

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

ACC

10000 | 120 | 3585

SD/2

Oct

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

10000 | 120 | 3585

SD/2

SD. Equipment

Oct. - Dec. 1946

3979  
3985



SUBJECT:- P.I.A.T. Bombs

2 British Liaison Unit,  
Tel: 56575  
SD 2

21 Dec 46.

To:- 2 Territoriale Command

Copy to:- HQ Mantova Inf Div  
2 Inf Regt  
2 C.A.R.

1. A case has occurred at a demonstration recently, where a majority of P.I.A.T. bombs failed to explode on hitting the target.
2. Should any similar cases have occurred recently in this Territorial Command will addresses please inform this HQ by return stating the type of fuse that was being used at the time.

GENOA

AKCB/KJS

AKCB

Major,  
G II.

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1. A case has occurred at a demonstration recently, where a majority of P.I.A.T. bombs failed to explode on hitting the target.

2. Should any similar cases have occurred recently in this Territorial Command will addresses please inform this HQ by return stating the type of fuse that was being used at the time.

GEN/04

AKBB/KJS

AKBB

Major,  
G II.

3960

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



MEMO OF: Ref: 302

2 British Legion Hall,  
Tel: 56575 (Area)  
SO 2

27 Nov 46.

To: 2 Periodical Command

Copy to: HQ Western Div

2 Inf Regt

2 CAR

Further to my SO 2 dated 10 Oct and your SO 2/27.7 of 25 Nov 46.

1. As a result of an inspection of the rifles in possession of Western Div it is noted that they fall into two main types, the No. 4 Mk I and the No. 4 Mk III.

2. The No. 4 Mk I has, as its most obvious distinguishing features:

- (a) a fitting for the short bayonet
- (b) a barrel which protrudes from the fore end.

The No. 4 Mk III has:

- (a) a fitting to take the long bayonet
- (b) a barrel which protrudes only slightly from the fore end.

3. It is suggested that rifles should be redistributed in such a way as to ensure standardization within units; for example the No. 4 Mk I - those fitted with the short bayonet - could be issued to all recruits at 2 CAR and to all entitled personnel of Rifle Coys of Western Div and 2 Inf Regt. Units such as Area Mobile, Top Transport, Machine Gunsters etc, etc, could usefully be issued with the No. 4 Mk III and all other types of "Long Bayonet" rifles.

4. For training purposes Small Arms Training volume 1 Paragraph 3 Appendix 11 shows details of variations in training and your attention is directed thereto.

5. As there are only ten BSA Washington Rifles held, these could be retained by the GAI for demonstration purposes together with a number of the No. 4 Mk III. It is recommended that expenditure be effected on recruits to handle and use these different types of rifles.



Further to my 2 dated 10 Oct and your 02/11/77 of 25 Nov 66.

1. As a result of an inspection of the rifles in possession of Eastons Ltd it is noted that they fall into two main types, the No. 4 Mk I and the Mk I.L.Mk III.

2. The No. 4 Mk I has, as its most obvious distinguishing features:  
(a) a fitting for the short bayonet  
(b) a barrel which protrudes from the fore end.

The Mk I.L.Mk III has:  
(a) a fitting to take the long bayonet  
(b) a barrel which protrudes only slightly from the fore end.

3. It is suggested that rifles should be redistributed in such a way as to ensure standardization within units; for example the No. 4 Mk I - those fitted with the short bayonet - could be issued to all recruits at 2 Cdr and to all entitled personnel of Rifle Coys of Territorial and 2 Inf Regts. Units such as Army Mobile, Top Transport, Senior Squadrons etc, etc, could usefully be issued with the Mk I.L.Mk III and all other types of "Long Bayonet" rifles.

4. For training purposes Small Arms Training volume I paragraph 3 appendix II shows details of variations in training and your attention is directed thereto.

5. As there are only ten Mk III Washington Rifles held, these could be retained by the Cdr for demonstration purposes together with a number of Mk I.L.Mk III. It is recommended that opportunity be afforded the recruits to handle and use these different types of rifles.

REDA

AKD/af

396-

*Amv*

Major,  
GSO II.

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SUBJECT:- Rifles .303

2 British Liaison Unit,  
Tel: 52273  
SD 2

27 Nov 46.

To:- Land Forces Sub-Commission AG,  
(MFA) R O M E .

Ref your SD/109/2 of 4 Oct 46.

A redistribution of Rifles has been effected within units of this Terr. Comd and a letter from your HQ to Ministry of War is not therefore considered necessary as far as this B.L.U is concerned.

GENOA

AKEB/ar

*Ans*  
Major,  
GSO II.

39



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EG/sr

COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE DI GENOVA (II)  
Stato Maggiore - Ufficio Servizi

N° 02/14444 /Serv. di prot.

Genova, 25 NOV. 1946

OGGETTO: Fucili 303.

AL 2° B. L. U.

= GENOVA =

Con riferimento al foglio in data 10/10/46 di codesto Ufficio di pari oggetto si comunicano i quantitativi di fucili britannici in carico ai Comandi dipendenti :

| REPARTI           | R:303<br>LEE Enfield | R/303<br>Era Washington | NOTE                                                |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Div. Ftr. Mantova | 5536                 | -                       |                                                     |
| 2° Rgt. Ftr.      | 1602                 | -                       |                                                     |
| 2° C.A.R.         | 1500                 | 10                      | in carico con de-<br>nominazione En-<br>field m K 3 |



d'ordine  
IL CAPO UFFICIO SERVIZI  
(T.Col. G. Monaco)

3982

Recd. 26 NOV 1946



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

TU/br

COMANDO DIVISIONE DI ARTILLERIA "MANTOVA"  
Ufficio del Capo di S.M. - Ufficio Servizi

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n. 03/ 5857 di prot.

Varazze, li 14 novembre 1946

OGGETTO : fucili 303.

AL COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE  
- Ufficio Servizi -  
(rif. fg. 02/13213/Serv. del 18.10)

GENOVA

AL COMANDO 2° B. L. U. 7  
(rif. fg. senza numero del 10.10)

GENOVA

Si trasmettono in allegato i dati richiesti con i fogli in riferimento.

d'ordine

IL CAPO UFFICIO SERVIZI  
Maggiore P. Tolomeo -

3981

Reccl. 21 NOV 1946.

Allegato al -g. 03/ 5857

COMANDO DIVISIONE DI FANTERIA "MANTOVA"  
Ufficio del Capo di S.M.- Ufficio Servizi

--1--

| REPARTI               | FUCILI IN DISTRIBUZIONE   |                   | N O T E                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
|                       | Rifles 303<br>LEE Enfield | Era<br>Washington |                               |
| Quartier Generale     | 88                        | -                 | (1) di cui 361 del n.1 e 1420 |
| 76° rgt.ftr.          | 1781 (1)                  | -                 | del n.4;                      |
| 114° rgt.ftr.         | 1899 (2)                  | -                 | (2) di cui 108 del n.1 e 1791 |
| 155° rgt.art.         | 635                       | -                 | del n.4;                      |
| 104° btg.artieri      | 369 (3)                   | -                 | (3) di cui 207 del n.1 e 162  |
| 104° btg.collegamenti | 154 (4)                   | -                 | del n.4;                      |
| officina mobile       | 116                       | -                 | (4) di cui 137 del n.1 e 17   |
| 104° parco mobile     | 330 (5)                   | -                 | del n.3;                      |
| 104° sez.sanità       | 6                         | -                 | (5) di cui 140 del n.1 e 182  |
| 104° rep.trasporti    | 82 (6)                    | -                 | del n.3;                      |
| sezione sussistenza   | 43                        | -                 | (6) di cui 60 del n.1 e 22    |
| 318° sez.panettieri   | 29                        | -                 | del n. 3 e 4;                 |
| 216° nucl.chirurg.    | 4                         | -                 |                               |
|                       | 5536                      |                   |                               |
|                       | 36                        |                   |                               |

*Atale*



L'Ufficiale Addetto  
(Cap.no A. Tutino)

*[Signature]*



REPARTI

Rifles 303

LEE Enfield Washington

N O T E

Quartier Generale

76° rgt.ftr.  
114° rgt.ftr.  
155° rgt.art.  
104° btg.artieri  
104° btg.collegamenti  
officina mobile  
104° parco mobile  
104° sez.sanità  
104° rep.trasporti  
sezione sussistenza  
318° sez.panettieri  
216° nucl.chirurg.

88  
1781 (1)  
1899 (2)  
635  
369 (3)  
154 (4)  
116  
330 (5)  
6  
82 (6)  
43  
29  
4

5536

36

*Atal*



L'Ufficiale Addetto  
(Dep.no A. Tutino)

*Paul*

3950

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

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

Subject:- Rifles .303

2 British Liaison Unit  
Tel: 56575 (Genoa)  
ED 2

10 Oct 46

To:- 2 Territorial Command

Copy to:- HQ Mantova Div  
HQ 2 Inf Regt  
2 GAR

1. Recent inspections of units in this Territorial Command have revealed the presence of at least two types of British rifles. These are:-

- (a) The .303 Lee Enfield.
- (b) .303 SM Washington or A.14.

2. The SM Rifle is chiefly known for its heavier weight, its smaller magazine which holds five rounds only and does not protrude below the stock, and the barrel which protrudes from the fore end for about four inches with a butterfly type foresight guard near the muzzle. There are also certain variations in the bolt mechanism and magazine, and it will not take a standard bayonet as the bayonet is attached to the muzzle itself and not to a boss.

3. You are requested to supply the following details:-

- (a) Types of all British and American rifles held by all Italian Military Units in 2 Territorial Command.
- (b) Number of each type held.

*Alm*

Major.  
O. H.

CHICCA

AREV/kjc.

39.3



1183