

ACC

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Grand

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15 H.C.

Welfare Italian

Opened Mar. 16, 1945 - closed Oct. 22, 1945

6240
6247

Ref Folio 261A PLP SOAS
Subject: - New economic policy for the Italian Army. *42A*

Infantry Division, MANTOVA.
No 03/5569.

22 Oct 45.

Lt-Col. GIBSON
OC 56 BLU.

In order to meet your desire to know what this HQ has communicated to the Italian Central Authorities as regards the above subject, we are forwarding to you copies of our 03/4426 and 03/4427 respectively sent to Ministry of War, Cabinet and Chief of Staff Italian Army.

*File
H
3/1/10*
FIGA. Major.
for Chief of Staff.

6267

15AG

C O P Y

SUBJECT:- Discontinuing of War Economic Policy.

Infantry Division, IZANTOVA.
No 03/4426.

10 Oct 45.

To:- Ministry of War.
Cabinet.

I am referring myself to your circular letter 4200/ALE.

I wish to say beforehand that this circular dated 15 Sept and containing instructions W.E.P. 16 Sept (i.e. the day after) arrived here only on the 16 Oct, which remains as follows:-

- (a) A long time is required for giving the necessary instructions to the units under command as they are dispersed over a large area.
- (b) The circular in question is retrospective of nearly a month and therefore we would have to draw back from the soldiers many thousands of lire.
- (c) We would have to carry out the regrettable task of recovering sums of money which have already been paid to personnel discharged during the meantime.

Although I realise that the Ministry of Treasure has to reduce expenses because of extremely urgent reasons, it is my duty on the other hand to emphasise that the Combat Groups as it is already been pointed out several times, are in a position which, under all aspects is completely different from the case considered in the above mentioned letter regarding peace time units, especially because of the following reasons:-

- (a) In view of the preparation, training, location services and deployment, the Combat Groups have still an operation character and the obligations imposed on all units are the same as in war time.
- (b) A permanent location has not yet been fixed for the Combat Groups and at least for the present it is not expected that it will be fixed in the near future. Therefore the present accommodations are from what we can see with the frequent movements of even small units, uncertain, and this fact obliges units to find temporary accommodation.
- (c) The Allied Authorities in answer to our request have declared since the month of July that Officers and NCO's of the Group were not allowed to take with them their families. This was also confirmed verbally by the Italian Authorities. Furthermore with the temporary accommodations and especially the nature of the services and duties of the Combat Group they do not consent to such a possibility. For all the above reasons it is under the circumstances

I wish to say beforehand that this circular dated 15 Sept and containing instructions T.E.F. 16 Sept (i.e. the day after) arrived here only on the 16 Oct, which remains as follows:-

- (a) A long time is required for giving the necessary instructions to the units under command as they are dispersed over a large area.
- (b) The circular in question is retrospective of nearly a month and therefore we would have to draw back from the soldiers many thousands of lire.
- (c) We would have to carry out the regrettable task of recovering sums of money which have already been paid to personnel discharged during the meantime.

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- (a) In view of the preparation, training, location services and deployment, the Combat Groups have still an operation character and the obligations imposed on all units are the same as in war time.
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- (c) The Allied Authorities in answer to our request have declared since the month of July that Officers and NCO's of the Group were not allowed to take with them their families. This was also confirmed verbally by the Italian Authorities. Furthermore with the temporary accommodations and especially the nature of the services and duties of the Combat Group they do not consent to such a possibility. For all the above reasons I am under the impression that the instructions of the above quoted circular do not apply to the Combat Groups, but as it is not otherwise official and we have not received any further communication it is my duty to inform you how I have interpreted in the interest of the military under my command certain orders of your circular letter.

6266

2/.....

-2-

1. The field allowance and the mess allowance will be paid in the present amount until the 30th Nov 45 authority for this is circular letter 121200/I 3 of 8th Sept 45 which has not been cancelled by circular 4200.
2. Reference the family allowance, as yet the Group have not got a permanent residence nor do we know when it will get one, I am following the instructions contained in Para 2 (a) considering as permanent residence the "hypothetical" residence on which we have now based the family allowance, and therefore I will order that W.E.F. 16 Sept for a period of 6 months the allowance is to be paid at the present amount.
Obviously it is not possible to consider as permanent residence (garrison town) for each unit the many towns, villages (even with their population) of LIGURIA, EMILIA, and LOMBARDIA regions where Reg's of Bn, platoons and sections are dispersed.
3. A similar procedure I have adopted as regards also to the "integrative" allowance and to the increase of this allowance. In spite of this W.E.F. 1st Nov there will be a heavy cut down on the present wages; for Officers and NCO's they will get about 1200 lire a month. For instance, an NCO will have to live away from his family with a wage of less than 4000 lire. The pay for a soldier per month is reduced to 1200 lire whereas at the moment he gets 1639 lire he will only receive 420 lire and this does not include the cut down of 450 lire on the mess allowance. All this is happening when everybody is asking for an increase in wages, and for the State employees there is going to be a considerable increase from which the military will not derive any benefit as according to Para 2(c) of the above quoted circular, eventually the increase on wages will take the place of the increase on the "military" allowance presently granted.
In order to ease the situation it would be advisable to grant W.E.F. 1st December to all ranks of the Combat Group as they are not stationed in their permanent residence the special allowance "Fuori Residenza" (this allowance is granted to troops when they are out of their permanent residence for training and duty reasons) which is equal to the travelling allowance laid down by the Military Regulations. Obviously this allowance must be brought up to a level with the cost of living and also the loss of value to the lire; in order to avoid the soldier from getting in place of the field allowance of 45 lire per day and mess allowance of 15 lire per day the insignificant sum of 38 Cents (Regulation Allowance) be granted per day.

Will the Ministry please treat this matter as urgent.

True Copy.

FIGA. Major.

6205

IL GENERALE COMANDANTE.
(SED) BOLOGNA. Guido.

Subject: Situation of the Combat Group in view of the new Financial Policy.

Infantry Division, MANTOVA,
No 03/4427.

13 Oct 45.

The Chief of Staff Italian Army, Rome.

The Central Authorities in this last period have issued orders that from the financial point of view are seriously affecting all ranks of the Combat Group.

It is my duty to inform you of the dangerous consequences which may arise from these orders because it is no longer the time of keeping silent and saying that everything is going satisfactorily.

I am sending you these notes for your information as your task is beyond anything else that of supervising the Combat Groups and also because you are fully aware, as we GOC's are of the importance of keeping at a high standard that efficiency which has been obtained through months of hard work performed by all CO's and all ranks under command, and this work is certainly well known to you and even to the Central Authorities.

Since the consequences of putting into effect the circular in question (which arrived at this HQ on the 6th Oct and therefore retrospective W.E.P. 16 Sept) are very serious, I think that it is urgent to inform the Ministry and you and I am sure you will give this matter all your assistance.

One of the most important points for the Combat Groups is that of the permanent residence from the financial point of view as we cannot consider as "permanent" the present one with the Combat Groups dispersed over all Northern Italy and very often subject to movement orders.

IL GENERALE COMANDANTE.

(SGD) BOLOGNA Guido.

True Copy.

FIGA. Major.

6204

REF Folio 225 A FILE 50/A9

39A

No. 1762/BS

14 Oct 45.

Subject:- Tickets for ENSA Show.HQ 56 B.L.U.

The concession of 100 tickets for free admission to the ENSA theatre at GENOA has been greatly appreciated by the Officers, NCOs, and men of this Combat Group, who enjoyed the entertainment, and furthermore consider this offer of the British Military Authorities as a manifestation towards the Italian Army of sincere comradeship and brotherhood.

On behalf of all my Officers and ORs, I thank 56 B.L.U. for their kindness in making this arrangement.

(Sgd) IL GENERALE COMANDANTE

Guido Bologna.

6263

15A9

1 File 1 38A

Subject: Clothing for Officers.

56 BLJ
15 AG

3 Oct 45.

HQ Combat Group MANTOVA. 37A

Reference your 1204/Comm dated 29 Aug 45.

1. The Oril representative of this BLJ followed the issue of clothing to the Combat Group and was instructed to ensure that the two issues made to MANTOVA did in fact equal the total issues made to each of the other Gruppi.
2. The Ordnance Officer has reported that these two issues do in fact represent the total issues made to each of the other Combat Groups over the period that the officers shops were open.

In The Field,
JRM/mh.

William
Lt Col,
GS.

6262

Ref Telio 168A per SOAG

37A

SUBJECT :- Clothing for Officers.

HQ Combat Group MANTOVA

1204/Comm

P.M. 104 29 Aug 45

56 BLU

It results that 231 Adm Div has been allotted with a limited supply of clothing for officers which is supposed to be issued in equal parts between the Groups 'MANTOVA', 'LEGNANO', 'CREMONA' and 231 Adm Div.

It seems that the following items will be allotted to 'MANTOVA' :-

Shoes Pairs	- 90
Waterproofs	- 10
Pyjamas	- 70
Woollen Socks Pairs	- 140
Stockings Pairs	- 140
Woollen Vests	- 160
Trousers K.D. Pairs	- 100
Shorts Pairs K.D.	- 50
Shirts K.D.	- 90

As the WE of officers is 487 it is evident that this very small allotment is insufficient to satisfy only partly the needs of the officers of the Group.

Therefore considering that the Combat Group MANTOVA was not included in the Units authorised to buy clothing, and could never have this facility, and considering that after September no further purchases will be authorised from MAFI Stores, please interest MAFI so that a special allotment could be made to this Group, atleast for the following items :-

Shoes
Waterproofs
Pyjamas
Socks
Woollen Vests
Stockings

6261

See 38A

(SGD) A. GUILLANO Lt Col,
Chief of Staff

35A

Subject:- Italian Officers' Clothing.

M.M.I.A. L.O.,
N.W.Italy,
MILAN.

Phone: MILAN 13988.

231/2/Q.

24th. August, 1945.

To:- 56 B.L.U.

33A

Ref your 15 AG dated 20 August.

1. There will not in future be any difficulty over officers' clothing being obtained from HQ, 231 Division, Via MANZONI, 10, MILAN.
2. The reason why none was available from last month's allocation was because the division had only recently moved into HQ, 231 Division's area.
3. It is pointed out however that the amount available is small and efforts are being made to obtain a larger allotment. 6260
4. No allotments are being made after September.

Captain,
MMIA LO,
N.W.Italy.

GCF/gb

15 AG

27 AUG 1945

1 File 1 33A
SUBJECT :- Italian Officers Shops.

56 HNJ
15 AG

26A
2 AUG 45.
MILIA ID
N.W. ITALY (MILAN)

Reference Land Forces Sub Comm AG (MILIA) Letter Q/OS/30 dated 26 Jul 45.

1. MANNOVA Combat Group report that they are unable to obtain clothing or equipment from the 1421 Italian Officers Shop which is under the direction of 231 Italian Div.
2. Apparently 231 Div have informed MANNOVA, that, only the PULI, FOLCORE and LIGIANO Groups can indent on the 1421 I.O. Shop.
3. Will you please investigate the position with 231 Div and advise this HJ of the results.

all 35A
In The Field,
RCW/ajw

hch
1st Col,
GS.

6253

Ref Folio 185A file SOAG
SUBJECT :- Clothing Officers.

HQ Combat Group MANTOVA

1162/Comm

P.M. 104 17 Aug 45

To :- HQ 56 BLU

Infor :- 321 Div MILAN

The 321 Div to whom information as to the strength of Officers and Red Cross women of this Group had been given with a view to acquiring from them Allied Clothing items has replied that according to instructions they have in hand, only the FRIULI, FOLGORE and LEGNANO Groups can indent on them.

This is to ask you to make it present to 231 Div that this facility has also been extended to this Combat Group.

(SGD) A. GUALANO Lt Col,

6258

file

SUBJECT :- Ration Cards for Clothing.

56 HLD
15 AG

30A

MEMO TO
NW ITALY (MILAN)

28A
refers

26A

7 Aug 4

Reference Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (WHLA) letter Q/CS/30 dated 26 July 45.

1. Please supply the unmentioned Rations Cards for Officers and Nursing Sisters of Combat Group MANTOVA.

Officers - 487
Sisters - 10

In The Field,
RCM/ajw

lch 2257
Lt Col,
GS

Ref Folio 149A file 50A3

28A

SUBJECT :- Clothing on Repayment from Allied Sources for Officers,

HQ Combat Group MANTOVA

1103/Comm

P.M. 104 5 Aug 45.

56 BLU

27A

Reference your letter the following number of ration cards are requested :-

For Officers - 487

Nurses - 10

30A

(SGD) A. FIGA Major
for Lt Col CHIEF OF STAFF

6200

15A3

see

File 274
56 HUJ
15 AG
249 2 Aug 45.

Subject:- Italian Officers Shops.

HQ Combat Group MANTOVA.

Reference your 1056/Comm dated 14 July 45.

1. It is regretted but owing to an omission 56 HUJ and Combat Group MANTOVA were not informed by HQIA of the formation of officers shops for the sale of clothing to officers of Combat Groups. Details of which are now set out below.
2. In view of the change in Army areas, it has now been agreed by AFHQ that Italian Officers Shops may sell clothing as follows :-
 - 1421 Italian Officers Shop (234 DIV) - to Italian Officers of Combat Groups and BRIT service units stationed in 2 DISTRICT now located at LOMATO.
 - 1422 Italian Officers Shop (228 DIV) - to Italian Officers of Combat Groups and BRIT service units stationed in 1 DISTRICT.
3. Monthly allotments of clothing from British stocks will cease with the September issue.
4. Sales of clothing from these shops will be restricted to Italian Officers of:-
 - (a) Combat Groups in Army areas.
 - (b) BR-ITL Service Units in Army areas and administered by 228 DIV or 234 Div and to Italian Nurses (BR-ITL) in Army areas.
5. Authorised scales of clothing for 6 months' purchases by Italian Officers and Nurses are shown in attached appendix "A".
6. It is emphasised that Italian Officers and Nurses are not allowed to purchase from British Officers' Shops.
7. You are requested to forward immediately a demand for clothing rating cards for all the officers of your Group under the following classes:

(a) Army officers - male scale.	253
(b) Nurses - Female scale.	253

- 1421 Italian Officers Shop (231 DIV) - to Italian Officers of Combat Groups and BRIT service units stationed in 2 DISTRICT now located at LOMATO.
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4. Sales of clothing from these shops will be restricted to Italian Officers of:-
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5. Authorised sales of clothing for 6 months' purchases by Italian Officers and Nurses are shown in attached appendix "A".
6. It is emphasised that Italian Officers and Nurses are not allowed to purchase from British Officers' Shops.
7. You are requested to forward immediately a demand for clothing ration cards for all the officers of your Group under the following classes:

- (a) Army officers - Male scale.
- (b) Nurses - Female scale.

In the Field.
JMS/mh.

228 28A

J. M. M. M.

1st Lt Col,
CS.

Apex "A" to letter Q/OS/30
of 25 May 45.

Male Scale.

- 1 Raincoat
- 1 Pyjama
- 1 pr Boots
- 2 prs Stockings
- 2 prs Socks
- 2 Vests Cotton
- 2 prs K.D. Trousers Long
- 2 prs K.D. Trousers Short
- 2 Shirts K.D.
- 1 Towel.

Female Scale.

- 1 Raincoat A.T.S. (one only for period of Service).
- 2 Shirts A.T.S.
- 1 Pyjama Light A.T.S.
- 1 pr Shoes Leather A.T.S.
- 2 prs Stockings A.T.S.
- 1 pr Gloves Knitted Drab A.T.S.
- 2 prs Pants Cellular A.T.S.
- 1 Tie A.T.S.
- 2 Vests Cellular A.T.S.
- 2 Brassieres A.T.S.
- 2 Belts Corset A.T.S.
- 2 Overalls N/S S/Sleeve
- 1 Towel.

6254

File

25A

SUBJECT: Officers Shops for Italian Combat Groups.

56 HLU
19 AG

2 July 45

MMIA

2 District
Combat Group MANTOVA

24A refers

1. The Commander of Combat Group MANTOVA has stated that it has come to his notice that Italian male and female officers of the Combat Groups and attached Nursing Services are permitted articles of clothing from two specially formed Clothing depots recently formed by MMIA.
2. Neither MANTOVA Combat Group nor 56 HLU have been notified of the existence of this organization and if these depots do in fact exist could details please be forwarded immediately.

In The Field
JRS/ajw

see 26A

lch
Lt Col,
GS.

6253

1036/Comm

P.M. 104. 14 July 45.

My dear Colonel,

In my letter 01/4078 of the 9th June 45, I asked your kind intervention for the solving of various questions regarding my group.

It has come to my knowledge recently that M.M.I.A., with the view of helping the needs of Italian Officers of the Combat Groups, and of the BR - ITI Units, has given instructions for the forming of two Clothing Depots for Officers where items of clothing from Allied sources can be bought on payment.

Of all Combat Groups, only Combat Group MANTOVA has been excluded from the benefits, of this.

I am not able to explain to myself the reason for this omission but I think that it must be due to my forgetfulness taking into consideration that for the other groups this, aid has been given also to Red Cross women.

It is true unfortunately, that the Combat Group MANTOVA, to the great displeasure of all its units, was not able to take part in the battle for the liberation of our country, I maintain however, that also from my officers uniform, shoes, articles of clothing have been worn out during the long periods of training and living under canvas, as well as the numerous and continuous transfers and the duties which are being actually carried out by the dependant units.

I am relying greatly on the help that you can give so that the officers of my Group can obtain clothing upon repayment.

I thank you my dear Colonel for your keen and constant interest and I salute you most cordially.

6252

(SGHD) General Commandant
(Guido BOLOGNA)

Combat Group MANTOVA

Ref. 1364 file 50444, 14 July 45

It has come to my knowledge recently that M.E.I.L., with the view of helping the needs of Italian Officers of the Combat Groups, and of the ER - ITI Units, has given instructions for the forming of two Clothing Depots for Officers where items of clothing from Allied sources can be bought on payment.

Of all Combat Groups, only Combat Group MANTOVA has been excluded from the benefits of this.

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I am relying greatly on the help that you can give so that the officers of my Group can obtain clothing upon repayment.

I thank you my dear Colonel for your keen and constant interest and I salute you most cordially.

6252

(SGED) General Commandant
(Guido BOLOGNA)

see 75A
see 77A

SUBJECT: Families of Italian Tps

1D/107/8/A

56 BLU

4 July 45

Ref your 15 AG of 29 Jun it is confirmed that wives and families of Italian officers and ORs will NOT be permitted to join their husbands with the MANTOVA Gruppi.

OMF

Gumbell. bpt
Lt Col
AAG
No 1 District

2 JUL 1945

6251

15 AG

Ref Folio 123, file 5043.

21A

CA/ fo

SUBJECT:- Supplies for the Canteens.

HQ Combat Group MANTOVA
3rd Section --Welfare

No 1236/B.S.

P.M. 104 28 June 45.

To:- 56 BLU

1. I would like to thank the HQ of 56 BLU for their kind letter sent to me regarding instructions given by MMIA to the HQ 209 Div for the allotment to the MANTOVA Combat Group of a certain quota of stores for the Military shops (canteens).
2. I have already given orders to contact the appropriate section responsible for general stores at the 209 Div as soon as the stores become available.

(SGD) GENERAL BOLOGNA

6250

Subject :- Families of Italian Troops.

~~SECRET~~ 20A

56 HLU
15 AG

29 June 45.

1 District.

1. The Comd MANTOVA Group has raised the question of permitting the families of officers and men of the Group to join their husbands. There is a widespread desire for this, but the following objections arise :-

- (a) Shortage of food.
- (b) Lack of accommodation.
- (c) Difficulty of transport.
- (d) Problem in the event of the Group moving into a new area.

2. My impression is that the Comd does not want the ban to be raised, and that a ruling to this effect from higher authority would strengthen his hand with his own officers.

3. The question is one of general policy, involving the Combat Force as a whole. It also has an AMG aspect.

4. It is possible that a certain number of officers have already brought their families to this area, but there is no evidence on this point.

5. It is requested that a ruling may be given on this question.

CMF
AMG/ec

see 22A A
6248
Lt-Col.
CS.

7h

16A

SUBJECT:- Canteen Supplies.

56 BLU
15 AG

25 June 45.

HQ Combat Group MANTOVA

We have been informed by the MMIA Liaison Officer at 1 District that instructions have been issued to HQ 209 Div to allot to MANTOVA Combat Group a proportion of the next allocation of rations for canteens. This could be well used to start a canteen in the CERVIA area.

Will you please contact HQ 209 Div and make arrangements to collect these rations when they are made available.

In The Field,
JRM/ajw

14-A refer
12. Mancioley
Lt Col,
GS.

6248

SUBJECT: Allocation of ENSA show
to MANTOVA Combat Group.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
WEI/B.
14 Apr '45.

To : 56. BIU.

Copy to: Ufficio Benessere (to notify this HQ of
Ministry of War. arrangements made.)

1. Reference your letter of 10 Apr. and this HQ
WEI/B of 6 Apr. — 9A
2. This matter has been discussed with Welfare,
Ministry of War who state that a concert party is in
fact available.
3. They are taking the matter up direct with HQ
Mantova Combat Group with a view to arranging details
as to accomodation, stage, transport, and dates..
4. They state that the concert party available
consists of 17 civilians five of whom are women.

It.Col.
A.D.A.V.S.
M.M.I.A.

6247

Internal:- "A" Branch.

18 APR 1945

15A9

File 1 10A
Subject:- Allocation of ENSA show to MANTOVA Combat Group.

56 RLJ
15 AG

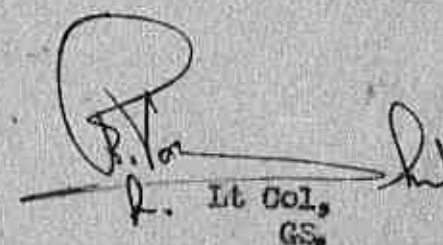
10 Apr 45.

Land Forces Sub Comd AC,
MMA.

9A
Reference your letter on the above subject, WEL/B of 6 Apr 45.

1. Information was received verbally from Lt Col McCANN that an Italian "ENSA type" show was available to show before the Combat Group.
2. If any information could be given regarding this Italian show it would be very helpful.
3. The AFHQ ruling has been noted and will be put into practice as soon as possible.

In The Field.
PSV/mh.


P. Lt Col,
GS.

6246
rel 11A

9A

SUBJECT: Allocation of Ensa Show to
"Mantova" Combat Group.

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

To : 56. BIU.

6A

Reference your letter on the above subject of 2 Apr.

1. This HQ has no knowledge of Ensa shows being available for performances before Italian Combat Groups. The only information available on this point is the AFHQ ruling circulated by this HQ under AQ/27 of 17 Feb., a copy of which is attached.
2. However, if you will state from what source your information came, the matter will be pursued.

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

RVC/

Internal:- "A" Branch. (without enclosure)

see 11A

6243

15 AG

8 APR 1945

File

Subject:- Italian Army Newspapers.

8A

56 HLU
15 AG

7 Apr 45.

3A

Land Forces Sub Comm AG,
MMIA.

1. Reference your letter A/27/2 dated 16 Mar 45, here is a report on the Italian army newspaper "LA PATRIA" and "ITALIA".
2. LA PATRIA is being received daily by this combat group at the rate of 1000 - 1100 copies and is being split up amongst the group.
3. "ITALIA" is being received weekly at the rate of 1000 copies.
4. A request has been received by the Italian Welfare office that the number be increased, in the case of both newspapers to 2000 respectively in order to meet the great demand for both these publications.
5. Both the newspapers are welcomed by the troops who can suggest no improvements and all questioned seem content with the news and entertainment sides of the papers.
6. The newspapers arrive daily with the post and are distributed the same day by means of the postal truck. Thus each unit receives papers the day after publication and is quite satisfactory.
7. Could copies of illustrated magazines and journals be sent to this group. A large number of requests have been made for these.

In The Field.
PSV/mh.

Copy to:- Hq Combat Group MANTOVA.

[Signature]
Lt Col,
CS.

6244

File
Subject: Welfare Morale - Private Mail.

7A
56 DDU
15 AG

7 Apr 45.

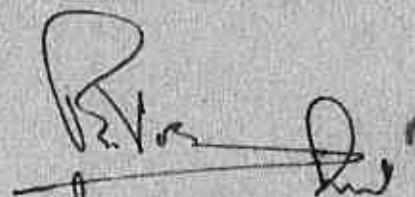
SA
Land Forces Sub Comm AG
MIA.

Reference your letter A/27/1 of the 23 Mar, the following observations have been made regarding the postal services both to and from the soldier.

- (a) The average time for a letter to reach a soldier's family living within 300 miles of the sender is about 10 - 14 days, while the post from family to soldier takes longer, about 14 - 18 days.
- (b) In exceptional cases letters from relatively close at hand (150 miles) take over three weeks to arrive. This is the case from LAZIO and ABRUZZI.
- (c) Post from the islands take much longer and post from SARDINIA hardly ever arrives, while that from SICILY takes over a month. This is due to the poor shipping facilities.
- (d) It has been suggested that an Air Mail service be initiated between SARDINIA and the Mainland as the major delay occurs on this route while a similar air mail service from SICILY would be appreciated.
- (e) The main cause of delay is stated to be on the railway system which is apparently not very fast.

In The Field.
PSV/mh.

Copy To: - HQ Combat Group MANTOVA.


Lt Col,
G.S.

6243

Subject:- Allocation of MNSA show to 'MANTOVA' Combat Group.

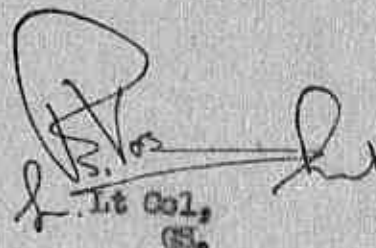
56 RLU
15 AG

2 Apr 45.

Land Forces Sub Comm AG
MIA

1. It is understood that there are MNSA shows which are available to perform before the Italian Combat Groups.
2. Combat Group MANTOVA wishes to obtain the services of these shows and would like to know what transport, accommodation, equipment etc is required. As far as is known the group will be in a position to see these shows by about the 20th of April.

In The Field.
PS/ah.


Lt Col.
G.

Copy to:- Combat Group MANTOVA.

see 9A 6242

3A

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

23 March 45.

In order that the effectiveness of the arrangements for private mail of the Italian soldiers may be reviewed and considered, will you please forward to this HQ on April the 7th a report showing how the personal arrangements for the Italian soldiers are working both to and from their formations under following headings :-

- (a) Average time for a letter over average distance (300 miles)
 - (b) Exceptional delays, losses or other complaints.
 - (c) Suggestions for improvement.
- together with any remarks regarding parcels, telegrams or outside (liberated Italy) services.

Distribution :

OC.	50	BLU
"	51	"
"	52	"
"	53	"
"	56	"
"	IT	"

00 Pr. Cadre

It. Reinforcements Depot at AFRAGOLA

" " TRANI

for information : O'NETA " " " OPVETO

for information : Q. M. T. A.

ADAMS "

SP4/fo

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S. P. ARCHER, Capt.
for Major General,
N. H. T. A.

7A

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Distribution :

OC. 50 BLU
" 51 "
" 52 "
" 53 "
" 56 "
" 57 "

OC Br. Cadre

It. Reinforcements Depot at AFRAGOLA

" " " " " " " " " " " "

" " " " " " " " " " " "

For information : Q'WELL

ADAMS "

SPA/fo

6241

S.P. Archer Capt.

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

26 MAR 1945

3A
SUBJECT: Italian Army Newspapers.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
A/27/2.

16 Mar '45.

To all MMIA LO's and BIU's.

1. A report is required on the Italian army newspapers "La Patria", and "Italia", to reach this HQ by 7 April.
2. These newspapers are published by the army for the soldier, and it is desired to do everything possible to make them efficient and of high morale value. Information is required on the present distribution system, on the numbers actually reaching the soldiers, and on their attitude to the papers.
3. The report should, therefore, be based on the following headings.
 1. Distribution
 2. Numbers received by formations
 3. Material
 - (a) News
 - (b) Morale and human aspect
 - (c) Entertainment and Sport
 4. General Suggestions.
4. Practical suggestions for the improvement of the paper in any way are particularly required. It is desired to have your views and this report is independent of any reports called for through Italian channels.

DISTRIBUTION

MMIA LO SARDINIA
" " SICILY
" " NAPLES
" " Rear Eighth Army
" " Fifth Army

MMIA LO 52 BLU
" " 53 BLU
" " 56 BLU
" " HHC. ICF.

Major General
M. M. I. A.

6240

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Major General

Major General
M. M. I. A.

DISTRIBUTION

MMIA LO SARDINIA
" " SICILY
" " NAPLES
" " Rear Eighth Army
" " Fifth Army
" " Fifth Army (Br Incr)
" " 1 District
" " 3 District
" " 54 Area
" " Taranto (c/o 52 Area)
" " ST Andrews Camp Taranto
" " MED LO c/o ADMS 52 Area

MMIA LO 52 BLU
" " 53 BLU
" " 56 BLU
" " RMC. ICF.
" " TR/NI Camp

50 BLU
51 BLU
52 BLU
53 BLU
56 BLU

6240

18A
18 MAR 1945

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