Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

ACC

10000|120|3432

WEL/P

Declassified E.O. 12065, Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

10000|120|3432 WEL/P

Italian Welfare Policy

Jan. - Sept. 1945

5117
5219

UNCLASSIFIED

Subject : Demobilization of 1918 and 1919 Classes.

LAND FORCES SUB COM, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
A C17.
27 Sept.45.

TO : Ministry of War.

48H

Reference M.M.I.A. A 017 of 10 September.

1. Authority is hereby given for you to demobilize the 1918 class during October, and the 1919 class during November.

2. You will be responsible for ensuring that local commanders so phase the release of personnel and the provision of replacements that all units are kept up to efficient working strength at all times.

3. Personnel of the 1918 and 1919 classes in depots and personnel of the same classes from disbanded units, not immediately required as replacements, may be demobilized from now on at your discretion, in anticipation of the above dates. The object of the measure is to avoid holding men uselessly, or posting them to units when they would only remain a few weeks.

W.D. Gillmore Lt Col
Major General
For M.M.I.A.

COPY TO : A.F.H.Q. (3)
HQ. AC. (3)
C.G. MTOUSA
C.G. PBS
C.G. AAFSC/MTO
C.O. PENSOUTH
XIII Corps
2 District (3)
3 District (3)
R.A.A.C.
Br. Cadre 892 BRD
59 B L U
51 B L U
52 B L U
53 B L U
56 B L U

'F' BTLU IRTC
All M.M.I.A. LO's

5219

INTERNAL : War Diary
All Branches and Services.

maf.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

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2. You will be responsible for ensuring that local commanders so phase the release of personnel and the provision of replacements that all units are kept up to efficient working strength at all times.

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Major General
For M.M.I.A.

COPY TO : A.F.H.Q. (3)
HQ. AC. (3)
C.G. MTOUSA
C.G. PBS
C.G. AAFSC/MTO
C.O. PENSOUTH
XIII Corps
2 District (3)
3 District (3)
R.A.A.C.
Br. Cadre 8&2 BRD
50 B L U
51 B L U
52 B L U
53 B L U
56 B L U
maf.

'F' BTLU IRTC
All M.M.I.A. LO's

INTERNAL : War Diary
All Branches and Services.

5219

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Welfare

(S.21)

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

S/Q/5
21 September 1945.

M.M.I.A. ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 28.

1. OBJECT.

The object of this Instruction is to define the method of:

(a) Redistribution of winter clothing to BR-ITI Service Troops.
(b) Withdrawal, reconditioning and storage of summer clothing.

2. WINTER SCALE.

The scale of clothing to be held by BR-ITI Service Troops for the winter 45/46 is:

Blouses, battle-dress	ea 1
Trousers, battle-dress	ea 1
Shirt, cotton	ea 2
Belt, web, waist	ea 1
Drawers, wool	ea 2
Undershirt, wool, or pullover (1 pullover equals 2 undershirts, wool)	ea 2
Towel	ea 1
Cap, field	ea 1
Overcoat, or mackinaw	ea 1
Boots or shoes (2 prs. authorised in winter if supplies permit)	pr 1
Socks	pr 3
Anklets, or leggings (when required)	pr 1
Sewing kit (initial issue only)	ea 1
Blankets, or comforter (1 comforter equals 2 blankets)	ea 4
Packcarrier (when required)	ea 1
Canteen (when required)	ea 1
Mess kit (including fork, spoon, and cup)	ea 1

3. ISSUE OF B.D.

(a) Sufficient quantities of battle-dress have been moved under M.M.I.A. arrangements to Adm. Div. Sub-Depots whence issues will be made in the normal manner.

(b) Winter clothing will be adopted on the date decided by the Allied Formation under whose command the Adm. Div. is placed. Formations are asked to give the M.M.I.A. L.O. as early warning as possible of this date in order to allow clearance from Sub-Depots to Regimental H.Qs. etc.

5218

4. ISSUE OF BLANKETS.

Blankets will be issued up to the scale of four per man (one comforter is equilavent to two blankets). Blankets will continue to be held on summer scale

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The scale of clothing to be held by SR-III Service Troops for the winter 45/46 is:

Blouses, battle-dress	ea 1
Trousers, battle-dress	ea 1
Shirt, cotton	ea 2
Belt, web, waist	ea 1
Drawers, wool	ea 2
Undershirt, wool, or pullover (1 pullover equals 2 undershirts, wool)	ea 2
Towel	ea 1
Cap, field	ea 1
Overcoat, or mackinaw	ea 1
Boots or shoes (2 prs. authorised in winter if supplies permit)	pr 1
Socks	pr 3
Anklets, or leggings (when required)	pr 1
Sewing kit (initial issue only)	ea 1
Blankets, or comforter (1 comforter equals 2 blankets)	ea 4
Packcarrier (when required)	ea 1
Canteen (when required)	ea 1
Mess kit (including fork, spoon, and cup)	ea 1

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4. ISSUE OF BLANKETS.

5218

Blankets will be issued up to the scale of four per man (one comforter is equilavent to two blankets). Blankets will continue to be held on summer scale awaiting the order of the employing Formation, but the Adm. Div. Sub-Depot will hold the balance of winter scale for its entire strength.

5. WITHDRAWAL OF K.D. AND OTHER SUMMER GARMENTS.

(a) All K.D. shirts and trousers will be withdrawn into the Sub-Depot. (Separate instructions to L.Os. will follow concerning their subsequent disposal of these garments to Repair Depots).

(b) Drawers and vests cotton will be replaced by drawers and vests woollen and the cotton garments disposed of as in (a) above.

(c) The date by which these withdrawals will be completed will be notified by the M.M.I.A. L.O. with each Adm. Div. or the instructions of the Allied Formation.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

6. ITI-ITI UNITS.

Any Iti-Iti Units previously issued with British K.D. will return K.D. by the same procedure.

7. This Instruction is applicable to:

(a) ITI-ITI Service Troops.
(b) Any ITI-ITI Units (e.g. Guard Bns.) to whom a special issue of K.D. has been made.

It is NOT applicable to any other troops of the Italian Armed Forces.

8. The relevant Ministry of War Order is Number 22555 of September 18.

C. M. Martin Major.

A.M. [redacted], Major,
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

AM/sib.

DISTRIBUTION Ministry of War
AFHQ (MMAA)'s (2 copies)
50 BLU
51 BLU
52 BLU
53 BLU
56 BLU
1 BLTU (LIVORNO)
803 BRD RAVENNA
802 BRD CERVIA
2 Dis. HQ
3 Dis HQ.
Public Safety Sub Comm.
HQ Allied Comm.

INTERNAL Normal.

5217

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

File. Policy (51)

Combat Groups.	5	x 9,000	45,000
Ind. Regts.	10	x 2,500	25,000
U.S. Divisions	3	x 5,000	15,000
			31,000
Services			116,000
Navy. M.Bs. - Depots (10)			7,000
			7,000
Reinforcements.			130,000

UNCLASSIFIED.

SUBJECT : Demobilisation of Older Classes.

LAND FORCES SUB COM, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E .
Tel: 489081 Ext. 533.
A 017
15 Sept. 45.

TO : Ministry of War.

45-A

Reference A 017 of 27 August.

1 Restrictions formerly imposed on the demobilisation of certain selected personnel of the Italian Army are now withdrawn. Once the demobilisation of a certain class is authorised, it will apply equally to all Italian Army personnel in that class.

2 The Ministry of War will continue to be responsible :

(a) that all Italian units for which disbandment instructions have not been issued are kept up to authorised working strength at all times.

(b) that personnel in any particular age group will not be demobilised until approval for the demobilisation of that age group has been given by M.M.I.A.-

W Pidsley Colonel
for Major General
M.M.I.A.

COPY TO : A.F.H.Q. (3)
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, A.C.
C.G. MTOUSA.
C.G. PBS.
C.G. FIFTH ARMY.
BR. CADRE 802 BRD ORVIETO
50 BLU
51 BLU
52 BLU

5215

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

LAND FORCES SUB COM, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E .
Tel: 489081 Ext. 533.
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- - - - - - - - - -

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W Pidsley Colonel
Major General
for. M.M.I.A.

COPY TO : A.F.H.Q. (3)
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, A.C.
C.G. MTOUSA.
C.G. PBS.
C.G. FIFTH ARMY.
C.G. AAFSC/MTO.
C.O. PENSOUTH.
XLII CORPS.
1 DISTRICT.
2 DISTRICT.
3 DISTRICT.
R.A.A.C.

BR. CADRE 802 BRD ORVIETO. 5.15
50 BLU
51 BLU
52 BLU
53 BLU
56 BLU
'F' BTLU, IRTC, CESANO.
ALL MMIA LO'S.

INTERNAL : WAR DIARY.
ALL BRANCHES AND SERVICES.

af.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Subject : Welfare - Italian Forces.

494

Land Forces Sub Comm.AC.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E

A/024.

12 Sep.'45.

To : Hour HQ 13 Corps.

Reference your 1286/3/A of 3 Sep.45.

1. The Welfare of Italian troops in 13 Corps area is at present the responsibility of the Commander, 22B Adm.Div., whose responsibility it will continue to be so long as the Division exists or remains in the area. Thereafter it will be taken over by the ~~Venice~~ UDINE Territorial HQs.

2. It is confirmed that Col.. Rosai - Passaventi is due for demobilisation and an officer of the Regular Army will be nominated as his successor.

3. The ladies engaged by 8 Army will be absorbed, if they wish, into the Corps Assistenza Femminile, the official War Ministry organisation for woman welfare workers. This body will take over the commitments of the 8 Army group of ladies, so that all will be under central control. (v. this HQ A024 of 8 Aug. 45. copy to you).

4. The issue of rations for Italian canteens from Allied sources will be discontinued after 30 Sept. in accordance with AFHQ letter AG 400/005-GDB-O of 6 Sep. The provision of all supplies for welfare purposes will then become an Italian responsibility.

W P Dudley Lieut Colonel 5.9.45
Major General,
M.M.I.A.

Copy to : /ac
Welfare.

45D

RESTRICTED.

SUBJECT : Demobilisation of Older Classes.

LAND FORCES SUB COM, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
A 017
10 Sept 45.

TO : Ministry of War.

See folio 53A

45A

1 You are referred to MMIA letter A 017 of 27 August 1945 regarding demobilisation of older age groups (para 5).

2. You are hereby authorised to demobilise as from 1 October 1945 the 1917 class under the conditions given in para 3 of the above letter.

3. Personnel of the 1917 class at present in IRTC, CESANO, the Reorganisation Centre, ORVIETO, or unallotted personnel in Adm. Div. Transit Camps, will not be posted as reinforcements, but will be demobilised immediately.

4. Subject to military requirements, it is intended to release the 1918 class during November, and possibly the 1919 class during December, but this is not yet certain. and confirmation or otherwise will be sent to you during October.

5. Paras 6 & 7 of the above quoted letter are still in force.

W Pidsley Colonel
Major General,
M.M.I.A.

COPY TO : A.F.H.Q. (3)
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, A.C.
C.G. MTOUSA.
C.G. PBS.
C.G. FIFTH ARMY.
C.G. AAFSC/MTO.
C.G. PENSOUTH.
50 BLU.
51 BLU.
52 BLU.
53 BLU.
56 BLU.

5213

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(M.M.I.A.)

10 A 017
Sept 45.

TO : Ministry of War.
- - - - - - - -

See Folio 53A

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Major General,
M.M.I.A.

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EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, A.C.
C.G. MTOUSA.
C.G. PBS.
C.G. FIFTH ARMY.
C.G. AAFSC/MTO.
C.O. PENSOUTH.
XIII CORPS.
1 DISTRICT.
2 DISTRICT.
3 DISTRICT.
RAAC.
BR. CADRE 802 BRD ORVIETO.

50 BLU.
51 BLU.
52 BLU.
53 BLU.
56 BLU.
'F' BTLU, IRTC, CESANO.
ALL MMLA L.O'S.

INTERNAL:
WAR DIARY.
ALL BRANCHES AND SERVICES.

5213

/sl.

WELFARE

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

TRANSLATION

From : Territorial Zone, COMUT - Bari
Station Speciia
To : Addressees

Ref : 45
Dtd : 22 Aug 45

TRANSLATION

478

From : M of War
To : MMIA

Ref : 07402/BS
Dtd : 1 Sep 45

Subject : Report on Morale.

As requested, I hereby communicate on the subject referred to in the report submitted to MMIA with letter 06587/BS dtd 7 Aug 45.

I- Morale:- Unfortunately, an adeguate propaganda on behalf of the Army has not yet been made.

In this respect, there exist difficulties of an especially political nature. It is necessary that the various parties should truly consider the Army as completely foreign to politics and that, in it, they should recognise one of the foundations of peace and order on which to rebuild the life of The Nation.

The propaganda which has been diffused in the military newspapers (Divisional and Group) has an influence which remains confined to the limits of these Units; instead it is necessary that the propaganda should be diffused by the large organs of the various parties.

II-Causes of Depression :-

a) Discharge:- In 15 days, the discharge of the classes of 1916 will commence.

b) The absorption of dischargees into civilian life: The H.Q.'s (in accordance with circular 06250/BS dtd 6 July 45, (known to MMIA) completed with other suggestions from this office in order to overcome the primary difficulties ~~encountered~~ are making contacts with Civilian firms and Authorities in order to obtain the census of ~~man-power~~ work available.

I do not hold that with this we shall obtain great results; however this measure will ~~be effective~~ make a good material and moral

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

in the report submitted to MMIA with letter 06567/SS dtd [illegible]

I- Morale:- Unfortunately, an adequate propaganda on behalf of the Army has not yet been made.

In this respect, there exist difficulties of an especially political nature. It is necessary that the various parties should truly consider the Army as completely foreign to politics and that, in it, they should recognise one of the foundations of peace and order on which to rebuild the life of The Nation.

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I do not hold that with this we shall obtain great results; however this measure will make a good material and moral contribution towards the solution of the problem.

In addition there is to be considered the D.L.L. No 433 of the 4 Aug 45, which stipulates that, w.e.f. 5 Aug 45, one half of the employment available must be reserved for the discharged military personnel 52

c)-Grants-The Ministry of the Interior, approached by this Ministry, has assured us, on the 15 Aug 45 that it has sent instructions to all the Prefectures (including those administrated by the A.M.G.) that all the Communes should be informed on the subject of Grants. We maintain therefore, that from now on, they will be paid regularly-Controls will be made.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

d) Equalising of grants and financial treatment with the cost of living.

A "liberation" grant has been made to service personnel (Officers and N.C.O.'s) payed in two monthly installments (August-Sept), which ~~xxxxxx~~ is comprehensively :

L.3000 (net sum payable - L.2708) for married men not ~~xxxxxxx~~ drawing rations.

L.2000 (" " " - L.1806) for married men drawing rations.

L.1250 (" " " - L.1128) for bachelors not drawing rations.

L. 750 (" " " - L. 677) for bachelors drawing rations.

Travelling grants have been improved, for military personnel on journeys for service reasons, in such a manner as to equalise them to the necessary expenses.

The above-mentioned measures however, while they give evidence of the goodwill of the Government, do not present the solution to the problem raised by the co t of living.

e) Treatment of military personnel in service and awaiting ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ trial.

The legal provision which will grant preservation of grants to military personnel in such conditions has not yet been passed. However, for the present, it has been already decided by the Ministry, while awaiting the said provision, to make ~~xxxxxxx~~ in reviewed cases the grant.

f) Food and Clothing for Military Personnel bedridden in Hospitals.

The difficulties are known, along general lines, to MMIA.

In particular ~~xxxxxxxxx~~:

The Ministry, has instructed that a parcel of clothing should be distributed to the disabled when they are definitely discharged from hospitals, and return to civilian life.

The Red Cross and other Institutions continue to interest themselves with some small success, in the collection of clothing for the above-mentioned project in such a manner as to contribute to the solution of the problem which, however, owing to the vastness of the requirement, remains very great.

g)-Transport to and from Sardinia.

The Ministry of Marine has been approached to ~~xxxx~~ establish a Navigation provided

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

for service reasons, in such a manner as to equalise them to the necessary expenses.

The above-mentioned measures however, while they give evidence of the goodwill of the Government, do not present the solution to the problem raised by the co t of living.

e) Treatment of military personnel in service and awaiting trial ~~judgement~~.

The legal provision which will grant preservation of grants to military personnel in such conditions has not yet been passed. However, for the present, it has been already decided by the Ministry, while awaiting the said provision, to make in revised ~~every~~ cases the grant.

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g)-Transport to and from Sardinia.

The Ministry of Marine has been approached to ~~form~~ establish a Naples Cagliari line with a steamship of a suitable tonnage, capable of carrying about 500 men.

The said Ministry has replied ~~xxxxx~~ (on the 12 August) that it cannot meet the request but that it will keep the problem in mind and se k to solve it "as soon as possible".

In order to be able to facilitate the dispersal of military personnel proceeding to Sardinia for leave, discharge or service reas ons (excluding ex-P.O.W.'s being discharged) special voyages from Naples have been ordered, to be made by light craft of the Navy.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

III - Proposals and Requests of H.Q.'s under Command.

For several of the observations made by the department (press campaigns discipline-discharge of classes-clothing) I refer to the preceeding No.

In addition:

a) Calling-up of Young classes- Nothing foreseen.

b) Granting of Lodging - The problem is linked with the needs of the Allies and with the possibilities of reconstruction and restoration.

c) Increasing of the Soap Rations. - No change.

d) Renewal of the Tobacco ration on payment: No change.

e) Equalisation of the fund for Commensations and Grants: Among the Combat Groups and other units : this has not yet come about.

f) Transit camps and rest-places: This service exists and is being perfected. Transitx camps have been made dependent on the military districts.

Brigadier,

sgd. G.C. Tamassia.

D/S. Visari

5210

Declassified E.O. 12065, Section 3-402/NNDG No. 785020

Groups and other units : this has not yet come about.

f) Transit camps and rest-places: This service exists and is being perfected. Transitx camps have been made dependent on the military districts.

Brigadier,
sgd. G.C. Tamassia.

B/B. Viaro

520

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

FE/ap 60[illegible]

URGENTE

Roma, 1-9-1945

Translat. Hoare 3/9

30

Ministero della Guerra
Uff° Benessere del Soldato
alle armi

Divisione ____ Sez. ____
Prot. N° 07402/BS Oggetto ____

Risposta al Foglio ____ del 28 Agosto 45
Div. ____ Sez. TR N. 7e1/P

OGGETTO: Rapporto su condizioni morali.-

e, per conoscenza:

MINISTERO GUERRA

WELFARE (Date 3/9 1000)

OU: G A B I N E T T O 3/9

Alla LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
A.C. (M.M.I.A.)

094.1

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Segnalo quanto richiesto per ciò che si riferisce al rapporto trasmesso a codesto Comando con la lettera 06587/B.S. del 7 Agosto 1945.

I - MORALE - purtroppo una adeguata propaganda a favore dell'Esercito non ancora è stata fatta.-

Esistono, al riguardo, difficoltà di carattere specialmente politico. Occorrerebbe che i vari partiti considerassero veramente l'Esercito completamente estraneo alla politica e vedessero in esso una delle basi di ordine e di concordia su cui ricostruire la vita della Nazione.-

La propaganda che è stata fatta sui giornali militari (dalle Divisioni o dai Gruppi) ha un influenza che rimane circoscritta all'interno delle Unità; occorrerebbe che la propaganda invece fosse fatta dai grandi giornali dei vari partiti.-

II - CAUSE DI DEPRESSIONE-

a) - Congedamenti: fra 15 giorni avrà inizio il congedamento della classe del 1916 5 & 9

b) - immissione dei congedanti nella vita civile - ai Comandi (in

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Int. N. 01402/B.Segr. Div. Sez. N. del/1

OGGETTO: Rapporto su condizioni morali.-

WELFARE 094 3/5 1000 OU: G A B I N E T T O 3/9

e,per conoscenza:

MINISTERO GUERRA

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

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II - CAUSE DI DEPRESSIONE-

a)-Congedamenti: fra 15 giorni avrà inizio il congedamento della classe del 1916

b)-immissione dei congedanti nella vita civile - :i Comandi (in relazione alla circolare 06250/BS del 26 Luglio 1945,(nota a codesto Comando)completata da altri suggerimenti dati da questo Ufficio per superare le prime difficoltà incontrate)stan=

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

no prendendo i contatti con le Autorità e gli Enti civili per fare il censimento della mano d'opera disponibile.-

Non ritengo che con questo si ottengano grandi risultati però questo provvedimento potrà portare un buon contributo materiale e un alto contributo morale alla soluzione del problema.-

E' inoltre da tener presente il D.L.L. 4 Agosto 1945 N° 453 che stabilisce che,dal 5 Agosto 1945,la metà dei posti disponibili dovranno essere riservati ai militari congedati.-

c) - sussidi - Il Ministero dell'Interno,interessato da questo Ministero,ha assicurato,in data 15 Agosto 1945,di avere impartite disposizioni a tutte le Prefetture(comprese quelle amministrate dall'A.M.G.) perchè tutti i Comuni siano edotti dalla questione dei sussidi.- E' da ritenere perciò che d'ora in poi, questi siano corrisposti regolarmente - Saranno fatti controlli.-

d) Adeguamento dei sussidi e del trattamento economico al costo della vita:

- E' stata concessa al personale in servizio (Ufficiali e sottufficiali) una indennità di "liberazione" pagata in due mensilità (agosto - settembre)- Essa è complessivamente di

L. 3000	(lorde - nette L. 2708)	per gli ammogliati non provvisti di razione viveri.
L. 2000	(lorde - nette L. 1806)	per gli ammogliati provvisti di razione viveri.-
L. 1250	(lorde - nette L. 1128)	per gli scapoli non provvisti di razione viveri.-
L. 750	(lorde - nette L. 677)	per gli scapoli provvisti di razione viveri.-

- sono state migliorate le indennità di trasferta,durante i viaggi dei militari,per servizio,in modo da adeguarle meglio alla realtà delle spese.-

I predetti provvedimenti però,se mettono in evidenza la buona

5208

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I predetti provvedimenti però,se mettono in evidenza la buona volontà del Governo,non rappresentano affatto la soluzione del problema in relazione al costo della vita.- 5208

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e) Trattamento dei militari in servizio in attesa di giudizio : il provvedimento di legge che concede la conservazione dei sussidi ai militari in tale condizioni non è ancora stato concretato. E' stato però già deciso dal Ministero di addivenire, per ora, in attesa del provvedimento stesso, caso per caso, alla concessione.-

f) Vitto e vestiario ai militari degenti negli ospedali. Le difficoltà sono note a codesta Commissione - nelle linee generali.-
In particolare:

- Il Ministero,ha disposto perchè sia distribuito un pacco vestiario ai mutilati quando vengono restituiti,dai luoghi di cura, definitivamente alla vita civile.-

- La Croce Rossa e altri enti si continuano ad interessare, con discreto successo, della raccolta di indumenti per lo scopo predetto in modo da portare un contributo alla soluzione del problema che, per altro, rimane difficilissimo dato la vastità dei bisogni.-

g) Trasporti da e per la Sardegna.-

- Il Ministero della Marina è stato interessato per la istituzione di una linea Napoli - Cagliari con un piroscafo di conveniente tonnellaggio, capace di circa 500 uomini.-
Il Ministero stesso ha però risposto, in data 12 agosto, di non poter aderire alla richiesta ma di tener presente il problema per cercare di risolverlo "appena possibile".-
- Allo scopo di facilitare il deflusso dei militari diretti in Sardegna per licenza, o per congedamento, o per servizio (esclusi i reduci dalla prigionia congedandi) sono stati disposti viaggi straordinari, da Napoli, con unità leggere della Marina da Guerra.-

III° = PROPOSTE E RICHIESTE DEI COMANDI DIPENDENTI.-

5207

Per parecchie delle osservazioni dell'Ufficio (campagne stampa - disciplina - congedamento classi - vestiario) faccio riferimento a quanto è scritto al N° precedente.-

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5207

Per parecchie delle osservazioni dell'Ufficio (campagne stampa - disciplina - congedamento classi - vestiario) faccio riferimento a quanto è scritto al N° precedente.-

Inoltre:

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

a) chiamata di classi giovani: nessuna previsione .-

b) assegnazione di alloggiamenti: il problema è collegato con le necessità degli Alleati e con le possibilità di ricostruzione e di restauro.-

c) aumento delle razioni di sapone: nulla di variato;

d) ripristino della razione tabacco a pagamento: nulla di variato;

e) parificazione del fondo per premi e sussidi fra i Gruppi di combattimento e le altre unità: non ancora avvenuta;

f) Servizio tappe e ristoro.- Esiste ed è in via di perfezionamento. I posti di tappa sono stati "appoggiati" ai distretti militari.-

IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA
(G.C.Tamassia)

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d) ripristino della razione tabacco a pagamento:nulla di variato;

e) parificazione del fondo per premi e sussidi fra i Gruppi di combattimento e le altre unità:non ancora avvenuta;

f) Servizio tappe e ristoro.- Esiste ed è in via di perfezionamento.I posti di tappa sono stati "appoggiati" ai distretti militari.-

IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA
(G.C.Tamassia)

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-464-

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT : Demobilisation of 1916 Class

LAND FORCES SUB COM, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E .
A 017
/ Sept.45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR.

Reference M.M.I.A. A 017 of 27 Aug.

Personnel of the 1916 Class now in Depots and Administrative Div. Transit Camps may be demobilized immediately, before the date scheduled for the commencement of general demobilisation of the class (15 September). Personnel of the 1916 class will not be posted as reinforcements to units.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

COPY TO : AFHQ (3)
C.G. MTOUSA
C.G. PBS
C.G. FIFTH ARMY
C.G. AAFSC/MTO
C.O. PENSOUTH
XIII Corps
I District
2 District
3 District
RAAC
Br Cadre 802 BRD ORVIETO
ALL BLU'S

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG No. 785020

(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
A OI7
/ Sept.45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR.

Reference M.M.I.A. A OI7 of 27 Aug.

Personnel of the I9I6 Class now in Depots and Administrative Div. Transit Camps may be demobilized immediately, before the date scheduled for the commencement of general demobilisation of the class (I5 September). Personnel of the I9I6 class will not be posted as reinforcements to units.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

COPY TO : AFHQ (3)
C.G. MTOUSA
C.G. PBS
C.G. FIFTH ARMY
C.G. AAFSC/MTO
C.O. PENSOUTH
XIII Corps
I District
2 District
3 District
RAAC
Br Cadre 802 BRD ORVIETO
ALL BLU'S
'F' BTLU, IRTC
ALL MMIA LO's

INTERNAL : War Diary
ALL Branches and Services.

maf.

WELFARE

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Welfare 461

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Demobilisation of Older Classes.

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E
A 017
27 Aug 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR.

1. The Allied authorities have for some time had under consideration the question of the demobilisation of the older age groups of the Italian Army.

2. It has now been decided that in view of the reductions in the numbers of service troops now taking place and likely to continue, this demobilisation may be gradually effected, under the following conditions which apply to the whole Italian Army.

3. The Ministry of War will be responsible :-

(a) That all Italian Units for which disbandment instructions have not been issued will be kept up to authorised working strength at all times.

(b) That replacements for all demobilised personnel are delivered to the unit before such personnel are demobilised.

(c) That replacements are fully trained to perform the duties called for by War Establishment and to the satisfaction of the employing Allied Commander.

(d) That personnel in any particular age group will NOT be demobilised until approval for the demobilisation of that age group has been given by MMIA.

4. Under the above conditions you are authorised already to demobilise the 1914 and 1915 and older classes, and are hereby authorised to effect the demobilisation of the 1916 class between 15 Sept and 15 October.

5. The future demobilisation of groups 1917 et. seq., will be considered by MMIA on your advice and in the light of the speed with which units are to be disbanded, and the progress of demobilisation already authorised.

6. Progress Reports on the demobilisation of each class will be sent to MMIA on the 7th and 21st of each month showing the number of men by age groups :- 5264

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6. Progress Reports on the demobilisation of each class will be 5204 sent to MMIA on the 7th and 21st of each month showing the number of men by age groups :-

Awaiting demobilisation
Demobilised

in each Adm Div, Combat Group, etc as on the preceeding 1st and 15th of the month.

7. You may give such publicity to these concessions as you think advisable in the interest of discipline and morale.

for Forte 48th

W Pidsley Col

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

44 A

SUBJECT : Morale Report.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E.
WEL/P.
28 Aug'45.

To : Ministry of War,
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

Reference 06587/B.S. of 7 Aug'45.

In the Morale Report forwarded under the above reference there is a section devoted to Remarks (OSSERVAZIONI dell'Ufficio), in which certain measures are indicated as desirable or necessary.

Will you please notify this HQ., by 1 Sept. of what results have followed on your efforts to effect these measures ?

S/Capt.,
Welfare,
M.M.I.A.

5203

SC (Welfare)

This is rather a futile document. I can't help feeling it is more a summary of things we have jerked Wa Thin over, than a time synopsis from mitō.

It rather gives the idea of ~~the entire~~ things to soft-soap M.M.I.A – However for action:-

1. 10. What has Tamasria managed to produce by way of propaganda or orders for injuring the army status in the eyes of civilians.

2. We know all about the demobilisation business per T— needn't rub it in.

3. Include this in your report on <u>after-service welfare</u> which I should like by 3 Sep with recommendations.

4. - 5. We know the pay problem – Pu should keep pressing – we judge by results.

6. 7. Until – in hand

5262

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Dr [illegible]

his soft-soap M.M.I.A. – However for action:-

1. 10. What has Tamassia managed to produce by way of propaganda or orders for injuring the army status in the eyes of civilians.

2. We know all about the demobilisation business Gen T— needn't rub it in.

3. Include this in your report on <u>after-service</u> welfare which I desired like by 3 Sep with recommendations.

4. - 5. We know the pay problem - Re should keep pressing - we judge by results.

6. 7. United - in hand

8 9 12 We know

11 " "

13 !

5262

So there is nothing new or constructive in any of this – No action except para (3) above.

WP

23/8/43

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Translation

S/Capt Welsome

43A

Ref. : C6587/B.?.
Date : August 7, 1945

From : MOW
To : MMIA
Subject : Report.

As per verbal understandings, we enclose a copy of the synopsis of the report on the morale of the troops for the month of June.

(Sgd) Gen. Tennessie

Cpl. Vdc(w)

for Info. G.O.C. on return. WP Enc. 15 cms.

5201

Translation

From : MOW - Soldier's Welfare Office
To : MOW
Subject : Synopsis of reports on the morale of troops for the month of June 1945.

Ref. : 06597/B.S.
Date : August 7, 1945

Synopsis of reports from Hqs.	Remarks by this office.
MORALE : The waiting and the acute state of excessive sensitiveness and irritation are the factors that dominate the morale of the troops, creating a tense and serious psychological atmosphere very favorable to extremist parties that attempt by any means to undermine the Army from its foundation. The spirit and discipline of the troops belonging to territorial commands are generally on a level much lower than that of troops belonging to combat groups and to logistic divisions with the Allied Armies.	(1) It is necessary that an active and wise propaganda be carried out through the press of moderate parties, insisting in the concept that the Army is the ~~guard~~ trust representative of the Nation and that it is not and does not want to be (and has never been) the ~~protector~~ strong hold of a party or of a particular form of government, but only protects and defends the Motherland, always outside of and above any conception of party.
CAUSE OF THE STATE OF DEPRESSION : The subversive propaganda that with deceitful activities envelops the entire military organization in an ever tightening net,	

X We cannot raise the army in the eyes of the nation by telling the Army how good it is that "la Patria" can we get at 15 and 20 pass in any way?

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

psychological atmosphere very favorable to extremist parties that attempt by any means to undermine the Army from its foundation.

The spirit and discipline of the troops belonging to territorial commands are generally on a level much lower than that of troops belonging to combat groups and to logistic divisions with the Allied Armies.

CAUSE OF THE STATE OF DEPRESSION : The subversive propaganda that with deceitful activities envelops the entire military organization in an ever tightening net,

insisting in the concept that the Army is the ~~sentinel~~ trust ~~Armed~~ representative of the Nation and that it is not and does not want to be (and has never been) the ~~protector~~ stronghold of a party or of a particular form of government, but only protects and defends the Motherland, always outside of and above any conception of party.

=

X We cannot raise the army in the eyes of the nation by telling the Army how good it is that "la Patria" can we get at the press in any way?

Welfare/ask Gen Tamassia to let me have by 1 Sep a list of any concrete results of any of his "remarks" above WP.

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Synopsis of reports from Hqs.	Remarks by this office
- The still unpublished report of the coming demobilization of the older classes and of volunteers;	(2)- With a recent secret memo to commanders, we gave notice of the program the ~~enactment~~ of which has been planned for Sept.-Oct.
X - the lack of measures for the return of soldiers to civilian life;	(3)- It has already been suggested to the commands that they contact the ~~demobilizement~~ offices and employers in order to facilitate the return of soldiers to civilian life.
- the irregular payment of allowances by many communes to families of soldiers in the service;	(4)- Energetic action by the Ministry concerned is necessary.
- the lack of proportion between allowances and living costs;	(5)- The economic difficulties in which the State is struggling are well known. It is a problem which must be met ~~consequently~~ by the Government.
- the lack of proportion between the economic treatment of career personnel and conditions of life;	
- the too slow progress of penal trials against military personnel which have been pending for many months. Many of these soldiers have done their duty on the field of battle and at present are on duty with units. No allowances are given	(6)- The corps have already received orders to ~~recommend~~ a particular treatment for ~~the~~ soldiers who have distinguished themselves during ~~the~~ operations. The general question

Contd.

X This is in hand.

5139

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- the irregular payment of allowances by many communes to families of soldiers in the service;

- the lack of proportion between allowances and living costs;

- the lack of proportion between the economic treatment of career personnel and conditions of life;

- the too slow progress of penal trials against military personnel which have been pending for many months. Many of these soldiers have done their duty on the field of battle and at present are on duty with units. No allowances are given

(4) Energetic action by the Ministry concerned is necessary.

(5) The economic difficulties in which the State is struggling are well known. It is a problem which must be met ~~courageously~~ by the Government.

(6) The corps have already received orders to ~~recommend~~ a particular treatment for ~~the~~ soldiers who have distinguished themselves during ~~the~~ operations.

The general question

Contd.

X This is in hand.

5189

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Synopsis of reports from Hqs.	Remarks by this office
to said soldiers, they cannot be demobilized until the trials have taken place, and their families do not receive the allowances;	(7) for the preservation of allowances to those who, accused of desertion, have returned to their corps ~~of their own accord~~, is being examined by the Ministry of the Interior. The hastening of decisions is required.
X - the limited moral and material assistence ~~to~~ patients in hospitals, both in regards to food and equipment;	(8) the lack of clothing is greater than the lack of food. It is necessary to approach the Allies, asking for a greater understanding of our needs, and in the meantime, to ~~make supplies~~ issues by means of purchases from the market at any price.
- the persistent difficulties of transportation between the the mainland and Sardinia that forcibly limit\ the granting of leaves to that island to absolutely exceptional cases.	(9) A matter that has been pointed out other times.
Proposals AND REQU ESTS OF HQS. UNDER OUR COMMAND : - opportune intervention by authorities of the State in order to bring an end to the hateful and disparaging campaign against the Armed Forces of the State which is being carried out by the extremist press.	(10) see remarks made above.

Contd.

X Very little progress. See separate report.

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to ~~make supply~~ issues by means of purchases from the market at any price.

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Proposals AND REQUESTS OF HQS. UNDER OUR COMMAND : - opportune intervention by authorities of the State in order to bring an end to the hateful and disparaging campaign against the Armed Forces of the State which is being carried out by the extremist press.

(10) see remarks made above.

Contd.

X Very little progress. See separate report.

5198

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Synopsis of reports from Hqs.	Remarks by this office
- the energetic ~~renewal~~ restoration of discipline in order to put an end to the spreading of crimes; - the assignment of irreducibly undisciplined elements to special disciplinary units; - the re-establishment of the authority of the law, the prosecution and punishment of military crimes in general, and crimes of desertion, reluctance in obeying orders, disobedience and insubordination, in an exemplary manner.	(11) A general problem that not only concerns the Army, but the entire Nation; authoritative circulars and ~~lectures~~ speeches by leaders and commanders have a value and strength which are very relative today.
- the rapid demobilization of the older classes and volunteers;	=
- the calling up of young classes with service obligations in the entire territory of the kingdom;	=
- regular and periodic issues of clothing and boots to troops, under the command of the territorial commands, who suffer the most from the lack of these things;	(12) See remarks made above.
- Assignment of billets that permit worthy, comfortable, and hygienic accommodation;	(13) the solution of this problem in the larger garrisons must be sought through the Allies.
- increase in the soap ration;	=

Contd.

5157

Declassified E.O. 13065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

general, and crimes of desertion,
reluctency in obeying orders,
disobedience and insubordination,
in an exemplary manner.

- the rapid demobilization of the older classes and volunteers; =

- the calling up of young classes with service obligations in the entire territory of the kingdom; =

- regular and periodic issues of clothing and boots to troops, under the command of the territorial commands, who suffer the most from the lack of these things; (12) See remarks made above.

- Assignment of billets that permit worthy, comfortable, and hygienic accommodation; (13) the solution of this problem in the larger garrisons must be sought through the Allies.

- increase in the soap ration; =

Contd.

5157

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NSDC No. 785020

Synopsis of reports from Hqs.	Remarks by this office
- the ~~renewal~~ restoration of the tobacco ration on repayment;	=
- the granting of funds for awards and allowances to territorial commands in the same proportion enjoyed by the Hqs. of Combat groups and logistic divisions;	(14) this matter was reported in this Office's previous report and is being solved.
- the organization of a transit camp and rest camp service in order to assist the soldiers who go on leave or who are demobilized;	(15) The G5 Office of SMRE is dealing with the matter.
- evaluate and recognize the service rendered by units now being disbanded, keeping them in their old ~~organic unity~~ w/c formations.	=
- the Palermo Mil. Terr. Command suggests transferring Sicilian elements elsewhere and replacing them with elements from the mainland in order to ensure the greater security in the use of units in case of public ~~order~~ disturbances, thus eliminating the difference in treatment between Sicilian volunteers who are on duty in Internal Security units on their island and the Sardinians called up to render the same service far from their own land.	(16) =

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in order to assist the soldiers who go on leave or who are demobilized;

- evaluate and recognize the service rendered by units now being disbanded, keeping them in their old ~~organic units~~ w/e formations. =

- the Palermo Mil. Terr. Command suggests transferring Sicilian elements elsewhere and replacing them with elements from the mainland in order to ensure the greater security in the use of units in case of public ~~order~~ disturbances, thus eliminating the difference in treatment between Sicilian volunteers who are on duty in Internal Security units on their island and the Sardinians called up to render the same service far from their own land. (16) =

5196

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GENERAL REMARKS BY THIS OFFICE:

- ~~Pinchin~~ Despite the limitation of available ~~resources~~ Indians, the ever greater apathy of the population for all that regards our Armed Forces, and the almost entire lack of co-operation from civilian authorities, persist, all of the Commands, without distinction, are doing all they possibly can to give profitable moral and material assistance to the troops.

- ✕ - It would be very advisable for the Government to issue a statement to the ~~public opinion~~, pointing out that:

  - the Army represents its legally constituted Armed Force;
  - units do not exist in order to give employment to officers who, ~~have been held too long and who are still to be placed~~ all too many persons believe, should be purgated.

- ~~the public should and patriotically~~ recognize the merits and sacrifices of this ~~new~~ young Army.

- As already mentioned in the previous report, it is necessary that patients in the hospitals be given greater moral and material assistance. Any economic sacrifice made by the Nation for this meritorious category will always be a modest recognition of the sacrifices borne by them, and the feeling of being abandoned, that has taken root, would be removed.

- The economic ~~troubles~~ of the officers and Senior NCOs continue to grow worse. A rapid solution is required in order to avoid having many elements leave the Army in order to seek some other occupation in civilian life that offers better possibilities of existence to them and to their families.

Signed: G. C. Tamassia
Brig. Genl

VC W ✕ Isn't "advertising" the job of the Ufficio Stampa? We need far more than a Government statement - we need a subtle and insidious

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officers who, ~~have been held too long and who are~~ still to be cleared; persons believe, should be purgated. all too many

- ~~The public should and correctly~~ recognize the merits and sacrifices of this ~~new~~ young Army.

- As already mentioned in the previous report, it is necessary that patients in the hospitals be given greater moral and material assistance. Any economic sacrifice made by the Nation for this meritorious category will always be a modest recognition of the sacrifices borne by them, and the feeling of being abandoned, that has taken root, would be removed.

- The economic ~~troubles~~ troubles of the officers and Senior NCOs continue to grow worse. A rapid solution is required in order to avoid having many elements leave the Army in order to seek some other occupation in civilian life that offers better possibilities of existence to them and to their families.

Signed: G. C. Tamassia
Brig. Genl

VC W ·X· Isn't "advertising" the job of the Ufficio Stampa? We need far more than a Government Statement - we need a subtle and insidious propaganda: even the Italian army can be acted by de nigher methods. The necessity of issuing such a statement is a tacit denial of the second premise - at least in respect of one Unit, i.e. Uff. Stampa

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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T. SPA 818

Roma 7 Agosto 1945

Ministero della Guerra
UFFICIO BENESSERE DEL SOLDATO

Divisione
Prot. N. 06587/B.S. Sez. Allegati

Oggetto : Relazione.-

Al la LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION (M.M.I.A.)
ROMA

Risposta al f. del
Div. Sez. N.

A. 5

Come da intese verbali, si trasmette copia sintesi della relazione sul morale della truppa relativa al mese di giugno c.a.-

IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA
(G.C.Tamassia)

TRANSMISSION
IN 09:15 Date 7/8/45
OUT Time 1015 Date 13/8

5194

C/gr.

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA
-Ufficio Benessere del Soldato alle Armi-

n. 06587 /B.S. di prot. P.M.3600, li 7 agosto 1945

AL MINISTRO DELLA GUERRA
AL SOTTOSEGRETARIO MILITARE ALLA GUERRA
AL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE R.ESERCITO

Sintesi delle relazioni sul morale della truppa per il mese di agosto 1945

Sintesi relazioni dei Comandi	Osservazioni dell'Ufficio
MORALE : l'attesa ed un acuto stato di ipersensibilità e d'irritazione sono i fattori che dominano il morale della truppa, creando un ambiente psicologico teso e grave, assai favorevole alla propaganda di partiti estremi che, con ogni mezzo, tentano di scalzare dalle fondamenta l'Esercito. Lo spirito e la disciplina delle truppe appartenenti ai comandi territoriali sono generalmente ad un livello assai più basso di quelli delle truppe appartenenti ai gruppi di combattimento ed alle divisioni logistiche al seguito delle armate alleate.-	E' necessaria una attiva e sagace azione di propaganda attraverso alla stampa dei partiti moderati, inculcando nel concetto che l'Esercito è la più schietta rappresentanza della Nazione; che esso non è e non vuole essere (e non è mai stato) presidio di un partito o di una particolare forma di governo, ma soltanto presidio e difesa della Patria, sempre all'infuori ed al di sopra di ogni concezione di parte.

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Sintesi delle relazioni sul morale della truppe per il mese di [illegible] 1945

Sintesi relazioni dei Comandi	Osservazioni dell'Ufficio
MORALE : l'attesa ed un acuto stato di ipersensibilità e d'irritazione sono i fattori che dominano il morale della truppa, creando un ambiente psicologico teso e grave, assai favorevole alla propaganda di partiti estremi che, con ogni mezzo, tentano di scalzare dalle fondamenta l'Esercito. Lo spirito e la disciplina delle truppe appartenenti ai comandi territoriali sono generalmente ad un livello assai più basso di quelli delle truppe appartenenti ai gruppi di combattimento ed alle divisioni logistiche al seguito delle armate alleate.-	E' necessaria una attiva e sagace azione di propaganda attraverso alla stampa dei partiti moderati, insistendo nel concetto che l'Esercito è la più schietta rappresentanza della Nazione; che esso non è e non vuole essere (e non è mai stato) presidio di un partito o di una particolare forma di governo, ma soltanto presidio e difesa della Patria, sempre all'infuori ed al di sopra di ogni concezione di parte.
CAUSE DI DEPRESSIONE : - la propaganda sovvertitrice che con subdola attività avvolge tutto l'organismo militare con	=

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Sintesi relazioni dei Comandi	Osservazioni dell'Ufficio
una rete sempre più fitta; - la non ancora diramata comunicazione del prossimo congedamento delle classi anziane e dei volontari; - la mancanza di provvidenze per la immissione dei soldati nella vita civile; - la irregolare corresponsione dei sussidi da parte di molti Comuni alle famiglie dei militari alle armi; - la mancanza dell'adeguamento dei sussidi al costo della vita; - il mancato adeguamento del trattamento economico dei militari di carriera alle condizioni di vita; - il troppo lento corso dei giudizi penali dei militari alle armi che ne sono in attesa da molti mesi; molti di questi militari hanno fat	- Con recente promemoria riservato ai comandanti si è data notizia del programma di prevista attuazione entro il settembre-ottobre. - Già suggerito ai comandi di prendere contatto con uffici di collocamento e con datori di lavoro per facilitare il ritorno dei soldati nella vita civile. - E' necessaria una energica azione del Ministero competente. - Sono ben note le difficoltà economiche nelle quali lo Stato si dibatte. E' problema che deve essere affrontato collegialmente dal Governo. - I corpi hanno già avuto di sposizioni di proporre un particolare trattamento per i militari in congedo di

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- la non ancora definita normalizzazione del prossimo congedamento delle classi anziane e dei volontari;	- Non recente promemoria riservato ai comandanti si è data notizia del programma di prevista attuazione entro il settembre-ottobre.
- la mancanza di provvidenze per la smobilitazione dei soldati nella vita civile;	- Già suggerito ai comandi di prendere contatto con uffici di collocamento e con datori di lavoro per facilitare il ritorno dei soldati nella vita civile.
- la irregolare corresponsione dei sussidi da parte di molti Comuni alle famiglie dei militari alle armi;	- E' necessaria una energica azione del Ministero competente.
- la mancanza dell'adeguamento dei sussidi al costo della vita;	- Sono ben note le difficoltà economiche nelle quali lo Stato si dibatte. E' problema che deve essere affrontato collegialmente dal Governo.
- il mancato adeguamento del trattamento economico dei militari di carriera alle condizioni di vita;	
- il troppo lento corso dei giudizi penali dei militari alle armi che ne sono in attesa da molti mesi; molti di questi militari hanno fatto il loro dovere sui campi di battaglia e attualmente prestano servizio nei reparti; a tali militari non viene corrisposta alcuna indeg	- I corpi hanno già avuto disposizioni di proporre un particolare trattamento per i militari in attesa di giudizio che si sono distinti durante le operazioni. 5192 La questione di carattere

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Sintesi relazioni dei Comandi	Osservazioni dell'Ufficio
mità, le loro famiglie non percepiscono il sussidio o non possono essere inviati in congedo se non a giudizio espletato;	generale per la conservazione dei sussidi a coloro che, denunciati per diserzione hanno fatto ritorno ai corpi spontaneamente, mi risulta in corso presso il Ministero degli Interni. Occorre sollecitarne la definizione.
- la limitata assistenza morale e materiale ai militari degenti negli ospedali, sia nel vitto che nell'equipaggiamento;	- Più che il vitto è manchevole il vestiario. E' necessario insistere con gli alleati per una maggiore comprensione delle nostre necessità, e in attesa provvedere con larghe distribuzioni mediante acquisti dal commercio a qualunque prezzo.
- le persistenti difficoltà di trasporto con la Sardegna che limitano fortemente la concessione di licenze per quell'Isola ai casi assolutamente eccezionali.-	- Questione già altre volte rappresentata.-
PROPOSTE E RICHIESTE DEI COMANDI DIPENDENTI:	
- l'intervento tempestivo degli organi dello Stato perchè sia po-	- Vedi quanto osservato più sopra.

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piscono il sussidio e non possono essere inviati in congedo se non a giudizio espletato;

- la limitata assistenza morale e materiale ai militari degenti negli ospedali, sia nel vitto che nell'equipaggiamento;

- le persistenti difficoltà di trasporto con la Sardegna che limitano forzatamente la concessione di licenze per quell'Isola ai casi assolutamente eccezionali.-

PROPOSTE E RICHIESTE DEI COMANDI DIPENDENTI:

- l'intervento tempestivo degli organi dello Stato perché sia posto fine all'odiosa campagna denigratoria contro le FF.AA. dello Stato fatta dalla stampa estremista;

dei sussidi a coloro che, denunciati per diserzione hanno fatto ritorno ai corpi spontaneamente, mi risulta in essere presso il Ministero degli Interni. Occorre sollecitarne la definizione.

- Più che il vitto è manchevole il vestiario. E' necessario insistere con gli alleati per una maggiore comprensione delle nostre necessità, e in attesa provvedere con larghe distribuzioni mediante acquisti dal commercio a qualunque prezzo.

- Questione già altre volte rappresentata.-

- Vedi quanto esposto più sopra.

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Sintesi relazioni dei Comandi	Osservazioni dell'Ufficio
- il ripristino energico della disciplina onde por fine al dilagare dei reati; - l'assegnazione degli elementi irriducibilmente indisciplinati a speciali reparti di disciplina; - la ristabilizzazione dell'imperio della legge, il perseguimento e la punizione in modo esemplare dei reati militari in genere e quelli di diserzione, renitenza, rifiuto di obbedienza ed insubordinazione; - il congedamento rapido delle classi anziane e dei volontari; - la chiamata alle armi della classe più giovane con obblighi di leva, in tutto il territorio del Regno; - distribuzioni regolari e periodiche di vestiario e di colazione alle truppe dipendenti dai comandi territoriali, che maggiormente soffrono per tale mancanza; - assegnazione di alloggiamenti che consentano sistemazioni di igiene, confortevoli ed igieniche;	- Problema di ordine generale che non riguarda soltanto l'Esercito, ma tutta la Nazione; circolari di autorità e discorsi di capi e comandanti hanno un valore e una efficacia, oggi, assai relativa. = = - Vedi quanto detto sopra. - La soluzione di questo problema nei maggiori presidi dove essere cercata

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piano sulle per l'arte di dilegare dei reati;

- l'assegnazione degli elementi irriducibilmente indisciplinati a speciali reparti di disciplina;

- la ristabilizzazione dell'impero della legge, il perseguimento e la punizione in modo esemplare dei reati militari in genere e quelli di diserzione, renitenza, rifiuto di obbedienza ed insubordinazione;

- il congedamento rapido delle classi di anziane e dei volontari;

- la chiamata alle armi delle classi di giovani con obblighi di leva, in tutto il territorio del Regno;

- distribuzioni regolari e periodiche di vestiario e di calzature alle truppe dipendenti dai comandi territoriali, che maggiormente soffrono per tale mancanza;

- assegnazione di alloggiamenti che consentano sistemazioni dignitose, confortevoli ed igieniche;

- aumento della razione di capone;

rale che non riguarda soltanto l'Esercito, ma tutta la Nazione; circolari di autorità e discorsi di capi e comandanti hanno un valore e una efficacia, oggi, assai relativa.

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- Vedi quanto detto sopra.

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- La soluzione di questo problema nei maggiori presidi deve essere cercata con azione verso gli alleati.

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Sintesi relazioni dei Comandi	Osservazioni dell'Ufficio
- il ripristino della razione di tabacco a pagamento;	"
- l'erogazione del fondo per premi e sussidi ai comandi territoriali nella stessa proporzione di cui godono i comandi di Gruppo di Combattimento e delle Divisioni logistiche;	- Questione già prospettata nella precedente relazione da questo Ufficio e in via di soluzione.
- l'organizzazione di un servizio tappe e ristoro per l'assistenza dei militari che si recano in licenza o in congedo;	- Mi risulta che l'Ufficio Ordinamento dello S.M.E. si sta interessando della questione.
- valorizzare e riconoscere il servizio prestato dai reparti ora in via di scioglimento, mantenendoli nelle loro vecchie unità organiche;	"
" il Comando Militare Territoriale di Palermo fa presente l'opportunità di trasferire altrove gli elementi siciliani e provvedere alla loro sostituzione con elementi provenienti dal continente. Ciò allo scopo di assicurare maggiore garanzia nell'impiego dei reparti in caso di perturbamento dell'ordine pubblico, ottenendosi così anche il risultato di eliminare la disparità di trattamento tra i volon	"

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OSSERVAZIONI DI NATURA GENERALE DELL'UFFICIO:

- Pur persistendo la limitazione dei mezzi a disposizione, la sempre maggiore apatia della popolazione per tutto ciò che riguarda le nostre Forze Armate o la quasi nulla collaborazione delle Autorità civili, i Comandi tutti, indistintamente, fanno quanto loro é possibile per dare una proficua assistenza morale e materiale alla truppa.-

- Sarebbe molto opportuna, da parte del Governo, una dichiarazione all'opinione pubblica sul nuovo Esercito, che significasse:
  - rappresentare esso la sua forza armata legalmente costituita;
  - non esistere reparti per dare impiego agli ufficiali da troppa ritenuti ancora da epurare; e che riconoscesse ufficialmente i meriti ed i sacrifici di questo nuovo giovane Esercito.-

- Come già accennato nella relazione precedente é indispensabile che i militari degenti negli ospedali abbiano una maggiore assistenza morale e materiale. Qualunque sacrificio economico fatto dalla Nazione a favore di questa benemerita categoria, sarà sempre un modesto riconoscimento ai sacrifici da loro sopportati e si toglierebbe loro la sensazione, che hanno radicata, di essere abbandonati.-

- Continua ad aggravarsi il disagio economico degli ufficiali e sottufficiali, disagio che richiede una rapida soluzione onde evitare che molti ottimi elementi lascino l'Esercito per cercarsi nella vita civile altra occupazione che offra maggiori possibilità di vita a loro ed alle loro famiglie.-

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IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA

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  - non esistere reparti per dare impiego agli ufficiali da troppi ritenuti ancora da epurare; e che riconoscesse ufficialmente i meriti ed i sacrifici di questo nuovo giovane Esercito.-

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IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA
(C.C. Tamborini)

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA - Ufficio benessere del soldato

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

RESTRICTED.

SUBJECT : Corps Assistenze Femminile.

LAND FORCES SUB ZONE, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E .
A 024
25 July, 45.

TO : Minister for War.

1. Further to my letter A 240 of 11 July, I am now in possession of the views of A.F.H.Q., on this matter.

2. I agree that the terms of your letter 05818/38 of 14 July should apply, and that the body of ladies organized by 8 Army should continue to function independently, but under control of the Welfare Office of the Ministry, so,long as 8 Army remains in Italy. The members should afterwards be invited to join the C.A.F., those who wish to join continuing to serve in the static canteens established by them, and the remainder being replaced by members of the C.A.F.

3. In this way uniform control will be achieved, while at the same time the valuable elements and work of the 8 Army group will be absorbed to the benifit of the whole service.

L. Browning

Major General,
M.M.I.A.

INTERNAL:

File: A 240
File: Commanders DO/2
Welfare (2).

5187

Lt.Gen.Sir BRIAN ROBERTSON, Bt. KCVO,CB,CBE,DSO,MC.
C.A.C. AFHQ.

40A

C O P Y

Maj.Gen.L. BROWNING, CB, OBE, MC.
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
DO/2.
12 July 1945.

My Dear

1. I am enclosing a letter I have received from G.O.C. Eighth Army as I know you are very interested in this Welfare problem and would like to have your decision.

2. The Eighth Army W.V.S. have done a first class job and some of their canteens and Rest Centres would serve as a model for any Allied Welfare organisation. I agree with Gen. McCREERY that it would be a great pity if this progress could not be maintained.

3. I have consulted the Italian War Ministry who consider that, as a matter of principle, there must be only one Italian Welfare Service, I am sure they are right. The Ministry therefore put forward the practical solution, with which I agree vis -

(a) that Eighth Army W.V.S. be asked to join the C.A.F. (official War Ministry Welfare Service) and those who do not wish to join should be replaced.

(b) that those who do join should continue with the static canteens etc which they have founded and with the tps they know.

Thus these services will continue to function.

4. There are certain aspects of the problem.

(a) I am not sure that all the Eighth Army W.V.S. will be politically acceptable to the present Government. But I do not think we can force the War Ministry to take any of these W.V.S. whose records they think are not good. If we did, we would be going against the whole principle of Epuration. So we must let the War Ministry decide who to keep on.

51/36

(b) The C.A.F.terms are not as generous as the W.V.S.terms and the Italian Treasury is at the moment disinclined to pay for Women's Services, particularly in view of the financial stringency. I think I can overcome the Treasury

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51 : 36

(b) The C.A.F.terms are not as generous as the W.V.S. terms and the Italian Treasury is at the moment disinclined to pay for Women's Services, particularly in view of the financial stringency. I think I can overcome the Treasury objection but the W.V.S.would have to come on to the same terms as the C.A.F.when they join the latter. A further point in this connection is that, although under contract to G.O.C.Eighth Army, W.V.S., were paid from 228 Adm Div. Italian Army Welfare Funds. The situation has changed since G.O.C.Eighth Army made his personal contract with the W.V.S. I do not think it would be right if a new contract were made by Comd. 86 Area with the W.V.S.who, as I say, work with and are paid by the Italian Army.

5. I shall be glad to have your decision.

Yours L.B.

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COPY

Lieut;General Sir R.L. McCreery
G.O.C. EIGHTH ARMY,
C.M.F.
Tel Ext: 6.
28 June 1945

Dear Browning

1. I have been informed that an Italian Women's organization has now been formed in ROME and that the first members of the Corps have now been sent forward; It is understood that it is to consist of 20 ladies and that it is known as C.A.F.
This is all to the good.

2. As you are aware, I formed during last winter an Italian W.V.S. This party of ladies was selected and organised by Duchessa Franca di Grazzano Visconti and now consists of 15 ladies. I also provided four mobile canteens which these ladies staffed. The four mobile canteens were allotted to the Gruppi and as they may have been moved to under command of other formations the mobile canteens have accompanied them. I have also arranged an Italian Rest Center at the LIDO for ORs, a hotel for officers and a Canteen for ORs in VENICE and canteens for ORs in UDINE and MESTRE. All of them have Italian W.V.S. attached.

3. The Italian W.V.S. which I formed are under contract to Eighth Army and when Eighth Army leave Italy the contract will become null and void unless they are renewed with some other formation. Duchess VISCONTI has been consulted and she does not wish to serve as a paid permanent member after 1st September 1945. She also states that she does not think many of her ladies would will wish to continue after that date; nor does she think that her ladies would make a contract with C.A.F., though some might with 86 Area or 1 District.

4. The Italian W.V.S. has proved its worth as it is large measure due to its efforts that a considerable measure of success has been obtained. I am most anxious that what I have built up should not lapse, particularly as units of 2nd Division which the present amenities serve will, it is assumed, remain in the situ for some time.

5. So long as Duchessa VISCONTI continues to take an active interest, I believe that some of her ladies could be persuaded to renew or make new contracts. She (the Duchessa) could I think be persuaded to become the Honorary Commander and would be prepared to visit canteens etc., and to supervise the W.V.S. In this event [illegible] permission to wear uniform when on duty

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4. The Italian W.V.S. has proved its worth as it is large measure due to its efforts that a considerable measure of success has been obtained. I am most anxious that what I have built up should not lapse, particularly as units of 228 Division which the present amenities serve will, it is assumed, remain in the situ for some time.

5. So long as Duchessa VISCONTI continues to take an active interest, I believe that some of her ladies could be persuaded to renew or make new contracts. She (the Duchessa) could I think be persuaded to become the Honorary Commander and would be prepared to visit canteens etc., and to supervise the W.V.S. In this event she would have to be given permission to wear uniform when on duty and be given transport from time to time to carry out her visits.

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6. In the meantime I am taking steps to find out how many ladies would be prepared to renew their contracts with 86 Area. I cannot at the moment find employment for the C.A.F. ladies and suggest that they would be usefully employed with units with Fifth (US) Army or with Italian units in Districts.

7. Perhaps you would let me have your views on my proposals and would inform me of the particulars of service etc., of the C.A.F. I attach a copy of my contract for you to see in case you have not seen it.

Yours Sincerely
(Sgd) R.L. McCREERY

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNNG NO. 785020

COPY

CONTRACT FOR SERVICES
OF
WELFARE WORKERS WITH ITALIAN FORMATIONS

---

1. I, the undersigned, offer my services as a Welfare worker with Italian formations serving under command of the Eighth (British) Army and willing to accompany such formations so long as they operate within Italy under command of Eighth (British) Army.

2. I accept the undermentioned terms of service:-

(a) The minimum period of service shall be for six months unless hostilities cease before that date. Should hostilities continue and my services be required by Commander Eighth (British) Army option of renewal of the contract will be offered.

(b) Eighth (British) Army Commander may at any time dismiss me should there be no appointment for me to fill or should my services be, in his opinion, unsatisfactory. If in my opinion, I have been dismissed unjustifiably, the right of appeal to the Commander Eighth (British) Army shall be granted me. In the event of dismissal or conclusion of service, free transport to the place on enrolment will be provided under Eighth (British) Army arrangements.

(c) 7 days leave, exclusive of travelling time, will be granted during every two months service to the place of enrolment, or to any place of less distance from the formation theatre of operations. Free transport will be provided to and from the place of enrolment or to any other place of less distance from the place of enrolment subject only to operational limitations at the time.

(d) Rations and accomodations will be provided free of charge by the Italian formation to which assignments are made for duty. Should the accomodation and/or rations provided by unsatisfactory, the right of appeal to the ADAWS Eighth (British) Army is granted.

(e) A free initial issue of uniform will be made.

(f) A salary of 4,500 lire will be paid for each complete months of service. In the event of dismissal and on conclusion of contract, payment will be continued up to an inclusive of day

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNNG NO. 785020

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(g) During the period of service, status will be that of an officer in the Italian Army and all security rules and such orders that may be issued by the Commander Eighth (British) Army or by the Allied Governments will be complied with and disobedience or infringment will be punishable in accordance with the rules and penal code at the time in force.

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Applications to resign from the appointment for any reason, may be submitted for consideration by the Commander Eighth (British) Army at any time. Commander Eighth (British) Army decision is final.

Medical treatment will be provided free on the same scale as that granted to Nursing Sisters of the Italian Army.

Place..... (Signed).....

The services of the a/m are hereby accepted.

Date.....

Signed.....

Lieut-General.,
G.O.C. Eighth Army.

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C. A. F.

(CORPO AUSILIARE FEMMINILE)

TERMS OF SERVICE

1. These women are not held by any written agreement: they can be dismissed at any time.

2. The conditions of serving which they accept are embodied in the "Decreto" which is yet to be passed.

   (a) Service for the duration (? of what)

   (b) Free uniform.

   (c) While serving in Rome an indemnity of L.2,000 per mensa.

   (d) While serving with a formation an indemnity of L.3,000 per mensa plus rations.

   (e) The "Decreto" provides for free medical attention, compensation for injury etc.

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Q

Subject: Welfare.

LAND FORCES SUB-COMM A.C.,
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E

A 240

11 July '45.

Dear

I write to inform you that, at the special request of Lt. General Sir R. McCREERY, G.O.C., 8 Army, I am person--ally examining the whole matter of the Special Italian Welfare Service set up by 8 Army and which is of such value.

We consider that the continuance of this Welfare work is as essential for discipline etc. in the Italian Army as has been found to be in other Armies.

I am anxious, therefore, to amAlgamate the 8 Army Welfare as above with the Ministry of War Welfare arrangements, so that there may be uniform and single control in this vital branch of military activity.

I will let you know my views further when I have consulted A.F.H.Q.

Yours

L. McC.

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COUNT STEFANO JACINI,
Minister for War.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

TRANSLATION

MINISTRY OF WAR
SOLDIER WELFARE OFFICE

Ref.No.05675/B.S. APO 3800, July 10,1945

To: MINISTER OF WAR
UNDERSECRETARY OF WAR
CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ITALIAN ARMY

Abstract of report on the morale of the troops for the month of June 1945

Abstract of the report from H.Q.s.	Remarks by this office
MORALE: In general, the state of morale may be described as still good in the Combat Groups and Supply Divisions in the rear of operational units, and not quite so good in the other units; every-where, however, soldiers evidence a high degree of sensitiveness and a great readiness to change their attitude, so that the situation may be described as extremely tense. The exultation which followed the liberation of Northern Italy has given way to a state of depression due to difficult living conditions in general: higher prices, shortage of materials and transport, destruction of property, unemployment; the men of the older classes are impatient to get out of the Army, after years and years of continuous service they feel the need to go back to their homes, they fear that all jobs will be taken by those who,	(1) This condition is readily noticeable through conversations with soldiers of all branches of the service, of all ranks, social strata and military classes. Particular attention should be called to the behavior of very many volunteers (irrespective of their military class) who are convinced that their obligation to serve should be regarded as limited to the period of actual military operations. The Germans having been expelled from Italy, they consider that they are entitled to return immediately to civilian life. Mention should also be made of the impression - as reported also by the press - that some German units in the upper Adige and in some other areas in Italy are receiving a treatment which is considered preferential. Commanders and officers circulate freely in concentration

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for some reason or other, have not served in the Armed Forces, including the young ones; they feel that it is unfair to release men without taking into account the actual length of service, and they cannot grasp the fact that releases and the call-up of young men - both closely connected and inter-related cannot be improvised: they are more receptive to the various types of propaganda of the political parties; they are progressively less docile and sensitive to the remarks of their officers. The latter, on the other hand, especially Reinforcement officers - share, at heart, the feeling of their subordinates; while Regular Army officers are in a state of grave anxiety due to worry over their future and over the distressing economic conditions, particularly serious for those forced to maintain two homes.

The consequences of this general state of mental depression are evidenced by an increase in the number of desertions and absences without leave.

The fact, however, that many absentees without leave rejoin their units despite active propaganda to the contrary from both their families and from trouble makers of all nationalities and parties in their home-towns, proves that basically the great mass of soldiers still has a sense of discipline.

One of the HQ's. (212) calls out particular attention to the extremely active propaganda which is being conducted in the Leghorn area and which, under the guise of an anti-monarchist program, carries on a clearly subversive activity.

areas on motor vehicles many of which were requisitioned in Italy and seen to enjoy a prestige much greater than that of the Italian Commands themselves.

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REASONS FOR DEPRESSION:

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- Anti-militarist, subversive propaganda conducted by the press of the extreme left, which finds fertile ground among soldiers, or those retained in the service and among volunteers who wish to be returned immediately to civilian life;

- worry over the fact that any delay in their release might increase their difficulties in finding suitable work;

- the slowness and disorganization of the postal service, which makes it difficult for them to resume correspondence with their relatives;

- the persistent defamatory campaign against officers, conducted by a certain type of press and not suppressed by the responsible Government, which makes it extremely difficult to maintain discipline and unity in the Army.

- the persistant economic difficulties of officers, NCO's and their families, especially of those whose duties force them to live apart from their families;

- the complete lack of news from the provinces of VENEZIA GIULIA so far.

ACTION MOST URGENTLY NEEDED:

- A strengthening of authority through the adoption of drastic measures against the spreading of offenses which are becoming habitual (desertion, absence without leave, theft, unlawful dealings).

- plan and organize urgently a fast postal service to include

Postal service: lack of transport and consequent slowing down of the movement of soldiers who are being released or are going on furlough or are travelling on official business, and hardships, both physical and economic, at stopping places not sufficiently equipped; delays in the release of men due to failure to provide timely replacements have been the object of several communications and recommendations from this office, both in individual letters and previous reports.

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the Alpine regions, the upper Adige and Venezia Giulia.

- speed up the measures concerning the release of older classes
- regulate and broaden the granting of furloughs to Sardinia, now reduced to a minimum due to a lack of means
- restore the 10 Lire ration supplement for non-mobilized troops, since the present supplement of 5 Lire is of no avail, considering the extremely high prices of foodstuffs on the open market;
- tackle and solve at the earliest possible moment the problem of clothing and footwear;
- allot a larger amount of soap, since the present ration is not sufficient to ensure a minimum of cleanliness, especially during the hot season;
- authorize officers and NCO's, who are unable to buy uniforms from the trade, to draw same from Army depots against payment;
- force the "Unione Militare" to act as a price-ceiling in favour of officers and NCO's;
- improve the quality of tobacco and increase the amount issued against payment;
- publicize through the press the part our soldiers have played in the war of liberation;

Despite a shortage of means, a lack of cooperation from civilian authorities and complete indifference on the part of the population, soldier welfare work is being tackled with determination.

As already mentioned in the previous report and in the past,

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requisition for the new 3-month period, the end of hostilities underlines the advisability of extending allowances paid to Combat Groups as bonuses and subsidies for military personnel and their families, to Territorial Military Commands in equal measure, leaving to the Commands the initiative as to their use. It is advisable to eliminate all differences in the treatment of the various units under arms (Combat Groups, Administrative and Supply Divisions, Territorial Military Commands) since now there is a uniformity of position and of tasks.

Best care should be given sick soldiers at hospitals, regardless of the cause of such sickness: neither they nor their families should be given the impression that nobody cares. The more illness, the greater the amount of aid they should receive: at this time, unfortunately, the opposite is true.

The economic difficultires of officers and NCO's who, in order to live, are forced to make heavy financial sacrifices, have utterly negative moral repercussions; it is imperative to perform an act of justice in order to deter many officers and NCO's from giving up their Army career.

(Sgd): G.C. TAMASSIA
Brig.General.

Welfare 5

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CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Reinforcements - Policy.

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E
A 014
13 June 45

TO : WAR MINISTRY.

1. The demobilization programme has brought about a larger demand for reinforcements for service units than can at present be met from B.R.Ds.

2. It has therefore been decided that RTC ICF will, if necessary, provide reinforcements for BR-ITI service units as well as combat units.

3. With the exception of skilled specialists, reinforcements at RTC ICF will be considered ready for posting on completion of 7 weeks training: this period may later have to be reduced.

4. The procedure for the supply of reinforcements from RTC ICF to BR-ITI Service Units will be as follows :-

(a) On receipt of each fortnightly demand from the appropriate Adm Div, the B.R.D. will supply reinforcements as far as possible.
(b) The B.R.D. will then despatch to RTC ICF CESANO, copy to this H.Q., full details (showing trades, units, destinations, etc.) of all demands which it has been unable to meet.
(c) RTC ICF will allot reinforcements against these demands, and will bid to this H.Q. for movement as necessary.
(d) When allotment of priorities is necessary "P" BLU will apply to this H.Q.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

COPY TO: "F" BLU, RTC ICF
O.C. Br Cadre 802 B.R.D.

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Major General
M.M.I.5.

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COPY TO: "F" BLU, RTC ICF
O.C. Br Cadre 802 B.R.D.
O.C. Br Cadre 803 B.R.D.
O.C. Br Cadre 804 B.R.D.
ALL MMIA LOs

INTERNAL: ALL Branches.

ek

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Translation. D

56A

h.

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

P.M. 3000. 8 May 1945.

No. 03630/B.S. Ref. MEI/R of 11 April and 2 May.

Subject: Draft of a Pamphlet on Organization and Means of the Welfare Service.

It is not thought possible, yet, to produce a single comprehensive document covering all aspects of the welfare service in the form suggested. Even though a Central office exists, and there are Welfare Sections at the HQ's of large formations (v:100/BS of 25 Jan., signed Casati), the welfare service is not yet recognised as a distinct and separate organization in the Italian Army. The service already functions on the basis of the directive contained in the above quoted circular (100/B.S. of 25 Jan), which was in general designed to allow the maximum initiative to commanders.

This draft is therefore limited to brief notes which will have to be amplified in the Memorandum which this Office will compile and submit to the Ufficio Ordinamento, SMRE, for approval.

1° Object

To bring efficiency and co-ordination to the various activities designed for the soldiers comfort and assistance, during his rest periods: to assist him in his family affairs: to relieve him of worry about his family during his absence: to maintain his contacts with his civilian employees: to make his return to civil life easier: to make him feel that while he is helping his country, his country is helping him and his family, both materially and spiritually. To these ends the Service will use the help of every active force of the nation, and the generous collaboration of all types of societies, associations and private individuals.

2° Organization.

a) Central control

Welfare office, Ministry of War, comprising,
1. Chief of Staff and Secretariat, under the control of a general officer.
3. Sections (organization, Morale and Culture, Recreation, Stores) with 7 officers and ——— assistants.

b) Field Organization

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b) Field Organization

1) Territorial Commands.
1 Welfare Section, (2 or more Officers as necessary)

2) Divisional HQs or equivalent.
1 Welfare Section (2 officers)

3) Regimental HQs or equivalent.
1 officer responsible for Welfare.

4) Smaller Units.
Welfare to be responsibility of commanders direct.

The principle is recognised that in every formation, lar[illegible]

[illegible] 2.

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or small, the commander is responsible for the organization of Welfare: the sections or officersabove will work directly under the commanders.

3. Establishments and Methods. A) PEACE-TIME.

There will be a territorial organization (fixed), and a mobile organization (for troops on exercises)

1) Territorial Organization

a) Headquarter establishments

- Officers clubs
- Soldiers clubs
- Rest and Transit stations for VIPs and men (at railway stations, road-heads, ports, etc.)
- Completely equipped sports fields.

b) Formation Mobile Organization

- Mobile shops and Canteens.
- " cinema/theatres.
- " rest camps.
- " baths, showers, laundries, tailors, etc.
- adequate sports equipment.

B) WAR TIME.

During war time there will be separate territorial organizations for the Country, and for occupied territories, in addition to the Unit Mobile Organizations.

1) Territorial Organization (in Country)

As detailed for peace-time, but having due regard to the amplification necessary according to the forces concerned, and regard also to their distribution.

Particularly important will be:

- Information posts.
- Transit and rest establishments.
- Rest camps.
- Entertainment and recreation.

It will also be necessary to organize convalescent homes, (in accord with the Medical Authorities);
rest hostels for fighting troops, and for those who will not

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- Soldiers clubs.
- Rest and Transit stations for NCOs and men (at railway stations, road-heads, ports, etc.)
- Completely equipped sports fields.

b) Formation Mobile Organization

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- Rest camps.
- Entertainment and recreation.

It will also be necessary to organise convalescent homes, (in accord with the Medical Authorities):
Rest Hostels for fighting troops, and for those who will not be able to spend their periods of leave or convalescence with their families.

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c) Territorial Organization (Occupied Country)

As above, with the necessary machinery for requisition and rapid transformation of buildings required.

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3) Formation Mobile Organization.

- Canteen and Mobile shops.
- Mobile libraries.
- Mobile cinemas and theatres.
- Laundry, tailoring services, etc.
- Mobile baths etc.
- Individual and communal sports gear.
- Mobile huts and tentage for rest rooms etc.

4° Plans for construction, organization and functioning of various establishments - description of each type - sketches, photographs and designs.

5° Organization of Service in Peace and War.

a) Direction and Co-ordination.

This is dealt with, for peace or war, in Section 2.

b) Organization of Collaborating Associations.

Representatives of civilian organizations (promoted in peace time), will be militarized on the outbreak of war and posted to military directive and co-ordinative bodies.

It is proposed to institute a National Voluntary Corps for Soldier's Welfare, which would comprise various groups, subdivided according to age, capacity, temperament, employment etc., and would include disabled men, ex-soldiers, professionals, students, women------ it would provide personnel for the direction and operation of the various establishments in forward and rear areas and with formations.

This body would be comprised as follows:

- General directorate.
- Permanent provincial committees, for territorial organization.
- A committee for formation organizations.

Persons enrolled in the Corps would be obliged to serve in peace or war in the various branches for a stated time (not less than one year): as volunteers their services would be free, although they would receive expenses to cover the cost of uniforms, equipment, board and lodging etc.

T.S.

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All the expenses of welfare and those for functioning of the various organizations would be borne by the associations themselves, by means of fixed contributions from the troops of all ranks, of gifts from various sources, and eventually assistance from the Military authorities, who would have to bear the initial cost of providing and equipping the various welfare establishments

4.

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b) Organization of Collaborating Associations. (Continued)

The associations, building and permanent fund from these sources, would be self-supporting, employing their excess funds always for extending their activities.

For service in Convalescent homes and Rest Hostels (apart from Medical service) the aid of C.R.I. would be sought.

All administrative questions would naturally have to be carefully examined by the competent authorities, and questions of control would have to be considered by the Ministry.

The scheme requested has here been dealt with on broad lines. This draft has not, and cannot yet have any permanence, in view of the fact that the service is still in process of evolution.

/S G.B. TAMASSIA
Prof.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NSDC NO. 785020

5172

S.C. Tassia
Ens. USN

Approved For Release 2000/08/23 : CIA-RDP78-04718A002400010001-0
TO SECRET UTILITY ROOM

TA/ar.

Welfare

9/5

Roma, lì 8 MAGGIO 1945

Ministero della Guerra

UFFICIO BENESSERE DEL SOLDATO

Divisione *Sez.*
Prot. N. 03659/BS. *Allegati*

Risposta al Foglio del
Div. *Sez.* *N.*

Al L.F.S.A.- A.C. (M.M.I.A.)

ROMA

Risp.fg. Wel/P. dell'11 aprile e 2 maggio 1945

OGGETTO Schema di memoria sull'ordinamento stabilimento mezzi e modalità relativi all'organizzazione del servizio benessere.-

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Premetto che non mi sembra ancora possibile raccogliere in un unico complesso documento, sotto la forma di regolamento, tutto quanto riguarda l'attività del servizio del benessere; servizio che pur esistendo un ufficio Centrale per il benessere del soldato, e delle sezioni del Benessere presso i Comandi di Grande Unità (riconosciuti dalla circolare programma 100/BS in data 25 gennaio a firma del Ministro Casati) non è ancora, nell'ordinamento dell'Esercito Italiano, riconosciuto come un servizio distinto ed a sè. Ciò non toglie che il servizio funzioni già regolarmente in base alle direttive, volutamente generiche per consentire la massima iniziativa personale dei vari comandanti, contenute nella predetta circolare - programma - .

Mi limito quindi a formulare uno schema degli argomenti che dovranno essere trattati con una certa ampiezza nella memoria che questo ufficio si riserva di compilare e sottoporre alla approvazione dei competenti organi del Ministero della Guerra (Stato Maggiore Regio Esercito - Ufficio Ordinamento -).-

I°) SCOPO

Rendere più efficente e coordinare le attività intese a rendere più confortevole la vita del soldato, ad assisterlo durante il servizio, a ritemprarne le energie nei periodi di sosta e di riposo, ad elevarne lo spirito, la coltura; facilitare le sue relazioni con la famiglia; togliergli o alleviargli le preoccupazioni per le condizioni di vita della sua famiglia durante la sua assenza; mantenere i suoi contatti con le organizzazioni civili in seno alle quali si svolge la sua ordinaria attività di pace; evitare o rendere meno difficile la crisi all'atto del congedo, fare sentire in conclusione al soldato che mentre egli dà tutta la sua attività per il servizio del Paese, vi è nel Paese chè si occupa amorevolmente di lui della sua famiglia, della sua vita materiale e spirituale, del suo avvenire.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND HQ. 785020

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Mi limito quindi a formulare uno schema degli argomenti che dovranno essere trattati con una certa ampiezza nella memoria che questo ufficio si riserva di compilare e sottoporre alla approvazione dei competenti organi del Ministero della Guerra (Stato Maggiore Regio Esercito - Ufficio Ordinamento -).-

I°) SCOPO

Rendere più efficente e coordinare le attività intese a rendere più confortevole la vita del soldato, ad assisterlo durante il servizio, a ritemprarne le energie nei periodi di sosta e di riposo, ad elevarne lo spirito, la coltura; facilitare le sue relazioni con la famiglia; togliergli o alleviargli le preoccupazioni per le condizioni di vita della sua famiglia durante la sua assenza; mantenere i suoi contatti con le organizzazioni civili in seno alle quali si svolge la sua ordinaria attività di pace; evitare o rendere meno difficile la crisi all'atto del congedo, fare sentire in conclusione al soldato che mentre egli dà tutta la sua attività per il servizio del Paese, vi è nel Paese che si occupa amorevolmente di lui della sua famiglia, della sua vita materiale e spirituale, del suo avvenire.

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A questi fini il servizio intende utilizzare il concorso delle forze vive e benefiche della Nazione e la generosa collaborazione di Enti, di Associazioni e di privati.-

II°) ORDINAMENTO

a) organi centrali:

- ufficio per il Benessere del Soldato presso il Ministero della Guerra, comprendente:
  1 capo ufficio con segreteria, retto da un ufficiale generale;
  3 sezioni (organizzazione, assistenza morale e culturale, assistenza ricreativa, un magazzino) con 7 ufficiali e personale d'ordine vario.-

b) organi periferici:

1) Comandi Militari Territoriali
   1 sezione del Benessere (2 o più ufficiali a seconda delle necessità);
2) Comandi Divisione e Grande Unità corrispondenti
   1 sezione del Benessere (2 ufficiali);
3) Comandi reggimento e unità corrispondenti
   1 ufficiale addetto al Benessere;
4) Comando di Battaglione, di Compagnia, di Plotone e Unità corrispondenti:
   il funzionamento del servizio è affidato allo stesso comandante del reparto.

E' stabilito il principio che in ogni Comando, di qualunque ordine, il comandante ha la responsabilità della organizzazione e della direzione del servizio e si vale a tale scopo degli organi anzidetti, che sono a sua diretta ed immediata dipendenza.

III°) STABILIMENTI E MEZZI

a) in tempo di pace:
occorre distinguere una organizzazione territoriale(fissa)ed una organizzazione mobile (al seguito di truppe in esercitazione).

1) organizzazione territoriale:
si esplica attraverso alla costituzione di stabilimenti ed istituzioni varie:
a) di presidio:
- circoli ufficiali;
- case del soldato;
- posti di ristoro, transito e sosta per sottufficiali e soldati (presso stazione ferroviarie, capi linea automobilistiche, porti marittimi, ecc.);

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la Guerra, comprendente:
1 capo ufficio con segreteria, retto da un ufficiale genera= le;
3 sezioni (organizzazione, assistenza morale e culturale, assistenza ricreativa, un magazzino) con 7 ufficiali e personale d'ordine vario.-

b) organi periferici:

1) Comandi Militari Territoriali
1 sezione del Benessere (2 o più ufficiali a seconda delle necessità);
2) Comandi Divisione e Grande Unità corrispondenti
1 sezione del Benessere (2 ufficiali);
3) Comandi reggimento e unità corrispondenti
1 ufficiale addetto al Benessere;
4) Comando di Battaglione, di Compagnia, di Plotone e Unità cor= rispondenti:
il funzionamento del servizio è affidato allo stesso comandan= te del reparto.

E' stabilito il principio che in ogni Comando, di qualunque or= dine, il comandante ha la responsabilità della organizzazione e della direzione del servizio e si vale a tale scopo degli or= gani anzidetti, che sono a sua diretta ed immediata dipendenza.

III°) STABILIMENTI E MEZZI
a) in tempo di pace:
occorre distinguere una organizzazione territoriale(fissa)ed una organizzazione mobile (al seguito di truppe in esercita= zione).
1) organizzazione territoriale:
si esplica attraverso alla coatituzione di stabilimenti ed istituzioni varie:
a) di presidio:
- circoli ufficiali;
- case del soldato;
- posti di ristoro,transito e sosta per sottufficiali e soldati (presso stazione ferroviarie, capi linea auto= mobilistiche, porti marittimi, ecc.);
- campi di giuoco con attrezzature complete.

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b) di corpo:
- circoli ufficiali;
- circoli e mense sottufficiali;
- sale di convegno per sottufficiali e truppa con annesse mense e sale per spettacoli;
- spacci cooperativi e banchi di vendita vari;
- campi di giuoco con adeguata attrezzatura;
- sartoria, lavanderia, stireria;
- impianti igenici sanitari (bagno, doccie, barbiere, ecc).

2) Organizzazione mobile (di corpo) comprende:
- spacci e cantine mobili;
- carri di Tespi (teatro-cinematografo);
- materiale per l'organizzazione dei luoghi di ritrovo sotto tenda;
- servizi mobili di bagni, doccie;
- servizi mobili di lavanderia, stireria, sartoria;
- dotazioni adeguate di giuochi;

B) In tempo di guerra:
anche per il tempo di guerra occorre distinguere l'organizzazione territoriale fissa in Paese dall'organizzazione territoriale in territorio di occupazione, e dalla organizzazione mobile al seguito delle grandi Unità operanti.

1) Organizzazione territoriale fissa in Paese:
ampliamento e completamento della organizzazione territoriale per adeguarla alle necessità (di forza e di dislocazione).
Particolare importanza acquistano:
- posti di informazione;
- posti di ristoro, transito e sosta;
- luoghi di ritrovo;
- organizzazione di divertimenti.

Si dovrà provvedere alla organizzazione di convalescenziari (d'accordo con la Direzione Servizio Sanitario); di Case di riposo e di Case di soggiorno per i combattenti convalescenti e per quelli che per motivi diversi non potranno fruire di periodi di convalescenza, riposo o licenza presso le proprie famiglie.

2) Organizzazione in territorio di occupazione:
comprende l'impianto di tutti quegli stabilimenti e istituti già considerati negli articoli precedenti, mediante requisizione di edifici adatti e loro rapida trasformazione ed arredamento.

3) Organizzazione mobile al seguito di Grandi Unità:
deve comprendere:
- cantine e spacci mobili alimentari;
- banchi di vendita di oggetti vari di prima utilità

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- campi di giuoco con adeguata attrezzatura;
- sartoria, lavanderia, stireria;
- impianti igenici sanitari (bagno, doccie, barbiere, ecc).

2) Organizzazione mobile (di corpo) comprende:
- spacci e cantine mobili;
- carri di Tespi (teatro-cinematografo);
- materiale per l'organizzazione dei luoghi di ritrovo sotto tenda;
- servizi mobili di bagni, doccie;
- servizi mobili di lavanderia, stireria, sartoria;
- dotazioni adeguate di giuochi;

B) In tempo di guerra:
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2) Organizzazione in territorio di occupazione:
comprende l'impianto di tutti quegli stabilimenti e istituti già considerati negli articoli precedenti, mediante requisizione di edifici adatti e loro rapida trasformazione ed arredamento.

3) Organizzazione mobile al seguito di Grandi Unità:
deve comprendere:
- cantine e spacci mobili alimentari;
- banchi di vendita di oggetti vari di prima utilità;
- biblioteche mobili;
- teatri e cinematografi mobili (carri di Tespi);
- impianti per lavanderia, stireria e sartoria;
- impianti per bagni, doccie;
- attrezzature per giuochi collettivi ed individuali;

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- tende e baracche smontabili per costituzione di sale di ritrovo e di riunione.

IV°) Esame della costituzione, organizzazione, funzionamento dei singoli stabilimenti; descrizione di alcuni tipi (fotografie e disegni).

V °) Modalità per l'organizzazione del servizio in pace e in guerra:

a) Organi direttivi e di coordinamento:
In pace e in guerra sono gli stessi organi direttivi esaminati nel capitolo ordinamento.

b) Organi esecutivi e di collaborazione:
sono rappresentati da organizzazioni civili (da promuoversi e costituirsi fin dal tempo di pace) militarizzate all'atto della dichiarazione di guerra e poste alla dipendenza degli organi direttivi e di coordinamento militari.
Si propone la costituzione di un Corpo nazionale volontario per l'assistenza ai militari che dovrebbe comprendere diversi gruppi suddivisi per età, capacità, attitudini, incarichi, ecc. e raccogliere mutilati, ex combattenti, ufficiali in congedo, professionisti, studenti, donne... e che dovrebbe fornire personale per la dirigenza e l'esercizio in territorio, fuori territorio e presso le Grandi Unità dei diversi stabilimenti ed istituzioni sopra elencate.
Il Corpo nazionale volontario per l'assistenza ai militari dovrebbe comprendere:
- una direzione generale;
- comitati provinciali permanenti per impiego nelle formazioni territoriali e mobili del tempo di pace;
- un comitato per l'impiego nelle formazioni mobili (e fisse) al seguito delle truppe operanti.

I componenti del Corpo dovrebbero, all'atto dell'iscrizione, assumere l'obbligo di servizio in tempo di pace (e rispettivamente in tempo di guerra) nelle diverse istituzioni per tempi determinati (non inferiori ad un anno); e come volontari prestare l'opera propria gratuitamente con il rimborso però delle spese varie per vestiario-equipaggiamento e dell'alloggio e vitto in caso di allontanamento dalla loro ordinaria residenza.

Tutte le spese per l'assistenza al soldato e per il funzionamento delle organizzazioni dovrebbero essere sostenute dall'associazione stessa mediante contribuzione fissa a carico dei militari alle armi, di qualunque grado, donazioni, offerte di istituti vari ed eventuali concorsi dell'amministrazione militare la quale dovrebbe addossarsi l'onere delle spese iniziali di impianto e organizzazione degli stabilimenti e attrezzature mobili di campagna.

L'associazione, costituitasi un fondo permanente con le contribu-

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a) Organi direttivi e di coordinamento
In pace e in guerra sono gli stessi organi direttivi esaminati nel capitolo ordinamento.

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L'associazione, costituitasi un fondo permanente con le contribuzioni di cui sopra, dovrebbe vivere e prosperare da sé, impiegando i redditi per l'incremento sempre maggiore della istituzione.

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Per il servizio nei convalescenziari e case di riposo (parte assistenza professionale medica) dovrebbe essere cercato il concorso della benemerita organizzazione della C.R.I.-

Tutte le questioni amministrative dovrebbero essere naturalmente oggetto di esame accurato da parte degli organi competenti e di controllo da parte di organo centrale dello Stato.

Ho tratteggiato così a grandi linee lo schema richiesto.Esso non ha e non può avere ancora nessun valore di vincolo,poiché tutto il servizio è in via continua di evoluzione.-

IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA
(G.C.Tamassia)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

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IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA
(G.C.Tamassia)

5169

Declassified E.O. 13065 Section 3-402/NNBG NO. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

3657

35A

SUBJECT: Pamphlet on the Italian Welfare Service.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/P.
2 ~~April~~ MAY '45.

To : Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

Reference WEL/P. of 11 April'45.

1. It was requested that you should forward to this HQ a draft of the above pamphlet by 25 April.

2. This has not been done. Please forward, therefore, your draft of the proposed pamphlet in order that further delay may be avoided.

D
& Lt.Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

5166

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

34A

SUBJECT: M.M.I.A. Administrative Instructions No.26 - Italian Army Welfare.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEI/T.
2 May ~~April~~ 45.

Commandant,
Army Welfare Training Centre,
C.M.F.

Attached for your information is a copy of a directive on Italian Welfare issued to the War Ministry.

Lt.Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

5168

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNMC NO. 785020

33A

SUBJECT: M.M.I.A. Administrative Instruction No 26.- Italian Army Welfare.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/P.
30 Apr'45.

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

Attached for your information is a copy of the aboved mentioned Administrative Instruction.

Lt.Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

5167

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Subject : M.M.I.A. Administrative Instructions N°26

Italian Army Welfare.

Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
R O M E
A 024

29 April 45.

Ministry of War

The attached Directive which has the approval of A.F.H.Q. sets out the general Policy of the Italian Army Welfare Services and is issued for the guidance and information of all concerned.

W. Pidsley Colonel
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

Copy to :- HQ 15 Army Group
Commanding General, Fifth Army
HQ British Increment Fifth Army
HQ Eighth Army
HQ I District (5)
HQ 2 District (5)
HQ 3 District (5)
Commanding General PBS (2)
OC 50 BLU
OC 51 BLU
OC 52 BLU
OC 53 BLU
OC 56 BLU
OC 'F' BLU
OC Reinforcement Depot Orvieto
ADAWS

32A

ITALIAN ARMY WELFARE

Land Forces Sub Comm. (M.M.I.A.)
Administrative Instruction No 26

30 April 45.

I. Object.

It is wish of the Supreme Allied Commander that Welfare, as it is understood in the Allied Armies, should, as far as possible, be given the same prominence in the Italian Army working with the Allies. While the organisation of the Welfare Service and the provision of the necessary staff, personnel and material are primarily Italian responsabilities, the Supreme Allied Commander has directed that the fullest possible support should be given by Allied Commanders concerned whithin the conditions from time to time approved. To this end an officer of the Allied Welfare is appointed to M.M.I.A. and will deal directly with the Italian Welfare directorate of the Ministry of War.

2. Allied Assistance.

The Italian Army Welfare Service must be, both in conception and in execution, Italian : nevertheless allied assistance will be made available to enable the service to be built on a sure foundation, and advice, arising out of the Allies wide experience of werfare will be given.

The necessary materials for the successful operation of the various projects are to be provided, wherever possible, from Italian sources : but it is recognised that certain items are, and will, for some time, remain unavailable to the Italian Government. Where the operation of a scheme which can properly be regarded as an essential part of the service will be rendered impossible for lack of materials, then releases from Allied sources on repayment may be considered, in accordance with availabilities and regulation in force .(see para 5.)

3. Organisation.

In all dealings with this subject it must be stressed that the responsibility for the welfare of the soldier is and remains that of the Unit Commander. The duty of the Italian welfare service will be to assist , advise, and provide amenities as follows :-

The Italian Army Welfare Service will be responsible for the welfare of all categories of the army. The establishment will consist of a Directorate at the Ministry of War and there will be service representation at Adm.Div.HQs. and at Combat Groups HQs. All personnel on authorised W/Es will be held against the same category as that of the HQs with which they are serving. [illegible] service representation at

5 Lire 64

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possible support should be given by Allied Commanders concerned whithin the conditions from time to time approved. To this end an officer of the Allied Welfare is appointed to M.M.I.A. and will deal directly with the Italian Welfare directorate of the Ministry of War.

2. Allied Assistance.

The Italian Army Welfare Service must be, both in conception and in execution, Italian : nevertheless allied assistance will be made available to enable the service to be built on a sure foundation, and advice, arising out of the Allies wide experience of werfare will be given.

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The Italian Army Welfare Service will be responsible for the welfare of all categories of the army. The establishment will consist of a Directorate at the Ministry of War and there will be service representation at Adm.Div.HQs. and at Combat Groups HQs. All personnel on authorised W/Es will be held against the same category as that of the HQs with which they are serving.

There will not be welfare service representation at other HQs. Unit welfare officers will be nominated by Commanders from the officers under their command.

4. Scope.

The service will provide for all three categories of the army. There will be no priority to any one category except for any priority given to forward troops by reason of the conditions in which they are living.

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5. Supplies.

Certain supplies for canteens are being furnished from Allied sources on an approved scale and include Flour, Fish or potted meat, Sugar and Coffee, as well as Olive Oil and Salt from Italian sources. Details of the amounts allowed monthly to Armies, Distficts and Base Section will be published periodically.

6. Transport

Transport, as authorized, will be provided from Italian sources, within the category using it. Transport serving troops of more than one category will be held in the Iti-Iti category.

7. Details of the scope of this scheme and information on various activities which are included in it, such as individual welfare, canteens, entertainments, and sports, will be published by the War Ministry in a pamphlet on Italian Army Welfare, prepared in consultation with MMIA.

W. Pidsley. Colonel.
for. Major General,
Land Forces Sub Comm.
(M.M.I.A.)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

0464

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SUBJECT: A Pamphlet on the Italian Welfare Service.

31A

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/P.
4 Apr.45.

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere.

1. In confirmation of previous conversations.

2. A pamphlet on the Italian welfare service should now be prepared by you for distribution on a wide basis to formations, for the unite under their command.

3. This pamphlet should be in amplification of the policy directive already issued by you (00100/BS of 25 Jan) and should give details of the scope of the welfare service and information on the various activities which are included in it. The pamphlet will give to the regimental officer a clear picture of the objects and meaning of Welfare.

4. Attached to this letter is a list of headings of paragraphs which it is suggested should be included in the pamphlet. This list is not comprehensive but gives certain headings which are essential; others will be added by you.

5. Will you please forward by 25 Apr. a draft of the proposed pamphlet for consideration at this HQ.

Lt.Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

Internal: "A". Branch.

51 GP 6163

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Suggested paragraph headings for inclusion in an Italian Army Welfare Pamphlet.

1. Foreword.
2. Objects. (based on the welfare of the soldier but not excluding the unit commanding officer's responsibility)
3. Organisation. (The layout, service representation and service chain of command)
4. Co-operation with the Allies. A short paragraph in general terms.
5. Voluntary Welfare Organisations. (e.g. C.A.F.)
6. Clubs, Canteens.
7. Books and Libraries.
8. Entertainment.
9. Sports and Games.
10. Individual Welfare. (Assistenza, legal aid, family information etc.)
11. The Army Newspapers.
12. Regt Camps.
13. Welfare Stores and Amenities. (and their distribution)
13. Welfare Grants and Finance.
14. In addition there should be appendices or diagrams including the following:-
    (a) Organisation Chart.
    (b) Duties of a Welfare service officer.
    (c) Duties of a unit welfare officer.
    (d) specimen plan for the layout of a regimental canteen.

5162.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

300

SUBJECT: Italian Army Welfare Policy.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/P.
6 Apr'45.

Army Welfare Services,
A.F.H.Q.

1. Reference telephone conversation with DDAWS.

2. As agreed attached is a copy of the proposed policy letter referred to .

3. As soon as this is agreed or amended by AFHQ the policy will be passed to the Ministry of War.

Lt.Col.
A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

5161

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

29 A

SUBJECT: Italian Army Welfare Policy.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
A/127.
5. Apr'45.

To : A.F.H.Q. (2)

1. Reference CK/9904/G-1(Br) of 11 Feb.

2. The attached draft policy directive for the Italian Army Welfare Service is now forwarded for consideration. It has been prepared on the lines indicated by you.

3. Para 5 on supplies has been inserted as a result of the receipt of your directive on this subject. (AG 400/005 GD D-O of 12 Mar)

Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Internal:- A.D.A.W.S. ✓

ADAWS. Please now get the War Train to get on with the pamphlet referred to in para 7. — should be ready by 25 Apr WP

5160
5156

Directive to MMIA on Italian Army Welfare. 29 B

1. Object.

It is wish of the Supreme Allied Commander that Welfare, as it is understood in the Allied Armies, should, as far as possible, be given the same prominence in the Italian Army working with the Allies. While the organisation of the Welfare Service and the provision of the necessary staff, personnel and material are primarily Italian responsibilities, the Supreme Allied Commander has directed that the fullest possible support should be given by Allied Commanders concerned within the conditions from time to time approved. To this end an officer of the Allied Welfare Service is appointed to M.M.I.A. and will deal directly with the Italian Welfare directorate of the Ministry of War.

2. Allied Assistance.

The Italian Army Welfare Service must be, both in conception and in execution, Italian: nevertheless allied assistance will be made available to enable the service to be built on a sure foundation, and advice, arising out of the Allies wide experience of welfare will be given.

The necessary materials for the successful operation of the various projects are to be provided, wherever possible, from Italian sources: but it is recognised that certain items are, and will, for some time, remain unavailable to the Italian Government. Where the operation of a scheme which can properly be regarded as an essential part of the service will be rendered impossible for lack of materials, then releases from Allied sources on repayment may be considered, in accordance with availabilities and regulation in force. (see para 5.)

3. Organisation.

In all dealings with this subject it must be stressed that the responsibility for the welfare of the soldier is and remains that of the unit commander. The duty of the Italian welfare service will be to assist advise, and provide amenities as follows:-

The Italian army welfare service will be responsible for the welfare of all categories of the army. The establishment will consist of a directorate at the Ministry of War and there will be service representation at Adm.Div HQs and at Combat Group HQs. All personnel on authorized W/Es will be held against the same category as that of the HQs with which they are serving.

There will not be welfare service representation at other HQs. Unit welfare officers will be nominated by commanders from the officers under their command. 5159

4. Scope.

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There will not be welfare service representation at other HQs. Unit welfare officers will be nominated by commanders from the officers under their command.

5159

4. Scope.

The service will provide for all three categories of the army. There will be no priority to any one category except for any priority given to forward troops by reason of the conditions in which they are living.

5. Supplies.

Certain supplies for canteens are being furnished from Allied sources on an approved scale and include Flour, Fish or potted meat, Sugar and Coffee, as well as Olive Oil and Salt from Italian sources. Details of the amounts allowed monthly to Armies, Districts and Base Section will be published periodically.

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6. Transport.
Transport, as authorized, will be provided, from Italian resources, within the category using it. Transport serving troops of more than one category will be held in the Iti-Iti category.

7. Details of the scope of this scheme and information on various activities which are included in it, such as individual welfare, canteens, entertainments, and sports, will be published by the War Ministry in a pamhlet on Italian Army Welfare, prepared in consultation with MMIA.

5158

This [illegible] was given by Gen TAMASSIA & Brig STAYNER 13 Mar 45.

MEMORANDUM

Bgcat

1. I have noted a very marked difference between the treatment of Italian Units employed with Eighth and Fifth Armies and that of units in the rest of Italy. This implies that operational formations are convinced that equal treatment with other operational units of various nationalities is all important where the output of the soldier is concerned, whether he be in a fighting unit or doing work in the rear areas.

The Italian soldier is extremely sensitive about this; he wishes to be considered a fighting soldier with equal duties and consequently equal rights.

In the course of talks with officers and tps of the Combat Groups and 228, 210, 231 and 209 Bdes I have at least heard gratitude for the treatment they have received from Fifth and Eighth Armies and from 15 Army Group.

2. However, there are also wishes which have not yet been fulfilled and I will set them out frankly as a soldier, certain that they will be perfectly understood:-

(a) in spite of all that is done by Eighth Army to diminish the gap between Italian tps and tps of other nations fighting side by side (British, American, Polish, Canadian, Indian ...) there is always an evident difference. Italian soldiers are asking that these last differences also be abolished; they wish to be considered as equal, just as the risks are equal; they therefore ask to be able to enjoy all the advantages enjoyed by other nationalities, whoever they may be.

(b) The Adm Bdes, 209, 210, 231 and 228, who have pioneer and pack tpt units which work in the most advanced positions, often subject to S.A. fire, wish to be considered as real combat troops.

(c) Folgore Combat Gp, which is supplied through Fifth Army, complains of a treatment different to Cremona and Friuli Gps. In fact, certain comfort supplies received by the other two Gps for Regimental Canteens and Clubs are lacking (or so I was informed on 10 March).

(d) the Combat Gps wish to have handkerchiefs (at least two) included in the clothing scale, owing to the difficulty of purchasing in shops.

(I will myself try to get the Commissariato Directorate of the War Ministry to purchase and distribute handkerchiefs through Welfare Channels).

(e) the soldier is worried because in the event of his being wounded or sick, the right to remain in a Military

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(b) The Adm Bns, 209, 210, 231 and 228, who have pioneer and pack tpt units which work in the most advanced positions, often subject to A.A. fire, wish to be considered as real combat troops.

(c) Folgore Combat Gp, which is supplied through Fifth Army, complains of a treatment different to Cremona and Friuli Gps. In fact, certain comfort supplies received by the other two Gps for Regimental Canteens and Clubs are lacking (or so I was informed on 10 March).

(d) the Combat Gps wish to have handkerchiefs (at least two) included in the clothing scale, owing to the difficulty of purchasing in shops.

(I will myself try to get the Commissariato Directorate of the War Ministry to purchase and distribute handkerchiefs through Welfare channels).

(e) the soldier is worried because in the event of his being wounded or sick, the right to remain in a Military Hospital, with its economic advantages and rations, ceases except in special cases, after 60 days from date of admission. Even if the treatment he receives in the hands of the civil authorities is not substantially different from that of a Military Hospital, he claims that his right as a combat soldier and to continue to be considered as a soldier even if temporarily incapacitated, is lost. In the same way the soldier does not think it right that there should be any difference between the treatment of hospital patients and convalescents suffering from mutilation (or chronic illnesses) contracted in action before 8 Sep 43 and that of wounded and sick as result of wounds received after that date.

/(f) ....

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(2) finally, our soldiers are very sensitive about various declarations of politicians reported in the papers, often contrary to our national aspirations. They want the position of Italy to be made known. They wish to be considered as allies; they want to be certain that when the common victory comes, Italy will continue to have full independence, her own soil, her natural boundaries acquired during the War of 1915 - 1918, her old colonies (Eritrea - Somaliland - Libya) transformed by a long and arduous period of labour.

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027 (P)

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(U.S.I.A.) ROME.
A/27.
1. Sec'd A/D.

Ministry of War.

~~Copy to:~~ Uffizio Benemerenze del Soldato.

1. Attached as attached are notes on the meeting at this HQ on 28 Feb.

W. PIDSLEY. Col.
Major General.
U.S.I.A.

Internal - A.D.A.I.S. ROME.

5155

27 B.

Notes on discussion on Italian welfare at AFHQ

Present - Director of Italian Welfare.
Col. "A" ICCA.
A.D. Italian Welfare.
A.D.A.F.H.Q. ICCA.

1. Identification of responsibility.

If the welfare service is to be a success, it is essential that this service should be efficient not only at its HQ but within formations and units.

An example :-

(i) Theory. In Patrie is being sent to the depot but it is not reaching the individual soldiers. i.e. No distribution arrangements are laid.

(ii) Practice. No arrangements have been made for the provision of any newspapers, writing materials or an information service. Welfare, as besides of the staff and other services, must plan for welfare for new conditions.

In conclusion welfare is for the soldier and if welfare services and conditions do not reach the soldier then the welfare service fails.

2. Postal Services. The delay in the personal mail of soldiers is a matter of great importance to the morale and welfare of the Army. Agreed that Director of Italian Welfare would consider this matter and make up recommendations be considered necessary through the Minister of War.

3. It was agreed that it is impossible that welfare should produce at once concrete results. The soldiers reaction to welfare and its emotional effect on his morale will vary with the practical results of the service.

4. Public Services. That the Allies, having given material help, desire to see it a medium service functioning for the benefit of the soldiers in any areas. The importance of this aspect of the service is that it should bring practical welfare to the soldier and not be an organ for either politics or propaganda.

5. Journals of Communications. It is hoped that the Director of Italian Welfare will have many new projects to put forward for the advancement of his service. It must be borne in mind however that projects entailing any change of policy should be put forward by him through the staff of the Minister of War.

6. It is agreed that ICCA will request AFHQ for a decision on the scheme for a field produced system originated by Italian Welfare and forwarded by ICCA.

7. Director's visits to field formations. It is agreed that a visit by the Director to formations will serve a useful purpose in that he may see on the spot the problems involved. On receipt of the detailed proposed visit programme will be made to Allied Formation HQs for the visit.

8. Book Postal Drop. This Postal was approved by ICCA on 14 Feb. It is considered essential that it should come into operation at the earliest possible date. It is agreed that the next system be for a day to day manner of personnel rather than for a complete turnover to take place after each seven day period.

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(14) Problem No arrangements have been made for the provision of any newspaper, radio, periodic or an information service. Welfare, as branches of the staff or other services, must plan for welfare for new arrivals.

In conclusion welfare is for the soldier and if welfare services and amenities do not reach the soldier then the welfare service fails.

2. Postal Services. The delay in the personal mail of soldiers is a matter of great importance to the morale and welfare of the army. Agreed that Director of Italian Welfare could consider this matter and take any representations considered necessary through the Minister of War.

3. It was agreed that it is impossible that welfare should perhaps at once concrete results. The soldiers reaction to welfare and the resultant effect on his morale will vary with the practical results of the service.

4. Radio Service. That the Allies, having given material help, desire to see in a modern service functioning for the benefit of the soldiers in any areas. The importance of this aspect of the service is that it should bring practical welfare to the soldier and not be an organ for either politics or propaganda.

5. Channels of Communication. It is hoped that the Director of Italian Welfare will have many new projects to put forward for the advancement of his service. It must be borne in mind however that projects entailing any change of policy should be put forward by the through the chief of the Minister of War.

6. It is agreed that HQ. will request AFHQ for a decision on the advice for a field postcard system originated by Italian Welfare and forwarded by HQ.

7. Minister's visits to field formations. It is agreed that a visit by the Director to formations will serve a useful purpose in that he may see on the spot the problems involved. In receipt of the detailed proposed visit requests will be made to Allied Force Hqs for the visit.

8. Rest Centre Camp. This project was approved by HQ. on 14 Feb. It is considered essential that it should come into operation at the earliest possible date. It is agreed that the rest camps be for a day to day turnover of personnel rather than for a complete turnover to take place after each seven day period.

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SECRET

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C.(MMIA)

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No.18

1 Dec 44

COMMAND AND ADMINISTRATION OF ITALIAN ARMY

1. (a) The object of this instruction is to implement the policy for the command and administration of the Italian Army as directed by the Supreme Allied Commander.

(b) The instruction is divided into the following Sections.

Section 1 - Allied direction of the Italian Army.

Section 11 - General Organization and Administration of the Italian Army.

Section 111 - Italian Army Units Maintained by the US and the British.

Section 1V - Italian Army Units Maintained Internationally.

Section 1 - Allied Direction of the Italian Army.

2. GENERAL.

The Italian Army will be employed for the furtherance of the War Effort as directed from time to time by the Supreme Allied Commander through MMIA.

3. DIRECTION.

The direction of the Italian Army is exercised by the Supreme Allied Commander through the Land Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Commission (MMIA).

4. M.M.I.A. will implement the orders of the Supreme Allied Commander in the following matters:

(a) Transmission and interpretation of Allied orders and requirements to the appropriate Italian Military Authority.

(b) Supervision of administration and supply of the Italian Army as has been laid down from time to time.

(c) Supervision of appointments, promotions, dismissals, discipline and drafts (call ups) of Italian Army personnel.

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(c) Supervision of appointments, promotions, dismissals, discipline and drafts (call ups) of Italian Army personnel.

(d) Liaison between employing Allied formations and the Ministry of War.

(e) Representation of the views of the Italian Military Authorities.

5. FORMATION OF NEW UNITS.

The formation of new units or the reorganisation of existing units of the Italian Army by Italian Military Authorities, or by Allied formations is prohibited except as authorised through M.M.I.A.

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(b) An effective member of the Italian Armed Forces is defined as "one who is a bona fide member of the Italian Armed Forces, either officers, non-commissioned officers or other ranks, duly enrolled or enlisted therein, and subject to the laws of war and the Geneva Convention and borne on the rolls of the Ministry concerned, and actually performing the duty to which assigned as shown on the official strength returns of the Ministry concerned".

Section 11 - General Organisation of the Italian Army.

7. ORGANISATION.

The Italian Army is divided into categories as follows :

(a) Troops maintained Internationally (short title ITI-ITI) including:

(1) Troops for the administration of the Italian Army iteself.

(2) Troops engaged on Internal Security, guard battalions, etc (all of which are subject to assignment under Allied Command as organised.)

(b) Troops maintained by the British (short title BR-ITI) either diluted or complete units.

(c) Troops maintained by the US (short title US-ITI).

8. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) In principle the Italian Military Authorities are responsible to the Supreme Allied Commander through MMIA for the Administration of all categories, except as specified otherwise herein.

(b) Italian Administrative Headquarters for the Administration of ITI-ITI troops are provided from the administrative troops under Italian Command.

(c) Italian Administrative Headquarters for US-ITI and BRI-ITI troops are provided from personnel assigned organically as a part of such category. These headquarters are under US and British Command respectively.

(d) The general administration of the Italian Army is vested in the Ministry of War, the personnel for which is obtained from ITI-ITI's administrative troops.

9. COMMAND.

(a) Allied Commanders are given power of Command over such Italian formations or units as are placed under their jurisdiction. As far as circumstances permit, orders will be transmitted through the appropriate Italian Army Channels of Command.

(b) Allied Commanders under whose command Italian Units or individuals have been placed have authority to suspend temporarily any Italian Officer for cause at any time. Should such suspension be made, the next officer in the Italian Channel of Command will succeed pro-tem the officer suspended, until a suitable successor is appointed by the Italian Military authorities. The

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6. EMPLOYMENT.

(a) Allied formations will employ only those effective units or individuals of the Italian Army who are specifically assigned or attached to them. Allied formations will employ and maintain only those persons who are properly enrolled into the present Italian Army. Persons who were members of the former Italian Army are civilians until they are enrolled or drafted through the proper present Italian military procedure.

(b) An effective member of the Italian Armed Forces is defined as "one who is a bona fide member of the Italian Armed Forces, either officers, non-commissioned officers or other ranks, duly enrolled or enlisted therein, and subject to the laws of war and the Geneva Convention and borne on the rolls of the Ministry concerned, and actually performing the duty to which assigned as shown on the official strength returns of the Ministry concerned".

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suspended officer will be directed to report to the next Superior Italian Headquarters. The Allied Commander will forward to MMIA at the time of suspension, a full statement of facts in the case so as to form the basis for action to be taken by the Ministry of War and MMIA.

(c) All personnel of the Italian Army will be subject to Italian Military Law, which will be administered by Italian Officers in accordance with the Italian code. Where there is no Italian officer competent, under the Italian code, to deal with the offence in the unit concerned, the offender will be sent to the nearest Italian Authority competent to act. When the offender is a member of a unit under Allied Command, the Allied Commander will be informed of the action taken. In cases where the Allied Commander considers the action taken was unsatisfactory, or the punishment insufficient, the Allied Commander will submit a statement of facts to MMIA for such additional action as is indicated.

(d) Where Italian troops are under Allied Command, relevant Allied Commanders will demand removal and replacement of unsuitable Italian officers up to and including Lt Colonels, by the appropriate Italian Commanders concerned. If the action taken by the Italian Authority is unsatisfactory, the Allied Commander will report through normal Allied Channels to the Army, District or Base Section Commander under whose Command the Italian Army unit has been placed. The Army, District or Base Section Commander will refer the matter to the Senior Italian Authority under his command. If, after this reference, satisfactory action is not taken, details of the case, together with the recommendations of the Allied Army, District or Base Section Commander, will be sent to MMIA for action with the Minister of War. In the case of officers above the rank of Lt Colonel, a full report will be made by the appropriate Allied Commander to MMIA who will take necessary action with the Minister of War. In all cases where the Allied Commander considers that the Italian officer should be eliminated from the service, regardless of the action taken by the Italian Authorities in accordance with the demand of the Allied Commander, a full report should be sent to MMIA, to ensure that the officer concerned will receive such disciplinary action as is warranted by the facts in the case.

10. ARREST.

(a) Allied Military Authorities are given power to arrest and hold in temporary custody Italians subject to Military Law alleged to be guilty of any offence punishable by Italian Law, pending investigation and handing over the offender for trial by the Italian Authorities. This power will be exercised in the same manner as for the arrest of Allied personnel.

11. LEAVE.

(a) If the military situation permits, privilege leave may be given to Italian Army personnel for a period of seven days, exclusive of travelling time, not more than once in six months. The movement, on leave, of personnel, between the mainland and SICILY and SARDINIA will be governed by current regulations.

(b) Compassionate leave may be given in proper cases by a superior Italian Military Authority, Colonel or above, for fourteen days exclusive of travelling time, with the concurrence of the Allied Commander concerned, if applicable.

(c) Not more than five percent of a unit may be away on privilege and/or compassionate leave at one time. Absenteeism due to previous leave draft will

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up to and including Lt Colonels, by the appropriate Italian Commanders concerned. If the action taken by the Italian Authority is unsatisfactory, the Allied Commander will report through normal Allied Channels to the Army, District or Base Section Commander under whose Command the Italian Army unit has been placed. The Army, District or Base Section Commander will refer the matter to the Senior Italian Authority under his command. If, after this reference, satisfactory action is not taken, details of the case, together with the recommendations of the Allied Army, District or Base Section Commander, will be sent to MMIA for action with the Minister of War. In the case of officers above the rank of Lt Colonel, a full report will be made by the appropriate Allied Commander to MMIA who will take necessary action with the Minister of War. In all cases where the Allied Commander considers that the Italian officer should be eliminated from the service, regardless of the action taken by the Italian Authorities in accordance with the demand of the Allied Commander, a full report should be sent to MMIA, to ensure that the officer concerned will receive such disciplinary action as is warranted by the facts in the case.

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(b) Compassionate leave may be given in proper cases by a superior Italian Military Authority, Colonel or above, for fourteen days exclusive of travelling time, with the concurrence of the Allied Commander concerned, if applicable.

(c) Not more than five percent of a unit may be away on privilege and/or compassionate leave at one time. Absenteeism due to previous leave draft will count against the five percent until such time as absentees have rejoined or been struck off strength and reinforcements provided.

(d) Agricultural or special leave will be the subject of special orders from time to time. 5152

(e) Allied Commanders may, at their discretion, suspend the granting of leave to members of Italian Army units under their command, for operational or other reasons.

(f) Italian Army personnel on leave are not entitled to rations from Army sources during the period of absence.

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12. APPOINTMENT AND ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICERS.

(a) The Italian Minister of War is responsible for the appointment of Officers, subject to such restrictions as may be imposed from time to time by M.M.I.A.

(b) Assignment of officers is a function of the Minister of War. In units employed under Allied Command officers will not be relieved by the Minister of War until a suitable replacement has reported for duty and no transfer or reliefs generally will be effected without prior notification to the Allied Commander concerned.

13. ABSENTEES.

(a) Personnel absent without leave over 30 days will be struck off the authorized strength of the Italian Army.

(b) Personnel who have been struck off the authorized strength of the Italian Army will, when apprehended, be subject to such disciplinary action as the Italian Army considers appropriate, but during trial and sentence will not be maintained or rationed within the ceiling of the Italian Army. When such personnel are again available for duty as effectives, the personnel will pass through a replacement center for reassignment.

14. PERSONNEL UNDERGOING IMPRISONMENT OR DETENTION.

(a) Italian Army personnel sentenced to imprisonment or detention, or confined awaiting trial, are, for periods under 30 days, confined in unit cells, and are retained on the strength of the unit.

(b) Italian Army personnel who are absent from their unit awaiting trial for over 30 days, or who are sentenced to detention for over 30 days, will be struck off the authorized strength of the Italian Army, and will be confined in Civil prisons. On release from the Civil Prison, if they remain eligible for service in the Army, such personnel will be sent to a replacement center for reassignment. Such personnel will not be reincorporated in the old unit unless assigned thereto through the replacement center. During the period of confinement in civil prisons, such personnel will not be rationed from Army sources.

(c) Effective Army personnel will not be employed in the operation of Civil prisons, camps or detention centers, for the confinement of personnel for periods in excess of 30 days.

15. ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION.

No member of the Italian Army will be paid any salary, wages or emoluments from Allied sources as an addition to his pay from the Italian Government.

16. WELFARE.

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15. ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION.

No member of the Italian Army will be paid any salary, wages or emoluments from Allied sources as an addition to his pay from the Italian Government.

16. WELFARE.

(a) Welfare will be the responsibility of the Italian Government.

(b) Issues, sales, or gifts of Post Exchange or NAFFI supplies from Allied sources to Italian troops under Allied command are prohibited except as authorized specially by Allied Force Headquarters.

17. HOSPITALIZATION.

(a) Personnel undergoing treatment in hospitals or convalescent camps will be carried by their units as "sick in hospital" for periods up to 30 days inclusive.

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(b) Personnel remaining in hospital or convalescent camps over 30 days will be transferred to the rolls and carried on the strength of the replacement center. Separate instructions will be issued to cover Combat Groups.

(c) Personnel remaining in hospital or convalescent camps over 60 days will be struck off the authorized ceiling of the Italian Army, and will be transferred to Civil hospitals operated by the Italian Government, thereafter being issued no rations from Army stocks.

(d) The Italian Government will be responsible for organizing and operating civilian hospitals and convalescent camps to care for personnel who require hospitalisation in excess of 60 days.

(e) Personnel who have been struck off the authorized strength of the Army as a result of being in hospital over 60 days will be recalled to duty with the Army, if physically qualified, upon discharge from the Civil hospital. Recall will be effected through the normal recall channels and reassignment will be through the replacement center.

(f) The figure of 60 days may be reduced by orders of M.M.I.A. if it is found by experience that an excessive number of sick is being carried on the rolls of the replacement center.

18. REINFORCEMENTS AND REPLACEMENTS.

The system and organisation for the provision of replacement personnel will be as follows :

(a) Recruits will be called up by the Ministry of War at the direction of M.M.I.A.

(b) Recruits will report to "Call-up Centers", the staffs of which will be ITI-ITI personnel.

(c) Separate base replacement depots will be set up for US-ITI's, BR-ITI's and ITI-ITI's respectively. MMIA will be responsible for arranging delivery of recruits and personnel available from other sources to the depots and for their maintenance prior to arrival. Thereafter, the nationality concerned will be responsible for the maintenance and training of replacement personnel and distribution to units.

(d) The responsibility for establishment, and maintenance of staffs of base replacement depots is as follows :

(1) For US-ITI - CG MTOUSA

(2) For BR-ITI - AFHQ (British Element)

(3) For ITI-ITI - The Italian War Ministry (as directed by MMIA)

(e) The replacements held [illegible]

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(e) Personnel who have been struck off the authorized strength of the Army as a result of being in hospital over 60 days will be recalled to duty with the Army, if physically qualified, upon discharge from the Civil hospital. Recall will be effected through the normal recall channels and reassignment will be through the replacement center.

(f) The figure of 60 days may be reduced by orders of M.M.I.A. if it is found by experience that an excessive number of sick is being carried on the rolls of the replacement center.

18. REINFORCEMENTS AND REPLACEMENTS.

The system and organisation for the provision of replacement personnel will be as follows :

(a) Recruits will be called up by the Ministry of War at the direction of M.M.I.A.

(b) Recruits will report to "Call-up Centers", the staffs of which will be ITI-ITI personnel.

(c) Separate base replacement depots will be set up for US-ITI's, BR-ITI's and ITI-ITI's respectively. MMIA will be responsible for arranging delivery of recruits and personnel available from other sources to the depots and for their maintenance prior to arrival. Thereafter, the nationality concerned will be responsible for the maintenance and training of replacement personnel and distribution to units.

(d) The responsibility for establishment, and maintenance of staffs of base replacement depots is as follows :

(1) For US-ITI - CG MTOUSA

(2) For BR-ITI - AFHQ (British Element)

(3) For ITI-ITI - The Italian War Ministry (as directed by MMIA)

(e) The replacements held on the rolls of replacement depots will not exceed the authorized number in each instance. 3151

(f) MMIA will authorize call-up of personnel as considered necessary.

Section III - Italian Army Units Maintained by the US and British (US-ITI's and BR-ITI's).

19. PROVISION OF UNITS.

(a) Italian Army units and personnel will be allotted to the various categories by MMIA. This includes all personnel of the Italian Army.

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20. ORGANIZATION.

(a) Units or sub-units maintained by the British (BR-ITI's) are or will be organized on WEs to be decided by ~~AFHQ~~ AFHQ

(b) Units serving and maintained by the US (US-ITI's) are or will be organized on provisional TOs as decided by the Base Section, Army or similar headquarters.

(c) MMIA will be informed of any changes in organization or WE/TO of units.

21. REPLACEMENTS.

(a) The holding of replacements for Service Units, exclusive of Combat Groups, is limited to 5% of the total authorised service units maintained by the Allies.

22. FINANCES.

(a) Wherever possible the Italian Government will be responsible for the payment of Italian Army personnel and for meeting such other expenses as are necessary.

(b) Wherever due to local conditions, it is NOT practicable for payment to be made by the Italian Government, the following emergency measures are authorized :

(1) Units serving under British Command :

(a) Italian units will draw bulk advances from the nearest British Field or Area Cashier.

(b) In diluted units the senior Italian officer will draw advances from the nearest British Field or Area Cashier. Such amounts will not appear in the Imprest accounts of the British units concerned.

(c) All advances will be in bulk sum.

(d) A list of authorized units is being supplied by AFHQ to the Command Paymaster, Number 8 Command Pay Office, CMF. In the case of diluted units the British Commanding Officer will nominate the Italian officer to whom payment should be made.

(2) Units maintained by the US.

Finances will be subject to special instructions.

Section IV - Italian Army Units Maintained Internationally.

23. ORGANIZATION.

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22. FINANCES.

(a) Wherever possible the Italian Government will be responsible for the payment of Italian Army personnel and for meeting such other expenses as are necessary.

(b) Wherever due to local conditions, it is NOT practicable for payment to be made by the Italian Government, the following emergency measures are authorized :

(1) Units serving under British Command :

(a) Italian units will draw bulk advances from the nearest British Field or Area Cashier.

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(d) A list of authorized units is being supplied by AFHQ to the Command Paymaster, Number 8 Command Pay Office, CMF. In the case of diluted units the British Commanding Officer will nominate the Italian officer to whom payment should be made.

(2) Units maintained by the US:

Finances will be subject to special instructions.

Section IV - Italian Army Units Maintained Internationally.

23. ORGANIZATION.

These units are divided into three categories:

(a) Internal Security formations whose principal functions are :

(1) Acting as a force to support the civil power.
(2) Providing guards for Allied installations and Vital Points.
(3) Special duties under Allied Command.

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(b) Administrative depots and services. The size, location and organisation of the units are determined by the Italian Military Authories under the direction of MMIA.

(c) Para-Military personnel, i.e., Carabinieri, the majority of whom are subordinate to the civil administration.

24. COMMAND.

Except for Carabinieri and units allotted or attached to Allied formations for Internal Security or guard duties, these formations and units are under command of the Italian Military Authorities. If a state of emergency arises (such as the intervention of the enemy in the area concerned) these troops will come under command of the Allied Headquarters in whose area they are located. The Carabinieri (CC.RR) except those units within Army formations in the role of Military Police, are a civil police organization under the command of the Commanding General of the Carabinieri and directed by the Public Safety Sub-Commission, Allied Commission.

25. RELATIONS WITH ALLIED COMMANDERS.

Local Allied Headquarters in whose area these units are located will be responsible for allotment of accommodation. Units will be subject to Allied orders on administration, which concern them as a result of their presence in the area, e.g., curfew and road movement.

26. This instruction supercedes all previous instructions on this subject.

1 Dec 44
DSLG/hh

F T Noaye Col.
DA & QMG.
Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.
MMIA.

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All MMIA LO's
All Branches and Services.
War Diary (2)

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Military Police, are a civil police organization under the command of the Commanding General of the Carabinieri and directed by the Public Safety Sub-Commission, Allied Commission.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

SUBJECT:- Italian Army Rest Camp - Rome.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

AFHQ/2554/4/Q(Maint).

27 Jan.45.

To : Headquarters,
E.M.I.A.

Reference ADAWS letter WEL/R dated 17 Jan45 to Army Welfare Services, copy to you.

1. The maintenance demands for the Italian Army Rest Camp should be supervised and placed on appropiate Supply Depots from your H.Q.

2. In this way the responsibility for ensuring an allocation of maintenance commitment appropiate to the categories of Italian Forces using the Rest Camp will be most suitably co-ordinated.

H.L.BEDWELL, Major,
for Major General,
D.Q.M.G.

Copy to: G-1 (B)
S.T. (Ref AFHQ/64/ST6(b) dated 24 Jan45)

Orignal Copy: AQ/27 Folio 91.

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TRANSLATION.

MINISTRY OF WAR.

DIRECTORATE OF WELFARE

N.00100/B.S. P.M.3800 25 Jan'45.

Army Headquarters, Rome
Territorial H.Q. Naples
" " Bari
" " Palermo
Regional " Sardinia
" " Calabria
H.Q. 212 Command
H.Q.s Combat Groups
Combat Groups Reinforcement and Training Centre.
H.Q. 228 DIVISION
" 231 "
" 210 "
" 205 "
" 209 "
" 227 "
" 230 "
" AOSTA "
" CALABRIA "
" Sabauda "

H.Q. GERSA
" GERSETI.
" CC.RR.

For information

1st Adjutant, H.M. the King.
"H.R.H. the Lt.Gen of the Realm.
" H.R.H. the Duke of Aosta
" H.R.H. the Duke of Genoa
" H.R.H. the Duke of Ancona

Admiralty
Air Ministry
High Commissioner for Prisoners of War.
General Headquarters
H.Q. Finance Guard.
H.Q. War Ministry Admin Unit.
Welfare, S.E.R.E.

SUBJECT. Welfare of the Soldier

The Directorate of Welfare has been set up, under the War Ministry, with the object of co-ordinating, and bringing greater efficiency to, the various schemes designed to make the life of the soldier more comfortable. The aim is to help him during his service with a unit: to give him recreation during rest periods, or when employed in a static role; to make him feel that, while he is giving everything he has got for his country, there are those who are really interested in caring for him, interested in his material and spiritual life, in his family affairs and in dispelling his worries about them, and interested in his return, on a not too distant day, to the freedom of civil life and the satisfaction of some honest work.

The Service will employ every available resource of the country, ~~and~~ together with the generous collaboration of the Allied powers: the latter offer not only the benefit of their wide and various experience of Welfare but also the

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Combat Groups Reinforcement and Training Centre.
H.Q. 228 DIVISION
" 231 "
" 210 "
" 205 "
" 208 "
" 227 "
" 230 "
" AOSTA "
" CALABRIA
" Sabanda "

H.R.H. the Lt.Gen of the Realm.
" H.R.H. the Duke of Aosta
" H.R.H. the Duke of Genoa
" H.R.H. the Duke of Ancona

Admiralty
Air Ministry
High Commissioner for Prisoners of War.
General Headquarters
H.Q. Finance Guard.
H.Q. War Ministry Admin Unit.
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The Directorate of Welfare has been set up, under the War Ministry, with the object of co-ordinating, and bringing greater efficiency to, the various schemes designed to make the life of the soldier more comfortable. The aim is to help him during his service with a unit; to give him recreation during rest periods, or when employed in a static role; to make him feel that, while he is giving everything he has got for his country, there are those who are really interested in caring for him, interested in his material and spiritual life, in his family affairs and in dispelling his worries about them, and interested in his return, on a not too distant day, to the freedom of civil life and the satisfaction of some honest work.

The Service will employ every available resource of the country, ~~and~~ together with the generous collaboration of the Allied powers: the latter offer not only the benefit of their wide and various experience of Welfare, but also the considerable material means at their disposal.

While accepting the help of the Allies with gratitude, the Italian Welfare Service intends, as and when it is possible, to utilize its own resources, with the generous assistance of the whole Italian people.

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The HQ. of the Service is under direct orders of the Ministry of War and is divided into two Sections: one, (again under the Ministry,) which will deal with troops in rear and L of C areas; the second (under S.E.R.E.), dealing with operational and forward units.

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ORGANIZATION OF THE SERVICE

1. DIRECTORATE AND EXECUTIVE

1. Operational units and formations.

Central control is under the Welfare Section SHAEF. as far as employment is concerned, all other questions are referred to the Directorate, Ministry of War.

Outer organization. The Commander of each large formation (Combat Groups, Divisions, Training Centres,) is responsible for welfare organization, and that his suggestions and orders are carried into effect - in accordance with the directions of the higher command - by the specially trained officers appointed by this Ministry.

In smaller formations (regiments and the equivalent) the commander is again the responsible authority: he employs a specially selected officer, chosen by him from his own unit.

In still smaller units (battalions, companies, and equivalents) the directive and executive functions are both the responsibility of the commander.

2. Units in L of C Areas.

Central control is under the Welfare Section of the War Ministry; (Welfare Directorate)

Outer organization. The responsibility for direction in each region rests with the Territorial Commander; he will have with him a specially trained Welfare officer appointed by the Ministry.

The Territorial Commander exercises this unified control over his whole area, but always making allowances for the special circumstances of units under command.

In the case of Divisions (or equivalent units) stationed in the areas and attached to Territorial H.Q's for all purposes, direction will be in the hands of the Commanders, assisted by a specially trained officer.

In the case of a smaller formations (Regiments, garrisons, districts, depots, directorates, etc.) the executive and directive duties are the responsibility of the commander, director, etc., who will be assisted by a selected officer from his staff.

11. ORGANIZATION, AIMS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING THE SERVICE.

Measures taken to implement welfare must conform to the mobility and unfavourable living conditions of the units, and their importance increases as conditions become more difficult.

The measures can be split into categories according to the desired results

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In the case of Divisions (or equivalent units) stationed in the areas and attached to Territorial HQ's for all purposes, direction will be in the hands of the Commanders, assisted by a specially trained officer.

In the case of a smaller formations (Regiments, garrisons, districts, depots, directorates, etc.) the executive and directive duties are the responsibility of the commander, director, etc., who will be assisted by a selected officer from his staff.

11. ORGANIZATION, WAYS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING THE SERVICE.

Measures taken to implement welfare must conform to the mobility and unfavourable living conditions of the units, and their importance increases as conditions become more difficult.

The measures can be split into categories according to the desired results.

(a) Informative.
(b) Recreational, and material aid.
(c) Culture and morale.

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a) Informative

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(a) INFORMATIVE.

Organisations should be composed to accord with the requirements of units. They must be able
(i) to give directions of routes,etc.
(ii) to direct and help detached soldiers
(iii) to indicate the whereabouts of clubs,canteens and etc.
(iv) to investigate and obtain news of families and etc.

This aspect of welfare work is to be undertaken by all officers,in particular commanding officers of all formations and units: they may be assisted on technical points by experts selected from their own units.

In large units, Information Bureaux may be set up permanently at suitable locations, under the control of the Senior Welfare Officer. (e.g.in Railway Stations,Transit camps,airports, ports etc.)

(b) Recreational,and Material Aid.

These will be Mobile Welfare Sections i.e.Mobile field organizations with transport,capable of being set up in requisitioned buildings or in such buildings as are available, or even in tents. These Mobile Welfare Sections must be able to offer rest to soldiers in transit,or who have been withdrawn from the line for a few days. Their facilities should include comfortable billets and food; the sale,at reasonable prices,of articles in greatest demand (stationary toilet articles,grocery,etc.) ; bar,barber,baths,laundry and tailoring facilities;games and sports:orchestra,cinema,theatre,religious and medical assistance etc.

For the organization of mess,laundry and tailoring services and of the various entertainments,Mobile units should be formed of service personnel,completing their establishments as necessary with civilians/: for this purpose,agreements may be made with civilian contractors for Army Welfare.

(c) CULTURE AND MORALE.

Field Libraries are to be set up with each large formations, and possibly at corps level,either by direct purchases or with the aid of various civilian agencies,notably publishing houses and newspaper proprietors. Libraries must include works of various sorts, easy and enjoyable reading (novels,short stories,plays) educational and instructional sections,and some technicial works: (agriculture, commerce and industry,mechanics,electricty, etc.)

Morale is the responsibility of all officers and particularly of chaplains,and of medical and administrative officers.

In this field,more than any other,civilian volunteers, particularly ladies,who belong to local

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Welfare Officer. (e.g.in Railway Stations,Transit camps,airports, ports etc.)

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Morale is the responsibility of all officers and particularly of chaplains,and of medical and administrative officers.

In this field,more than any other,civilian volunteers, particularly ladies,who belong to local welfare associations can be employed.

The morale side of welfare includes the improvement of postal services,private,personal and domestic affairs,either of legal or economic nature. Any question of discipline,however,in any way affecting an individual as a member of the armed forces, is excluded;these questions are dealt with by the superior military authority only.

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2. FORMATIONS AND UNITS IN TERRITORIAL COMMANDS.

Welfare organisations in Territorial Commands must necessarily be more static, and more complicated. They must therefore use to the full machinery already existing for civilian or military purposes.

(a) INFORMATIVE.

Informative organisations must comply with the requirements already set forth, employing Information and Bureaux, in suitable places: it will be necessary to rely largely on civilian volunteers from the various bodies, assisted, if required by military personnel. Such information posts must always be set up in welfare establishments listed below.

(b) RECREATIONAL AND MATERIAL AID.

All organizations (military or civilians) formed, or about to be formed in Territorial Commands, have the same aim: that is, to care for the soldiers welfare in his off duty hours as a continuation of the care which will be given to him on duty.

In this category come Soldiers Homes, under military or civilian management, (they may be voluntary or business undertakings) hotels, clubs, rest room, canteens and soldiers shops.

The Soldiers Homes must cultivate an atmosphere of comfort and gaiety, so as to give the soldier an impression of familiar surroundings and homelikness. Everything should be available for his material and spiritual comfort: sleeping quarters, good, well cooked food, bar service, meeting rooms, games and reading rooms, sales counters for stationery, toilet articles, and clothing, bathrooms, barbers, tailoring and laundry service; theatre cinema and sports fields should, if possible, be at hand, but at all events, quite close.

Soldiers homes must be carried on, and opened where they are needed, in each area, using existing facilities, either in barracks or in buildings adapted for the purpose.

Territorial and other Commanders will devote immediate attention to the problem, and submit concrete proposals. There must be close and friendly co-operation with local authorities, and with civilian and welfare organisations.

Where it is not possible to set up a Soldiers Home as a complete self contained unit, the various parts constituting the whole must be set up in separate premises. (e.g. theatre, cinema, hotel, canteens etc.). If necessary, buildings and land will be requisitioned.

The Homes should be under direct control, where capable [illegible] civilians or volunteers with the

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listed below.

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Territorial and other Commanders will devote immediate attention to the problem,and submit concrete proposals. There must be close and friendly co-operation with local authorities,and with civilian and welfare organizations.

Where it is not possible to set up a Soldiers Home as a complete self contained unit, the various parts constituting the whole must be set up in separate premises. (e.g. theatre,cinema, hotel,canteens etc.). If necessary,buildings and land will be requisitioned.

The Homes should be under direct control,where capable personnel are available,otherwise civilians or volunteers with the necessary experience may be called upon: the possibility of leasing complete organisations should not be forgotten. In any case,good management is essential:encouragement should be given to the measures taken for speeding up activities,as part of the control,but the initiative of individual managers should not be hampered.

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- - - - - Soldiers Shops - - - -

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Soldiers shops,canteens,and rest rooms can and must be organized as in the past,in units and commands,and commanders must must use whatever means they can for this purpose.

Where there are considerable difficulties,or where there is no alternative,commanders should contract with civilian establishments,such as theatres,cinemas,clubs,hotels,and restaurants to provide a number of seats,beds etc., for the army free of charge or for a nominal sum. (In the case of men in transit, these charges should be borne by Welfare; in other cases,by the individuals concerned.)

The question of transport should not be neglected where, as in Rome, the state of public passenger services and the distances between barracks,hotels and other establishments renders it important.

The supply of goods for the soldiers shops should be the subject of agreements with local tradesmen,either in the open market or by private arrangements,and specialized military agencies should assist.

(c) CULTURE AND GOALS.

Apart from the field libraries,already mentioned in connection with Soldiers Homes,rest and transit camps, a free hand should be given to the formation within units of exchange libraries, a project started some time ago. (A small sum should be charged as security). For this purpose all civilian welfare institutions, schools,newspaper editors,magazines,publishing houses,public and private libraries should be asked to contribute freely,since direct purchase is now very difficult.

Waste paper should also be accepted,as this can be sold to the paper mills;the proceeds can then be used for the purchase of books.

Suggestions are invited for the type of books required, bearing in mind those already in possession of units; any books held by a unit surplus to its requirements should be prepared for despatch to other units not so well equipped.

Morale welfare must include all the informative functions as well as assistance to the soldier or his family on the most varied questions - questions of a private or domestic nature, of taxation,employment or legal matters,always excluding strictly military matters,which are to be handled by the army authorities. In this, more than in any other field,the help of civilian welfare institutes is needed,and it should not be difficult to find volunteers well suited to the various needs of the service.

The following are amongst the most important aspects of morale welfare: the postal service; economic,medical,and religious aid; an intelligent patriotic programme, to strengthen the love of the country, the sense of discipline,respect of authority and

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assist.

(c) CULTURE AND SPORTS.

Apart from the field libraries, already mentioned in connection with Soldiers Homes, rest and transit camps, a free hand should be given to the formation within units of exchange libraries, a project started some time ago. (A small sum should be charged as security). For this purpose all civilian welfare institutions, schools, newspaper editors, magazines, publishing houses, public and private libraries should be asked to contribute freely, since direct purchase is now very difficult.

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The following are amongst the most important aspects of morale welfare: the postal service: economic, medical, and religious aid; an intelligent patriotic propaganda, to strengthen the love of the country, the sense of discipline, respect of authority and the law, and respect for the dignity of labour: these are sentiments independent of party politics, and quite apart from political views.

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This work should be carried out by ADL lists; it is to be desired that they should not be familiar with army circles, so as not to create a false impression of political propaganda. Civilian, and above all, women's associations, should be freely called upon for this type of work.

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The activities outlined in this pamphlet have to a large extent been put into operation, or are being commenced, in furtherance of the directives and orders of this Ministry and of S.M.R.E. ; much is due to the commendable initiative of formations and Territorial HQs.

There is, however, room for hard application, for improvement and for a widening of the scope of the work.

All initiative and work to this end must be supported.

In making these proposals, and this demand for the very necessary machinery for the work, the present situation of the country has naturally been borne in mind.

A. CASATI
MINISTER OF WAR.

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A. CASATI
MINISTER OF WAR.

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MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

UFFICIO BENESSERE DEL SOLDATO

N. 00100/B.S. di protocollo

P. M. 3800, li 25 gennaio 1945

Allo Stato Maggiore R. Esercito	*P. M. 3800*
Al Comando Territoriale di	*NAPOLI*
Al Comando Territoriale di	*BARI*
Al Comando Territoriale di	*PALERMO*
Al Comando Militare della Sardegna	*P. M. 75-A*
Al Comando Militare della Calabria	*CATANZARO*
Al Comando Delegazione "T" dello S.M.R.E.	*P. M. 179*
Al Comando Italiano 212	*P. M. 181*
Ai Gruppi di Combattimento	*LORO SEDI*
Al Comando Deposito Addestramento Complementi Forze Italiane di Combattimento	*P. M. 3800*
Al Comando 228ª Divisione	*P. M. 16*
Al Comando 231ª Divisione	*P. M. 167*
Al Comando 210ª Divisione	*P. M. 179*
Al Comando 205ª Divisione	*P. M. 217*
Al Comando 209ª Divisione	*P. M. 185*
Al Comando 227ª Divisione	*P. M. 186*
Al Comando 230ª Divisione	*P. M. 179*
Al Comando Divisione "Aosta"	*P. M. 72*
Al Comando Divisione "Calabria"	*P. M. 75*
Al Comando Divisione Sicurezza "Sabauda"	*P. M. 30*
Al Comando Centro Raccolta e Riorganizzazione Settore Adriatico "C.E.R.S.A."	*P. M. 185*
Al Comando Centro Raccolta e Riorganizzazione Settore Tirrenico "C.E.R.S.E.T.I."	*ROMA*
Al Comando Generale dell'Arma dei CC. RR.	*P. M. 3800*

e, per conoscenza:

All'Ufficio del 1° Aiutante di Campo Generale di S. M. il Re d'Italia	*NAPOLI*
All'Ufficio del 1° Aiutante di Campo Gen. di S.A.R. il Luogotenente Generale del Regno	*ROMA*
All'Ufficio del 1° Aiutante di Campo di S. A. R. il Duca d'Aosta	*SUA SEDE*
All'Ufficio del 1° Aiutante di Campo di S. A. R. il Duca di Genova	*SUA SEDE*
All'Ufficio dell'Aiutante di Campo di S. A. R. il Duca di Ancona	*SUA SEDE*
Al Ministero della Marina	*ROMA*
Al Ministero dell'Aeronautica	*ROMA*
All'Ufficio dell'Alto Commissario per i Prigionieri di Guerra	*ROMA*
Allo Stato Maggiore Generale	*P. M. 3800*
Al Comando Generale R. Guardia di Finanza	*ROMA*
Alle Direzioni Generali ed Uffici autonomi del Ministero della Guerra	*LORO SEDI*
All'Ufficio Assistenza dello Stato Maggiore R. Esercito	*P. M. 3800*

OGGETTO: **BENESSERE DEL SOLDATO**

Allo scopo di rendere più efficienti e di coordinare le attività intese a rendere più confortevole la vita del soldato, ad assisterlo durante il servizio presso i reparti, a ritemprarne le energie nei periodi di sosta e di riposo, a fargli sentire che, mentre egli dà tutto per il bene supremo della Patria, vi è chi si occupa amorevolmente di lui, della sua vita materiale e spirituale, delle sue relazioni con i familiari, di togliergli o alleviargli le preoccupazioni per le condizioni di vita della famiglia e per il suo ritorno in un giorno non lontano alle libere attività della vita civile, alla gioia di un lavoro sano ed onesto, si è costituito, presso il Ministero della Guerra, un "UFFICIO BENESSERE DEL SOLDATO"*. Questo Ufficio utilizzerà il concorso delle*

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Allo Stato Maggiore R. Esercito	*P. M. 3800*
Al Comando Territoriale di	*ROMA e NAPOLI*
Al Comando Territoriale di	*B A R I*
Al Comando Territoriale di	*PALERMO*
Al Comando Militare della Sardegna	*P. M. 75-A*
Al Comando Militare della Calabria	*CATANZARO*
Al Comando Delegazione "T" dello S.M.R.E.	*P. M. 179*
Al Comando Italiano 212	*P. M. 181*
Ai Gruppi di Combattimento	*LORO SEDI*
Al Comando Deposito Addestramento Complementi Forze Italiane di Combattimento	*P. M. 3800*
Al Comando 228ª Divisione	*P. M. 16*
Al Comando 231ª Divisione	*P. M. 167*
Al Comando 210ª Divisione	*P. M. 179*
Al Comando 205ª Divisione	*P. M. 217*
Al Comando 209ª Divisione	*P. M. 185*
Al Comando 227ª Divisione	*P. M. 186*
Al Comando 230ª Divisione	*P. M. 179*
Al Comando Divisione "Aosta"	*P. M. 72*
Al Comando Divisione "Calabria"	*P. M. 75*
Al Comando Divisione Sicurezza "Sabauda"	*P. M. 30*
Al Comando Centro Raccolta e Riorganizzazione Settore Adriatico "C.E.R.S.A."	*P. M. 185*
Al Comando Centro Raccolta e Riorganizzazione Settore Tirrenico "C.E.R.S.E.T.I."	*R O M A*
Al Comando Generale dell'Arma dei CC. RR.	*P. M. 3800*

e, per conoscenza:

All'Ufficio del 1° Aiutante di Campo Generale di S. M. il Re d'Italia	*NAPOLI*
All'Ufficio del 1° Aiutante di Campo Gen. di S.A.R. il Luogotenente Generale del Regno	*R O M A*
All'Ufficio del 1° Aiutante di Campo di S. A. R. il Duca d'Aosta	*SUA SEDE*
All'Ufficio del 1° Aiutante di Campo di S. A. R. il Duca di Genova	*SUA SEDE*
All'Ufficio dell'Aiutante di Campo di S. A. R. il Duca di Ancona	*SUA SEDE*
Al Ministero della Marina	*R O M A*
Al Ministero dell'Aeronautica	*R O M A*
All'Ufficio dell'Alto Commissario per i Prigionieri di Guerra	*R O M A*
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*Accogliendo con animo grato l'ausilio degli alleati, l'*Ufficio benessere del soldato *intende tuttavia fare quanto più è possibile da sè, con le proprie forze, con la generosa assistenza di tutto il popolo italiano.*

L'Ufficio, costituito alla diretta dipendenza del Ministero della Guerra, è formato da due sezioni: una (presso il Ministero Guerra) che amministra tutte le attività riflettenti le truppe in territorio, l'altra (presso lo S. M. R. E., dal quale dipende per l'impiego) che persegue analoghe finalità a favore degli enti e reparti operanti e operativi.

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ORGANIZZAZIONE DEL SERVIZIO

I. - ORGANI DIRETTIVI ED ESECUTIVI

1) Per gli enti e reparti operativi.

Organo centrale è la "Sezione benessere del soldato„ alla dipendenza dello S. M. R. E. per l'impiego, e del Ministero della Guerra (Ufficio benessere del soldato) per tutte le altre questioni.

Organi periferici. In ogni grande unità (gruppi di combattimento, divisioni logistiche, depositi di addestramento) organo direttivo responsabile è il *Comandante dell'Unità*, che si vale per il funzionamento del servizio e l'attuazione dei suoi propositi ed ordini – nell'ambito delle direttive delle autorità superiori – dell'opera di un ufficiale particolarmente esperto ed addestrato al compito (ufficio benessere) assegnato da questo Ministero.

Nelle unità minori (reggimenti ed enti corrispondenti) organo direttivo responsabile è, analogamente, il *Comandante*, che si vale dell'opera di un ufficiale particolarmente adatto, da lui prescelto fra i dipendenti in organico.

Nelle unità più piccole (battaglione, compagnia e reparti corrispondenti) funzioni direttive ed esecutive sono riunite nella persona del *Comandante*.

2) Per gli enti e reparti nel territorio.

Organo centrale è la "Sezione benessere del soldato„ alla dipendenza del Ministero della Guerra (Ufficio benessere del soldato).

Organi periferici. Per ogni regione organo direttivo responsabile è il *Comandante Territoriale*, il quale si vale dell'opera di un ufficiale particolarmente esperto ed addestrato (ufficio benessere) assegnato da questo Ministero.

Il Comandante territoriale esercita questa sua attività in tutta la regione dipendente, con unità di indirizzo, ma sempre in relazione alle esigenze particolari di ogni ente od unità dipendente.

Presso le divisioni (ed enti corrispondenti) stanziate nelle regioni e gerarchicamente dipendenti – per ogni attività – dal comandante territoriale, organo direttivo è il *Comandante*, coadiuvato da un ufficiale appositamente scelto ed addestrato.

Presso gli enti minori (comandi di reggimento, di presidio, distretto, deposito, direzioni, stabilimenti, ecc. organo direttivo ed esecutivo si identificano nella persona dello stesso *Comandante*, Direttore, ecc. che può valersi dell'opera di uno degli ufficiali prescelto fra i dipendenti in organico.

II. - ORGANI, MEZZI E MODALITÀ PER L'ATTUAZIONE DEL SERVIZIO

1) Presso le unità operative.

Debbono rispondere alla caratteristica dell'adattabilità al movimento e al funzionamento anche nelle più disagiate condizioni di ambiente.

Quanto più difficili e disagiate le condizioni di ambiente, tanto più importante diventa la organizzazione di mezzi adeguati.

Tali mezzi possono essere distinti in categorie, a seconda degli scopi che si propongono:

informativi;
di ricreazione e di assistenza materiale:
di coltura e di assistenza morale.

a) *Informativi.* Organi di varia composizione ed importanza, a seconda dell'Ente presso il quale funzionano. Debbono poter rispondere a:

quesiti orientativi topografici;
sollecito avviamento e istradamento di militari isolati:
indicazioni di luoghi di ritrovo, di ricreazione, di riposo, ecc.:
ricerche: informazione di notizie su familiari, parenti, ecc.

I compiti informativi sono propri di tutti di

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indicazioni di luoghi di ritrovo, di ricreazione, di riposo, ecc.;
ricerche; informazione di notizie su familiari, parenti, ecc.

I compiti informativi sono propri di tutti gli ufficiali ed in particolare, dei Comandanti, dalle minori alle maggiori unità: che potranno valersi, per questione di ordine particolarmente *tecnico*, di personale competente tratto e designato fra i dipendenti in organico.

Nelle unità maggiori potranno essere permanentemente costituiti in un ufficio alla dipendenza del capo della sezione benessere per il soldato e, a seconda delle circostanze, opportunamente dislocati – *posti di informazione* (ad esempio presso le stazioni ferroviarie; in luoghi di sosta e smistamento di autocolonne; basi di sbarco; aeroporti, ecc.).

b) *Di ricreazione ed assistenza materiale.* Organi costituiti dalle *sezioni mobili di assistenza*, organizzazioni campali mobili, su autocarri, per sistemazioni occasionali in edifici requisiti, in baracche di fortuna,

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eventualmente anche sotto tenda (dotazione al seguito). Tali sezioni mobili di assistenza dovranno offrire comodità di sosta e di riposo ai militari in transito e a quelli che sono ritirati per qualche giorno dalle linee: alloggio e vitto confortevole, vendita a prezzi ragionevoli di generi di maggior consumo (cancelleria, toletta, mercerie ecc.): servizio di bar, barbiere, bagni, lavanderia e sartoria: giochi e sport: orchestra, cinematografo, teatri; assistenza religiosa e medica, ecc.

Per l'organizzazione dei servizi mensa, lavanderia e sartoria e degli spettacoli vari dovrebbero essere costituiti complessi mobili, con elementi tratti dai militari alle armi, completati e rinforzati di volta in volta da elementi civili, prendendo all'uopo accordi con gli enti civili per l'assistenza ai militari alle armi.

c) *Di coltura ed assistenza morale.* Organi rappresentati dalle *biblioteche da campo*, da costituire presso ogni grande unità e possibilmente anche presso i corpi, sia mediante acquisti diretti, sia con l'aiuto di enti civili vari, e specialmente enti editoriali e giornalistici. Le biblioteche dovranno comprendere libri di coltura varia, di lettura facile e dilettevole (romanzi, novelle, teatro), sezioni di carattere educativo e istruttivo e qualche opera di divulgazione tecnica (agricoltura, commercio e industria, meccanica, elettricità).

L'assistenza morale sarà affidata, in genere, a tutti gli ufficiali, e in particolare ai cappellani militari, agli ufficiali medici, agli ufficiali di amministrazione.

In questo campo, specialmente, potranno essere associati volontari civili, sopratutto signore, appartenenti a organizzazioni locali che dell'assistenza fanno il loro principale scopo.

Rientrano nell'assistenza morale: il miglioramento del servizio postale, la trattazione di pratiche di interesse privato personale domestico, di questioni legali, tributarie, economiche, ecc.: con esclusione di quanto riguarda questioni di carattere disciplinare comunque dipendenti dalla condizione militare e che sono perciò di esclusiva competenza dei superiori gerarchici.

2) Presso gli enti e le unità in territorio.

Le organizzazioni per la cura e il benessere presso gli enti in territorio acquistano carattere di maggiore stabilità e complessità, e debbono valersi ampiamente delle organizzazioni civili e militari esistenti in paese.

a) *Informativi.* Rispondono ai requisiti già visti e si esplicano mediante *posti e sezioni di informazioni*, opportunamente dislocati e per i quali è necessario valersi largamente di personale volontario delle diverse organizzazioni civili, completato, se necessario, e assistito da elementi militari. Tali posti dovranno in particolare essere organizzati nei seguenti enti creati per il benessere del soldato.

b) *Ricreazione e assistenza materiale.* Hanno queste finalità tutti gli enti (militari o civili) esistenti o da costituire nel territorio, attraverso i quali il militare trova una continua assistenza all'infuori e in continuazione di quella che viene esercitata nei suoi confronti durante le ore di servizio.

Sono tali le *case del soldato*, a gestione militare o civile (organizzazioni volontarie o imprese), gli *alberghi*, i *luoghi di ritrovo e di ristoro*, le *cantine*, gli *spacci*.

Le *case del soldato* debbono riunire e comprendere in sè un insieme organico, confortevole e gaio, di elementi diversi, capaci di dare al militare la impressione di un ambiente familiare e domestico: *della sua casa*. In esse il soldato dovrebbe trovare quanto gli è necessario alla vita materiale e spirituale: alloggio, vitto sano e ben preparato, servizio di bar; sale di ritrovo, da gioco, di lettura; banchi di vendita per oggetti, di cancelleria, di toletta, di vestiario; sale da bagno, barbiere sartoria e lavanderia; se, possibile, annessi allo stesso fabbricato – o altrimenti, in una dipendenza diretta – teatri, cinematografi, campi sportivi, aree per giochi all'aria aperta.

Le case del soldato dovranno essere curate, e sorgere ove non esistano, in ogni presidio, usufruendo di ciò che già esisteva, sia in caserma, sia in istituti di altri enti.

I Comandanti di Presidio vedano al più presto come risolvere il problema, presentando concrete proposte, in stretto e cordiale accordo con enti e autorità civili locali e con organizzazioni private e assistenziali.

Dove non esistano le condizioni necessarie per la costituzione di case del soldato complete di ogni servizio, occorrerà limitarsi alla costituzione dei vari elementi dei servizi in locali separati: teatri, cinematografi, alberghi per alloggio, sale di ristoro, ecc., ricorrendo se del caso alla requisizione degli immobili.

Per la gestione, si ricorra a quella di

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agli ufficiali medici, agli ufficiali di amministrazione.

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Rientrano nell'assistenza morale: il miglioramento del servizio postale, la trattazione di pratiche di interesse privato personale domestico, di questioni legali tributarie, economiche, ecc.: con esclusione di quanto riguarda questioni di carattere disciplinare comunque dipendenti dalla condizione militare e che sono perciò di esclusiva competenza dei superiori gerarchici.

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Per la gestione, si ricorra a quella diretta, se vi siano gli organi capaci, ovvero alla collaborazione di enti civili o di volontari; e non si escluda neppur l'appalto. In ogni caso, è necessaria una intelligente azione direttiva: di incitamento, di propulsione e sopratutto vigile di controllo, però non soffocare lo slancio di iniziativa dei singoli gestori.

Spacci, cantine, sale di ritrovo debbono e possono essere organizzate, come già in passato, presso qualunque reparto ed ente, a cura dei Comandanti di corpo e di reparto, valendosi dei mezzi a loro disposizione.

I Comandanti di presidio, ove non sia possibile provvedere in altro modo o appaia conveniente integrare gli spacci di cui sopra, prendano accordi con i dirigenti i luoghi di ritrovo cittadini (teatri, cinematografi, sale di ritrovo e di convegno ....) alberghi, ristoranti .... perchè in essi un certo numero di posti, di letti, ecc. siano riservati ai militari gratuitamente o dietro pagamento di un equo modico compenso (spese che, di

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massima, dovranno essere sostenute dagli enti per il benessere, per quanto riguarda alloggio e vitto di militari in servizio di leva o richiamati: dai singoli individui per ogni altra forma di prestazione).

Non dovrà essere trascurato il problema dei trasporti, dove – come, ad esempio, in Roma – per la situazione particolare dei servizi pubblici di trasporto e per le distanze fra caserme, alberghi di alloggio e stabilimenti vari, la questione si imponga.

Per la fornitura dei generi ai banchi di vendita si prendano accordi con gli enti pubblici locali, con organizzazioni private, e concorso degli enti militari specializzati.

c) *Di coltura e assistenza morale.* Accanto alle biblioteche da campo alle quali si è accennato nelle case del soldato, nei luoghi di soggiorno, nei posti di riposo e transito, presso i corpi e reparti dovrà essere dato ampio sviluppo alla costituzione, che da tempo è stata iniziata, di adatte biblioteche anche con servizio di prestito a domicilio (dietro deposito, a scopo cautelativo, di una certa somma). Per la formazione di tali biblioteche, poichè l'acquisto diretto è difficilissimo nella attuale situazione, si interessino tutti gli enti civili assistenziali, le scuole, le direzioni dei giornali, riviste, gli enti editoriali, le biblioteche pubbliche e private, perchè diano con larghezza.

Si accettino anche i fondi di magazzino; serviranno come carta da vendere ai maceri: l'introito andrà per l'acquisto di opere buone.

Si suggeriscano i generi di libri desiderati, in relazione a quelli che già ciascun ente possiede: ma ciò che ogni ente avesse o ricevesse in più dei propri bisogni venga segnalato per il passaggio ad altri enti o reparti meno forniti.

Nel campo dell'assistenza morale, deve essere compresa tutta la parte informativa, nonchè l'assistenza, sia direttamente al soldato, sia alle famiglie, nelle questioni le più disparate: di carattere privato, domestico economico, tributario, nel campo del lavoro, in materia legale, con esclusione di quanto riguarda la materia prettamente militare riservata ai superiori gerarchici.

In questo campo è più necessario ancora che altrove il largo concorso delle associazioni assistenziali civili, presso le quali non dovrebbe essere difficile trovare volontari particolarmente competenti nelle diverse attività.

Fra i mezzi di assistenza morale rivestono speciale importanza pratica il servizio postale, l'assistenza economica, sanitaria, religiosa e una propaganda intelligente di carattere patriottico, intesa a rafforzare l'amore alla Patria, il senso di disciplina, il rispetto della legge, dell'autorità, l'amore al lavoro: sentimenti indipendenti da ogni forma politica e dall'affermazione di una o di altra ideologia politica.

Tale propaganda va svolta da persone di *cuore:* meglio se estranee all'ambiente militare, per non dar credito a false impressioni di propaganda politica; occorre perciò valersi ampiamente del concorso di enti civili e sopratutto di associazioni femminili.

In parte notevole, le attività per il benessere del soldato così delineate sono già attuate o in corso di attuazione, sia in applicazione di direttive ed ordini di questo Ministero e dello S. M. R. E., sia per la lodevole iniziativa dei Comandi di grande unità e territoriali.

Si tratta di persistere, di migliorare, di approfondire.

Tutte le attività e iniziative debbono essere consentite.

Si facciano proposte e si chiedano i mezzi veramente necessari, naturalmente tenendo ben presente la situazione nella quale si dibatte tutto il Paese.

IL MINISTRO
A. Casati

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NSDC NO. 785020

perchè diano con larghezza.

Si accettino anche i fondi di magazzino; serviranno come carta da vendere ai maceri: l'introito andrà per l'acquisto di opere buone.

Si suggeriscano i generi di libri desiderati, in relazione a quelli che già ciascun ente possiede: ma ciò che ogni ente avesse o ricevesse in più dei propri bisogni venga segnalato per il passaggio ad altri enti o reparti meno forniti.

Nel campo dell'assistenza morale, deve essere compresa tutta la parte informativa, nonchè l'assistenza, sia direttamente al soldato, sia alle famiglie, nelle questioni le più disparate: di carattere privato, domestico economico, tributario, nel campo del lavoro, in materia legale, con esclusione di quanto riguarda la materia prettamente militare riservata ai superiori gerarchici.

In questo campo è più necessario ancora che altrove il largo concorso delle associazioni assistenziali civili, presso le quali non dovrebbe essere difficile trovare volontari particolarmente competenti nelle diverse attività.

Fra i mezzi di assistenza morale rivestono speciale importanza pratica il servizio postale, l'assistenza economica, sanitaria, religiosa e una propaganda intelligente di carattere patriottico, intesa a rafforzare l'amore alla Patria, il senso di disciplina, il rispetto della legge, dell'autorità, l'amore al lavoro: sentimenti indipendenti da ogni forma politica e dall'affermazione di una o di altra ideologia politica.

Tale propaganda va svolta da persone di *cuore*; meglio se estranee all'ambiente militare, per non dar credito a false impressioni di propaganda politica; occorre perciò valersi ampiamente del concorso di enti civili e sopratutto di associazioni femminili.

In parte notevole, le attività per il benessere del soldato così delineate sono già attuate o in corso di attuazione, sia in applicazione di direttive ed ordini di questo Ministero e dello S. M. R. E., sia per la lodevole iniziativa dei Comandi di grande unità e territoriali.

Si tratta di persistere, di migliorare, di approfondire.

Tutte le attività e iniziative debbono essere consentite.

Si facciano proposte e si chiedano i mezzi veramente necessari, naturalmente tenendo ben presente la situazione nella quale si dibatte tutto il Paese.

IL MINISTRO
A. Casati

Off. Tip. Min. Guerra - Cart. 1372 (500)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Subject: Italian Army Welfare

23 (P)

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M. M. I. A.)
R C M P
AQ/27

7 Feb 45.

A.P.M.Q. for G-1 (Br)

1. In compliance with AMSQ/ CR /0904/ G-1(Br) of 28 Jan and certain verbal instructions, this mission is now furthering the welfare scheme for the Italian Army by every possible means. There are however some outstanding questions which require answers if the project is to be a success. Some matters can be left till later, but immediate decisions are required on the following:-

(a) Is the scheme to cover all three Categories (BR-III, UE-III and ITI-III) of the Italian Army?
Recommended - Yes.

(b) Is any priority to be given to any category or part of a category?
Recommended - No, normal balance between forward and rear troops.

(c) Under what ceiling should the staff of the Italian Welfare Service be held?
Recommended - All personnel be held against the category of the HQ or unit which they are serving, and their clothing provided in the same manner.

(d) From what source will transport be supplied?
Recommended - In the category using it - any common to more than one category by ITI-III.

(e) From what source will supplies be provided?
It is considered that this must be decided by AFHQ.

2. It is requested that a comprehensive Policy Directive, including above, be issued by AFHQ.

L. Burhanes

Major General,
M. M. I. A.

/wk

5140

Copy to ADAWS MMIA

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

project is to be a success. [illegible]
but immediate decisions are required on the following:-

(a) Is the scheme to cover all three Categories (BR-ITI, BS-ITI and ITI-ITI) of the Italian Army?
Recommended - Yes.

(b) Is any priority to be given to any category or part of a category?
Recommended - No, normal balance between forward and rear troops.

(c) Under what ceiling should the staff of the Italian Welfare Service be held?
Recommended - All personnel be held against the category of the HQ or unit which they are serving, and their clothing provided in the same manner.

(d) From what source will transport be supplied?
Recommended - In the category using it - any common to more than one category by ITI-ITI.

(e) From what source will supplies be provided?
It is considered that this must be decided by AFHQ.

2. It is requested that a comprehensive Policy Directive, including above, be issued by AFHQ.

L. Brownell

Major General,
M. M. I. A.

5140

/wk

Copy to ADAWS MMIA

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG. NO. 785020

MINUTES OF A CONFERENCE ON ITALIAN WOMENS' VOLUNTARY CANTEEN SERVICE HELD AT ROME ON SATURDAY 3rd FEBRUARY,1945, AT 1000 HOURS.

PRESENT WERE:

Col.H.J.Wilson	DDAWS
Col.Clayton P.Kerr	DD.MMIA
Col.W.Pidsley	Spec Sec.MMIA
Lt.Col.J.D.Philipp	G-1 (Br.) AFHQ.
Lt.Col.Sheldon	Q.Maint AFHQ.
Lt.Col.J.McCann	ADAWS. MMIA.
Lt.Col.Davis	G-1 (A) AFHQ.
Major E.F.Byatt	G-4 (Liaison) MMIA.
Major Blackburn	U.S. Spec Service
The Countess Leonardi	
Brig.Gen.G.C.Tamassia	Dir.It.Army Welfare
Lt.Col.A.Angeloni	Asst.Dir.It.Army Welfare
Major Salvioni	Rep.It.Min of War.

Rep.C.V.W.W. was not present.

1. Opening Remarks by Chairman.

DLAWS stated that the object of the conference wasto discuss the formation of an Italian Womens' Canteen Service to operate with the Italian Forces fighting with the Allied Armies. The Countess Leonardi had approached General Clark,General Browning and General Robertson and expressed her willingness to organise such a service. The C.A.O.fully approved of this and had directed that a Conference be held as soon as possible to implement this project,and to discuss the details with a view to obtaining quick action in setting the scheme into operation.
DDAWS stressed that it was not intended to set up anything other than a limited service to start with and in the light of experience gained this could later be expanded.

2. Provision of Vehicles for Conversion to Mobile Canteens.

DDAWS said that 6 3-ton vehicles would be made available to start the service,three from British and three from American sources. The details of release and conversion to be arranged after the conference by ADAWS.MMIA. and Rep.Q.Maint.
DD.MMIA.stated that upon receipt of plans for conversion of these vehicles,he could arrange for the work to be carried out in workshops available to the Italian Army.

3139

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major Blackburn
The Countess Leonardi — Dir.It.Army Welfare
Brig.Gen.G.C.Tamassia — Asst.Dir.It.Army Welfare
Lt.Col.A.Angeloni — Rep.It.Min of War.
Major Salvioni

Rep.C.V.W.W. was not present.

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DD.MMIA.stated that upon receipt of plans for conversion of these vehicles,he could arrange for the work to be carried out in workshops available to the Italian Army.

Action ADAWS.MMIA. Q.Maint.S and T.MMIA.

3. Provision of Drivers.

DDAWS stated that drivers must be reliable and capable of maintaining the vehicles; he suggested that they should be of N.C.O. status and selected from those already trained in driving Allied Vehicles. DD.MMIA. said that the formations to which the vehicles were to be attached should provide the drivers, and the question as to whether they should be of N.C.O. status or not should be left to MMIA. It was agreed that the Division concerned should be

/ordered

5139

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

ordered to provide suitable and responsible drivers.
Two drivers per vehicle were considered necessary.

Action "A" MMLA.

4. Supplies to be carried.

DDAWS said that so far no decision had been reached by AFHQ regarding the provision from Allied resources of canteen supplies to Italian troops. Rep.Q.Maint.agreed to look into the present position regarding this.
DDAWS said that in the meantime the only proper basis to work on was that canteens must carry such commodities as could be purchased in the free market; wine,fruit,nuts,writing materials,small kit, etc.,could be carried and it would at least be a start and provide a limited service.
DD.MMLA. said that he considered that the best method of obtaining supplies for the canteens was for both the British and American Governments to sell to the Italian Government certain supplies against dollar credits. He did not think the British or American Government would be prepared to increase their Lire holdings.
DDAWS said he would point out this view in the appropiate quarter.
DDAWS instructed ADAWS.MMLA to get the views of the Italian Army Representatives, together with the type and amount of goods they required, and when these had been obtained, these to be passed to Q.Maint for comparison with Scale already suggested.
It was recommended that a decision be given by AFHQ on this matter as soon as possible.
It was recorded that the Italian Government had already been asked to furnished a list of commodities which they could supply from their own resources.
DD.MMLA wished it to be placed on record that it should be strongly represented to the Italian Government that such supplies as were available from civilian sources should be requisitioned.

Action DDAWS. Q.Maint. ADAWS.MMLA. It.Welfare.

5. Provision of Uniform for It.Women Volunteers.

DDAWS stated that any uniform worn by the Lady Volunteers must not resemble one of British or American design.
DD.MMLA.said that grey Italian cloth was available from Italian sources and that there was an Italian clothing factory in NAPLES capable of making all the uniforms required. The number to budget for was agreed initially at 30 uniforms.
DDAWS stated that approval had been given for a certain amount of ATS uniform to be released but that he considered,in the light of DD.MMLA's statement that the provision of grey Italian cloth was

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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Action DDAWS. Q.Maint. ADAWS.MMLA. It.Welfare.

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DDAWS stated that approval had been given for a certain amount of ATS uniform to be released but that he considered,in the light of DD.MMLA's statement that the provision of grey Italian cloth was more desirable.
Director of Italian Welfare said that he was in agreement with this.
The Countess Leonardi asked if the possible issue of ATS B/D covered the provision of shoes. Col.Pidsley,Spec.Sec.MMIA.said that he was under the impression that it did.
DDAWS said that he would check on this point.
DDAWS requested the Countess Leonardi to submit a firm proposal showing the amount of material and etc., required and the design in which the Voluntary Canteen Service wished the uniforms to be made.

Action DDAWS, ADAWS.MMLA. Countess Leonardi.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

6. Organization.

DDAWS suggested that the Headquarters of the Organization be situated with the HQ of Italian Welfare in Rome, and that the Canteens should be split into two groups, three operating in FIVE ARMY AREA and three operating in EIGHT ARMY AREA, under the control of the Senior Italian Welfare Officer in each of these commands, thus decentralizing to the two Armies concerned.
He further suggested that routing, accomodation etc. should be the responsibility of the Italian Welfare Officers at these Commands.
The Countess Leonardi asked if a vehicle would be available for her to visit these canteens.
DDAWS said that this was unlikely, but that Italian Welfare Officers had been issued with vehicles and perhaps they would be able to b[illegible]

7. Control.

DDAWS stated that the question of control had been largely dealt with already, but in conclusion said that it was most important that this Canteen Service should be controlled in exactly the same way as the Allied Auxiliary Services, and operate and work under the framework of the Italian Army Welfare Service.

Colonel.
D.D.A.W.S.

Distribution.

G-1 (Br.) AFHQ.
G-1 (A) AFHQ.
Q.Maint. AFHQ.
MMIA. (4)
MMLA.Welfare. (2)
Spec.Services.
C.V.W.W. AFHQ.
Italian Ministry of War.
Italian Welfare.
Office of C.A.O. AFHQ.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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Colonel.
D.D.A.W.S.

Distribution.

G-1 (Br.)	AFHQ.
G-1 (A)	AFHQ.
Q.Maint.	AFHQ.
MMIA.	(4)
MMLA.Welfare.	(2)
Spec.Services.	
C.V.W.W.	AFHQ.
Italian Ministry of War.	
Italian Welfare.	
Office of C.A.O.	AFHQ.
File.	
War Diary	(2)

5138

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC HQ. 785020

SUBJECT: Italian Welfare Policy.

A.D.A.W.S.
c/o Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/P/21
6 Feb.45.

Col.Spec.Sec.

1. Ref.conversation.

2. The only ruling bearing on the policy with regards to the question of what the welfare commitment is to the Italian army, in regard to U.S. and British participation is contained in G-1(Br.) letter CR/9804/G1(Br) of 28 Jan. This letter quotes a U.S.ruling as follows:-

"1. Referring to the proposed Welfare Program for the Italian Army,we concur in the program and will lend assistance in any possible manner.

2. Such assistance will necessarily be limited to advice on matters of policy and the detailed program as neither United States personnel nor supplies are available for such a program."

3. My own instructions,received verbally, were to report to MMIA,to advise and help Italian welfare in the setting up of a welfare service.
On 10 Jan I wrote asking for guidance on whether the commitment covered Br. U.S.and ITI-ITI or any combination of the three. The reply, again verbal,was that Brig.Ware stated that this had not been decided and that I was to work on the basis that the whole Italian army was involved and that a decision on the Br - U.S. commitment could be decided later.

4. Para 2 above would appear to give the answer but since receipt of that letter the U.S.has decided to provide
(i) 3 lorries for mobile canteens
(ii) its share of rations to the rest camp in Rome.

5. This problem arises,as you will agree,in every aspect of the subject, and requires clarification.

5137

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

in G-1(Br.) letter CR/[illegible]/G1(Br) of [illegible] Jan. This letter quotes a U.S.ruling as follows:-

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2. Such assistance will necessarily be limited to advice on matters of policy and the detailed program as neither United States personnel nor supplies are available for such a program."

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(i) 6 lorries for mobile canteens
(ii) its share of rations to the rest camp in Rome.

5. This problem arises,as you will agree,in every aspect of the subject, and requires clarification.

51[illegible]

Lt.Col.
A.D.A.M.S.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

SUBJECT: Italian Welfare - Interim Reports.

WEL/1017/4/DAWS

29 Jan 45.

A.D.A.W.S.
c/o Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

It would be appreciated that when submitting Interim Reports, these be presented in duplicate.

H.J.WILSON, Colonel,
D.D. Welfare Services,
(for) Brigadier,
Director of Army Welfare Services.

5106

HJW/JWH

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

19a

SUBJECT: Conference - Italian Army Welfare.

A.D.A.W.S.
c/o Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/E/
30Jan.45.

Ministry of War.
Ufficio - Assistenza e Benessere del Soldato.

Copy - A/G. M.M.I.A.

1. Attached are two copies of AFHQ Letter Wel/1017/4/DAWS of 28 Jan. 168

2. It is requested that Gen.Tamassia and Lt.Col.Angeloni attend the conference on behalf of Italian Welfare.

3. Will you please hand one copy of the enclosed letter to Countess Leonardi with the request that she will attend the conference.

Lt.Col.
A.D.A.W.S.

5105

Copy to File "J".

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

SECRET
(GROUP)

SUBJECT: Conference - Italian Army Welfare.

AFHQ/1017/A/Dets.

28 January 1945.

TO: Land Forces Sub-Comm. A.C. (AMA), Rome. (2)
G.1(Br), AFHQ. (3)
G.1(A), AFHQ. (2)
US Special Services, AFHQ. (2)
AMZS, Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C. AMA, Rome. (6)
CWW. (2)

1. G1C, AFHQ, has directed that a Conference be held to discuss the formation of the Italian Women Voluntary Canteen Service under the Chairmanship of Deputy Director Army Welfare Services, AFHQ. Addressees are requested to send necessary representatives.

2. The Conference will be held in the Offices of AMA Rome (A.C. Building, 7th Floor) at 1000 hrs on 3 Feb 45.

3. It is requested that necessary accommodation may be provided and it would be appreciated if Col. J. Hankes OBE could attend.

4. Rep G.1(A) to be prepared to speak on 'q' matters.

5. Rep CWW to be a lady with knowledge of detailed organisation mobile canteen service.

6. AMZS, AMA, will be responsible for the attendance of:

Reps of Italian Govt and War Office (as may be required)
Senior Italian Welfare Officer.
Countess Leonardi (Via Bertoldo 24, Rome. Tel: 870458).

H.S. HINCH, Lt. Col.,
AD Army Welfare Services,
(For) Brigadier,
Director Army Welfare Services.

HSL/sb

Copies to : Office of G.O, AFHQ.
War Diary (3).

5134

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG No. 785020

1. CLO, AFHQ, has directed that a Conference be held to discuss the formation of the Italian Women Voluntary Canteen Service under the Chairmanship of Deputy Director Army Welfare Services, AFHQ. All recipes are requested to send necessary representatives.

2. The Conference will be held in the Offices of NBLA Rome (A.C. Building, 7th Floor) at 1000 hrs on 5 Feb 45.

3. It is requested that necessary accommodation may be provided and it would be appreciated if Col. J. Hankes OBE could attend.

4. Rep G.1(H) to be prepared to speak on 'G' matters.

5. Rep CWW to be a lady with knowledge of detailed organisation mobile canteen service.

6. MEANS, MTL, will be responsible for the attendance of

Reps of Italian Govt and War Office (as may be required)
Senior Italian Welfare Officer,
Countess Leonardi (Via Bartolo 24, Rome. Tel: 670130).

H.S. LINCH, Lt. Col.,
AD Army Welfare Services,
(For) Brigadier,
Director Army Welfare Services.

HSL/JD

Copies to : Office of CLO, AFHQ.
War Diary (5).

5134

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

9006

Welfare 17A

Subject: Welfare - Italian Army

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

CR/9904/G-1(Br)

28 Jan 45

HQ NMIA

Reference Minutes of meeting held at Caserta on 7 Dec 44 to consider Italian Army Welfare.

The United Stated Forces in this theatre have agreed to co-operate in the matter of Welfare of Italian troops in the following terms:-

"1. Referring to the proposed Welfare Program for the Italian Army, we concur in the program and will lend assistance in any possible manner.

2. Such assistance will necessarily be limited to advice on matters of policy and the detailed program as neither United States personnel nor supplies are available for such a program."

for Major-General,
DAG, G-1 (Br).

G-1 Exec

jfb

42.

HEAD... 29 JAN 1945 A Co

5133

SUBJECT: Welfare - Italians

U R G E N T.

16A

ALLIED FORCES HEADQUARTERS
CR/9904/G-1(Br)
25 Jan'45.

Director AWS.
M.M.I.A.

The CAC recently granted an interview to the Countess Laura Leonardi on the subject of organising a service of mobile canteens run by Italian ladies. The Countess has already seen the CG Fifth Army, Gen Browning, and Italian Military and Government officials, who, it is understood, all approve the project in principle.

It is intended that this service shall be organised as expeditiously as possible at first on a small basis and thereafter expanded in the light of experience, as necessary.

It is proposed that a conference shall be convened immediately in ROME under the chairmanship of the Director (or Deputy Director) of Army Welfare Services.

The Chairman will take the necessary action in consultation with MMIA to convene the conference, at which it is suggested that the following should be represented:-

AFHQ	G-1(Br) Staff Officer prepared also to speak on Q Pts.
	G-1(A)
MMIA	as required by them
US. Spec Service.	
Welfare	Welfare Officer MMIA
	Rep. WVS.
Italian	Reps Govt and War Office as required
	Senior Italian Welfare Officer
	Countess Leonardd
	(Address Via Bertoloni 24, ROME Tel. 870130.

The conference should devise a definite organisation in order to enable a service of mobile canteen (initially 6) to be operated, and possibly some static canteens, for forward It. troops, and submit concrete proposals in respect of provision of personnel vehicles, rations and other requirements.

It is suggested that if the services of a lady from WVS could be made available during the early stages of organisation, this would greatly facilitate the project.

Ware Brig.
Major General,
DAG, G-1 (Br) 5132

Copy to : G-1 (Br) G-1 (A)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

(or Deputy Director) of Army Welfare Services.

The Chairman will take the necessary action in consultation with MMIA to convene the conference, at which it is suggested that the following should be represented:-

AFHQ	G-1(Br) Staff Officer prepared also to speak on Q Pts.
	G-1(A)
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Ware Brig.
Major General,
DAG, G-1 (Br) 5162

Copy to : G-4 (Br) G-1 (A)

U R G E N T

Original Copy in File 'J' Folio No.6B.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

(D) 15-A

JA and Q.M.G.

If you have the time and the opportunity would you urge for rulings, etc., on the following:

WEL/W/3 to AWS. AFHQ. 18.1.45. — 1. The plan for the newspaper "Patria". Agreement in principle would allow them to start publication if - (in progress)

G-1 (Br) application with approval by Allied Publics Board has been made. — 2. the newsprint is released. (in progress)

WEL/R to AWS. AFHQ. copy to Q(main) AFHQ 17 Jan 45. — 3. Release of rations for the Rest Camp in Rome. The camp is not open and presumably will not be, unless food is forthcoming. (probable "yes" Answer in coming 1 week) A/G

To Sam

Welfare.

File

5131

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

WEL/R to
AWS. AFHQ.
copy to Q(main) AGWS
17 Jan 43.

2. The newsprint is released.

3. Release of rations for the Rest Camp in Rome.

The camp is not open and presumably will not be, unless food is forthcoming.

Suitable "gen" answer in connection with above

AWS

To Foreign Office

Welfare.

51:1

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY.

SECRET. 13 A (?)

SUBJECT:- Italian Forces - Welfare.

HQ. ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY.
Tel:- FILPOT 209.
2072/6/Q2.
21 Nov 44.

Allied force Headquarters.

Copy to:- MMIA.
MA to C-in-C.
MA to CAO.
G (ops).
'A'.
G-4.
ST.
Lab.
Welfare.
AFA.

1. Throughout the coming months the maintenance of Allied formations under my command will, to a considerable extent, depend upon the efficiency and smooth working of certain Italian units, in particular Mule Coys and Labour units used for porterage duties. In addition, Italian Gruppi will be committed to active operations.

2. I am, therefore, most anxious that the morale of these Italian troops should be maintained at the highest possible level, and consider it essential that every consideration possible should be given to improve their welfare. With this object in view, I wish to establish clubs at selected locations, where they can enjoy recreational and canteen facilities.

3. Arrangements have already been made for the establishment of Other Ranks Clubs in FLORENCE, and the EIGHTH ARMY area, and it has been found that the Italian civilian population is very willing to assist in the operation of these clubs, saving a committment for either Allied or Italian military personnel. The best results, however, will only be obtained if it is possible to provide in the clubs some form of light refreshment, and your approval is requested to the issue to the ingredients necessary for the production of Pasta, pastries and a hot beverage.

4. I consider that it may be necessary to establish up to twelve of these Clubs, which will be available for use for all Italian troops. Detailed at App 'A' are the supplies, which it is considered are required for the operation of such a Club catering for 500 persons daily, together with the total weekly requirements of twelve clubs.

5. Since leave has now be authorised for Italian Military personnel up to a total of 5% of unit strengths, and as the leave personnel are not authorised to draw rations from military sources, the issue of these supplies from welfare purposes can be offset against the rations underdrawn on account of leave. By this means no great drain on the overall supply resources of the theatre will be involved.

6. The issueswould, of course, be recorded through MMIA as issues to the Italian Government.

5130

7. In view of the urgency and extreme importance of this proposal I shall be glad if my recommendations can be accepted at an early date.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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5130

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(Sgd). H.R. ALEXANDER.
~~General.~~
Commander-in-Chief.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

From Capt. Ind. 23 Jan

Italian Hqs - welfare. Etz

12A
FILE (P)

1) Maximum effort on part of Italian Army and civilians
2) Maximum help from allies in providing high priority in accn, access to cinemas, use of Hqt for recreation etc.

3) Ministry of War to org central collection and distribution of funds, books, games, wireless, gramophones etc

4) G.O.C. Combat Hqs and Divs to appoint welfare Offrs to look after unit welfare and supervise static canteens.

5) Civilian orgs to cooperate with MoW? in collection of books etc. Different towns to look after different Divs?

6) Issue of rations on repayment for serving tea/coffee & cakes in Static Canteens.

7) Provision by MoW? of ITALIA and other non-party newspapers to forward Hqs. Army papers are not sufficient in themselves. - Back numbers from P.W.B. and collection from civilian houses.

8) Speeding up of normal postal services - institution of printed Field Service postcard. Speed up of mail through censors.

5129

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3) Ministry of War to org canteens
of funds, books, games, wireless, gramophones etc

4) G.S.O.2. Combat gps and Divs to appoint welfare Offs to look after unit welfare and supervise static canteens.

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8) Speeding up of normal postal services - institution of printed Field Service postcard. Speed up of mail through censors.

5129

Method of organising Canteens in Gp area.

1) Contact Sindaco of town as soon as sufficiently "liberated".
2) Get him to form committee of 6 live wire civilians.
3) Obtain accn on high priority from Allied HQ
4) Issue rations for number of soldiers expected to attend daily.
5) Financial side lies entirely with Italians who are bound only to make enough to pay for rations — balance spent at their own discretion on orchestra,

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civilian employees, special galas etc.

6) GOC Static Div is responsible for staffing each Canteen with reliable Offr and 2 or 3 men.

7) Cinemas. Allied Fmn welfare to make Cinema available one morning or afternoon weekly RWB to produce the films.

8) Possibility of requisitioning machines for use with Combat gps.

BGCt.
19/1/45.

B G Comd - Armd

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

11A

Ministry of War - Gabinetto

To - MMIA. PM 3800. 10 Jan.45.

W.e.f. 1.Jan there is functioning at this Ministry, under the Undersecretary of State for War an Welfare office, composed of two sections.

1st Section - under the Ministry of War - for all administrative formations and units in territories (with the exception of combat groups, training centres, and Divisions 210,228, & 231.)

2nd Section - under General Staff - for operational units and the operational formations cited above.

Thus the Welfare office is the sole co-ordinating branch for the various activities both in L of C and operational areas.

The Minister.

16. Jan.

Commencing date of Welfare Service amended to 20 Jan.

51-8

SUBJECT:- Welfare for Italian Army (Proposal for Polit.) 10A P

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP (BS).
Deputy Directorate Army Welfare Services.
Tel:- FILPOT 159.
Dec 44.

D.D.A.W.S.
HQ. 15 Army Group, CMF.

1. Name of the organisation "Deputy Directorate Army Welfare Services - Italian Army Branch" (D.D.A.W.S. - I.A.B.) action on the basis of British help and supply, following British system (So far as it has been learnt).

2. To act independently, although in connection with the Italian Army General Staff "Assistance and Propaganda" organisation.

3. Both actions to be considered and intended as complementary to each other, in this forward area.

4. Servicing in parallel with exchanging of news and requests, accordingly to deeds and needs.

5. The Italian Officers attached to HQ. 5 Army, (Br.Inc) and to HQ. Eighth Army to be chiefs of A.W.S. I.A.B. respectively, in connection with "Assistence" Officers of minor Units, and under orders of the Italian Officer attached to HQ. 15 Army Group; this to be chief of A.W.S. I.A.B. and to act for liason between the Deputy Directorate and the aforesaid branch organisation in forward area.

6. This last Officer to act in close collaboration with/and at disposal of A.D.A.W.S. at this HQ. 15 Army Group.

7. This same Officer to inform the Italian Military Mission at the HQ. 15 Army Group, constantly about accomplishments and eventual wants from the said Italian different and yet complementary organisation.

HNA/JW.

Italian Army. Lt.Col.
Attached.

5127

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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Italian Army. Lt.Col.
Attached.

MMA/JW.

5127 26

Declassified/Released E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

SUBJECT:- Welfare for Italian Troops. (Memorandum).

9A P

HQ. 15 ARMY GROUP. (BS).
Welfare Branch.
Chief Italian Welfare Officer.

Lt. Col. J. McCann,
A.D.A.W.S.

Further to our conversation, the following points are submitted for your consideration.

1. Main duty.(as understood): to apply what has been learnt through the "Army Welfare Training Centre" course, attended by actual Italian Troops Welfare Officers.

2. Main aims. Italian troops morale.

3. Aids and means, the following:-

(A). Newspapers. After publication commenced, myself to observe its effects on the troops and periodically to give acknowledgements or suggestions to the Chief of Press of Italian Ministry of War (as already agreed by both of us). This, after reports to and discussions with you.

(B). Broadcasting and Radio sets. For all broadcasts adressed to Italian troops, the same action as before and for suggestions to apply to P.W.B. Radio sets needed.

(C). Entertainments.

(a). Stage shows: monthly to be fixed up by you, after discussing the matter with me, routings and programmes of ENSA productions (suggested on account of some psychological and practical sides considered.)

(b). Kinema. Something already done through help from Major Stewart, chief of A.K.S. (that is repairs and supply of British films); films supply from P.W.B., generators and projectors needed; further support anyway expected.

(c). Rest Camps, Clubs and Canteens: something already done by Italian units and Committees; this organisation may be improved; support through NAAFI and EFI needed; extension of help to be monthly requested by me, to you and by you fixed up, after discussion on the ground of various actual elements considered; Italian troops Welfare Officers with authority and on the basis of helps - supports provided for, to give instructions and advices, in order to keep Clubs intended for relaxation in the way after what has been learnt and constantly obtain an even extensive distribution of facilities, in all the three before said sections.

N.B. 1. I will have to report and discuss with you constantly all the elements acquired by me, referring to the various aspects of the problems connected with Troops morale.

5126

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 785020

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N.B. 2. I have got to be mobile and eventually be able to bring about Officers, representatives, members of committees, journalists; therefore a motorcar is by me extremely and urgently needed (possibly a P.U. - 4 sitter, or any other good middle-size car); a car is also needed by the two Italian Welfare Officers at HQ. Eighth Army and HQ. Fifth Army.

.....2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

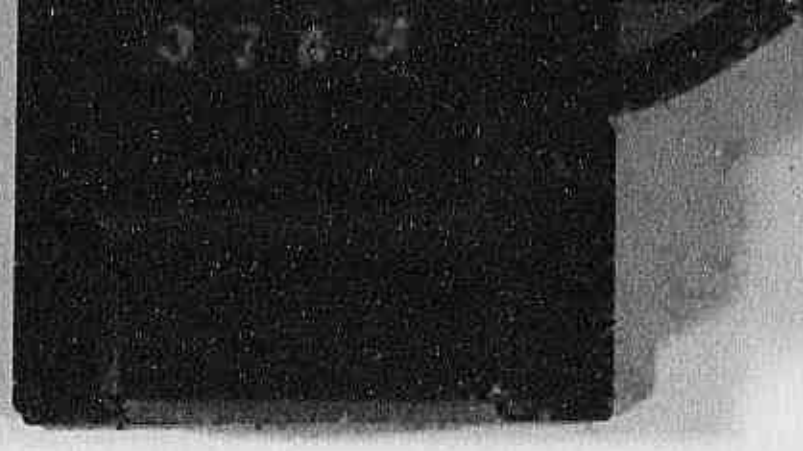
N.B. 3. Personnel by the two latter Officers, is needed as follows:-

A clerk, a driver, a private and a batman; by me : a driver, a private and a batman.

The Chief Italian Welfare Officer.

(Lt.Col. Alessandro NEGRI-ARNOLDI.)

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

5125

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

TRANSLATION

SUBJECT:- Radio Messages.

Ministry of War,
Ufficio Benessere
del Soldato.

PM. 3800

19.Jan.45.

A.D.A.W.S.
M.M.I.A.

Reference enquiry W1/P/7A. dated 17 Jan.45.

1. The Information Office of the Holy See (Vatican) provide for the daily transmission of radio messages to occupied Italy;

2. Military personnel are permitted to send such messages, through the Agency of this Office

Sgd. TAMMASSIA
Brig.General.

Copy:-File WEI/C

5124

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

0745

0 7 4 5

0 7A

SUBJECT:- TRANSMISSION OF MESSAGES

A.D.A.M.S.
c/o Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEI/P/7A.
17 Jan.45.

Ministry of War.

Servizio Assistenza e Benessere del Soldato.

1. Ref conversation Lt.Col.Angeloni - ADAMS.

2. Information is required as to whether any facilities exist under Vatican auspices for the transmission of messages by relatives to families in enemy occupied Italy.

3. If such facilities do in fact exist are they available to Italian soldiers.?

Lt.Col.
A.D.A.M.S.

5123

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

6A

TRANSLATION

Ref 70/1
A0/27.
Date 10 Jan.45

Ministry of War.
M.M.I.A.

Subject:- Soldier's Welfare Office.

On Jan (I) a Soldier's Welfare Office, with two sections, and under the command of the State Under-Secretary of War, will start to function at this Ministry.

1st.Section - at the Ministry of War - for all of the units in the territory (excepting Combat groups, training centres, and the 210 - 228 -231 Divisions.)

2nd Section - at the S M R E - for front line units and operational units mentioned above.

Thus the Soldier's Welfare Office will be sole co-ordinating unit for different activities both in the territory and in the operational zone.

(Sgd) CASATI

Cpl. V.C.

(I) The date will be set later on.

5122

AAG (PS). 94

I attended the Italian Army Welfare Conference on Thursday at AFHQ. Brig Ware was in the chair and amongst those present were Brig Newth (DAWS) and Cols Pidsley and Noakes (MMIA).

AFHQ are publishing minutes, but the following is a resume of the proceedings.

Brig Ware opened by reading extract from letter written by F.M. Alexander saying that something must be done for the Italians.

The following decisions were reached on points contained in agenda.

1. Nothing is to be done for co-operators as considered their welfare is already a satisfactory basis as they work with Allied units and to some extent share their amenities e.g. Naafi supplies.

2. Welfare of men formed Italian units is primarily the responsibility of Italian Government. MMIA is to approach Italian Government, obtain their proposals and notify AFHQ who will then:-

(a) Co-ordinate and approve.

(b) implement policy through service concerned.

3. Italian Welfare Officers will associate with AWS at all levels.

4. Scope of Welfare.

(a) Canteens. Q (Maint) can provide supplies on repayment - MMIA to state quantities.

Canteen premises will be provided at all levels by Q.

Italians can provide all staff.

(b) Amenities such as books etc to be provided by Italians.

(c) Sports equipment will not be provided from British resources.

(d) Entertainment is responsibility of Italians and AKS will not be able to help. Itailans to produce own 'Ensa' shows.

(e) Paper. Present investigation as to practicability of producing paper by AWS abandoned. MMIA not to put up proposals and directive to AFHQ who will obtain release of newsprint from Allied Publications Board. Matter to be treated as really urgent and MMIA see no difficulties as they can arrange for printing.

5. Provision for transport for welfare purposes is responsibility of Italian Government. MMIA say no difficulties foreseen.

6. Finance. All monies to be provided by Italian Government. No grant from UK funds.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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6. Finance. All monies to be provided by Italian Government. No grant from UK funds.

7. Relations with US Army. US was not represented and AFHQ are getting 5121 their views.

8. To deal with specific points put to me by Driver over the phone.

(a) Can a directive be issued as to employment and duties of Italian Welfare Officers. MMIA would like two British Welfare Officers attached to MMIA for a period of a few weeks. Brig. Newth agreed and suggested Lt.Col. Walker DDAWS No 1 District and Capt. Heiz of 6 BSA. I said I thought this could be done as it seems a good idea and would get thinhs moving. Their first job will be to issue the said directive. May this point be taken up and AFHQ told whether these Officers are

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1A

SUBJECT:- Welfare for Italian Army (Proposal for Policy).

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP - AF.
Deputy Directorate Army Welfare Services.
Tel:- FILPOT 159.
4002/I/WEL.
Dec 44.

D.D.A.W.S.
HQ. 15 Army Group - AF.

1. Name of the organisation "Deputy Directorate Army Welfare Services - Italian Army Branch" (D.D.A.W.S. - I A.B.): action on the basis of British help and supply , following British system (So far as it has been learnt).

2. To act independently, although in connection with the Italian Army General Staff "Assistance and Propaganda" organisation.

3. Both actions to be considered and intended as complementary to each other, in this forward area.

4. Servicing in parallel with exchanging of news and requests, accordingly to deeds and needs.

5. The Italian Officers attached to H.Q. 5 Army, (Br.Inc.) and to H.Q. Eighth Army to be chiefs of A.W.S. I.A.B. respectively, in connection with "Assistence" Officers of minor Units, and under orders of the Italian Officer attached to H.Q. 15 Army Group, this to be chief of A.W.S. I.A.B. and to act for liason between the Deputy Directorate and the aforesaid branch organisation in forward area.

6. This last Officer to act in close collaboration with/and at disposal of A.D.D.A.W.S. at this H.Q. 15 Army Group.

7. This same Officer to inform the Italian Military Mission at the HQ. 15 Army Group, constantly about accomplishments and eventual wants from the said Italian different and yet complementary organisation.

H. Magi Arnaldi
Italian Army. Lt.Col.
Attached.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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H. Reginaldi
Italian Army. Lt.Col.
Attached.

5120

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SUBJECT: Italian Army Welfare.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
A/27.
Mar'45.

To : A.F.H.Q.

Reference CR/9904/G-1(Br) dated 11 Feb'45.

1. Attached is a Draft Policy Directive for the Italian Army Welfare Service: this is prepared as requested, and on the lines indicated by you.

2. In view of para 2 of the letter referred to, there is no paragraph dealing directly with supplies; as you state that this question is under discussion.

Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Internal: A.D.A.W.S.

5119

Directive to MMIA on Italian army welfare.

1. Object.

It is wish of the Supreme Allied Commander that Welfare, as it is understood in the Allied Armies, should, as far as possible, be given the same prominence in the Italian Army working with the Allies. While the organization of the Welfare Service and the provision of the necessary staff, personnel and material are primarily Italian responsibilities, the Supreme Allied Commander has directed that the fullest possible support should be given by Allied Commanders concerned within the conditions from time to time approved. To this end an officer of the Allied Welfare Service is appointed to M.M.I.A. and will deal directly with the Italian Welfare directorate of the Ministry of War.

2. Allied Assistance.

The Italian Army Welfare Service must be, both in conception and in execution, Italian; nevertheless, allied assistance will be made available to enable the service to be built on a sure foundation, and advice, arising out of the Allies wide experience of welfare, will be given.

The necessary materials for the successful operation of the various projects are to be provided, wherever possible, from Italian sources: but it is recognised that certain items are, and will, for some time, remain unavailable to the Italian Government. Where the operation of a scheme which can properly be regarded as an essential part of the service will be rendered impossible for lack of materials, then releases from Allied sources on repayment may be considered, in accordance with availabilities and regulations in force.

3. Organisation.

In all dealings with this subject it must be stressed that the responsibility for the welfare of the soldier is and remains that of the unit commander. The duty of the Italian welfare service will be to assist, advise, and provide amenities as follows:-

The Italian army welfare service will be responsible for the welfare of all categories of the army. The establishment will consist of a directorate at the ministry of war and there will be service representation at Adm.Div.HQs and at Combat Group HQs. All personnel on agreed W/Es will be held against the same category as that of the HQs with which they are serving.

There will not be welfare service representation at other HQs. Unit welfare officers will be nominated by commanders from the officers under their command.

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There will not be welfare service representation at other HQs. Unit welfare officers will be nominated by commanders from the officers under their command.

4. Scope.

The service will provide for all three categories of the army. There will be no priority to any one category except for any priority given to forward troops by reason of the conditions 5118 which they are living.

5. Transport.

Transport, as authorized, will be provided, from Italian resources, within the category using it. Transport serving troops of more than one category will be held in the Iti-Iti category.

------- 6.

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6. Details of the scope of this scheme and information on various activities which are included in it, such as individual welfare, canteens, entertainments, and sports, will be published by the War Ministry in a pamphlet on Italian Army Welfare, prepared in consultation with MAIA.

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51.7


0755