

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

10000/120/3504

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Discipline Policy

611
699

opened Oct. 25, 1944 - Closed Dec. 30, 1946
Oct. 1944 - Dec. 1946

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS,
Northern Detachment,
c/o 427 FSS.

GSI/2202/2

30 December 1946

SUBJECT: Discipline.

O.C.
N° 1 British Liaison Unit,
Turin.

Reference your A 6 of 12 Dec 46.

1. CSM SMITH who has been in command of 315 FSS, in the unfortunate absence of an officer, has now been released from H.M. Forces.
2. Material is being sent to AFHQ for any action they may deem necessary.

6 JAN 1947

RAP/JW

Robert J. Smith
Col,
GS.

699

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject : Discipline.

1 British Liaison Unit
A O

15 Nov 46

To : HQ 217 Area,
C M F.

The turnout and discipline of the F.S.S. here in Turin is not what one would expect from British NCOs.

I mention two cases :

- (a) The Sergeant Major dressed in uniform without Cap Badge or Badges of Rank.
- (b) A sergeant dressed in plain clothes and obviously not having shaved for at least 24 hours.

I should be grateful if the Section could either be visited by their O.C. or by an officer of G.S.I. Branch.

72
Lt Col
GSO I

698

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT : Discipline.

HQ 59 Area

HQ No.2 District CMT
N/800(PB) 19 Mar 1946

(19)

Reference the attached copy 1 BLU letter A6 dated 14 March 46 with enclosures as therein stated.

1. Please arrange for a detailed investigation to be made into this matter and for a report to be furnished to this HQ for the information of the GOC.
2. The GOC considers that the CREMONA Gruppo are entitled to remove the Guard provided by them if they wish to do so.
3. No disciplinary action will be taken without reference to this HQ.

JBT/DAN

Copy to:- HQ 1 BLU

J. Stanley
Colonel,
DA & CEG.

697

Return to 51 B64

Subject: Discipline - Combat Troops

RECORDED
63
Capt. C. T. R. Gordon
D. R. M. M. H. I. A.

To: Lord Forbes Sub Com. 40. (M. M. I. A.)

Reference: War A 266 dated 31 July '45.

On the 9 - 10 August '45, Combat Group "Grenada" was visited, I reporting to the Commander 51 British Liaison Unit, Lieut. Colonel MISS CARTER D.S.O.,.

Lieut. Colonel MISS CARTER pointed out that para 2(b) and 2(c) of the circular were matters more probably the responsibility of himself and his staff and with which observation I am in agreement.

Such matters are not properly a matter for Provost until such time as the officer responsible therefor are in liaison therewith, does Provost investigation necessary.

Nevertheless, Lieut. Colonel MISS CARTER offered every assistance on the tour and allowed complete investigation to be conducted. The main group role at the moment is the provision of Frontier Guards and as a consequence thereof elements are much dispersed and located over a wide area. The following general observations are made, on the grounds of interest and do not form part of the official report.

Morale and Discipline among such troops as have been seen is quite good when compared with other groups, although the standard is of course, below that of equivalent Allied troops. Saluting discipline is evident though in the manner of saluting one were observed in returning the salute was as equally perfunctory. Dress and turnout is quite good on Italian present standards and although a certain amount of laxity was observed, no flagrant deviations from the standard were seen, I think this group compares very favourably with other groups.

Due to the fact that the Group is dispersed and the area, the soldiers are very much in contact with the civilian population and there is some influence on them by local political parties. There is also some feeling among the 1944 classes and the older classes who yet remain unmobilized after many years of service.

The chief of staff would appear to be an energetic man and fully alive to his disciplinary responsibilities, and heavy punishments are awarded for disciplinary offences both among officers or other ranks although the of staff admitted, that he did not have power for action, were that five disciplinary reports a day which, in view of the fact that he dealt with the more minor offences with the troops might be immediately dealt with by himself.

A permanent Military Tribunal is with the Group and is reported to deal severely with offences but in point of fact was not sitting at the time of the visit. It could not therefore be heavily overworked. It would seem too that all the power is centralized in one officer who is the chief of staff, and whether such a centralization is indicative of the failure of other senior officers to discharge their disciplinary duties effectively, is a matter of some interest.

to the Commander 51 British Malayan Unit, Lieut. Colonel WHEB CARRON D.S.O.

Lieut. Colonel WHEB CARRON pointed out that verses 2(b) and 2(c) of the charter were matters more probably the responsibility of himself and his staff and with which observation I am in agreement.

Such matters are not properly a matter for review until such time as the officer responsible therefore are in Malaya themselves, down prevent investigation necessary.

Nevertheless, Lieut. Colonel WHEB CARRON offered every assistance on the tour and allowed complete investigation to be conducted. The main group role at the moment is the provision of frontier guards and as a consequence thereof elements are much dispersed and located over a wide area. The following general observations are made, on the grounds of interest and do not form part of the official report.

Morale and Discipline among such troops as have been seen is quite good when compared with other groups, although the standard is of course, below that of equivalent Allied troops. Saluting discipline is evident though in the manner of saluting there is room for great improvement but, again the manner in which the Italian officers were observed in returning the salute was as equally satisfactory. Dress and turn out is quite good on Italian present standards and although a certain amount of laxity was observed, no flagrant deviations from the standard were seen. I think this group compares very favorably with other groups.

Due to the fact that the group is dispersed and the area, the soldiers are very much in contact with the civilian population and there is some influence on them by local political parties. There is also some feeling among the 1944 classes and the older classes who yet remain unimpaired after many years of service.

The chief of staff would appear to be an energetic man and fully alive to his disciplinary responsibilities, and heavy punishments are awarded for disciplinary offences both among officers or other ranks although the officer admitted, that he did not have far action, more that five disciplinary reports a day which, in view of the fact that he dealt with the more minor offences with the troops ~~might~~ ^{might} be immediate and did not seem a large figure.

A permanent military tribunal is with the group and is reported to deal severely with offences but in point of fact was not sitting at the time of the visit. It could not therefore be heavily overworked. It would seem too that all the power is centralized in one officer who is the chief of staff, and whether such a centralization is indicative of the failure of other senior officers to discharge their disciplinary duties effectively, is a matter of some interest.

Internal discipline within the units would appear to be fair, saluting being in evidence but the standard of cleanliness in some units visited was low. Individual standards internal saluting and discipline was not in evidence and ~~the impression of~~ ^{the impression of} efficiency. It is thought that this is due to the influence of the incident 3, 1, 11.

a) The use to which Group M.F. is put and Traffic Discipline.

M.F. movement is very small and mainly on local administrative duties. Approximately 700 vehicles are in the locality and it would not appear that anything but a fraction of that amount go on the road.

...

(a) Contd

65A

All vehicles seen bore unit serial markings and the Divisional sign plus AB 412 plus W/Tickets are in use generally through the AB 412 is not generally understood. The Chief of Staff at the moment personally controlled all W/T movement, no vehicle moves without his authorisation.

not

Traffic discipline in itself could be well observed, owing to limited movement and the absence of any major traffic discipline or restrictive signs within the area. Vehicles observed did, however, proceed at normal speeds, with few exceptions, and no overloading of vehicles was seen. In particular, no excessive crowding of cabs was observed. One divisional sign prohibiting entry into a certain street was generally ignored and vehicles proceeded without let or hindrance although a divisional carabiniere was nearby and could observe the movement.

There would appear to be a shortage of ABs 412 within the Division. The local carriage of civilians was not seen.

(b) The use and application of Carabinieri within the Group.

This proved to be disappointing, in view of the fact that a good proportion of the Carabinieri, in fact, over 50%, of the men seen have received training either at the Carabinieri or the Provost School, RSC ICF CUSANO.

More so, in view of the fact, that in times past, WOs of the Corps of Military Police have been attached for guidance, and at one time, the whole time service of any officer of the Canadian Provost Corps.

Two sections were dispersed for disciplinary control, traffic duties, and the like, throughout the Group and with various Regiments. This spared an intelligent appreciation of their functions.

No check points or traffic vehicles were observed in operation by the Carabinieri, it being explained that owing to the multiplying of exit roads within the Area, such establishment was not feasible, and mobile patrols of two Carabinieri on motor-cycles were maintained. These such patrols were maintained daily at an expenditure of six men from a Section of approximately 50 Carabinieri. The patrols did not operate at night, on the whole this did not seem a very effective way of controlling W.T. movement and discipline.

Disciplinary patrols for discipline were maintained in the town of MESSANINA at night but in one week (for the disciplinary files) had made two reports only and covering 18 CR's. The idea of the patrols is excellent but the implementation thereof, is poor, particularly in view of the fact that at 30 Carabinieri is always held in reserve for "sicurezza pubblica".

4. Carabinieri and 2 infantry guards were employed at the main entrance door to Divisional Headquarters. Were such number of Carabinieri considered necessary, attention should be paid to their turn out, particularly so being at Divisional Headquarters.

In point of fact, the turn out of the whole Carabinieri did not merit

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Disciplinary patrols for discipline were maintained in the town of ALESSANDRIA at night but in one week (see the disciplinary files) had made two reports only and covering 18 CR's. The idea of the patrols is excellent but the implementation thereof, is poor, particularly in view of the fact that at 30 Carabinieri is always held in reserve for "sicurezza pubblica".

4 Carabinieri and 2 infantry guards were employed at the main entrance door to Divisional Headquarters. Were such number of Carabinieri concerned necessary, attention should be paid to their turn out, particularly so being at Divisional Headquarters.

In point of fact, the turn out of the whole Carabinieri did not merit much attention or praise, the most regrettable feature that blanced belts and cross straps had become grey to black and in no case was freshly whitened belt seen. Gaiters were not worn. The Carabinieri officers were neither belt of gaiters or arm bands. The turn out indeed was most disappointing in view of standards inspected when at Cesano.

Divisional signing within the town and the indicating of the various services was carried out well with one point to note, Routes into Divisional Headquarters were not signed and as a consequence thereof to find Divisional Headquarters on quills had to be made to some length, within the town, which is of medium size. A system of indicating the route to Divisional Headquarters by the Divisional sign with a super-imposed arrow has been suggested.

Signing with Divisional Headquarters was excellent and well carried out that many signs were old and required repairing.

The AF 64098 equipment is not being used by the Carabinieri as they have been taught. Franco plated, arrows directional, discs directional, lamps traffic and the like, being found in stores, together with a vast quantity of improvised signs, showing in the field extensive signing of routes, bridges, services and the like have been carried out and this was most encouraging. Confidentially the signs had not been maintained and in many cases had not been stencilled, and were fast becoming unserviceable, being stacked and piled very roughly. Sign maintenance was a task they had not obviously answered.

The men's quarters were very dirty indeed and most discouraging. The latrine particularly was most unsatisfactory and unhygienic. No attention seems to have been made to make the men conform to standard kit lay-outs and even to methodically tidy their beds and quarters, matters which were impressed on these that frequented the Provost Courses at CRESANO. In passing no malarial nets were observed.

M.T. was maintained to a fair standard though unclean. The task system was not in operation though drivers were in possession of AB 412, W/Tickets, and the like. Batteries were charged but tyre pressures were irregular, M.T. parking as far as motor cycles were concerned, were in the men's sleeping quarters which is not very satisfactory.

No routes in and out is maintained by the Carabinieri, neither are any one way system or circuits or restrictions of speeding employed by them within the town or Division area and in matters such as these they are definitely lacking initiative and energy. Furthermore they have no traffic point men in the town, the matter being left to the Municipal Police. In connection with the current campaign of road discipline and traffic accidents, there is no doubt but that the matter is well in hand by the Group and very effective and satisfactory punishments awarded to drivers the minimum punishments for a traffic offence being at the moment, we consider to relieve a soldier automatically of one month's pay plus detention. I am satisfied in this Group, there is little to cause concern on this score.

There exists the usual slight hostility to the Carabinieri normally found among all Italian troops and among civilian population.

Officer quality is fair, the Group having no Carabinieri officer within the Group who has to date frequented a course at the Provost School, CRESANO.

In general, the Carabinieri are far from carrying out the tasks assigned to them as forming part of these duties and require a measure of energetic attention on the matter, mentioned in this report.

It would be appreciated if a copy of this report could be sent to Lt. Col. WEBB CARTER, D.S.O.

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Officer quality is fair, the Group having no Carabinieri officer within the Group who has to date frequented a course at the Provost School, CERSANO.

In general, the Carabinieri are far from carrying out the tasks assigned to them as forming part of these duties and require a measure of energetic attention on the matter, mentioned in this report.

It would be appreciated if a copy of this report could be sent to Lt. Col. WESLEY CARTER, D.S.O.

Field.
9 August, '45

694

Capt.
D.A.P.M.

Subject: Execution of Death Sentence.

URGENT AND SECRET.

G-3 FIFTH ARMY.
G-4 FIFTH ARMY.

Copy to: Land Forces Sub Comm HQ.

(MIL).
Public Security Officer,
BELLUNO Province.
HQ FRIULI ICG.

50 British Liaison Unit.

6/7/9.

10 Aug 45.

1. A request has recently been received by one of the Battalion Commanders of "FRIULI" ICG to provide a firing party to carry out the death sentence on a civilian. This request was made by the Asst Public Security Officer of BELLUNO Province and is based on a letter from HQ AG, Civil Affairs Section (APO 394) dated July 45. The letter is addressed to all Regional Commissioners and paragraph 3 states that the execution of a civilian will be carried out by one or other of the following :-

Carabinieri.
Agenti di Pubblica Sicurezza.
Guardie di Finanza.
Italian Army.

2. It is most strongly represented that this ICG is not called upon for such duty. As has been represented on numerous occasions to MALL, the popularity of the Gruppi di Combattimenti is by no means assured at present. This is particularly true in the NORTH of ITALY where the Partisans appear to have received most of the glory and the Gruppi di Combattimenti all of the kicks. If Gruppi di Combattimenti are called upon to provide a firing squad for an execution it is considered that the effect on the civilian population may be extremely serious and furthermore the attitude of the soldiers of the Gruppi in such a matter is by no means certain.

3. Would you please endeavour to have this order rescinded. Meanwhile, pending direct orders from higher authority this ICG will NOT provide firing squads for the execution of civilians. It is pointed out that in this connection information only came to the HQ of FRIULI ICG via a Battalion HQ which in turn received it from the Public Security Officer of BELLUNO Province.

William Major

1. A request has recently been received by one of the Battalion Commanders of "GRUPPI" ICG to provide a firing party to carry out the death sentence on a civilian. This request was made by the HQ Public Security Officer of BELLINO Province and is based on a letter from HQ MC, Civil Affairs Section (APO 394) dated July 45. The letter is addressed to all Regional Commissioners and paragraph 3 states that the execution of a civilian will be carried out by one or other of the following :-

Carabinieri,
Agenti di Pubblica Sicurezza,
Guardie di Finanza,
Italian Army.

2. It is most strongly represented that this ICG is not called upon for such duty. As has been represented on numerous occasions to MILA, the popularity of the Gruppi di Combattimenti is by no means assured at present. This is particularly true in the NORTH of ITALY where the Partisans appear to have received most of the glory and the Gruppi di Combattimenti all of the kicks. If Gruppi di Combattimenti are called upon to provide a firing squad for an execution it is considered that the effect on the civilian population may be extremely serious and furthermore the attitude of the soldiers of the Gruppi in such a matter is by no means certain.

3. Would you please endeavour to have this order rescinded. Meanwhile, pending direct orders from higher authority this ICG will NOT provide firing squads for the execution of civilians. It is pointed out that in this connection information only came to the HQ of MILA ICG via a Battalion HQ which in turn received it from the Public Security Officer of BELLINO Province.

FMH/ZES.

51 HCU.
52 HCU.
53 HCU.

RECEIVED
BRITISH LEGATION UNIT
10 AUG 1945
101

Wilson Hayer

Lt. Col. **693**

58B
COMANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "CRIMONA"
Ufficio del Capo di Stato Maggiore
Sezione Operazioni e Servizi

N.01/2728 di prot.

P.M.(64), 18 agosto 1945.

O G G E T T O: Sequestro di armi e militari del Gruppo di
Combattimento.

AL 51° BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

- S e d e -

Si trasmettono, allegati in copia:

- a)- 1 rapporto del laureciello Maggiore GILBERTO STAMINO
di questo Comando, circa il sequestro di un moschet
to automatico Thompson matricola 343335, a lui rego
lamente in carico, e di una pistola Beretta, di
sua proprietà. Il sequestro è avvenuto in località
Marina di Pietrasanta, sulla strada statale n.1, ad
opera del Pvt. SAM H. ANDERSON (A.S.N. 38531748) del
la 93ª div., L.P. Platoon, A.P.O. 93;
- b)- 1 dichiarazione di ricevuta del suddetto Pvt. Anderson.
Si prega di voler dare disposizioni circa le modali
tà da seguire per il recupero delle armi di cui sopra.

d'ordine
IL COLONNELLO CAPO DI S.M.
-Adelmo Pedersani-

692

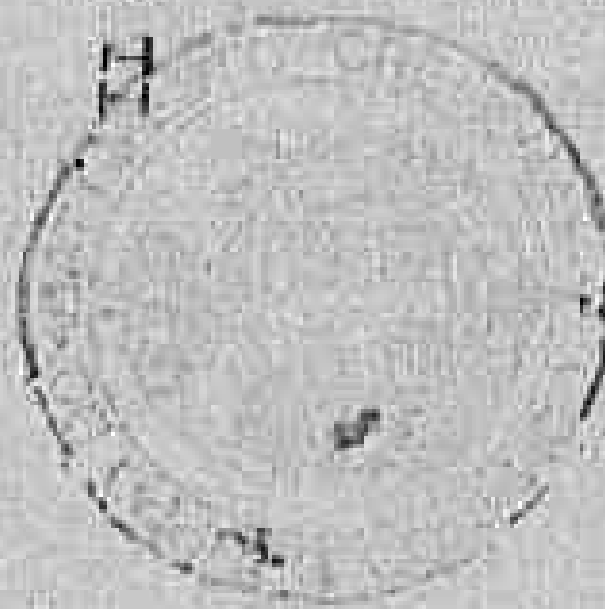
AL 51^o BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

- S e d e -

Si trasmettono, alligati in copia:

- a)- 1 rapporto del Maresciallo Maggiore GALANTE SERAFINO di questo Comando, circa il sequestro di un moschetto automatico Thompson matricola 343335, a lui regolarmente in carico, e di una pistola Beretta, di sua proprietà. Il sequestro è avvenuto in località Marina di Pietrascanta, sulla strada statale n.1, ad opera del Pvt. Sam H. ANDERSON (A.S.N. 38531748) della 2^a div., M.P. Platoon, A.P.O. 93;
- b)- 1 dichiarazione di ricevuta del suddetto Pvt. Anderson.

Si prega di voler dare disposizioni circa le modalità da seguire per il recupero delle armi di cui sopra.



d'ordine
IL COLONNELLO CAPO DI S.M.
-Adelmo Pedersani-

Adelmo Pedersani

692

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
19 AUG 1945
104

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Allegato 1 al f.n. 01/2728 in data 13 agosto 1945

c c p l a / Sm

P.M. (64), 15 agosto 1945

AL COLANDO GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "CREMONA"

-Ufficio del Capo di Stato Maggiore-

- P.M. 64 -

Compio il dovere di informare codesto Comando di quanto appresso:

Ieri, 14 agosto, durante il viaggio di ritorno da Pisa ad Alessandria con l'autocarro condotto dal caporale Battilani Giuseppe del Quartier Generale, giunti al posto di blocco posto al passaggio a livello a nord di Marina di Pietresanta, sulla via Aurelia Pisa-La Spezia, fummo fermati dalla Polizia Militare Alleata, costituita da militari negri degli S.U.A.

Motivo della fermata fu di far montare sulla macchina alcuni civili diretti a La Spezia.

Avvenuto il carico -al quale assistetti- fui chiamato dal militare negro il quale mi chiese perché nella cabina della macchina vi era un moschetto e perché io stesso ero armato di pistola.

ercai di fargli capire che per lunghi percorsi di notte su strade non sempre sicure, come l'Aurelia nel tratto del Passo del Tracco, era necessario avere armi per difesa personale.

Mi parve avesse capito; ma d'un tratto si irrigidì e pretese che depositassi il moschetto e la mia pistola.

A nulla valse le mie insistenze per non depositare le armi; cercai ancora di fargli capire che le armi erano in consegna a militari di un Gruppo di Combattimento alle dirette dipendenze degli Alleati, ma mi fu risposto: "Io sapere fare".

Poiché era inutile continuare, chiesi una dichiarazione attestante il motivo del ritiro delle armi: mi fu rilasciato il pezzo di carta che allego.

Non potetti sapere il reparto di polizia cui appartiene né come si chiama il militare negro in servizio alle ore 15,20.

Le armi ritirate sono:

- Moschetto Thompson matricola 343335
- 5 caricatori da 20 pall., carichi
- 1 caricatore da 20 pall., vuoto
- 1 borsa di tela portacaricatori
- 1 pistola Beretta calibro 7,65
- 1 caricatore con 7 pallottole
- 7 pallottole contenute in astuccio di carta

in carico al Quartier Generale

di mia proprietà

Ieri, 14 agosto, durante il viaggio di ritorno da Pisa ad Alessandria con l'autocarro condotto dal caporale Battilani Giuseppe del Quartier Generale, giunti al posto di blocco posto al passaggio a livello a nord di Marina di Pietrasanta, sulla via Aurelia Pisa-La Spezia, fummo fermati dalla Polizia Militare Alleata, costretti da militari negri degli S.U.A.

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- 1 caricatore con 7 pallottole
- 7 pallottole contenute in astuccio di carta

in carico al Quartier Generale

di mia proprietà

È mia convinzione che il militare negro volesse ritirare solamente la mia pistola, ma per giustificare il fatto, abbia operato anche il ritiro del moschetto.

58A
Informo inoltre che dai tre civili fatti montare sull'autocarro
il militare della polizia ritirò la somma di lire 1500.

Presenti al fatto:

- serg. maggiore	MASONI	Oslavo
- cap. maggiore	CAPRIOLI	Giovanni
- caporale autiere	BATTILANI	Giuseppe
- " "	GHELARDI	Giulio.

tutti effettivi al Quartier Generale.

f.to Maresciallo Maggiore GALANTE SERAFINO

I sottoscritto confermano in ogni sua parte il presente
esposto del Maresciallo Galante Serafino.

f.to Serg. maggiore	MASONI	Oslavo
f.to Caporal maggiore	CAPRIOLI	Giovanni
f.to caporale autiere	BATTILANI	Giuseppe
f.to caporale autiere	GHELARDI	Giulio.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject :- Prisons.

54 British Liaison Unit

A 6

To

:- Chief of Staff,
Granada Group.

With reference to your G/5815 dated 19 July 45.

Attached herewith copy of H. BROWN Region, 213 letter H/16/44/58
dated 25 July 45.

Will you please inform this HQ when you propose sending a representative
and we will arrange for a Liaison Officer to accompany him.

Field
28 Jul 45
/TMM

Major
DAA & GEL

689

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

C O P Y.

ORIENTAL COMBAT GROUP
Office of Chief of Staff.

n. 04/5813

P.M. 6 - 19 July 1945.

Subject:- Prisons for Military Personnel.

To:- 51 British Liaison Unit.

1. In order that the sentences, given by the Military Tribunal of the Gruppo, be carried out, it is necessary that a Military Prison be opened as soon as possible.
2. The premises now in use are inadequate as the accommodation is very limited, and the building does not permit the improvements necessary to make a suitable prison.
3. This HQ considers that the best solution would be to have 50 to 60 places allotted to the Gruppo in the Turin prisons or in those of Ivrea which are not so crowded. These would be fenced into a Military Section for the time being.
4. It is therefore requested that 51 B.L.U. should send an application to the Police Commission for Public Security at the Palace of Allied Command, Turin.
5. The control of prisons for this area comes under the Allied Military Authorities and the officers in charge are Col Montague and Col Ellis.

Signed:- Adelmo Pedersoli.

688

304 45

54 *Delella, Anderson, Wells*

2

for Major
M. A. G. B.

1000

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10/10/2003

- 1 Attendance of unit and sub units Committee is directed to this in
Executive Order 4/15, Appendix 'A'.
- 2 The above mentioned order says even with clearly the responsibility
of Unit Committees and the order to be taken to reduce to a minimum
the risk of infection with malaria.
- 3 On the whole unit malaria precautions and discipline within unit lines
is good, but what is termed "strict discipline" is bad. In states of
disorganised behaviour and insubordination for too many men are seen in camps and
churches after sundown standing sleepers rolled up, shorts, and shirts also
open. Ready in repellent fluid used.
- 4 All Unit Committees will give their personal attention to this matter
and, in addition to publishing clear and definite orders, will see that
they are carried out. All officers should be reminded that orders to
prevent malaria precautions refer to themselves as well as other men.

**THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATIONS**

3071

785020

END OF THE
RECORD
J. H. H.

7/10/05

4. Attention of unit and sub units concerned is directed to this HQ Executive Order 4/25, Appendix 'A'.

2. The above mentioned action pays down quite clearly the responsibility of both Governments and the action to be taken to reduce to a minimum the risks of infection with malaria.

3. On the whole this material promotes and disciplines within itself those in good, but what is termed "object discipline" is bad. In place of frequent punishments and penalties for too many are now acts in coffee and streets after business opening observed rolled up, shirts, and skirts into one. Surely is repellent and used.

b. All Bank Customers will give their personal attention to this matter and, in addition to following close and definite guidance, will see that they are careful only. All customers should be notified that orders to personal requests, payments refer to themselves as well as other parties.

15 June 45

1200 W 1ST AVE
STO 540 SDB AVE

200

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

CONFIDENTIAL

To :-
The Generale Commandante
Gruppo Cremona

51 British Liaison Unit

31 May 1945

I attach for your information the report by my G S O II Training (Major FIEBER) as a result of his visit to the 22 Regt this week. This reveals a deplorable state of affairs and points to nothing less than complete disintegration. I am aware of the large re-organisation in which you are engaged but this is NO excuse for the total lack of any training or discipline which is shown by the attached report.

I must ask you to take firm and early action in this matter as unless there is a marked improvement it will be my duty to report to Eighth Army that Cremona is unfit for employment in any capacity in a British formation. This would be a sad end to the excellent record in action shown by the Gruppo earlier this year.

R. W. L.
Lieut Colonel
General Staff

Copy to : Chief of Staff Eighth Army

686

C O P Y

Report on visit to 22 RegimentCONFIDENTIAL

30.5.45

Times of Parades as laid down by Regt : 0700 - 1100 hrs.

On the whole the discipline in the Regiment is low, and in the three days spent in visiting each Battalion, the staffs are always in with the Officers. The following points were noticed in general :

Officers with drivers of vehicles who is dressed in shorts and vest only, and a pair of sandals.

Officers on parade with about 50 men, not one of whom are dressed alike in clothing or equipment.

Officers, including Coy Comd, arriving at 0745 hrs when parade starts at 0700 hrs.

Officers refusing to march, and therefore allowing filly men.

These points are a far cry from the high standards of discipline which they have at the moment, then the standard through-out the Regt will remain low.

The following points were noticed and given in the order in which they were visited :

II Bn In general this Bn was bad. There was no programme of work ; Officers and soldiers on being questioned did not know time of next parade, some said 0700 hrs, some 0830 hrs. The time laid down was 0700 hrs, but no Company was seen on parade before 0800 hrs.

In this case not present at 0700 hrs, and the C O practically never visited the Coy, certainly never for next parade.

2 Coy were very bad indeed. No intention, billets were filthy, Coy Comd arrived at 0800 hrs, there was no programme of work, 38 men on parade out of 132 (parade state attached).

I and 8 Coy There was some improvement seen in these Coy, but still no parade took place before 0800 hrs. The total strength of these Coy is 235, out of which 66 were on parade.

It was found in 5 Coy that the reason the men were not on parade before 0800 hrs, was that they refused to go on parade until they had had their coffee, and this was not ready.

III Bn Except for one outstanding example, Capt MURPHY, this Bn was not good. Bn Comd was still in bed at 0800 hrs, although he had a programme of work which stated that first parade was at 0700 hrs. Billets were certainly cleaner than II Bn, also intention which had had disinfectant, and a general effort had been made to keep the area clean.

12 Coy Capt MURPHY is commanding this Coy, and the difference between this and other Coy was very noticeable. On parade at 0700 hrs with all Officers present, and a 6 figure programme carried out during the morning.

0023

Officers, including Coy. Jones, arriving at 0700 hrs when the parade is at 0700 hrs. Officers refusing to drink, and therefore allowing filthiness.

These points are a few of many, and as long as Officers are allowed to maintain the low standard of discipline which they have at the moment, then the standard throughout the Regt will remain low.

The following parades were noticed and given in the order in which they were visited:

VI Bn. In general this Bn was bad. There was no program of work. Officers and soldiers on being questioned did not know time of first parade, some said 0700 hrs, some 0830 hrs. The time laid down was 0700 hrs, but no Company was seen on parade before 0800 hrs.

In this were not present at 0700 hrs, and the 0000 practically never visited the Coy, certainly never for first parade.

5 Coy. were very bad indeed. No latrine, latrines were filthy, Coy. Clerk arrived at 0800 hrs, there was no program of work, 30 men on parade out of 132 (parade state attached).

7 and 8 Coy. There was some improvement even in these Coys, but still no parade took place before 0800 hrs. The total strength of these Coys is 255, out of which 66 were on parade.

It was found in 5 Coy that the reason the men were not on parade before 0800 hrs, was that they refused to go on parade until they had had their coffee, and this was not ready.

III Bn. Except for one outstanding example, Capt. MURPHY, this Bn was not good. In General was still in bed at 0800 hrs, although he had a program of work which stated that first parade was at 0700 hrs. Latrines were certainly cleaner than II Bn, also latrines which had had disinfectant, and a general effort had been made to keep the area clean.

12 Coy. Capt. MURPHY is commanding this Coy, and the difference between this and other Coys was very noticeable. On parade at 0700 hrs with all Officers present, and a studies program carried out during the morning. Latrines clean and latrines. This Officer in 2 1/2 of the Bn, but as there is little work to be done in the Office, has taken over this Coy as he is so keen and energetic.

9 Coy. Latrines clean and latrines, but at 0800 hrs there was still no parade and no officers were seen.

10 Coy. Again no parade had taken place at 0845 hrs, and complete absence of officers except for one Junior Lt.

I Bn. This Bn was bad except for Capt. LAMBERT who commands the 4th Coy. No organized time of starting work in the morning. The C O was in bed at 0755 hrs and all in the morning. 3 Coy were still in bed or half visited by 0800 hrs, and no officers could be found, consequently no report can be given.

2 Coy. This Coy was entered all duties as it had been excused. Latrines were not good, and latrines was so bad that it can be said not to have existed.

- 2 -
1. One. This Coy was definitely organized, and a program was provided. Pilots were good and so were the men, but looking again isn't a lot to be desired.

It was noticed this morning at 10 Coy location, that men were on parade at 0945 hrs in every kind of dress, even to the extent of some being in white short pants only. Officers were present.

(Signed) J C FINER
C II 204

Discipline - Damage to Welfare Institutes

56 Div (65)
 78 Div (65)
 8 Ind Div (65)
 2 Arm'd Bde (15)
 24 Tank Bde (15)
 2 Commando Bde (15)
 51 D.L.U. (4)
 CRE 5 Corps Eps RE
 E Com Sec
 5 C Sigs
 42 Sig Pk
 107 SM Sec
 Def Coy
 21 CC FEA
 24 CC FEA
 30 CC FEA
 8 BIS
 17 DIS
 35 DIS
 1217 Coy Ind Pwr Corps
 1247 " " " "
 1401 " " " "
 1943 " (Tech) Pwr Corps
 1968 " " " "
 1970 " " " "
 1977 " " " "
 Br Cadre 156 I.P.L.C.
 " " 239
 " " 241

128 Sel Unit
 2 Town Major
 13 " " "
 23 " " "
 58 " " "
 78 " " "
 11 AMG Evac Camp
 X Holding Centre
 17 G.R.U.
 N.Z. GRU
 202 Transit Camp
 12 Jancers
 4 Hussars
 279 Arm'd Del Sqn
 3 Fwd Del Sqn
 R.A. (35)
 68 PS Sec
 S.T. (44)
 Med (20)
 Ord (16)
 ME (9)
 PRO (3)
 Postal (2)
 15 Fd Cash Office
 88 Fd Cash Office
 Camp (Main)
 Camp (Rear)

BRITISH PRISON UNIT

6-12-1945

A-6

Asf.

1. Copies as indicated of HQ Eighth Army letter N 5635A dated 24 March 45 are forwarded herewith.

2. The contents are to be brought to the notice of all ranks.

2 Commando Bde (15)	
51 D.L.V. (4)	
GRE 5 Corps Tro RE	
E Can Sec	
5 C Sigs	
42 Sig Pk	
107 SW Sec	
Def Coy	
21 CC FIA	
24 CC FIA	
30 CC FIA	
8 BIS	
17 BIS	
35 BIS	
1217 Coy Ind Pnr Corps	
1247 " " "	
1401 " " "	
1943 " (Tech) Pnr Corps	
1968 " " "	
1970 " " "	
1977 " " "	
Br Cadre 156 I.P.L.C.	
" " 239	
" " 241	

14 HQ EWAC Camp	
X Holding Centre	
17 G.R.U.	
N.Z. GCU	
202 Transit Camp	
12 Jancers	
4 Hussars	
279 Armd Del Sqn	
E Fwd Del Sqn	
R.A. (35)	
68 FS Sec	
S.T. (44)	
Med (20)	
Ord (16)	
ME (9)	
PRO (3)	
Postal (2)	
15 Fd Cash Office	
80 Fd Cash Office	
Camp (Main)	
Camp (Roar)	

NEAR

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

6. 17 1945 124

REF. **A-6**

1. Copies as indicated of HQ Eighth Army letter M 5635A dated 21 March 45 are forwarded herewith.

2. The contents are to be brought to the notice of all ranks 4

GF/JH

Copy to:- ADC For Comd
M.S.
C
Nov (6)
R.E.
G.S.O.
Net

'J' Sqn
02E LO
Chaplains
Permanent President
Edn
Welfare
J.A.
Sal
A.M.C.
War Diary (2)

C. J. J. Brigadier,
D.A. & Q.M.G., 5 Corps.

SUBJECT: Damage to Welfare Institutes

Main HQ Eighth Army, CEF,

N 5635 A,

21 Mar. 45

Main HQ 5 Corps
Rear HQ 10 Corps
Main HQ 13 Corps
Main HQ 2 Polish Corps
26 BLU att HQ 2 Polish Corps
6 Brit Arm'd Div
2 NZ Div
9 Arm'd Bde
12th A Bde
HQ 86 (Army) Area
8 ACRE
20 ACRE (Airfields)
22 ACRE
170 CE Works

All Branches - Main and Rear HQ Eighth Army

1. During the past winter I have taken all possible action to improve the welfare and amenities in my Army area. These improvements have not been achieved without the organizations concerned in the provision of Welfare and amenities having taken great trouble.

2. It has been brought to my notice that a great deal of wilful damage has been done and thefts on a large scale of crockery and table utensils etc incurred at all Welfare establishments. To quote some instances:-

(c) The CWM Establishments

The loss of cups has been so high that they have been forced in certain of their canteens to institute a "bring your own cups rule" as they have been unable to obtain replacements. A loss of 100 cups a week per canteen was an average loss while the cups lasted. Tea has been poured into pianos and decorations deliberately destroyed.

(b) WFI Establishments

(i) Officers Club FORLI

During the early days Dec/Jan when lighting was not connected, 20 hurricane lamps were taken from the club. If a lamp was left to light the stairways it was promptly stolen. An officer was stopped by Sergeant i/c club leaving the premises with an oil painting round his neck and his head through the canvas. It is impossible to keep plants or flowers in the entrance hall as they are nightly ripped out of their pots and thrown down the stairs.

8 ARE
20 ARE (airfields)
22 ARE
170 CE Works

All Branches - Main and Rear HQ Eighth Army

1. During the past winter I have taken all possible action to improve the Welfare and amenities in my area. These improvements have not been achieved without the organizations concerned in the provision of Welfare and amenities having taken great trouble.
2. It has been brought to my notice that a great deal of wilful damage has been done and thefts on a large scale of crockery and table utensils etc incurred at all Welfare establishments. To quote some instances:-

(a) The CWW Establishments

The loss of cups has been so high that they have been forced in certain of their canteens to institute a "bring your own cups rule" as they have been unable to obtain replacements. A loss of 100 cups a week per canteen was an average loss while the cups lasted. Tea has been poured into pianos and decorations deliberately destroyed.

(b) RFI Establishments

(i) Officers Club FORLI

During the early days Dec/Jan when lighting was not connected, 20 Hurricane Lamps were taken from the club. If a lamp was left to light the stairways it was promptly stolen. An officer was stopped by a Sergeant i/c club leaving the premises with an oil painting round his neck and his head through the canvas. It is impossible to keep plants or flowers in the entrance halls as they are nightly ripped out of their pots and thrown down the stairs.

(ii) WOs & Sgts Club FORLI

The second night this was open the radio-gun was taken outside twice by Sgts and theft prevented by S/Sgt in charge.

(iii)...../

- 2 -

(iii) ORs LORCHESSTER CLUB

During the days of the Wine Bar, furniture was smashed and used as firewood for the open fireplaces. During a recent boxing match in the centre square of the club nearly every lower pane of windowlite in the main restaurant and first and second floor landings were destroyed by troops to enable them to see the boxing. .. radio was stolen.

(iv) ORs HERKLEY CROCKERY

A radio was stolen.

(v) ORs PICCADILLY CLUB REMINI

Loss of service articles and crockery for the approx period 1 Feb 45 to 15 Mar 45 was :-

3444	Cups
2574	Wine Glasses
682	$\frac{1}{2}$ pint Wine Glasses
379	Table Knives
118	Table Forks
178	Dessert Spoons
23	Tea Spoons
243	Dinner Plates
238	Putting Plates
114	Cheese Plates
345	Local Plates

(vi) INSA Theatres

Handles of boxes reserved for officers torn off at the rate of two or three each night. Electric light bulbs stolen as soon as they are installed.

3. The amenities provided are for the enjoyment and well-being of all ranks and it will, I know, be appreciated by all ranks that to replace articles wilfully destroyed or stolen is extremely difficult and in some cases impossible. If damage and theft is to continue on the present scale many of the amenities now provided will for lack of the necessary furniture, crockery and table utensils be forced to close. 632

4. That thefts and wilful damage occur on the present scale discloses a serious lack of moral fibre throughout the Army and moreover reduces the amenities and enjoyment that I am able to arrange for the troops under my command.

5. I am determined that theft and wilful damage shall be eradicated

(v) ORs PICCADILLY CLUB REIMI

Loss of service articles and crockery for the approx period 1 Feb 45 to 15 Mar 45 was :-

3444 Cups
2574 Wine Glasses
682 1/2 pint Wine Glasses
379 Table Knives
118 Table Forks
178 Dessert Spoons
23 Tea Spoons
243 Dinner Plates
238 Pudding Plates
114 Cheese Plates
345 Local Plates

(vi) WISA Theatres

Handles of boxes reserved for officers torn off at the rate of two or three each night. Electric light bulbs stolen as seen as they are installed.

3. The amenities provided are for the enjoyment and well-being of all ranks and it will, I know, be appreciated by all ranks that to replace articles wilfully destroyed or stolen is extremely difficult and in some cases impossible. If damage and theft is to continue on the present scale many of the amenities now provided will for lack of the necessary furniture, crockery and table utensils be forced to close. 632

4. That thefts and wilful damage occur on the present scale discloses a serious lack of moral fibre throughout the army and moreover reduces the amenities and enjoyment that I am able to arrange for the troops under my command.

5. I am determined that theft and wilful damage shall be eradicated so far as is practicable. To do this all ranks must co-operate; only by the users of the clubs themselves preventing theft or damage can the present unsatisfactory state of affairs be bettered. It is essential to build up public opinion to this end.

6. I therefore direct that all Commanding Officers of units will bring the contents of this letter to the notice of all officers under their command, and that sub unit commanders will explain to all ranks under their command the serious repercussions that must inevitably result if theft and damage continues on the present scale.

7...../

- 3 -

7. I am fully aware that it will come as a shock to a large number of all ranks that I have used the term 'theft' in this letter to describe what it is considered by many to be 'scurrying' or 'maling'. I wish it to be perfectly clear that I consider the present behaviour to be despicable and not in accordance with the traditions of the British people which has always, throughout our history, been to respect property rights which are necessary for the common good.

I am confident that if the contents of this letter are explained to all ranks that I can rely on all of them to help me to stamp out this theft and wilful damage which is not in accordance with the traditions of the British people.

(SGA) R.L. MCORMERY,
Lieut General,
G.O.C., EIGHTH ARMY.

CHW

189

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject: Discipline - TCCM.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Rear in Eighth Army, Cdt.

"A" Main Hq 5 Corps.
"A" Rear Hq 10 Corps.
"A" Main Hq 13 Corps.
26 ELU att Rear Hq 2 Polish Corps.
"A" Rear Hq 6 Brit Armd Div.
HQ 7 Armd Bde.
HQ 9 Armd Bde.
HQ 12 Armd Bde.
"A" Hq B6 (Army) Area.
Camp Commandant, Main Hq Eighth Army.
Camp Commandant, Rear Hq Eighth Army.
O.C., No. 1 Court Martial and Holding Centre.

Tel Ex: 209.

2 19201/2

22 Mar 45.

37

1. The following context of AFM letter CS/4052/C-1(Br) dated 15 Mar 45 is forwarded for distribution down to all units:-

- (a) Cases are arising in which soldiers are brought to trial by field general courts martial without having been remanded for trial on the charge preferred. This fact is not infrequently revealed in a petition by the soldier concerned.
- (b) In the opinion of the Judge Advocate General it is an essential preliminary to bringing a soldier before a court martial (including a field general court martial) that such soldier should be brought before his commanding officer in order that the latter may determine whether the charge should or should not be dismissed (See Section 46 (1) of the Army Act).
- (c) Cases where this essential preliminary has not been carried out leave no alternative but to quash the proceedings and to order a re-trial in appropriate cases.

2. In order to avoid the waste of time and inconvenience which would be caused in the case of (c) above, the necessity for bringing a soldier before his commanding officer for remand will be brought to the notice of all concerned. This will be done by distribution of this letter on a liberal scale and not by means of a routine order.

680

Field.
RHS/C.

Phawder
Lieut. Colonel,
D.A. & Q.M.G.,
EIGHTH Army.

Subject :- Capture of Soviet Citizens

51 British Liaison Unit

A 6

To :- Chief of Staff,
Grenone Gruppo.

31A

28A

Ref this HQ letter of even number dated 17 Mar 45.

1. The following additional instructions will become effective immediately :-

(a) Maintenance.

(1) All Soviet citizens, other than those screened insecure will be segregated from enemy prisoners of war and maintained separately on a basis and standard comparable to that for recovered British ex-prisoners of war.

Female adults and children will be segregated as soon as possible and given the same facilities as nearly as possible.

(ii) Accommodation will be classified as follows, with rank held in the Soviet army at time of capture by the enemy, not rank held in the German forces, as the basis for classification.

(a) Commissioned Officers

(b) Non-commissioned Officers

(c) Privates

(d) Civilians; maintained as privates as far as is practicable.

(b) Documentation

Russians captured by the British forces whilst serving with enemy forces have the status of liberated Soviet citizens and will not be held or referred to as prisoners of war. Record of their capture is NOT required by the Prisoners of War Information Bureau nor is prisoner of war registration or documentation necessary.

3. Currency and Personal Effects

Currency and personal effects belonging to Soviet citizens will not be impounded but will be retained by them. In cases where claims are made that personal effects have been impounded the matter will be referred to GHQ 2nd Echelon enclosing copy of receipt and stating full details and place where effects were impounded.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

- 2 -

(d) Medical

During transit to 'T' Camp TARANTO, and while held there pending repatriation, Soviet citizens will receive medical care and attention similar to that accorded to British troops. "

Field
28 Mar 45
RWH/FEM

RWH
Major
DAA & QMG

678

CONFIDENTIAL.

SUBJECT:- Prohibition of Participation of Allied Personnel
in Italian Political Affairs.

Rear HQ Eighth Army, CMF.

Tel Ext: 210.

R 18995 A.

10 Mar 45.

"A" Main HQ 5 Corps.
"A" Rear HQ 10 Corps.
"A" Main HQ 15 Corps.
"A" Rear HQ 2 Polish Corps.
HQ 9 ArmI Bde.
HQ 14 Gds Bde.
HQ 24 Gds Bde.
HQ 12 AA Bde.
"A" HQ 86 (Army) Area.

1. Members of the Allied Forces will refrain from any direct or individual participation in Italian politics. Strict compliance with this principle will become more important than ever as the Italian Government assumes an increasing measure of political responsibility over a more extensive area of Italy.
2. Casual attendance by Allied Forces personnel at political meetings and even private conversations with Italians on political subjects may lead to misunderstandings and will be avoided on all occasions.
3. Formation Commanders and Officers Commanding units will take necessary action to ensure that all ranks under their command are acquainted with the fact that discussion with Italians or participation in any form in Italian political affairs is forbidden.
4. Sufficient copies of this letter are enclosed for distribution down to units.

Field
TA/WLB

674
W. J. Jilly
Brigadier,
D.A. & Q.M.C.,
EIGHTH ARMY.

Capture of Soviet Citizens

56 Div
78 Div
2 Inf Div
2 Arm'd Bde
21 Tank Bde
2 Commando Bde
Jewish Inf Bde

51 B.L.U.
12 Lancers
G(I)
R.A.
5 Corps PW Cage

19A

The subjoined copy of Main Eighth Army M 6251A dated 13 Mar is forwarded further to this HQ A 876 dated 14 Mar 45.

02/JH

SUBJECT: Soviet Citizens

Copy
to
G.I.
a
copy to
G.I.
copy to
G.I.

By hand

SECRET

Main HQ Eighth Army, CMT
Tele Ext: 74
M 6251 A
13 Mar 45.

ALL INFORMATION

The following procedure in respect of Soviet Citizens will be taken into effect forthwith:

- ALL Soviet Citizens, civilian or military, whether serving in the German Army or not, will without delay, be separated from German POW and shall be dispatched to 573 PW Camp under the care of a conducting party.
- The following definition of a Soviet Citizen is given in order to assist in determining nationality:

Under British Law Soviet Citizens are all persons coming from places within the boundaries of the Soviet Union as constituted before the outbreak of the present war. All persons coming from territories west of such boundaries have Polish or Baltic state nationality unless there is evidence to show in particular cases that they have acquired Soviet Citizenship by their own voluntary act. A man who has served in the Soviet Army is not a Soviet Citizen if he comes from territories west of 1939 boundaries of the Soviet Union unless he has acquired Soviet Citizenship.

All persons of undoubted Soviet Citizenship will be repatriated.

SECRET

A. 405

14 March 45

70

W.B. Taylor
Brigadier
D.A. & Q.M.G., 5 Corps.

23A

forwarded further to this HQ A 876 dated 14 Mar 45,

23A
P.B. Taylor
Brigadier,
D.A. & Q.A.S., 5 Corps.

OE/3H

SUBJECT: Soviet Citizens

Copy
to
GPT (1)
cc to GPT.

Lynden

SECRET

Main HQ Eighth Army, COM
Tele Ext: 74
M 6251 A
13 Mar 45.

ALL CONCERNED

1. The following procedure in respect of Soviet Citizens will be taken into effect forthwith:

(a) All Soviet Citizens, civilian or military, whether serving in the German Army or not, will without delay, be separated from German POW and shall be despatched to 575 PW Camp under the care of a conducting party.

(b) The following definition of a Soviet Citizen is given in order to assist in determining nationality:

Under British Law Soviet Citizens are all persons coming from places within the boundaries of the Soviet Union as constituted before the outbreak of the present war. All persons coming from territories west of such boundaries as have Polish or Baltic state nationality unless there is evidence to show in particular cases that they have acquired Soviet Citizenship by their own voluntary act. A man who has served in the Soviet Army is not a Soviet Citizen if he comes from territories west of 1939 boundaries of the Soviet Union unless he has acquired Soviet Citizenship.

All persons of undoubted Soviet Citizenship will be repatriated irrespective of their own wishes.

(c) In cases where nationality is in doubt, personnel concerned will be sent to 575 PW Camp for adjudication.

MEAC	15
BRITISH LIAISON UNIT	
15 MAR 1945	
ST.	AB

(825) A.V. TILLO, Lt Col
for Liaison
by A.V. TILLO
17 MAR 1945

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject :- Discipline in Gruppi

CONFIDENTIAL

To :-
Main 1 Cdn Corps

51 British Liaison Unit

G 3

File A 6

Further to my letter even No dated 3 Feb 45.

1 In the past there has usually been considerable difficulty in finding suitable replacements for Italian offrs whose services are no longer considered satisfactory.

2 I am confident that because of this much of the value to be gained by the powers given to Gruppi Comds will be lost. I feel certain too, that Italian offrs realise this state of affairs, and therefore any warning given them regarding their inefficiency loses much of its effect.

3 If MMIA in conjunction with SMRE could guarantee that the best possible offrs would be made quickly available to replace unsuitable ones at present serving - and this fact was made known to all offrs with Gruppi - I believe an improved standard of efficiency might result.

4 May this question please be taken up with Higher Authy.

Field
4 Feb 45
RWH/RGT

BW-ke
Lt Col
General Staff

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject :- Shooting by Sentries

51 British Liaison Unit

To :-
Chief of Staff

A 6

Attached herewith copy of instructions issued by the
Ministry of War concerning conditions under which fire may
be opened by guards etc., for your information.

Field
14 Jan 45
RMH/RET

Rbt
Major
DAA & GHI

File

674

COPI

Subject :- Opening of Fire by Sentinels

From :- Italian Ministry of War

To :- All Italian Command H.Q's

1. The question of opening of fire by patrols and sentries against saboteurs, thieves or persons suspected as such and who try to steal or damage Military Administration Property in Italy, has been submitted for examination and it has been decided to adopt the following measures.

2. It is permitted to open fire on persons named above, after having shouted halt, only in the following circumstances :-

- I) Opening of fire is limited to properly constituted Guards, patrols and sentries.
- II) All possible attempts must be made to arrest the thief, saboteur or suspected person.
- III) When there are no other means of arresting that person.
- IV) It is not permitted to open fire beyond the immediate vicinity of the guarded area.

V) On no account will fire be opened on women and children

VI) The use of automatic arms which cannot fire single shots, is prohibited. Automatic arms capable of firing single shots, unless armed resistance is encountered in which case fire burst can be opened, may be used.

3. Guarantee to be safeguarded is given to all commanders who, in good faith and in agreement with the above principles, order fire to be opened and to all officers and men who open fire in similar circumstances.

4. If the opening of fire results in the wounding of some person, the officer commanding will, within 24 hours, convene a court of enquiries consisting of three officers, one of whom will be sent to the nearest superior H.Q. which will decide on further action to be taken as the case may be. In case of doubt as to the procedure to follow, instructions will be asked for that H.Q. A.I.A. (American Police authorities) should not be called upon for assistance, unless the commandant of the Brigade, etc, decides to do so.

673

10 0 4 5

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

7.1.1

having alerted halt, only in the following circumstances:-

- 1) Opening of fire is limited to properly constituted guards, patrols and sentries.
- 2) All possible attempts must be made to arrest the thief, without on suspected person.
- 3) When there are no other means of arresting that person.
- 4) It is not permitted to open fire beyond the immediate vicinity of the guarded area.
- 5) On no account will fire be opened on women and children.
- 6) The use of automatic arms which cannot fire single shots, is prohibited. Automatic arms capable of firing single shots, unless armed resistance is encountered in which case fire burst can be opened, may be used.
- 7) Guarantee to be safeguarded is given to all commandos who, in good faith and in agreement with the above principles, order fire to be opened and to all officers and men who open fire in similar circumstances.
8. If the opening of fire results in the wounding of some person, the officer commanding will, within 24 hours, convene a court of enquiries consisting of four members, to inquire into the results, as soon as possible, to the nearest superior officer which will decide on further action to be taken in the case may be. In case of doubt as to the procedure to follow, instructions will be asked from that H.Q. S.I.A. (American Police authorities) should not be called upon for enquiries, unless the consent of the Brigade, etc, decided to do so.

673

Subject :- Felling of Timber

To :-
Chief of Staff

51 British Liaison Unit

A 6

Appended herewith copy of Rear Headquarters 10 Corps
letter Q 510 dated 20 Dec 44, passed to you for information.

Field
22 Dec 44
RWH/RGT

RWH
Major
DAA & QMG

C O P Y

Subject :- Felling of Timber

Rear Headquarters,
10 Corps,
Q 510

20 Dec 44

List 'B'

1 A complaint has been received from Agricultural
Section, TUSCANHY Region A.O., that several instances
have recently occurred of growing timber being cut
down by Allied Military in the VALOMBROSA State Forest
(Area R 0564) for use as fuel wood.

2 Dams and units will be informed that growing timber
will not be cut without first consulting relative AG/AMG
authorities.

777777777777
Brigadier
D. A & Q.M.G
10 Corps

672

Subject :- Dress

51 British Liaison Unit
C M F

A 6

To :-
Chief of Staff
Gruppo Cremona

As requested I submit some notes on regulations regarding the wearing of battle dress which are in force in combatant units.

1 Officers

Officers wear the blouse with the hooks at the collar and the two top buttons unfastened. The lapels are folded back and a collar and tie are worn. Brown boots - if in possession - are worn except in the case of Rifle Regiments and the Royal Tank Corps.

2 Other Ranks

An order is, I believe, being issued allowing British other ranks to wear collar and tie when walking out. I presume you will not wish to extend this rule to Italian personnel.

3 General

The battle dress is designed on the model of a ski-ing costume. It is supposed to be loose fitting. The blouse should be worn as a blouse i.e. the blouse should not be pulled down. I will demonstrate what I mean of you would like.

The buttons on the trousers should be attached to the buttonholes on the blouse. This will prevent the blouse riding up and leaving a gap between blouse and trousers.

The anklets (gaiters) should always be worn on parade. Personnel working in offices and when walking out are permitted to discard gaiters and to wear shoes.

The waist belt is worn by officers at all times and by other ranks when walking out. You may find this order unnecessary to apply to other ranks who are training as it is irksome for soldiers to wear the complete web equipment on parade and have to strip their equipment to wear the belt only.

I am informed by MMIA that a ^{STRIP} ~~sign~~ showing the National Italian Colour will be worn by all ranks of the Gruppi and that each Gruppo will wear in addition a Gruppo sign, peculiar to that unit. These signs will be worn on the sleeve as British Divisional signs are worn. The Gruppo sign should be worn at the top of the sleeve and the National sign $\frac{1}{2}$ inch below.

Field
21 Oct 42.
BWG/GE

Copy to MMIA

BW. W
Lieut Colonel
General Staff

671

10 0 4 8