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

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

10000|120|3481 ME/43/D Sitreps + Reports 5 BLU 2300 2310

July-Oct. 1946

SUBJECT :- Sitrep no. 7 - REMS

(5)

5 British Liaison Unit
Tel: 1657

5/ME/5

21 Oct 46

ADME; Land Forces Sub-Comm, AC,
(MMIA) ROME.

402

RECEIVED 25 OCT 46

Period : 28 Sept - 17 Oct 46

1. 5 Repair Section, BASILIANO - General

(a) The OC of Workshop, Lt-Col PAWSE is not due to return from leave until 25 Oct 46 and the 2 i/c Capt ADAMSON retains temporary command until that date.

(b) It seems that the Ministry of War consider that the exchange of scrap vehicles etc for tools and machinery has gone far enough and the scheme is now suspended. The Workshop is now much better equipped and most of the machinery is installed and in operation.

(c) The engine testing bay is completed and working satisfactorily.

(d) Workshop output returns attached.

2. Accommodation

51 st LAA Regt Workshop have now vacated the BASILIANO premises and HQ 1 AMRA have agreed that these will not be required for other Allied Units.

3. Labour

The WE for this workshop allows for 91 Military personnel and 91 civilians. At present civilian employees are at practically full strength, but the Military strength is seriously deficient, the figures being as follows :-

2310

	WE	Strength
Officers	8	10
N C Os.	12	18
Men	71	8

It will be seen that there are 2 officers in excess of establishment, although the purely Workshop duties are carried out by one officer - Capt PALAMIDESI, who is both keen and efficient.

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(b) It seems that the Ministry of War consider that the exchange of scrap vehicles etc for tools and machinery has gone far enough and the scheme is now suspended. The Workshop is now much better equipped and most of the machinery is installed and in operation.

(c) The engine testing bay is completed and working satisfactorily.

(d) Workshop output returns attached.

2. Accommodation

51 st LAA Regt Workshop have now vacated the BASILIA O premises and HQ 1 ARRA have agreed that these will not be required for other Allied Units.

3. Labour

The WE for this workshop allows for 91 Military personnel and 91 civilians. At present civilian employees are at practically full strength, but the Military strength is seriously deficient, the figures being as follows :-

2310

	WE	Strength
Officers	3	10
N C Os.	12	18
Men	71	8

It will be seen that there are 2 officers in excess of establishment, although the purely Workshop duties are carried out by one officer - Capt PALAMIDESI, who is both keen and efficient.

My impression is that many of the civilians who are at present employed, are replacing troops in guard duties and similar unproductive tasks, so that the labour available for production in the workshop is much restricted. As soon as I have the necessary information I intend to discuss this question more fully with the OC Workshop, as I feel sure the balance of employment is not the most efficient.

Regd 28 Oct 46

4. Visits

Lt-Col R.A. CURRIES, ADMS of MAIA, visited 5 Repair Section on Tues, 1 Oct 46.

J.H. Rutter
Capt,
REME.

Field
JHR/ap

Copies to: File and Diary.

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

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

SITREP NO. 7

APPENDIX 'A'

Workshop Returns - 5 Repair Section

Period 15 - 30 September 1946

Class of Repairs	Wksp Intake	Wksp Output
1	8	11
2	7	5
3	9	2

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

REME (4)

SUBJECT:- Sitrep No. 6 - R.E.M.E.

5 British Liaison Unit.
Tel.: 1657

5/ME/5

30 Sep 46.

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

Period: 7 Sept - 27 Sept '46.

1. 5 Repair Section - BASILIANO.

(a) O.C. of Workshop, Lt.Col. PAVESE is on leave until 15 Oct 46, and 2nd i.c. Capt. ROMEO is temporarily in charge.

(b) The arrangement of exchanging scrap vehicles for machinery and tools with local firms has met with considerable success, for greater than I had anticipated and I am pleased that my original scepticism was not justified. The equipment already received includes:-

Spanners and small workshop tools.
Several complete sets of taps and dies.
Complete 7" lathe.
Electrically driven compressor set.
Cylinder-grinding machine.
Connecting rod bearing borer.
Crank shaft bearing borer set.
Crank pin scraper tool set.
Valve grinding machine.

More material is still expected and when the machines have been installed their effect should be reflected in increased workshop output.

(c) An engine testing bay is being set up by workshop labour and will be ready to operate by the time the other apparatus is installed.

(d) Supplies of spares from PIACENZA are now much more satisfactory and the Workshop Output is showing a steady upward trend. There is a lag in the output of heavy repairs but there is now a reasonable prospect that this will be improved in the next few months.

(e) Workshop output returns attached.

2. Accomodation.

51st Lt.A.A. Regt. have now left this area and the REME Workshop will complete their evacuation of the premises at [illegible]

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

1. 5 Repair Section - BASILIANO.

(a) O.C. of Workshop, Lt.Col. PAVESE is on leave until 15 Oct 46, and 2nd i.c. Capt. ROMEO is temporarily in charge.

(b) The arrangement of exchanging scrap vehicles for machinery and tools with local firms has met with considerable success, for greater than I had anticipated and I am pleased that my original scepticism was not justified. The equipment already received includes:-

Spanners and small workshop tools.
Several complete sets of taps and dies.
Complete 7" lathe.
Electrically driven compressor set.
Cylinder-grinding machine.
Connecting rod bearing borer.
Crank shaft bearing borer set.
Crank pin scraper tool set.
Valve grinding machine.

More material is still expected and when the machines have been installed their effect should be reflected in increased workshop output.

(c) An engine testing bay is being set up by workshop labour and will be ready to operate by the time the other apparatus is installed.

(d) Supplies of spares from PIACENZA are now much more satisfactory and the Workshop Output is showing a steady upward trend. There is a lag in the output of heavy repairs but there is now a reasonable prospect that this will be improved in the next few months.

(e) Workshop output returns attached.

2. Accomodation.

51st Lt.A.A. Regt. have now left this area and the REME Workshop will complete their evacuation of the premises at BASILIANO within the next two weeks.
It is hoped that the premises can now be retained for the exclusive use of 5 Repair Section as the space is badly needed.
There seems a reasonable prospect that 5 Repair Section will not now be required to leave BASILIANO.

2851

RECEIVED 7 - OCT 1946

Rg. 7/10/46

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

3. Visits.

Major General E.N. GOULBURN D.S.O., G.O.C. M.M.I.A. visited 5 Repair Section on 12 Sept. during his tour of this Command of 12 - 16 Sept.

4. Leave.

Capt. J.W. RUTTER returned from 19 days Privleave on 6 Sept. '46.

JWR/rv

J.W. Rutter
Capt. R.E.M.E.

Fd

FILE

DIARY

2307

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

SITREP No. 6 APPENDIX "A"

Workshop Returns - 5 Repair Section

Period 16 - 31 August 46.

Class of Repairs:	Wksp. Intake:	Wksp. Output:
1	16	15
2	6	12
3	2	2

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

SITREP No. 6

APPENDIX "A"

Workshop Returns - 5 Repair Section

Period 1 - 15 September 46.

Class of Repairs:	Wksp. Intake:	Wksp. Output:
1	23	14
2	3	3
3	9	1

2305

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

Rome

(3)

SUBJECT:- Workshop Output Returns.

5 British Liaison Unit.
Tel.: 1547

5/ME/6/5

23 Aug 46.

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

---

with

Here Workshop Output Returns with reference to our Sitrep No. 5 of 18th inst.

(2)

RECEIVED 26 AUG 1946 633 DATE

A. Walker HQ
Capt.
E.E.M.E.

2 Encls
Regd
26 Aug

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

SITREP No. 5

Appendix "A"

Workshop Returns - 5 Repair Section

Period 1 - 15 August 46.

Class of Repairs:	Wksp. Intake:	Wksp. Output:
1	6	10
2	11	4
3	1	5

2303

SUBJECT:- Sitrep No. 5 - R.E.M.E.

Rome (2)

5 British Liaison Unit.
C.M.F.

5/ME/5

18 Aug 46.

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

RECEIVED 24 AUG 1946

Period: 28th July - 8th August '46.

1. 5 Repair Section - BASILIANO.

(a) In consequence of the recent visit of Col. BALANZINO, a number of local firms have been approached in an effort to exchange some of the derelict vehicles for Workshop equipment. At the moment, results seem quite favourable and number of very useful offers have been made. Confirmation is now awaited from the Ministry of War in order to complete these transactions.

(b) Workshop output returns - to follow.

(c) The proposed move of 5 Territorial Command has caused some concern, and efforts have already been made to secure alternative accomodation. The suggested new site is at Caserma Dosson, TREVISO, but it is expected that a great deal of Engineer work will be necessary before it is ready for occupation.

(d) Efforts are being made to dispose of all the scrap vehicles before the move takes place so that space will not be wasted on the new site with the familiar heap of wreckage.

2. Accomodation.

51st Lt. A.A. Regt have now occupied the additional bay at BASILIANO for the purpose of storing guns. In view of the impending move, any inconvenience that this may cause will be of little importance.

3. Leave.

2302

Capt. J.W. RUTTER has been granted 19 days Privleave, leaving UDINE on 9th Aug 46.
Arrangements have been made to forward Workshop Output returns as they are received by this office.

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

1. 5 Repair Section - BASILIANO.

(a) In consequence of the recent visit of Col. BALANZINO, a number of local firms have been approached in an effort to exchange some of the derelict vehicles for Workshop equipment. At the moment, results seem quite favourable and number of very useful offers have been made. Confirmation is now awaited from the Ministry of War in order to complete these transactions.

(b) Workshop output returns - to follow.

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3. Leave.

2302

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Arrangements have been made to forward Workshop Output returns as they are received by this office.

Capt.

W.O. Capt. R.E.M.E.

Regd. 7th August.

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

Reme (1)

SUBJECT:- Sitrep No. 4 -REME.

RECEIVED 17 AUG 1946 DATE
1389

5 British Liaison Unit.
C.M.F.

5/ME/5

2 Aug 46.

To: A.D.M.E.
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.,
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E .

Period: 14th July - 27th July 46.

1. 5 Repair Section - BASILIANO.

(a) Workshop officer, Capt. PALAMIDESSI, returned from leave, July 20th.

(b) Workshop output returns attached.

(c) A great deal of work has been put in, sorting out the scrap vehicles and generally tidying up the open space in the centre of the workshop area.
The results have been worth while for the appearance alone as the previous conglomeration of junk was very much an eye-sore.

(d) Some work is now being passed on to C.A.R.E., BOLOGNA, but on the advice of the Ministry of War this is at present being confined to Ambulances.

2. Accomodation.

E.M.E. was approached by DAA & QMG, 1 AGRA, with reference to providing further accomodation at BASILIANO for 51 Lt.A.A. Regt., and I gave my opinion that it was unfair to ask for more.

However, the matter was pressed with much insistence on "operational necessity" and on 23rd July the writer accompanied 2 i.c. 51st Lt.A.A. Regt. and DA&QMG of 1 AGRA. As a result it has been agreed to hand over one bay of the workshop at present occupied by the Efficient Vehicle Park, as soon as the latter can be transferred to a new location.

This will not greatly inconvenience the workshop itself apart from the difficulties of moving and preparing the alternative site. It is my opinion however that 51 Lt.A.A. Regt. will not be satisfied with the one, small bay and I have reported this to G.I., this H.Q., with a request that any other requests shall be turned down decisively.

Repeated requests of this kind are very discouraging to the Workshop Staff.

2301

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

1. 5 Repair Section - BASILIANO.

(a) Workshop officer, Capt. PALAMIDESSI, returned from leave, July 20th.

(b) Workshop output returns attached.

(c) A great deal of work has been put in, sorting out the scrap vehicles and generally tidying up the open space in the centre of the workshop area.
The results have been worth while for the appearance alone as the previous conglomeration of junk was very much an eye-sore.

(d) Some work is now being passed on to O.A.R.E., BOLOGNA, but on the advice of the Ministry of War this is at present being confined to Ambulances.

2. Accomodation.

E.M.E. was approached by DAA & QMG, 1 AGRA, with reference to providing further accomodation at BASILIANO for 51 Lt.A.A. Regt., and I gave my opinion that it was unfair to ask for more.

However, the matter was pressed with much insistence on "operational necessity" and on 23rd July the writer accompanied 2 i.c. 51st Lt.A.A. Regt. and DAQMG of 1 AGRA. As a result it has been agreed to hand over one bay of the workshop at present occupied by the Efficient Vehicle Park, as soon as the latter can be transferred to a new location.

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Repeated requests of this kind are very discouraging to the Workshop Staff.

2301

3. Engineer work.

As anticipated, the water installation is unlikely to be completed by the end of this month as promised, and this "cause celebre" is being observed with interest.

4. Domestic Transport.

It is now proposed by M.M.I.A. to consider the Chev. HUP as in lieu of a P.U., instead of a 15 cwt and to issue a 15 cwt instead of another P.U. to complete the W.E. This seems far from satisfactory and is the subject of correspondence by G.I.

J.H. Rutter

S.Capt.R.E.M.E.

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

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

SITREP No. 4.

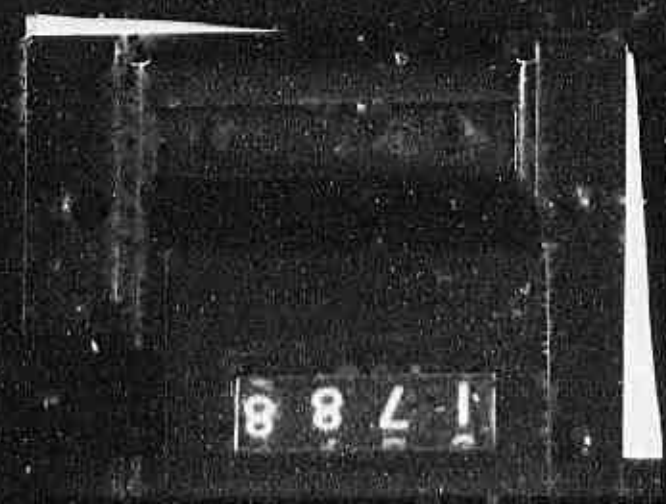
Appendix 'A'

Workshop Returns - 5 Repair Section

Period 16 - 31 July 46.

Class of Repairs:	Wksp. Intake:	Wksp. Output:
1.	24	23
2.	11	10
3.	--	6

2300


1788