

785020

acc

0000/120/3437

WEL/v

10000/120/3437

WEL/v

Welfare "Holding + Training Camps"

Feb. - July 1945

SUBJECT : La Picciola Camp - Salerno.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) HOME.
HLL/V.

12 July '45.

To : Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

Reference 05672/B.S. of 12 July.

1. The augmentation of the water supply to the above named camp by the installation of a pump such as you describe is a project of which this HQ fully approves.
2. It is noted that the type of pump required is a normal issue to the Italian Army, and should therefore be readily obtainable from 227 Adm Div, to which formation it is suggested you apply.
3. Should any difficulty be experienced in obtaining the apparatus for any reason, please notify this HQ.

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

Copy to : MMIA L.C. 3 District.

Internal: RE.Services.

5471

Translation

From: M. of W.

To: NMIA

Subject: The Camp "Picciola" - near Salerno15 July 45
Ref 05672/B.S.

28A

In a recent visit to the Italian Camp called the "LA PICCIOLA" (227 Division) near Salerno, I have observed that the Camp has only a limited quantity of drinking water available, distributed by water Trucks daily. The hot season, the work in which the soldiers are engaged makes it advisable for hygienic reasons, that a large quantity of water be ~~made available~~ for bathing and washing of clothes be made available. 15470

I think that the problem could be

Salerno, I have observed that the Camp has only a limited quantity of drinking water available, distributed by water Trucks daily. The hot season, the work in which the soldiers are engaged makes it advisable for hygienic reasons, that a large quantity of water ~~be made available~~ for bathing and washing of clothes be made available. ¹⁵⁴⁷⁰

I think that the problem could be solved easily by installing in the Camp a hand-pump (jield-well type) in issue to the troops, since water

PTO

(2)

~~It~~ can be found at a slight depth

which though not potable is suitable

for general use. The weariness of the sea

does not solve the problem of the washing of

clothes. On this matter, I have spoken

to the L.O. attached to the "Piccola" and to

224 Division, but have deemed it advisable

to ask for your kind intervention,

as well.

L. Carme.

General
Sgt. Q. C. Tanasig

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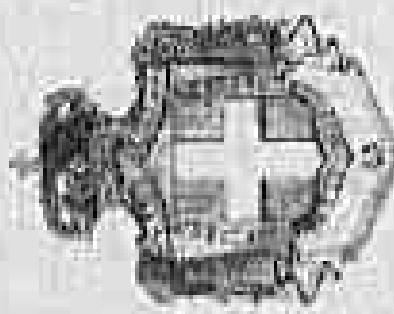
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as well.

L. Carne.

X

General
Sgd. G. C. Tanasig



TA/ar

Ministero della Guerra
UFFICIO BENESSERE DEL SOLDATO

Divisione
Prot. V. 056729/4. S. Maggiore

TRANS AZION

M. 3800

LUGLIO 1945

LA LAND FORCES SUB COMIS-

SION A.C. (M.M.I.A.)

ROMA

IN

1000

date 4/7

OUT

12.00

(17)

Risposta al Foglio del
S. Maggiore

OGGETTO Campo 'la Picciola' presso Salerno.-

~~~~~

In una recente visita al campo italiano di 'La Picciola' (227<sup>a</sup> Divisione) presso Salerno ho constatato che il campo dispone di un limitato quantitativo di acqua potabile, che viene giornalmente distribuita con autobotte.-

La stagione calda, i lavori di fatica ai quali sono sottoposti i soldati del campo consigliano, per ragioni igieniche, che essi possano disporre di un maggiore quantitativo d'acqua per bagni e lavatura oggetti di corredo.-

Credo che il problema potrebbe essere facilmente risolto con l'impianto nel campo di una pompa anche a braccia, tipo pozzi campali in dotazione agli eserciti, giacchè il sottosuolo offre acqua a breve profondità, non potabile, è vero, ma adatta per servizi generali.-

La vicinanza del mare non risolve il problema della lavatura degli oggetti di corredo.-

Della questione ho parlato all'ufficiale inglese di collegamento presso il campo della Picciola e al Comando della 227<sup>a</sup> Divisione; ma ho ritenuto opportuno interessare per un benevolo intervento anche codesta missione.-

IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA  
(G.C. T a m a s i a)

5489

OGGETTO Campo 'la Picciola' presso Salerno.-

~~~~~  
In una recente visita al campo italiano di 'La Picciola' (227^a Divisione) presso Salerno ho constatato che il campo dispone di un limitato quantitativo di acqua potabile, che viene giornalmente distribuita con autobotte.-

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IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA
(G.C. T a m a s i a)

Carlo Tanassi

SUBJECT : Bathing facilities - 803 BRD

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/V.
22 May '45.

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

Reference WEL/V of 18 April, Para 5 of
attached report.

The following report has been received from
O.C. 15.Fd San Sec., through 803 BRD and MMIA L.O.
3 District.

"Ref your request for advice concerning
bathing in the River Volturno near your
Camp.

I am definitely of the opinion that, as
the towns up-stream have a recent history
of typhoid epidemics, the river should
not be used as an authorised swimming
centre."

S/Lieut.,
WELFARE,
M.M.I.A.

5468

Subject:- Bathing facilities - RAVISCANINA.

Welfer
21/5
Land Forces Sub Commission, AC,
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

3DLO/36

Baseball 2
20 May 45.

17A
Ref your WEL/V dated 18 Apr.

The following report has been received
through OC Brit Cadre 803 BRD from OC 15 Fd San Sec:-

"Ref your request for advice concerning
bathing in the River Volturno near your
Camp.

"I am definitely of the opinion that, as
the towns up-stream have a recent history
of typhoid epidemics, the river should
not be used as an authorised swimming
centre."

Delay in answering your letter is regretted
but is due to the posting away of the hygiene offr
previously attached to the camp.

[Signature]
Major,
MMIA LO,
3 District. 5467

TRANSLATION

Ministry of War.

23 April '45.

OS 49/35.

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

Ref. WEL/V of 21 April.

Subject. Provision of Cinema Projector
for 803. B.R.D.

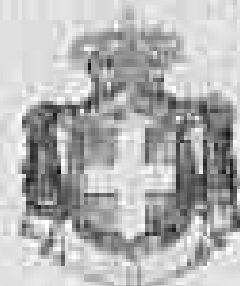
Steps have already been taken with a view to securing cinematograph projectors, to be obtained from those which stand in need of repairs.

As soon as any become available, and after they have been rendered efficient, one will be allocated to B.R.D. Raviscanina.

/s G.C. Jamazda

Brigade 5466

BA/gu



Welfan P.M. 3800 28-4-45

Ministero della Guerra

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

= R O M A =

Prestazione
Aut. 03149/BSIn
AllegatoRiparto al f. del 21/4/45
Dir. In V. WEL/VOGGETTO Proiettori cinematografici per 1'803
deposito base complementi.=

Già da tempo questo Ufficio si è interes-
sato per poter avere in assegnazione dei proiet-
tori cinematografici, traendoli, in particolar mo-
do, fra quelli provenienti da recuperi.

Non appena se ne renderanno disponibili,
e dopo che saranno stati rimessi in efficienza, si
provvederà ad assegnarne uno al Deposito Base com-
plementi di Raviscanina.=

IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA
(G.C. TAMASSIA)

5465

Registrazione 29-4-45

SUBJECT: Cinema Projector for
803 B.R.D.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

WEL/V.

21 Apr '45.

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

With reference to this HQ letter WEL/V.
of 18 April, and to Para 9 (iv) of the report
attached thereto, please state the date on which
a cinema projector will be installed at Reviscanina B.R.D.

+ Lt. Col.
A.D.A.H.S.
M.M.I.A.

5464

803 B.R.D.

Raviscania

✓
19th
Received "La Parnia" twice a week.

Adams has instructed Capt. Yarrow
to investigate and report on the
possibilities of daily delivery, perhaps
via Vailano.

20. Apr. 45

Q

SUBJECT: Transit Messes.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

AQ24.
18 Apr '45.

To : Ministry of War.

1. Reference 02106/E.S. of 20 March.

2. While the object of your proposals is appreciated, it is regretted that under the present conditions it is not possible to give the required authorization: the difficulties of the accounting for rations as between units alone would make it impracticable.

3. Further, the present regulations for the issue of rations to soldiers in transit on duty cannot be changed, nor can any suggestion of payment for rations by men on duty be considered.

4. However, in order to alleviate the position, it is suggested that formation welfare representatives on behalf of their Commanders might organise in selected towns, with the aid of local inhabitants, buildings or other suitable accommodation wherein soldiers in transit could have facilities for rest and for cooking the food which they carry with them.

5. Such projects, it is thought, would call forth the willing aid of civilian elements in the provision of accommodation and necessary equipment, particularly now that life in rear areas are reverting more nearly to normal, and they would go far to ameliorating the conditions you have detailed.

Major General
M. M. I. A. 3463

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Internal:- "Q"
S.I.
Welfare.

Major General
M. M. I. A. 5463

177

SUBJECT: Bathing Facilities - RAVISCANINA

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(E.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/V.

18 Apr '45.

To : MMIA - L.O.
3 District.

23^A *Replies*

Reference WEL/V of 18 April, copy to you.

1. Para 5 of the report attached to the above letter refers to the possibility of bathing facilities being arranged in the Volturno River for Raviscanina B.R.D.
2. Please arrange for a report to be obtained, and forwarded to this HQ., on this proposal from the medical point of view.

4 Lt.Col.
A.D.A.M.S.
E.M.I.A.

Internal:- "A".
ADMS.

5462

SUBJECT: RAVISCANINA B.R.D.

16A
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

REL/V.

16 Apr 45.

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

Copy to :- ADAMS. 3 District.
MMIA. L.O. 3 District.

1. Attached is a copy of a report by a member of this HQ. following a visit to Raviscanina B.R.D.
2. It is forwarded in order that you may take action, and so that your representative at 227 Div. may receive your instructions as soon as possible.
3. Your attention is invited to the suggestions embodied in para.9. of the report, and you will appreciate that the execution of these should be a matter of the highest priority.


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

Internal:- "A" Branch.

5461

166
REPORT ON RAVISCANINA BRD.

1. General Survey

(a) This camp was originally laid out by the South Africans, and is excellently situated. It is intended that it shall be fully tented; there are a considerable number of Nissen and Flambeau Huts, but these will not be used for sleeping accommodation.

(b) Water pipes are laid throughout the area, and there is an efficient pumping system. There are twenty hot showers, and a number of ordinary baths in addition.

(c) A 12 KW. generator has been installed and will supply light to a portion of the camp.

(d) The intention is to lay the camp in three well-defined battalion areas: a fourth area will be used at first as a field hospital. The ceiling will be 6,000 approx.

2. Towns and Villages

The nearest town is Capua, 20 (?) miles away. The local villages of Raviscanina and Vairano have no possibilities. Transport could probably be arranged to a very limited extent to Capua for recreational purposes, but it is not thought that it will be advisable in the early stages.

3. Local Inhabitants

There is little possibility of obtaining much help from local inhabitants; they are purely of the farming type, and even if they were willing, they can have little to offer.

4. Canteens, Rest Rooms, etc.

In the original plans (S.A.), 13 Nissen huts distributed through the area are earmarked for Welfare: in addition a small group of these Nissens and a large Romney in the HQ Company area marked.

On the initiative of the Camp Commandant (Col. Russo) a canteen has already been opened in the Romney Hut. It is suggested that this should continue as a Depot Canteen - it is an extension to the main hut, with a bar opening into the hall, and has cooking facilities. It would not interfere with the proposed use of the hut as a

and a number of elementary schools.

(c) A 12 KW. generator has been installed and will supply light to a portion of the camp.

(d) The intention is to lay the camp in three well-defined battalion areas: a fourth area will be used at first as a field hospital. The ceiling will be 6,000 approx.

2. Towns and Villages

The nearest town is Capua, 30 (?) miles away. The local villages of Ruviscanina and Vairano have no possibilities. Transport could probably be arranged to a very limited extent to Capua for recreational purposes, but it is not thought that it will be advisable in the early stages.

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There is little possibility of obtaining much help from local inhabitants; they are purely of the farming type, and even if they were willing, they can have little to offer.

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In addition there is ample hutting for one Canteen one Rest and Reading room, and one Writing Room in each battalion area. As far as furnishing goes, much could be improvised; could requisitioning be considered?

(2)

4. (b) Cinema/Theatre.

The large Romney hut (V. Supes) will make an excellent cinema/theatre for about 500/600. A screen is already fitted and all that is wanted is the projector, and probably a generator. Although the hut will come within the limited lighting scheme of the camp, the voltage etc. may not be suitable. Forms are required, but can probably be made in the camp.

The construction of a stage here will be a simple matter: materials can be found in the camp. If required, a Wissen hut immediately adjacent can be fitted up as dressing rooms.

Open Air Theatre.

There are several sites naturally suited to this purpose, and there are no difficulties at all.

(c) Sports Grounds.

There are two stretches of ground which are suitable. In the plans they are referred to as sports grounds, and what is mostly required is clearing work, the ground being very stoney. This is just a matter of labour and items such as goal posts can be fitted up from local materials.

5. Bathing and Swimming.

The camp is quite close to the Volturne River, and it is possible that, with the agreement of the Medical authorities, a bathing pool might be constructed there.

6. Welfare Stores.

A few old footballs are held - the exact number is indeterminate - and nothing else.

The requirements, therefore, are anything and everything: the same facilities for improvisation exist as anywhere else, but anything at all will be exceeding valuable.

7. Newspapers.

It will be difficult for the camp to provide transport if they are to be collected from Naples. If arrangements can be made for them to be available at Capua it will greatly simplify matters.

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8. Welfare Officer.

There is not a full time Welfare Officer, although an officer has been appointed to deal with the matter. It was urged that a trained Welfare Officer should be attached, if only during the early stages.

(3)

9. Suggestions.

(i) Welfare is an absolute necessity in this camp, not only because of its isolated situation, and because it is dealing with recruits, but because it is the successor of Afragola. It is strongly urged that a trained Welfare Officer, a really live one, be attached: this backed by G-1 3 District, O.C. British Cadre, and by the O.C. Movement, at present in the camp.

(ii) The Welfare Officer of 227 Division should be instructed to take a very active interest in the camp: it is the largest single body of troops in his area, and yet everyone was surprised to learn of his existence.

(iii) The officer appointed should commence work immediately as the following:-

- (a) Canteens, Rest and Reading Rooms, Writing Rooms.
- (b) Stage for theatre.
- (c) Obtaining live shows from Naples and if possible, free, on the patriotic/advertisement basis.
- (d) Cleaning up and fitting sports fields.
- (e) Laying on newspapers.

(iv) The Directorate of Welfare should make every effort to send this camp whatever is possible in the way amenities, writing materials, games, sports gear etc. A cinema projector should be obtained at all costs; it is understood that 227 Division have one (there was not time to check) and if so, then this is the place for it.

10. Conclusion.

The possibilities here are better than at Cesano as far as accommodation goes. It is a great chance for Italian Welfare to do something really good: the necessities exist, the opportunities exist, all that is wanted is a man with drive. He would be able to start level with the rest of the camp, and he would have the backing of his own Commanding Officer, of the British Cadre, and of 3 District.

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15A

Pol A

1. Attached at ② is Capt Apple's report ^{in Draft} on his visit to Rivas comm.
2. Attached at ① are his covering notes to me
3. I would suggest that copies of this report (②) be sent to Welfare M.O.W. (for action)
 MMIA to 3 District
 Welfare 3 District

The action copy to M.O.W. to have a covering letter stressing the needs & in particular provision of amenities, theatre, sports field etc.

4. The W/L will not cover a trained welfare officer on attachment but one of the camp staff could attend a course if they wish it.

Lee Hooper.

Ague: Add.

as part of canteen-reading, writing rooms & materials.

? what about an organized swimming pool in the
 volumes ? Med agreement. 5457.

Wait until after my visit on 17 April.

W.P.

R. D. Andrews - MM: A

①

1. Reported to Major Shrupp: He had, apparently, kept
a visit a date record, revealing to Major Shrupp
3 list. The latter had asked to see him.
2. Reported to Major Shrupp. Called sales table to him.
He called in G-2 3 list (Major Shrupp). Reviewed the
idea that 3 list had developed a conscience about the
Station army and about Ravisarima in particular.
Received from Major Shrupp copy of letter attached.
3. Reported to Major Shrupp as Ravisarima. He was
initially not expecting me, but was nevertheless very
helpful. Suspected camp. Met G-2 3 list + G-1
(Col. Davis). Discussed whole thing with Col Davis,
who told me (see 2 above) by packing lightly
of getting 18 footballs from 3 list. and offering
a loan of money. (It is probably happen, too, as
Col. Davis seems very keen about the whole thing)
4. Returned and had a few more words with Col
Shrupp, who asked for copy of report, and in 5456.

Major Shrupp.

Station Army and about Raviscanina in particular.
Received from Maj Spray copy of letter attached.

3. Reported to Major Davis at Raviscanina. He was naturally not expecting us, but was nevertheless very helpful. Inspected camp. Met G. R. 3 Dist & G. 1 (Col. Laurie). Discussed whole thing with Col Laurie, who bore out story (see 2 above) by backing lightly by of getting 18 footballs from 3 Dist. and offering a loan of money. (So is probably happen, too, as Col. Laurie seems very keen about its whole thing)

4. Returned and had a few more words with Lt Col Sugden, who asked for copy of report, and in 5456 Major Shupp.

5. Reported to Major Garrett (OC British Radio) at Afroyda. He is new. Fully alive to need, and stressed necessity of trained welfare officer. Stated that Camp Commandant (Col. Murre) is welfare minded. (Major Garrett also was unaware of any activities!)

HQ 227 DIVISION
General Staff - Welfare Branch

05/297/ord

6 Apr 45

Subject: Welfare - RAVISCANINA IND.

HQ No. 3 DISTRICT
ITALIAN LO

Ref conversation SPRAY - SCOTTO.

1. Organization which may be completed with Italian staffs and through Italian channels:

- Canteens
 - Accommodation: existing barracks.
 - Furniture: tables, benches, stools, shelves.
 - Food stuffs: wine and fruits only can be bought and sold.
- Meeting rooms
 - Number: 3 (for officers, NCOs and ORs)
 - Accommodation: existing barracks
 - Furniture: same as for canteen.
 - Amusements: Playing cards, chess, domino, draughts, newspapers, books.
- Spiritual assistance:
 - To be committed to the Camp Chaplain. Small church in a barracks or big tent.

- Sport and PT

- Football
- Basket ball
- Volley ball
- Athletics (high jump - long jump - running - putting the shot - battle course - tug of war).

2. Lowest necessities to which neither this HQ nor higher Italian authorities can provide owing to the present situation:-

- Supplies of various items for the canteen (per man):-

Cigarettes (or)	50 weekly
Pipe tobacco (or)	2 ounces weekly
Cigars	15 weekly
Laundry	5 1/3 ounces monthly
Shampoo	3 1/2 "
Shaving	3 1/2 "
Razor blades	10 "
Tooth paste or powder	1 tube
" brush	1 "
Matches (box or book)	5 "
Writing paper and envelopes	10 "
French gloves	
Needles, thread, buttons etc.	

- Supply of food stuffs (as tea, sugar, coffee, cheese, canned fish and meat, canned fruits, jam) for consumption or sale in the canteen. Monthly allotment to be fixed after the first week of operation.

5455

- Food stuffs : wine and fruits only can be bought and sold.
- Meeting rooms
- Number : 3 (for office, HQs and ORs)
- Accommodation : Existing barracks
- Furniture : same as for canteen.
- Amusements : Playing cards, chess, domino, draughts, newspapers, books.
- Spiritual assistance
To be committed to the Camp Chaplain. Small Church in a barack or big tent.
- Sport and PA
- Football
- Basket ball
- Volley ball
- Athletics (high jump - long jump - running - putting the shot - battle course - tug of war).
2. Lowest necessities to which neither this HQ nor higher Italian authorities can provide owing to the present situation :-
- Supplies of various items for the cantoon (per man) :-
- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Tobacco | { Cigarettes (or) | 50 weekly |
| | { Pipe tobacco (or) | 2 ounces weekly |
| | { Cigars | 15 weekly |
| Soap | { Laundry | 5 1/3 ounces monthly |
| | { Toilet | 5 1/2 " " |
| | { Shaving | 5 1/2 " " |
| Razor blades | | 10 " " |
| Tooth paste or powder | | 1 tube " " |
| " brush | | 1 " " |
| Matches (box or book) | | 5 " " |
| Writing paper and envelopes | | 10 " " |
| French gloves | | |
| Needles, thread, buttons etc. | | |
- Supply of food stuffs (as tea, sugar, coffee, cheese, canned fish and meat, canned fruits, jam) for consumption or sale in the cantoon. Monthly allotment to be fixed after the first period of activity.
- Supply of 3 radio sets (with loud speakers) for meeting room.
- Local plants (already existing) for projection of films, projectors and generators.
- Supply of a certain number of balls for playing football, basket ball and volley ball and of rubber-soles (not available on the market).
3. The organization as for para 1, will be effected by a Senior officer attached to this HQ (who is now attending a course in Rome) and by a Junior Officer of HQ.
- The organization as per para 2, will be effected as soon as the necessary material will be available.

5455

Sgt. U. SCOTTO LAVINA - Maj.
C of S.

Report on
Ravine Creek BRB

(2)

1. General Summary

(a) This camp was originally laid out by the South Africans, and is excellently situated. It is intended that it shall be fully tenanted; there are a considerable number of Natives and Kikuyu huts, but these will not be used for sleeping accommodation.

(b) Water pipes are laid throughout the area, and there is an efficient pumping system. There are 20 latrines, and a number of ordinary latrines in addition.

(c) A generation has been installed and will supply light to a portion of the camp.

(d) The intention is to lay the camp in three well-defined battlement areas: a front area will be used as first or a field hospital. The center will be used as barracks.

2. Towns & Villages

The nearest town is Capena, 20(?) miles away.

The local villages of Ravine Creek and Vainans have no possibility. Transport could probably be arranged to a very limited extent. Capena for recreational purposes, but it is not thought that it will be advisable in the

early stages.

3. The Installation

There is little possibility of draining and keep

is an efficient pumping system. There are 20 tent
chambers, and a number of ordinary bunks in addition.
(c) Aggregation has been installed and will supply light
to a portion of the camp.

(d) The intention is to stay the camp in areas well defined
barration areas: a portion area will be used as fire or
a field hospital. The ceiling will be 6000 approx.

2. Town & Villages

The nearest town is Capena, 20(?) miles away.

The local villages of Ravisconina and Vairano have no
possibilities. Transport could probably be arranged to
a very limited extent to Capena for recreational purposes,
but it is not thought that it will be advisable in the

5454

early stages.

Local Inhabitants

There is little possibility of obtaining much help
from local inhabitants; they are probably of the farming
type, and even if they were willing, they can have little
to offer.

4 (a) Canteens, Mess Rooms, etc.

In the original plans (S.A.), 13 mess rooms were distributed through the area for welfare. In addition a small group of these messes and a large mess room ~~are~~ ^{are} ~~are~~ ^{are} in the H.Q. camp are as attached.

On the initiative of the Camp Commandant (Col. Mueser) a canteen has already been opened in the mess hall. It is suggested that this should continue as a separate canteen - it has to be an extension to the main hall, with a bar opening into the hall, and has cooking facilities. It would not interfere with the proposed use of the hall as a cinema/theatre.

In addition there is ample building for two canteens ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~one~~ ^{one} ~~mess~~ ^{mess} room, and one Whiting Room in each battalion area. As far as furnishing goes, much could be improvised; could require nothing to be considered?

(b) Cinema/Theatre.

The large mess hall (V. Imp. Co.) will make an excellent cinema/theatre. A screen is already fitted - all that is wanted is the projection, and ~~probably~~ ^{probably} a generator. As to light, it will come within the limited lighting system of the mess hall. However, required, but

It is suggested that this should result in a large canteen. It is in an extension to the main hut, with a door opening into the hall, and has cooking facilities. It would not interfere with the proposed use of the hut as a cinema/theatre.

In addition, there is ample hutting for our canteen and our Rest ^{bedding} room, and our Whirling Room in each battalion area. In far so furnishing goes, much could be improvised; could require fitting to be considered?

(b) Cinema/theatre.

The large rooming hut (V. Enpaa) will make an excellent cinema/theatre. A screen is already fitted - and that is wanted is the projection and ~~probably~~ a generator. ⁵⁴⁻⁵³ ~~generators~~ ^{generators} required, but it is not clear whether the limited lighting ^{generators} ^{can probably be made in the camp.} camp, the voltage etc. may not be suitable.

The construction of a stage here will be a simple matter. Materials can be found in the camp. If required, a Nissan that immediately adjacent can be fitted up as dressing room.

Open Air Theatre.

There are several sites naturally suited to this purpose, and there are no difficulties at all.

12. Sports Grounds

There are two stretches of ground which are suitable. In the plans they are referred to as sports grounds, and what is truly required is clearing work, the ground being very stony. This is just a matter of labor - items such as goal posts can be fitted up from local materials.

6. Weapon Stores

A few old footballs are held - the exact number is indeterminate - and nothing else.

The requirements, therefore, are anything and everything: the same facilities for improvisation exist as anywhere else, but anything at all will be exceedingly valuable.

7. Newspapers

It will be difficult for the camp to provide transport if they are to be collected from Naples. If arrangements can be made for them to be available as Capua it will greatly simplify matters.

8. Weapon Officer

There is not a full-time weapon officer, although an officer has been appointed to deal with the matter. It was urged that a trained weapon officer should be

A few old foot balls are held - the exact number is indeterminate - and nothing else.

The requirements, therefore, are anything and everything; the same facilities for information exist as everywhere else, but anything at all will be exceedingly valuable.

4. Newspapers

It will be difficult for the camp to provide transport if they are to be collected from Naples. If arrangements can be made for them to be available at Capua it will greatly simplify matters.

8. Weapons Officer

There is not a full time weapons officer, although an officer has been appointed to deal with the matter. It was urged that a trained weapons officer should be attached, if only during the early stages.

5452

(5) Bathing and Swimming

The camp is quite close to the Volturno River, and it is possible that, with the agreement of the technical authorities, a bathing pool might be constructed there.

9. Suggestions

(1.) Weapons is an absolute necessity in this camp, not only because of its isolated situation, and because it is dealing with recruits, but because it is the center of Afragata. It is strongly urged that a trained weapons officer, a really live one, be attached; this is backed by G-1 3 Division, O.C. British Cade, and by the O.C. Movement, at present in the camp.

(2.) The weapons officer of 227 Division should be instructed to take a very active interest in the camp; it is probably the largest single body of troops in his area, and yet weapons was unopposed to learn of his existence.

(3.) The officer appointed should immediately write immediately on the following:

- (a) Contamin, Rev + Reading Camp, Military Rome.
- (b) Strong for threats
- (c) Obtaining the charts from Naples - if possible, free, on the patriotic/adventurous basis.
- (d) cleaning up and fitting sports fields.
- (e) buying in newspapers.

for D.C. involvement, at present we

- 5451

8.10 Conclusion

The position has no better than at present as far as accommodation goes. There is a great chance for Italian refugees to do something really good: the necessities exist, the opposition exists, all that is wanted is a man with drive. ~~He~~ He would be able to start work with the rest of the camp, and he would have the backing of his own Commanding Officer, of the British Radio, and of 3 Divisions.

sent of the camp, and he would have the backing of
his new Commanding Officer, of the British Canteen,
and of 3 district.

5450

14A

Irani Camp.

The following are in operation:

- 1 Small concert 2 afternoons per week.
- 1 Cinema show per week free (for 1000)

Bathing beach.

Football ground in course of preparation.

The above extracted from

L.O's report. 30.3.45.

21

13A

Subject : Welfare - BRD Raviscanina.

Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
R O M E
A/27

2 April 45.

ADAWS,
M.M.I.A.

BRD at Afragola is moving to Raviscanina (H 2007) commencing the 11th of April, from which date 750 men per day will be moved. Will you please arrange for the new camp to be visited and report forwarded to Col. PIDSLEY. The O.C. British Cadre should be contacted before the visit is made.

S.P. Archer Capt.

S.P. ARCHER, Capt.
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

*Spent
you will visit
over 12 hrs. Spent
by 2/4*

SPA/fc

5449

SUBJECT: Welfare of Camps.

10A
A.D.A.W.S.
c/o Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/V.
6 Mar'45.

Ministry of War
Ufficio Benessere del Soldato.

Orvieto, Trani and Afragola Camps.

In pursuance of matters already discussed the above camps are badly in need of Welfare Stores. The stores required are similar to those being despatched to Frosinone, and they particularly require Medicine Balls, Footballs, Sports Kit and Books.


Lt.Col.
A.D.A.W.S.

5448

SUBJECT: Pontifical Assistance to Repatriates.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.

3/78.

4. March 1945

MMIA LC.
HQ 52 Area.

1. Reference AC/7 of 24 Feb to HQ 52 Area copy to this HQ.
2. This HQ is prepared to support any efforts made to foster the wellbeing of such men in St. Andrews Camp or in any other camp.
3. Such support, however will in no way relieve the Italian Camp Commandant of his responsibilities. Nor does it mean that he must not first obtain permission for the scheme from his own superior HQ and, if necessary, from the Ministry of War.
4. It should be made clear that the provision of such a canteen and the stores issued must be independant of any material aid from the Allies.
5. It is suggested that it would be better that the canteen be set up, not within the camp, but in its vicinity.

W. P. D. L. G.
Colonel
Major General,
M.M.I.A.

Internal - A.D.A.W.S. MMIA.

5447

Stato Maggiore R.E.

Ufficio Ordinamento e Mobilitazione.

Sezione Ordinamento

10933

PM. 3200

22 Feb '45.

To the Ministry of War - Gabinetto
- Directorate of Welfare.

Attached is a copy of Rome Territorial Command letter 1654/O.A.C.M. which states that MMIA, to which the Stato Maggiore RE had addressed a request for permission to construct a transit camp at Foligno, had expressed a contrary view.

MMIA has suggested that they would give favourable consideration to the subject of civilian organization of rest camps for officers and men in transit, if advanced by the Directorate of Welfare.

Small rest camps, similar to that in Rome, should be established at all the principal staging points.

It is therefore requested that you will take the matter up with the competent Allied Authorities, informing this SM. of progress.

/S Alessandro Santi
General.

5446

Rome Territorial
Command.

To S.M.R.E.
Ufficio Ordinamento.

PM.3800

15 Feb'45.

Subject: Organization of a transit camp with
information and welfare officers for
officers and troops at Foligno.

Foligno is situated at the road junction between Rome, Ancona,
Florence and Macerata: Italian troops going to and from the
front are therefore passing through continually.

Such troops, if they are obliged to remain there for any
time owing to transport difficulties, find it impossible to get
lodging and food: as the Town has suffered considerable damage;
no hotels and restaurants are in operating condition, with one
or two exceptions which are prohibitively expensive.

The Comando Presidio cannot possibly provide for this
at the moment.

The necessity will therefore be recognised of establishing
in the town a transit camp, with information and welfare officers for
troops passing through: this camp would be for lodging, messing and
welfare of the troops in the locality indicated, and on accordance
with the aims quoted above.

The proposal, which is considered opportune, is passed
to SMRE for decision.

/S Brunetto Brunetti
General.

5445

COPIA

 PRO-MEMORIA PER IL SIGNOR GENERALE TAMASSIA

Circa la visita effettuata ai campi di istruzione di Anagni e Frosinone nella giornata del 1 marzo 1945-

CAMPO ISTRUZIONI DI FROSINONE

Ufficiale B.S. Cap. INDRI (da pochi giorni ricoverato in ospedale militare per accesso dentario).

Forza complessiva: attualmente circa 900 uomini; si prevede imminente l'arrivo di altre reclute. Il campo dovrà ospitare circa 6000 uomini.

Alloggiamenti truppa: quasi tutti in via di riparazione; manca l'energia elettrica. L'illuminazione viene fatta con circa 30 lampi a petrolio forniti dal Genio Militare. Ne sono stati promessi altri 60.

Attività ricreativa: mancano, per il momento i locali da adibire sia per sala lettura o ritrovo che per un eventuale spaccio, per il quale il Signor Colonnello Comandante invierà a questo Ufficio Benessere del Soldato un preventivo di spese relativo alla provvisoria riparazione di un locale.

Materiale richiesto: (di maggior necessità) cartoline in franchigia, buste carta da lettere, inchiostro e penne.
 Un fondo di £ 15.000 per sussidi e premi vari a militari di truppa; N2 radio con batterie; giuochi da bocce N°2 o 3 giuochi di dama, e se fosse possibile una fisarmonica; una piccola biblioteca ed i palloni per foot-ball, sigarette, rasoi, lamette e sapone per barba.

Il Commissario Militare dovrebbe interessarsi ad inviare sul luogo dei cavalletti di ferro con relative assicelle di legno e dei pagliericci in quanto la truppa dorme attualmente paglia a terra.

Il Signor Generale Tamassia ha stabilito di proporre al Gabinetto l'assegnazione di un fondo sussidi (sussidi per militari di truppa) 5443

CAMPO ISTRUZIONE DI ANAGNI

Forza complessiva: attualmente circa 900 uomini; si prevede imminente l'arrivo di altre reclute. Il campo dovrà ospitare circa 6000 uomini.

Alloggiamenti truppa: quasi tutti in via di riparazione; manca l'energia elettrica. L'illuminazione viene fatta con circa 30 lampi a petrolio forniti dal Genio Militare. Ne sono stati promessi altri 60.

Attività ricreativa: mancano, per il momento i locali da adibire sia per sala lettura o ritrovo che per un eventuale spaccio, per il quale il Signor Colonnello Comandante invierà a questo Ufficio Benessere del Soldato un preventivo di spese relativo alla provvisoria riparazione di un locale.

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Il Signor Generale Tamassia ha stabilito di proporre al Gabinetto l'assegnazione di un fondo sussidi (sussidi per militari di truppa) ~~54~~ 60000.

CAMPO ISTRUZIONE DI ANAGNI

Comandante : Cap. ZANZUCCHI

Ufficiale B.S.Ten. PACIFICO Gaetano.

Forza complessiva: attualmente circa 90; si prevede, nella giornata del 3 o 4 corr. l'arrivo di circa 1000 reclute.

Località disagiatissima; il centro più vicino si trova a circa 11 Km.

.....

Alloggiamenti truppa: i locali sono migliori di quelli di Frosinone, però anch'essi, per la maggior parte in via di riparazione. Manca l'energia elettrica. La truppa dorme con paglia a terra e sarebbe anche necessario l'immediato invio di cavallette di ferro ed assicelle e dei pagliericci. Manca quasi totalmente l'acqua, ma è stato già disposto l'invio di n°2 pompe che dovrebbero giungere entro la giornata di domani.-

Attività ricreativa : esistono dei locali da potersi adibire ad un salone ritrovo (sala lettura cinema teatrino) e per uno spaccio vendita per il quale sarebbe necessario però un fondo di circa £ 10.000 relativo all'acquisto di bicchieri e materiale vario.-

Materiale richiesto : (di maggior necessità-) cartoline in franchigia, buste, carta da lettere, inchiestro e penne.
Un fondo di £ 10.000 per sussidi a militari di truppa, n°2 radio anche prive di batterie; giuochi di bocce; qualche pallone per foot-ball; giuochi di dama, qualche fisarmonica ed una piccola biblioteca. Sarebbe opportuno inviare pure rasoi di sicurezza, delle lanette e del sapone da barba.-

Il Signor Generale Tamassia ha stabilito di sottoporre al Gabinetto l'assegnazione di un fondo sussidi di £ 20.000 e di un fondo spaccio di £ 10.000.

IL CAPITANO SPINA SALVATORE

Roma, li 1 marzo 1945

5443

SUBJECT ; Italian Welfare.

A.D.A.W.S.
c/o Land Forces Sub Comd.A.C.
(L.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEL/R/14.
7 Feb '45.

Spec Sec. M.I.A.

6A.

1. Ref WEL/R/6 of 22 Jan and conversation.
2. Italian Welfare report as follows :-
 - (i) Italia 500 copies are ~~in fact~~ available but have, in fact, only been collected once by the camp.
 - (ii) The footballs were handed over.
 - (iii) 2,000 parcels were issued (N.B. 1,500 have also been sent to Orvieto camp)
 - (iv) The concert party is available to the camp, but the camp have not yet provided the stage. They state it is now due to be ready on 8 Feb.
 - (v) The radios are in the camp and the cinema projector is also there and has been working.

P
Lt.Col.
A.D.A.W.S.

5442

Stato Maggiore R.E.

Ufficio Ordinamento e Mobilitazione.

Sezione Ordinamento

10933

PM.3800

22 Feb'45.

To the Ministry of War -- Gabinetto
- Directorate of Welfare.

Attached is a copy of Rome Territorial Command letter 1654/O.A.O.M. which states that MMIA, to which the Stato Maggiore RE had addressed a request for permission to construct a transit camp at Foligno, had expressed a contrary view.

MMIA has suggested that they would give favourable consideration to the subject of civilian organization of rest camps for officers and men in transit, if advanced by the Directorate of Welfare.

Small rest camps, similar to that in Rome, should be established at all the principal staging points.

It is therefore requested that you will take the matter up with the competent Allied Authorities, informing this SM. of progress.

/S Alessandro Santi
General.

5421

Rome Territorial
Command.

To S.M.R.S.
Ufficio Ordinamento.

PM.3800

15 Feb'45.

Subject: Organization of a transit camp with
information and welfare officers for
officers and troops at Foligno.

Foligno is situated at the road junction between Rome, Ancona, Florence and Macerata: Italian troops going to and from the front are therefore passing through continually.

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The Comando Presidio cannot possibly provide for this at the moment.

The necessity will therefore be recognised of establishing in the town a transit camp, with information and welfare officers for troops passing through: this camp would be for lodging, messing and welfare of the troops in the locality indicated, and on accordance with the aims quoted above.

The proposal, which is considered opportune, is passed to SMRE for decision.

/S Brunetto Brunetti
General.

5440

1126