

ACC

10000/120/3678

61 - G

Index

Aug. 8, 1945

10000/120/3618

61 - G

Internal Security Duties

Aug. 8, 1945 - Sept. 21, 1945

7208
7220

Subject: Signal Communications

15A
TOP SECRET

56 HLU
61 G

21 Sept 45.

HQ Combat Group MANTOVA.

Copies to: 60 Sub Area,
56 HLU LO.

56 HLU 61 G of 21 Sept 45.

1. Reference para 1(a) of the above letter. Attached at Appendix 'A' are a list of tel exchanges in GENOVA to be guarded.
2. You are requested to instruct 76 Inf Regt to arrange the guards. The strength of the guards to be decided by Comd 76 Regt and guard orders prepared accordingly.
3. In principle it appears necessary only for the guard to lock the doors of the exchanges and prevent unauthorized persons entering. They should also ensure that the civilian operators remain at their posts.

In The Field.
RER/ah.

[Signature]
Lt Col,
GS.

See 13A
12A

7220

APPENDIX 'A'

MARAGLIANO EXCHANGE
VIA MARAGLIANO No. 12.

MARIN EXCHANGE
VIA BARTOLOMEO AREGGIO No. 1
PIAZZA MARIN.

PIRELLA EXCHANGE
VIA MUR DEGLI ZINGARI No. 3

ALBANO EXCHANGE
VIA PINA No. 3.

RAMPENDARELLA EXCHANGE
VIA RAIPER No. 3.

PELLICERIA EXCHANGE
PALAZZO PELLICERIA No. 10.

GUARDING NIGHTS.

- (a) 2nd and 3rd Bns, 76 Inf Regt will find small guards on the main GENOVA exchange and the five most important subsidiary exchanges in GENOVA. The details and guard orders will be arranged between the H&S LG and GSO, 60 Sub Area.
- (b) Troops of MARNOVA stationed at the following towns will supply small guards (about 1 H&S and 6 men) on telephone exchanges SPINOLA, VARESE, SAVONA, INTRA.
- (c) In Conds and O&C tys will do recess immediately but the guards will not mount before the receipt of the code word "THUNDER".
- (d) If possible the Sig Coy are asked to supply mine sigs roys, one for each guard, (less main exchange at GENOVA) to ensure that civil operators do not sabotage their switchboards.

2. LINE PARTIES.

The Gruppo should keep line parties sufficient to maintain their own comms but 60 Sub Area are badly in need of extra line men and it would be appreciated if this HQ could be informed of the extent of the assistance that the Gruppo could provide in the event of an emergency.

3. MONITORS.

It is NOT considered practicable to monitor the exchanges as the work is too great.

4. V/T COMMS.

- 7218
- (a) In the event of failure of telephone comms this will be replaced by a wireless link and sets will be provided as under:-

60 Sub Area	19 set provided by 60 Sub Area.
56 H&S	19 set provided by MARNOVA Combat Group.
 - (b) This link will open at frequent intervals for practice using arrangements 60 Sub Area.
 - (c) The 56 H&S net will always be manned by a British Italian speaking officer.
 - (d) Frequencies and times of practice will be notified within the next 48 hours.

See 13A
12A

2/.....

-2-

- (e) The link will open up immediately on receipt of the code word "GENESIS".
- (f) 19 Set to be provided by KANSOVA will report to 56 HJ complete with vehicle driver operator etc by 1800 hrs 22 Sep 45.

[Handwritten signature]
19-001
for GS.

CSW
JUN/45

7217

Subject :- Internal Security.

13A

SECRET

56 ELU.
61 G

/6 Sep 45.

HQ. Combat Group, MANTOVA.

Reference conversation Chief of Staff (Lt-Col GUALANO) and GSO I (Lt-Col MOORE) on the subject of exercise "FIDENZA".

1. The attached Appx 'A' gives the questions forwarded for the Sub Area Comd's consideration and at Appx 'B' are the answers to these questions.
2. Some of the answers are necessarily not exact owing to the difficulty of formulating a reply to questions which require summing up from all points of view by the officer on the spot.

CMF
JRM/ec

Lt-Col.
GS.

See 82A
68A

7216

SECRET

APPX 'B'

Ref Appx 'A' to 56 HLU letter
61 G dated 2 Sep 45.

COMMENTS OF COED 60 SUB AREA.

1. COMMUNICATIONS.

This is a good point.

(a) It is agreed that all major civilian exchanges should be controlled and guarded, both internally and externally. 'G' Branch and Signal officer of 60 Sub Area are investigating this matter. It is thought that the guards will be found from Gruppo details and that details will be forwarded in due course. In addition the possibility of finding a few trained signallers who could be put into exchanges to act as "monitors" should be considered.

(b) Signal officer 60 Sub Area will arrange details of wireless communications with MANTOVA Combat Group and 56 HLU.

(c) "Posto Blocco" may be established on the warning being received, this however must be done in conjunction with the local police. The principle being that the "Posto Blocco's" are manned in the first place by Carabinieri, assistance being given by the Gruppo personnel.

2. ARMS.

Yes it is agreed that Officers and NCOs should carry arms when the warning is received. In this connection it must be remembered, that in the event of a disturbance being imminent troops will be confined to barracks unless called out on duty.

3. ARREST OF SUSPICIOUS PERSONS.

The normal procedure is to report the suspicious person to the Carabinieri, and request them to make an arrest. Only under exceptional circumstances should the military make an arrest direct. It is most difficult to give an adequate definition of an "suspicious person". In principle a person cannot be arrested unless he has actually broken the law. Each case must be judged on its merits, this is not very helpful but this is a complex problem.

4. PARTISANS.

The carrying of arms by civilians is again a complicated problem.

(a) No civilian is allowed to carry arms unless he is in possession of a permit signed by A.M.G. or civilian police. In addition the bearer of arms (other than sporting guns) should wear an arm band denoting the organisation to which he belongs.

(b) It is not normal for the military to arrest civilians for carrying

7213

(a) It is agreed that all major civilian exchanges should be controlled and guarded, both internally and externally. 'G' Branch and Signal officer of 50 Sub Area are investigating this matter. It is thought that the guards will be found from Gruppo details and that details will be forwarded in due course. In addition the possibility of finding a few trained signallers who could be put into exchanges to act as "monitors" should be considered.

(b) Signal officer 60 Sub Area will arrange details of wireless communications with MANTOVA Combat Group and 50 HLI.

(c) "Posto Blocco" may be established on the warning being received, this however must be done in conjunction with the local police. The principle being that the "Posto Blocco's" are manned in the first place by Carabinieri, assistance being given by the Gruppo personnel.

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Yes it is agreed that Officers and NCOs should carry arms when the warning is received. In this connection it must be remembered, that in the event of a disturbance being imminent troops will be confined to barracks unless called out on duty.

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4. PARTISANS.

The carrying of arms by civilians is again a complicated problem.

(a) No civilian is allowed to carry arms unless he is in possession of a permit signed by A.M.G. or civilian police. In addition the bearer of arms (other than sporting guns) should wear an arm band denoting the organisation to which he belongs.

(b) It is not normal for the military to arrest civilians for carrying arms, this is a police responsibility. It is however thought that it is the duty of the military if they suspect an individual to be carrying arms unlawfully to report the matter to the Police and ask them to take action.

It is important that very close and friendly relations exist between the Gruppo and the Police.

7215

Subject: Internal Security.

SECRET

7A

36 MU
61 G

2 Sep 45

HQ 60 Sub Area.

Copy to :-- HQ Combat Group MANTOVA.

5A

Reference exercise held by MANTOVA Combat Group on 30 Aug 45.

1. The Chief of Staff MANTOVA Group, held a conference on 31 Aug to discuss details of the exercise and a list of points requiring clarification are attached at Appx 'A' for your comments and decisions.

GG
JTC/ec

J. L. Moody
Lt-Col.
GG.

7214

SECRET

Copy 'A' to 56 HLU letter
of G dated 1 Sep 45

POINTS RAISED BY PARTISAN GROUP WITH REGARD TO INTERNAL
SECURITY MEASURES

1. COMMUNICATIONS.

- (a) That some control must be exercised on the civil telephone exchanges as these may be used by the rioters for communication and for calling on the help of friends in nearby villages. For this reason the control should not be long delayed after trouble starts. It is not known if a general plan has been made with regard to this for the whole Sub Area. Special attention should be paid to the railway telephone and telegraph service.
- (b) That the Group make all communications concerning the disturbance by wireless, and that a set be provided for 60 Sub Area to 56 HLU.
- (c) That control points be set up for vehicles and all traffic in and out of towns occupied by the Group. Permission is requested to establish these "Posto Blocco" at the Group Commander's discretion from the time the Group is placed at four hours notice.

2. ARMS.

Permission is requested for officers, NCO's and all personnel on duty to carry arms when outside their quarters from the time the order is received to hold themselves at four hours notice.

3. ARREST OF SUSPICIOUS PERSONS.

- (a) The Chief of Staff asked for clarification of the conditions under which arrest of "suspicious" persons could be made and also as to the definition of a suspicious person. He pointed out that previously in Italy it was the custom to arrest any person thought to be a ringleader or a potential leader of a disturbance. This is not the case today, of course, and some doubt exists as to when arrests may be made and by whom.

4. PARTISANS.

In the area in which the Combat Group are stationed there are large numbers of civilians carrying arms and ammunition openly in the street. Permission is requested to stop these persons and ask for their permits to carry arms and if these permits are not produced to place them under arrest. There seems to be no objection to the CC NR doing this, although it might cause an estrangement between the Group and the local Partisans. At this moment an Italian liaison officer of the Group is contacting the Partisan Police HQ with a view to clarifying the position with regard to the carrying of arms.

7213

the group of Italians in nearby villages. For this reason the control should not be long delayed after trouble starts. It is not known if a general plan has been made with regard to this for the whole Sub Area. Special attention should be paid to the railway telephone and telegraph service.

(b) That the Group make all communications concerning the disturbances by wireless, and that a set be provided for 60 Sub Area to 56 HLU.

(c) That control points be set up for vehicles and all traffic in and out of towns occupied by the Group. Permission is requested to establish these "Posto Blocco" at the Group Commander's discretion from the time the Group is placed at four hours notice.

2. ARMY.

Permission is requested for officers, NCO's and all personnel on duty to carry arms when outside their quarters from the time the order is received to hold themselves at four hours notice.

3. ARREST OF SUSPICIOUS PERSONS.

(a) The Chief of Staff asked for clarification of the conditions under which arrest of "suspicious" persons could be made and also as to the definition of a suspicious person. He pointed out that previously in Italy it was the custom to arrest any person thought to be a ringleader or a potential leader of a disturbance. This is not the case today, of course, and some doubt exists as to when arrests may be made and by whom.

4. PARTISANS.

In the area in which the Combat Group are stationed there are large numbers of civilians carrying arms and ammunition openly in the street. Permission is requested to stop these persons and ask for their permits to carry arms and if these permits are not produced to place them under arrest. There seems to be no objection to the OO HR doing this, although it might cause an estrangement between the Group and the local Partisans. At this moment an Italian Liaison officer of the Group is contacting the Partisan Police HQ with a view to clarifying the position with regard to the carrying of arms.

7213

Subject :- Training - Exercise "TIGER".

HQ. Combat Group, MANTOVA.

Copy to :- 60 Sub Area.

56 HLB
64 G

31 Aug 45.

6A

6A

1. Attached at Annex 'A' are notes made by the director during the above exercise on 30 Aug 45.
2. Generally the exercise was a success and it appears that the standard of training is such that troops can be brought to the scene of action at short notice.

GMP
REL/ee

[Signature]

Lt-Col.

7212

EXERCISE "PIRENE"

1. TACTICAL.

It is not considered advisable that the Eng Coy should join 76 Regt unless ordered for the following reasons :-

- (a) The tps may be at 4 hrs notice for 3 or 4 days (see para 2b below)
- (b) Should the mobile tps of 76 Regt be involved in trouble en route to the scene of action, the Eng Coy, in the role of Div Reserve, would still be available and could be moved by a different march route.

2. ORDERS.

- (a) Orders on all levels were clear and concise.
- (b) There was some confusion over the order that the column should be at 4 hrs notice to move. Four hours notice to move means that it is unlikely that the tps will be called upon within four hours of the warning order, but that they must be prepared to move in four hours. The tps will very possibly be at the notice for several days and as the position becomes more acute the four hours notice may be reduced to two hours, one hour or immediate notice to move. A further executive order will always be given before tps actually move out.

3. SECURITY.

- (a) A greater measure of protection should have been given to the i/76 Regt 'O' GP. Eng 'O' GP had sufficient protection.
- (b) No sentries or patrols were protecting the main bodies from surprise at the 'F' GP HQ's.

4. ARMS.

Bren guns will not be carried by the tps on internal security duties except for the protection of the MT parks. This must rigorously be enforced by commanders at all levels.

5. COMMUNICATIONS.

- (a) Wireless - Good.
- (b) Other means - adequate, with the exception of the Eng 'O' GP who had no DR.

6. ROAD MOVES.

- (a) Embussing and debussing was done quietly and efficiently.

(e) Should the mobile tps of 76 Regt be involved in any action en route to the scene of action, the Eng Coy, in the role of Div Reserve, would still be available and could be moved by a different march route.

2. ORDERS.

- (a) Orders on all levels were clear and concise.
- (b) There was some confusion over the order that the column should be at 4 hrs notice to move. Four hours notice to move means that it is unlikely that the tps will be called upon within four hours of the warning order, but that they must be prepared to move in four hours. The tps will very possibly be at the notice for several days and as the position becomes more acute the four hours notice may be reduced to two hours, one hour or immediate notice to move. A further executive order will always be given before tps actually move out.

3. SECURITY.

- (a) A greater measure of protection should have been given to the 1/76 Regt 'O' GP. Eng 'O' GP had sufficient protection.
- (b) No sentries or patrols were protecting the main bodies from surprise at the 'X' GP IV's.

4. ARMS.

Bren guns will not be carried by the tps on internal security duties except for the protection of the AF parks. This must rigorously be enforced by commanders at all levels.

5. COMMUNICATIONS.

- (a) Wireless - Good.
- (b) Other means - adequate, with the exception of the Eng 'O' GP who had no DR.

6. ROAD MOV.

- (a) Embussing and debussing was done quietly and efficiently.
- (b) Convoy discipline - good.

7. ADM.

- (a) MT. All vehs had full tanks, spare petrol and lights in good working order. One 3 ton Bedford had insufficient oil for a long journey.
- (b) Rations. Arrangements satisfactory.

2/.....

-2-

- (c) Clothing & Equipment. It is suggested that all men carry pull-overs and gas capes and have their water bottles full. Many soldiers were clothed and equipped on these lines but it is felt that pl comds should inspect their men and ensure that the men are prepared to work during all weathers for several days.

7890

EXERCISE PURPOSE

COMBAT GROUP MANTOVA

SIC 101

FILE 5A

1. NAME OF EXERCISE.

See Appx 'A' attached.

2. OBJECT.

To practise mobile troops of Mantova Group w/c 60 Sub Area, in their security role.

3. TROOP TAKING PART.1/76 Inf Regt.
'A' Coy 104 Inf Bn.4. SCHEME.

- (a) The study of battle procedure and the composition of 'O' Cps.
- (b) The move of 'P' Cps to given RV's.

5. NARRATIVE.

Riots have broken out in VALMONT and agitators have surrounded HQ, Combat Group MANTOVA. The number of rioters amount to about 500 armed, mostly with sticks, but many of the rioters have sub-machine guns and rifles. The troops of MANTOVA Group and the Carabinieri are organised and doing their best to quieten the area, but it appears to be getting the better of the "powers of law and order" and the Sub Area has given permission to call on the mobile troops at the disposition of Comd MANTOVA Group.

6. CONTROL STAFF.

Director GSO 1 - 56 BLU.
Asst Direct GSO 2 (S) - 56 BLU. Lieut SAVRONI.
Interpreter GSO 3 - 56 BLU.
Ten DASH-VEL.

The following have promised to attend the exercise :-

Visitors :-

Comd 60 Sub Area.
Comd MANTOVA Combat Group.
Comd 76 Inf Regt.

and it is requested that Comd 76 Regt will be prepared to discuss numbers available for mobile duties.

7. CONTROL INSTRUCTIONS.

See Appx 'A'.

5022

3. OPS TAKING PART.

1/76 Inf Regt.
1st Coy 104 Inf Bn.

4. SCENE.

- (a) The study of battle procedure and the composition of 'O' Cps.
(b) The move of 'P' Cps to given RV's.

5. NARRATIVE.

Riots have broken out in VALDIVIA and agitators have surrounded the Combat Group MANTOVA. The number of rioters amount to about 300 armed, mostly with sticks, but many of the 1st are have sub-machine guns and rifles. The type of MANTOVA Group and the Car. group are organized and doing their best to quieten the mob, but it appears to be getting the better of the "powers of law and order" as 10 Sub Area has given permission to call on the mobile troops at the disposition of Comd MANTOVA Group.

6. CONTROL STAFF.

Director GSO 1 - 1st Bn.
Asst Director GSO 2 (7th) - 56 Bn.
Interpreter GSO 3 - 5th Bn. Lieut CARPONI.
Ten DASH (1st).

The following have promised to attend the exercise :-

Visitors :-

Comd 60 Sub Area.
Comd MANTOVA Combat Group.
Comd 76 Inf Regt.

and it is requested that Comd 76 Regt will be prepared to discuss numbers available for mobile units.

7. CONTROL INSTRUCTIONS.

See Annex 'A'

8. EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS.

- (a) All messages will commence and end with the word FIREWORKS.
(b) NO cannon explosives will be carried.
(c) Vans will NOT be parked on Route 1.

29 Jul 45

Distribution :- See Annex.

R. L. F. J. J.
Lt-Col.
G.S.

5022

Distribution :- Contingent Staff
 HQ MAF 3VA.
 Visitors
 Spare

4 3 for 76 Inf Regt.
 4 4 for 104 Eng Bn.
 6 6
 4 4

Appx 'A'

EXERCISE PLAN1. DIRECTORS CONFERENCE.

There will be a conference in the GSO 2 (Trg) office at 0900 hrs
30 Aug '55.

2. FORECAST OF EVENTS.

29 Aug	2000 hrs - 2300 hrs	Messages passed to Gr. Pcs, varying that of disturbances in VARAZZE.
30 Aug	0900 hrs	Mobile tps put at 4 hrs notice to move.
	1200 hrs	Mobile tps put at 1 hrs notice.
	1300 hrs	'O' Gps ordered to :- 1/76 Regt to Can Depot. Trg Bn to rd June 682460. 'I' Gps to :- 1/76 Regt CELLE LIQUE. Trg Bn to rd June 665478.
	1630 hrs	Exercise ends.

3. POINTS FOR ATTENTION.

- (a) Composition of 'O' Gps.
- (b) Communications.
- (c) Arming and equipment of asin. body.
- (d) Ration and water.
- (e) Fitness and vehs for road (S.E. full tanks etc)

786

1636