100

TOTAL - Reinforcements available up to 10 Feb

16500

Less reinforcements posted

7000

Estimated strength of RTC, ICF 10 Feb (Reinforcements only)

9500

Call up in APULIA (15-30 Feb) 6000 due

TOTAL

4000

13500

6000

3000

10500

Drafts to Groups up to March 3
Estimate received in R.T.C. I.C.F. 3 March

138

SUBJECT:- Italian Combat Group Reinforcements

LAND FORCES SUB COM A/C/
(MMIA)
S/G/29/27/1
17 January 1945

A;F;H;Q. (2 copies)

Copy to:- 15 Army Group
D.M.T.

1. I consider the number of reinforcements authorised to be held for Italian Combat Groups (at present 15% of W.E.) will be insufficient to keep the groups up to strength in trained personnel:
2. According to my estimate which was sent to you with my S/G/29/27 of 22 Dec with which I believe you are in agreement we shall have to meet a nett wastage of 2,000 a month, or a gross wastage (which the holding is to replace) of 3,500 a month.
3. It is estimated that the type of man we are calling up now will require between 2 and 6 months (say on an average 4 months) training.
4. To allow for this and for the difference between posted and actual strengths we shall have to hold 15,000 or approx 25% of the total force.
5. Will you please consider this and give me your decision as early as possible.

ABC

signed

L. BROWNING

Major General
M M I A

137

Copy to:- SD 

Copy

FROM : MMIA REAR EIGHT ARMY

14 1545 A

TO : HQ MMIA ROME

REF : MM/305

RESTRICTED

Ref your sigs SD 2087 AND SS 552 OF 13 (/) Please note
all messages re Group rtfs should go for action or info
to MAIN 8 ARMY as well as other addressees

Int : E/C, SPEC SEC - SD/54. SD/57. SD/50. FLOAT.

~~SECRET~~ 32
8
S-18/45.

MIA

16021 A

56 BLU

Jan

SS 565

CONFIDENTIAL

UP TO ONE THOUSAND VOLUNTEER REINFORCEMENTS MAY BE SENT TO MANTOVA BETWEEN
 NEW AND END OF JANUARY (*) ENSURE ACCOMMODATION AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE
 TO MEET THESE ARRIVALS (*) FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE SIGNALLIED

500 sent to
Mantova

SD Doc
SD/44 ← } 1578
SD/50

R-1

C 20/1

A/R

185

IMPORTANT

MINISTRY OF WAR

GADJ—
A/Q

[Handwritten signature]

TRANSLATION

FROM SIRE

REF 11379/Mob

TO MMIA

Date 131 45

SUBJECT: Availability and Requirements of Personnel for the Italian Combatant Forces

Ref Maj Dobb's telephone request of the 9th inst.

1. Officers

(1) The estimated requirement of offr for the Italian combatant forces is the following: (returns as 11 44)

FRIULI	22
CREMONA	16
LEGNANO	7
FOLGORE	18
MANTOVA	75
Auxiliary Unit	30
Rfts Trg Camp	562
Total	730

(2) Offrs of the Piceno Gp (about 230) and those of the permanent staff of the rft depot of Cesane (about 100) will have to be deducted from this requirement since they have already been allotted to the Cadres of the rfts trg centre. The requirements are therefore reduced to 400.

This no. can be supplied by the directorate general of personnel (offrs) who have already received MMIA's authority to increase the no of offrs on duty to 1000. It will be necessary though for said general directorate to recall this no of offrs who were at one time released in accordance with MMIA's instrs. This procedure will take a certain time owing to the existing difficulties of communication and transport but everything will be done to reduce this delay to a minimum.

For the moment though there is no availability of offrs.

2. ORs

(1) The estimated requirement of NOO and ren (specialists incl) to bring the Italian Combatant force to full strength is the following:- (returns as at 11/44)

FRIULI	Specialists	444	Non Spec	850
CREMONA	"	325	"	1005
LEGNANO	"	165	"	NIL
FOLGORE	"	425	"	373
MANTOVA	"	1434	"	897
Auxiliary troops	"	400	"	200
Rfts trg Centre	"	2000	"	6410
Totals		5193		9735

In the case of the Combat Gps the figures have been increased by 5% over and above War Est. (10% in the case of Artillery Units).

LEGNANO
FOLGORE
MANTOVA
Auxiliary Unit
Rfts Trg Camp

Total
562
730

(2) Offrs of the Piceno Gp (about 230) and those of the permanent staff of the rft depot of Cesano (about 100) will have to be deducted from this requirement since they have already been allotted to the Cadres of the rfts trg centre. The requirements are therefore reduced to 400.

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For the moment though there is no availability of offrs.

2. ORs

(1) The estimated requirement of NCO and men (specialists incl) to bring the Italian Comstant force to full strength is the following:- (returns as at 11/44)

	Specialists	444	Non Spec	850	5193
FRIULI	"	325	"	1005	9735
CREMONA	"	165	"	NIL	1,492.8
LEGNANO	"	425	"	373	2,680
FOLGORE	"	1434	"	897	12,428
MANTOVA	"	400	"	200	8,400
Auxiliary troops	"	2000	"	6410	4,000
Rfts trg Centre	"	5193	"	9735	4,000
Totals					13,344

In the case of the Combat Gps the figures have been increased by 5% over and above War Est. (10% in the case of Artieri Units).

(2) Availabilities estimated for the months of Jan and Feb are as follows:
(data is approx and subject to variations possibly of importance. Returns as at 10 1 44)

(a) Military already trained:
Cesano rft trg Centre (1)
Permanent staff and GD
Available (incl repatriated from Balkans)
Recalled in Sicily (1st batch)
Piceno Gp
Recalled in Lazio (Viterbo)
Recalled in Sicily (Remainder)
Patriots of Florence, Siena, Perugia
Various sources (volunteers etc.)
Total 8920

(1) Muleteers for Crviato already deducted (329 plus 220)

Said personnel once clothed and equipped at the trg centre and after a very short period for org (8 to 10 days) can be posted to the combat gps which are not being employed straight away. They will be trained in the use of Br material at the combat gps. This is due to the fact that trg, for the time being, cannot be carried out at the trg centre where they lack the necessary means and equipment.

(b) Untrained personnel:

Volunteers available at Cesano	400
Recruits class 1925 (as estimated by MFA)	6000
Total	<u>6400</u>

This personnel will have to undergo a complete period of trg which, in any case, cannot be of less than 3 months for the gen trg and which will be of a longer duration for the specialists (average 1 month, with the exception of radio mech. who will require 6 months). It will then be necessary before trg can take place, for the rft centre to be equipped completely with cadres, materials, tech equipment and premises. A first batch of instructors could be drawn from the Piceno Div, others of the centre itself are still attending courses at the BR schools. Before the equipment necessary allows the starting of trg a certain period of time must elapse (15 to 20 days).

3. Summary

(a) Requirements	
Specialists	5193
Non Specialists	9735
Total	<u>14928</u>
(b) Estimated availability	
Specialists	2500
Non Specialists	12820
Total	<u>15320</u>

4. The 5% over and above the WE has not been taken into account when calculating requirements for the trg centre since it has already been included in the rft requirements of the combat gps (para 2 sub para (1)).

Said percentage of personnel, which the gps will have to send to the rft trg centre when leaving for their place of employment, has been considered as a safety coefficient which will enable use to meet any unforeseen demands and replacement of initial losses entailed by the entry into the line of the 1st gps to be employed without having to rely on the trg centre which is still in the process of org.

5. The balances shown in the preceding paras make it evident that it is essential that the Cesano Trg Centre should start to function as soon as possible not only from the point of view of suitable billets but also clothing stocks equipment (blankets, mess kits etc) and tech materials.

The present capacity of the Cesano billets is today completely filled by the

before trg can take place, for the rft centre to be equipped completely with cadres, materials, tech equipment and premises. A first batch of instructors could be drawn from the Piceno Div, others of the centre itself are still attending courses at the BR schools. Before the equipment necessary allows the starting of trg a certain period of time must elapse (15 to 20 days).

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 Specialists 5893
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 Total 14928

(b) Estimated availability
 Specialists 2500
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 Total 15320

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5. The balances shown in the preceding paras make it evident that it is essential that the Cesano Trg Centre should start to function as soon as possible not only from the point of view of suitable billets but also clothing stocks equipment (blankets, mess kits etc) and tech materials.

The present capacity of the Cesnao billets is today completely filled by the 4000 men at present on strength. But arrivals continue; during the present week 400 patriots and 200 men recalled in Sicily are expected and during the present month 2500 men of the Piceno should also arrive. The centre is not in a position to admit them owing to lack of clothing, equipment and sanitary installations. All this affects the morale of the personnel arriving at the centre, specially those who arrive as the result of recruiting or call ups. This type of personnel already in a poor moral and material condition owing to the sorry plight of the country does not find, on joining up, that minimum of comfort and welfare which it expects. The result is discontent, lack of discipline, absent without leave. The influx of volunteers and patriots diminishes; the morale of combatant units to which rfts are sent from the trg centre suffers; in the country the feeling of mistrust increases.

In this respect it is to be pointed out that the yield of patriots in the districts of Siena, Florence and Perugia could reach a figure of 4 to 5000 men if living conditions at the trg centre were good. These volunteers are partly trained men, used to battle and guerilla fighting who would constitute a valuable asset for the Italian combat forces; they are men who in the midst of the struggle with the Kacchia have suffered every hardship and privation and who thus justify their pretense - if it can be so called - of finding in rejoining the army, a minimum standard of living conditions. They are men who, being embittered - as is often the case today - might easily create unpleasant political situation such as have been already recorded in other parts of the country (TN could be understood to mean other countries).

6. Summing up, since it is a fact that the Italian Combat Forces depend upon the rft trg centre for their smooth functioning and their very life, it is only logical that this centre should receive every care and attention and all possible supply.

I am well aware of the fact that LMIA has taken and still takes a great interest in the rapid solution of the many and iddificult problems that arise. Nevertheless, and since I have been asked to do so, I have deemed it advisable to express my views on the situation.

The Chief of Staff
(s) P. BERARDI

A.R.
G.S.O.1.

This is interesting, but not very clear: ^{these} ~~these~~ are ^{how} ~~these~~

problems:-

1. Getting the reinforcements. - - - - - G.(SD) ^{N Fed and agreed for}
2. Providing their equipment - - - - - A/R.
3. Improving the accommodation. - - - - - Min War.
4. Training - - - - - D.H.T.

Special Section will watch all four, will coordinate
I will keep you informed
where necessary and try to help.

SP
15 Jan

on needs.

to express my views on the situation.

[Handwritten signature]

The Chief of Staff
(S) P. BERARDY

A.Q.
G.S.O. 1.

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Special Section will watch all four, will coordinate
where necessary and try to help. I will keep you informed
of our needs.

SP
15 Jan

297

SD/45.

S I G N A LFROM MMIATO AFHQ FOR GI BR AND MOV
HQ 15 ARMY GROUP

13 1600 A

Jan

INFO FIFTH ARMY FOR BR INCR
EIGHTH ARMY
FIFTH ARMY BR INCR FOR MMIA LO
REAR EIGHTH ARMY FOR MMIA LO
ICF RFT TRG CENTRE MMIA LO
50 BLU
51 BLUSD 2087SECURITY CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T

REF 15 ARMY GP ALL 7 OF 7 AND MMIA SD 2081 OF 11 (.) UNDERSTAND FROM 15 ARMY GP
THAT ALL RFTS FROM C E S A N O FOR F R I U L I AND C R E M O N A GPs ARE
NOT REQUIRED TO MOVE TO I E S I (.) THIS APPLIES TO 200 TO MOVE IN WEEK STARTING
15 JAN AND TO 400 TO MOVE WEEK STARTING 22 JAN (.) TOTAL 600 (.)

PRECEDENCE I M P O R T A N T

AUTHENTICATED

W. H. H. R. C. P.

INTERNAL:
MINISTRY OF WAR
AQ
SPEC SEC
MCV (2)
SD/50 (2)
FILE: SD/57

131

written about 5-15-45

COPY

ITALIAN ARMY - MANPOWER

File 8145

We have not got and cannot get as many men as we need in the Italian Army although there are thousands of able-bodied young men in ITALY with nothing particular to do.

This was pointed out by M.M.I.A. at a recent Conference at A.F.H.Q. It is true and cannot be laughed off by saying that we could not equip or accommodate any more.

There are two causes - Evasion of service and Desertion from the Service, brought about as follows:-

Effect

1. EVASION

Cause

- (a) Lack of Enthusiasm
- (b) Faulty Machinery
- (c) Piecemeal call-up
- (d) Lenient Exemption
- (e) Outside Influence
- (f) Inadequate Deterrent
- (g) Bad Publicity

Remedy

Improve Army Conditions
New Mobilisation Section at M of W
Universal call-up by classes
Revision of call-up regulations
Strengthen CC RR and civil law
Concentration Camps
P.W.B., M of W to cooperate.

2. DESERTION

- (a) Bad Conditions
- (b) Bad Officers
- (c) Family Anxieties
- (d) Bad Pay
- (e) Outside Influence
- (f) Inadequate deterrent
- (g) Bad Publicity

Improve standards throughout
Selection Boards - O.C.I.U.s
Family Inf and Welfare Service
Revise Rates and encourage savings
Civil Govt to cooperate
Revise punishment
P.W.B. and M of W to cooperate

This is only an outline of the disease and its cure. As it is a serious problem, affecting the provision of reinforcements for Combat Groups as well as the rest of the Italian Army, I should like to study each suggested remedy in detail and devise methods of effecting them.

I am sure that by a combination of all possible means we can improve the situation. Unless there is an improvement immediately we shall have no reinforcements for Combat after 1 Feb.

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tvS.WP.
S.C.

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2. DESERTION	(a) Bad Conditions (b) Bad Officers (c) Family Anxieties (d) Bad Pay (e) Outside Influence (f) Inadequate deterrent (g) Bad Publicity	Improve standards throughout Selection Boards - C.C.I.U.S Family Inf and Welfare Service Revise Rates and encourage savings Civil Govt to cooperate Revise punishment P.M.B. and M of W to cooperate

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trs.MP.
5.c.

SD/45

18
6

MIA

04 1120 A

Jan

FMSOUTH FOR MIA LO

RESTRICTED

SD 20430.

YOUR 8700 OF 2 (.) 227 DIV ARE SUPPLYING 56 VOLUNTEERS
FOR COMBAT (.) REPLACE THAT NUMBER

ROUTINE

Spec Sec
SD/57
SD/50 (2)
File: SD/54

12/1
[Signature]

[Signature]

128

128

FROM PBS SOUTHERN DIST MMIA LO

TO MMIA

021713A

8700

RESTRICTED

Request you state limit to which combat volunteers in 227 Div can be replaced from AFRAGOLA without reference you (.) Can specialists be included?

EK

SD DISTR:

SD/54

SD/50

Float

519 3/1 Bn
Thurff are finding out
how many volunteers for replacement.

56

/ @ 3/1
phone 3/1

signature/LO 76/hrs

127

(LRKB V MJVL NR4

T

FROM MJVL 021630A

TO MMIA

GR 46 BT

RESTRICTED PD REQUEST YOU STATE LIMIT TO WHICH COMBAT VOLUNTEERS
IN TWO TWO SEVEN DIVISION CAN BE REPLACED FROM AFRAGOLA WITHOUT
REFERENCE YOU PD ²²⁷REFERENCE NUMBER EIGHT SEVEN ZERO ZERO PAREN TO
MMIA FROM PBS SOUTHERN DISTRICT MMIA LIAISON OFFICER PAREN CAN
SPECIALISTS BE ~~BE~~ INCLUDED QUERY

BT 021630A

SENT NR4 021713A AD AR K
RECD NR 4 021713A J O E B B

SD Dicks

SD/SA

SD/SA

Howe

2 copies

126

MIA

AFHQ

15 ARMY GROUP
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION

SD 2031

SECRET

Ref 15 Army Group 154 of 28 Dec (.) FIRST (.) Strength Italian Combat
Groups 27 Dec confirmed by special signal from HQ as follows (.) FIRST
reported 8802 fighting 7403 deficient on 118 (.) SECOND reported 9217
surplus on 28 307 fighting 8155 (.) THIRD (.) Reinforcements down to 35
and more immediately available (.) largely due to taking 5000 from FOURTH
for Carabinieri and volunteers unexpectedly (.) THIRD (.) Letter follows
SD 1 Jan after consultation Pub Ref Pub Cor regarding possible return of
3000 FIFTH sent to FOURTH as latter are overcollared.

AC
Spec Per

125

785020

MMIA HR ROME 1555

LCKB & LRAR (1555) QVR 4 QRY

SIGNAL MESSAGE OUT

28 1145 A

19/29

FROM: HQ 15 ARMY GROUP

TO : AMHQ CITE PUGAB

INFO: FIFTH ARMY
MAIN HIGHWAY ARMY
MIA
DESTROY

ORIG. NO. A54

THE REPORTED (.) SUBJECT IS ITALIAN RPTS FOR GRUPPI AND PACK TPT (.) FIRST (.) MIA STATE DEFICIENCIES IN FRIULI 190 AND CREMONA SURPLUS 640 (.) ACCORDING TO SO MIA DEFICIENCIES IN FRIULI IS 1045 AND EIGHTH ARMY STATE DEFICIENCIES IN CREMONA ARE APPROX 700 (.) CONSIDER DEFICIENCIES QUOTED BY ARMY AND BLU ARE SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT AND THAT DRASTIC ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO RECTIFY RPT AND OBTAIN A RESERVE HOLDING (.) SECOND (.) FURTHER MY A 35-OF 22 PLEASE SEE FIFTH ARMY 9040 OF 24 INDICATING THAT OUT OF 1400 RPTS FOR PACK COYS PREPARED FOR DISPATCH ONLY 820 ARRIVED OF WHICH ONLY 470 SUITABLE AS MOUNTAINS (.) REQUEST SITUATION IS STRONGLY REPRESENTED TO MIA AND SURE TO ENSURE PROPER SELECTION OF PERSONNEL CARRIED OUT AND PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS IS NOT ALLOWED TO CONTINUE (.) REQUEST STEPS TAKEN TO REDUCE DESERTION DURING REPARATION OF DRAFTS AND EN ROUTE BY PROVIDING ADEQUATE ESCORTS

(1)

(2)

(3)

Shedler
Col

IMPORTANT

Copies to:- G(3D) G4 G1 Q ST

3142/4/L(0)

3065/32/A(0)

Master file

For.

G.(SD)

WP

A/C.

SD dish
SD/54
SD/31
SD/50 (3)
Hoot
SD/57

83
67.24.

1/50

SD/5
SECRET 3SUBJECT: Reinforcements for Combat Groups.
-----LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)26 8/8/29/43
Dec 44

SD/45

MINISTRY OF WAR

1. Your attention is drawn to the necessity for keeping a correct balance between reinforcements of the various arms in the Combat Groups Reinforcement Training Centre, so that the numbers of reinforcements required by each arm may, as far as possible, always be available.
2. To achieve this it may at times be necessary to transfer men from one arm to another. This is so at the present time when there are few infantry and too many artillery and specialist arm personnel in the Centre.
3. I should be grateful for an assurance from you that adequate means exist for effecting these transfers promptly by the Commandant of the Centre and that the proper proportion of reinforcements for all arms will be maintained within the total strength of reinforcements authorised.

W. Pidsley
ColonelMajor General
M.M.I.A.

INTERNAL:

A.

SD

Maj. GELANDI

C 27/12
B.

123

SUBJECT: Rpts

SECRET

50 Brit Liaison Unit

A/1/27

22 Dec 44

HQ MDTA

Ref your SD 1945 dated 16, copy to this HQ.

1. Out of the 166 reinforcements referred to in the above quoted signal, 125 have arrived. HQ FRUIT Combat Gp report that they consist of the following :-

Exchange Ops	1
Wireless Ops	11
Drivers	13
Motor Mechs	1
Gunners	35
Med Personnel	7
Non-specialists	57

2. They are reported to have arrived clothed chiefly in Green Battle-Dress, with HQ Brit arms or equipment, and with either one or two blankets.

3. They arrived by train, after 9 x 3 tonners had been sent to TRAINO to collect them.

4. It is considered of great importance both now and more especially later when the Gp undertakes an operational role that :-

- The discrepancy in the numbers of tradesmen between those who have arrived and those due to arrive be made up with all possible speed.
- All reinforcements arrive equipped to the scale laid down in clothing, personal equipment, arms, and blankets.
- This HQ be informed in advance of arrangements for tpt in order that wastage may be reduced.

CLM
FCRV/SIBLt col
GS

1:2

Copy to : HQ 15 Army Gp (A Branch)
Brit Innoement (A Branch) Rear HQ Fifth Army
HQ No 1 District (A Branch)

one page - mention of situation is necessary.

7
57

2. They are reported to have arrived chiefly in Green Battle-Dress, with NO Brit arms or equipment, and with either one or two blankets.

3. They arrived by train, after 9 x 3 tonners had been sent to TRAMO to collect them.

4. It is considered of great importance both now and more especially later when the Gp undertakes an operational role that :-

- The discrepancy in the numbers of tradesmen between those who have arrived and those due to arrive be made up with all possible speed.
- All reinforcements arrive equipped to the scale laid down in clothing, personal equipment, arms, and blankets.
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David Hays
Lt col
GS

CLF
FGW/SJB

Copy to : HQ 15 Army Gp (A Branch)
Brit Increment (A Branch) Rear HQ Fifth Army
HQ No 1 District (A Branch)

Reply

It is recalled that the present procedure has been and is a rather exact still in working order. The whole system is being revised and is at present in the melting pot. We aim at organising a proper Report by Col on British division and of course even so the supply of British reinforcements will be difficult to some limit to come and sometimes very poor.

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FROM ~~MMIA~~

TO AFHQ (G1 BR)

INFO 15 Army Group, 1 District, 3 District,
Ministry of War, 50 ELUSD 1945RESTRICTED

Reference 15 Army Gp A995 of 14 December (.) Please cancel MMIA
SD 1914 of 12 December as FRIULI Group has made arrangements to
collect reinforcements concerned with own transportation (.)
For 15 Army Group (.) Breakdown of draft is as follows (.)
Switchboard operators 2 Wireless operators 30 Instrument mechanics
(Signals) 2 electricians 4 drivers 33 driver mechanics 10 vehicle
mechanics 2 armourer 1 plumber 1 carpenters 10 blacksmiths 4
welders 2 fitters 3 gunners 41 medical personnel 21 Total 166

PRIORITY IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

Adherent

Capt D.

Internal:

Q
Spec Sec
Rev (2)
SD/50 (2)