

ACC

10000/120/3724

STC/11

Aug. 2,

10000/120/3724

STG/II

S+T Inspections

Aug. 2, 1945 - Nov. 8, 1945

1002
1030

Subject:- Report on 3 G.T. Coy.

25

ST.MIA.IO. N.W. ITALY
c/o Signal Office Genoa

STG/11

8 November 45

To:- ADST. HQ. M.M.I.A. ROME

Herewith copy of report on 3 G.T. Coy by S&T
56 BIU, for information.

S/Capt. RASC.
ST.MIA.IO.
N.W. ITALY.

1 encl.

ASL/lr

1032

SUBJECT:- Report on Detachment of 3 Italian G. T. Coy.

G. I., 56 B. I. U.

Copy to : MMIA IO, GENOA.

56 B. I. U.

10

3. Nov 45.

1. At your request, I visited 3 Italian G. T. Coy on 31 Oct 45, with Capt Jones, Mess and Capt Pace (Interpreter).

2. That Unit's Ws, W/S, and two Transport Platoons are located in part of the extensive S.I.C factory at GENOA.

3. Its two remaining Platoons are on detachment at LONDON and PARIS.

4. I interviewed the O.C. of the Company, who made the following points:-

- (a) He considered the present accommodation very suitable for his Company's requirements.
- (b) He had no suggestions to make on alternative accommodation.
- (c) He knew of no requests from the civilian owners that he should withdraw his personnel from their present accommodation.

5. I inspected the vehicle lines, which have recently been flooded as a result of the heavy rainstorms. Approximately a dozen vehicles were "off the road", due to lack of tyres. Other tyres were "flat".

Out of a large number of speedometers examined, none showed total mileage in excess of 10,000.

The vehicles generally were in a very low state of maintenance and general repair.

6. The W/S Platoon is located in one bay of a three-bay factory building. It is eminently suitable for such a purpose. It possesses electric light, and an electrically operated overhead crane.

There was no evidence that it was required for any other use by the civilian owners at present.

The tyres of the W/S lorries were half-inflated, and Capt Jones RMR observed that a considerable proportion of the tools and equipment on these lorries had never been used.

On requesting to see the W/S Officer, the O.C. of the Company informed me that he was deficient of a W/S Officer, and fulfilled that duty himself.

Several vehicles B.I. had as a result of traffic accidents were damaged and ground outside the factory.

3. Its two remaining Platoons are on attachment at LINHON and HANOI.

4. I interviewed the C.O. of the Company, who made the following points:-

(a) He considered the present accommodation very suitable for his Company's requirements.

(b) He had no suggestions to make on alternative accommodation.

(c) He knew of no requests from the civilian owners that he should withdraw his personnel from their present accommodation.

5. I inspected the vehicle lines, which have recently been flooded as a result of the heavy rainstorms. Approximately a dozen vehicles were "off the road", due to lack of tyres. Other tyres were "flat".

Out of a large number of speedometers examined, none showed total mileage in excess of 10,000.

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6. The W/S Platoon is located in one bay of a three-bay factory building. It is eminently suitable for such a purpose. It possesses electric light, and an electrically operated overhead crane.

There was no evidence that it was required for any other use by the civilian owners at present.

The tyres of the W/S lorries were half-inflated, and Capt Jones RMC observed that a considerable proportion of the tools and equipment on these lorries had never been used.

On requesting to see the W/S Officer, the C.O. of the Company informed me that he was deficient of a W/S Officer, and fulfilled that duty himself.

Several vehicles B.L.R'd as a result of traffic accidents were standing on waste ground outside the W/S building.

When questioned about the incidence of traffic accidents, the C.O. stated that 1031 accidents had been high when the unit first came to UHQA, the number of accidents had now considerably decreased.

He also stated that the standard of driving and maintenance was not satisfactory, due to the fact that many drivers were shortly due for release from the Army, and were correspondingly apathetic.

7. Inspection of the billets of one of the Platoons showed that bed space was restricted. The beds and kits were most untidy.

A request to see the latrines proved a difficulty to the C.O., who obviously did not know where they were. He explained that most men used the sea (which was at least 200 yards away).

22.5 (Red) 7.11.57

/ On persisting

On persisting in the matter, the Platoon Commander showed me several internal latrines and shower baths in one half of a room occupied by the driver personnel as sleeping accommodation. He explained that one of these latrines only was in use, and the rest had been placed "out of bounds". On examination, it was obvious that all latrines and shower-bath cubicles had been used for some months as latrines and for refuse. Water was disconnected, and no "flushing" arrangements had been made. The whole arrangement was extremely unhygienic, and the O.C. was advised to find alternative accommodation for the personnel sleeping in that room immediately. Such accommodation existed in another building. He was also advised to provide deep-trench latrine outlets.

8. By the time the cookhouse was visited, a large party of Indians was busy clearing vegetable peelings and refuse, and the cookhouse itself was reasonably satisfactory.

9. The O.L. stores were housed in the main office building. The O.C. reported an insufficiency of Battle Dress for his personnel. He also stated that he possessed boot repair material, but no cobblers. On this last point, he was advised to contact HQ Mentore Division.

CHY.
BCH/wja.

E. Lykes

Capt., M.A.S.C.
96 British Liaison Unit.

1030

SUBJECT :- Maintenance No. 3 Italian G. T. Coy.

CONFIDENTIAL

ST/11

56 BLU
11 AG

9 Oct 45.

DDST
HQ No. 2 District

Reference your 4410/1/ST3 dated 29 Aug 45.

1. Unfortunately owing to the DADST 56 BLU being away on ILAP throughout September, and the general shortage of Officers, a report on the above Coy has been delayed.
2. DADST 56 BLU visited the Coy on the 8 Oct 45 and a report is attached.

In The Field,
RCN/ajw

Copies to :- HQ MMIA ROME AST.
MMIA IO GENOA
HQ Combat Group MANNOVA

R. B. Kild
Lt Col
GS

1029

HQ No. 2 District

Reference your 4410/1/SF3 dated 29 Aug 45.

1. Unfortunately owing to the DADST 56 BLM being away on LIAP throughout September, and the general shortage of officers, a report on the above Coy has been delayed.
2. DADST 56 BLM visited the Coy on the 8 Oct 45 and a report is attached.

In The Field,
RCN/ajw

Copies to :- HQ MIA HOME *Asst.*
MIA IO GENOA
HQ Combat Group MANTOVA

H. B. Miles
Lt Col
f. GS

1029

908 Recd. 11.10.45

REPORT ON 3 ITALIAN CT COY - GENOA.1. DISPOSITION OF COY.

HQ and Wap Flns - S.I.A.C.
Iron Works
CORNIGLIANO.
GENOA.

No.1 Tpt Pln - LIGURIA.
No.2. Tpt Pln - GENOA.
No.3 Tpt Pln - GENOA.
No.4. Tpt Pln - NAPLES.

2. CC - Major VINCENZI.3. MT VEHICLES - MAINTENANCE.

The majority of the vehicles of No's 2 and 3 platoons were away on duty, transporting supplies etc from British depots to Italian depots. The only vehicles available for inspection were mostly VOR due to severe damage from road accidents or in the case of fair wear and tear held up for MT spares. AB's 412 and 406 are in operation. The Task System ostensibly is in operation but the vehicles show lack of lubrication, tyre maintenance, cleanliness, and general well being. The workshops are holding a number of accident - damaged vehicles, which appear in many cases to have been cannibalised, and the remains of the chassis and bodies are lying outside the shops. Two workshop lorries are held, one of which is unserviceable due to the chain drive from the gearbox being damaged. The CC Coy states the vehicle was drawn in this condition. The workshop accommodation is good, except that the shops staff are sleeping within the building. The vehicle parks are quite satisfactory, standings are solid and a good approach. There is no officer in charge of the workshops, and the CC Coy combines this duty with his other duties. This is considered unsatisfactory. All POL for the Coy is drawn from the Italian Territorial HQ GENOA.

4. MAN-Management & HYGIENE.

This is bad. Cookhouses are dirty, ill conceived and casual. Billets are overcrowded, unhygienic, although the building itself is good. Ablutions are ill-kept, Latrines again ill-kept. The spirit and morale of the soldiers appears to be low and generally it is considered that discipline is poor.

5. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION & OFFICER EFFICIENCY.

The HQ building is good and appears to be efficiently run. There is much superficial evidence of organisation, but this state of affairs appears to be confined only to the HQ building. Officers, that were seen, of the Coy, were not impressive by their appearance or personal deportment. They openly confess that they think the discipline of the Coy is poor and state the reason being that most of the older soldiers are weary of serving in the Army and consequently are a bad influence on the younger, incoming soldiers.

1028

2. OC - Major VINCENZI.

3. MT VEHICLES - MAINTENANCE.

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6. SYSTEM OF COMMAND.

- (a) The Coy receives its daily working details from MAIA LO.
- (b) For maintenance and discipline they come under command of the Combat Group MANTOVA.
- (c) POL they draw from the GENOVA Territorial HQ Depot.
- (d) HQ 231 Adm Div (ITT) have informed the Coy that they are the Coy's next higher authority.
- (e) MT spares appear to be drawn at odd periods through 'P' MU GENOVA.

-2-

It is considered that the Coy should be placed under command of the GCHQ Territorial Hq for all purposes as this would obviously assist the OC Coy.

CONCLUSION.

It is regretted that this report is not very detailed on the most vulnerable points of the CF Coy but owing to the deployment of the Coy in Italy, and the time limiting factor, a fuller report is not possible. It can be seen however that the Coy is not satisfactory in either its operational side or its Adm side.

1027

1027

CONFIDENTIALSubject: - 3 GT Coy.ST. MMIA. LO. N. ITALY
60 Sub Area

STG/11

4 Oct 1945

To: - MMIA. HQ. (for S&T) ROME

Ref your ST/1803 dated 29 Sept 45.

Neither 56 BLU nor Ufficio Servizi - No. 2 Territorial Command have been informed about the unsatisfactory state of 3 GT Coy for the following reasons:

1. Being a BR-ITI and under command 2 District for Administration and Discipline this office has refrained from interfering with the running of the Company so long as it has been able to meet this office's operation requirements.
2. 56 BLU should be aware of the lack of discipline in the Company by the number of charges that have been received from the British Military Police and passed to them for action.

As far as can be ascertained no representative of the BLU has visited the Coy, the suggestion in your report of the 6th Sept para 9 has not received any attention from them.

A copy of a letter received from 231 Div. regarding Command is enclosed herewith for your attention; please inform this office of the position.

It is suggested that a full investigation in the Company's activity be carried out, particularly at Leghorn.

SIB report referred to in my GEN/13SD of the 29th Sept has not yet been received but it is known that drivers have been detained and it is thought that an officer may be involved. Full report will be forwarded when received.

A 1026
S/Capt. RASC
ST. MMIA. LO.
N. ITALY

Neither 56 BLU nor Ufficio Servizi - No.2 Territorial Command have been informed about the unsatisfactory state of 3 GT Coy for the following reasons:

1. Being a BR-ITI and under command 2 District for Administration and Discipline this office has refrained from interfering with the running of the Company so long as it has been able to meet this office's operation requirements.
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AC/lr

S/Capt. RASC.
ST. MIA. LO.
N. F. ITALY.

1026

Translation: gcHEADQUARTER 231 DIVISION

2697/Ord.

Milan, APO 167 27 Sept 45

Subject: 3 GT Coy

TO: - HQ 2 GUARD BRIGADE

APO 216

We were informed by S.M.R.E. that 3 G.T.Coy formerly under the command of the "Piceno" Division, has been transferred to this HQ for disciplinary and administrative purposes w.e.f. 10 Aug 45.

Above unit is at present located at Genoa but the exact location is not known; your HQ is requested to locate unit in question and to invite the OC to report urgently to this HQ Division.

by Order
THE CHIEF OF STAFF
s/Lt.Col. Ag. Varrone

HQ II GUARD BRIGADE

No. 658/Add.

APO 216 2 Oct 45

TO: HQ 3 Transport Unit

APO 216

INFO TO: HQ 231 Division APO 167
HQ MILITARY GARRISON GENOA

..... for compliance.

Hq 231 Div will be informed that 3 Transport Unit APO 216 is at present located at Cornigliano, Officine SIAC Phone No. 45802.

THE COMMANDING OFFICER
s/ Col. G.Ciotoli

1025

18

~~STG/58~~
STG/11

Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MMIA)
RCME
Tel : Rome 489061 Ext 526

William H. King
for Lt. Col. ADST.,
Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MCLA).

1. Ref your S & T Liaison Report dated 25 Sept 45 para 2.
2. Please state what action has been taken to resolve the 'chaos' and whether the position has been reported to 56 ELU or Ufficio Servizi No 2 Terr Cmd.

WHEN/28

1024

197 / Recd 3.10.45

M.N.I.A.
To: HQ. ROME (for S&T)

APPENDIX 1

17

ANALYSIS OF DEPOT INSPECTION REPORT

ON INSPECTION OF DEPOT

Name of Depot Inspected	Date	Type of Depot	Rank and Name of Inspecting Officer
2 Bulk Food Depot, Genoa	29 Sept 1945	Bulk	Capt A. Cotton, RASC

(a) Maintenance of Depot position.

Reserves as per ST/191 dated 6 Sept now being received ex 13 GRASC

(b) Physical Housekeeping Position.

Cleanliness and running of Depot: Good.- More dunnage required for sacked commodities - Same being obtained ex Milan.

(c) Accounting Position.

Cheese and Salmon checked; Tally board and Ground Stock agree but on checking with commodity account found to disagree; adjustments made and OC Depot instructed on accounting procedure.

(d) General.- Billets (lean to shed) and Coalhouse: Good - Steps should be taken to provide some form of heating in the billet before the winter arrives.

Signature of Inspecting Officer

[Signature]
Rank Capt, RASC

DATE: 29 Sept 45

1023

TO: HQ. LMIA (for S&T)

"ARSENAL"

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LMIA S&T LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT
ON INSPECTION OF DEPOT

Name of Depot inspected	Date	Type of Depot (i.e. Bulk, P.D. P.C.L. OR Purge)	Rank and Name of Inspecting Officer
Distribution Depot, Milan	24 Sept 1945	Distribution	Capt A. Cotton, RASC

(a) Maintenance of Depot Position.

Maintenance up to 5 Nov practically completed; the following yet to be despatched: Cheese 15366 lbs, Tinned Fish 50000 lbs

(b) Physical Stockpiling Position.

Much improved since Inspection report of 18th Aug 45

(c) Accounting Position.

Satisfactory

1022

DATE: 25 Sept 45

Signature of Inspector
Rank Capt, RASC

"APPENDIX 1"

15

MMIA S&T LIAISON OFFICERS REPORT
ON INSPECTION OF DEPOTS

Name of Depot inspected	Date	Type of Depot	Rank and Name of
		I.O. Bulk, D.D.	Inspecting Officer:
		P.O.L. OR Forge:	
75 Deposito Distribuzioni Viveri, Alessandria	19 Sept 1945	Distribution Depot	CSM Tudor, Raso (Capt Cotton sick)

(a) Maintenance of Sector Position.

No reserves held at present

(b) Physical Warehousing Position.

Cleanliness of Depot leaves much to be desired.-- No Guard and Fire Orders displayed in Depot. Owing to the smallness of the Depot it is not certain that Supplies are "turned over" regularly.

1021

(c) Accounting Position.-- Stocks cards on commodities but not up to date. Spot check "Tomatoe Paste". Tally cards after being ^{checked} up to date agree with Stock account - 1149,690 kilos.(d) General Transport for Supplies from railhead to Depot is by horse & carts, too slow. Steps should be taken to provide M/T; Being taken up with Territorial Command; Billets unsatisfactory. Whole depot could do with a clean out and a spot of white-wash.

DATE: 20 Sept 45

Countersignature

Signature of Inspecting
Officer

Rank

CSM Tudor, RASO

To: - Hq. M.M.I.A. (for SMT)

MILIA EAST LIAISON OFFICERS REPORT
ON INSPECTION OF DEPOTS

Name of Depot visited	Date	Type of Depot	Rank and Name of Inspecting Officer
2 PANIPICHO MILITARY	14/9/45	Bakery	Capt A. Cotton

(a) Maintenance of Section Position.

No reserves held, draws flour direct from Bulk Depot when required. Units collect bread daily.

(b) Physical Warehousing Position.

Generally fair. Floors clean. Utensils, bread racks, dough machines, scales dirty coated with hard flour. Room for considerable improvement.

(c) Accountancy Position.

Satisfactory

(d) General Remarks.

(b) above could be rectified by employing civilian labourers.

1020

DATE: 14 September 1945

Officer

Signature of Visiting

14

Capt A. Cotton

Bakery

(a) Maintenance of Section Position.

No reserves held, draws flour direct from Bulk Depot when required. Units collect bread daily.

(b) Physical Warehousing Position.

Generally fair. Floors clean. Utensils, bread racks, dough machines, scales dirty coated with hard flour. Room for considerable improvement.

(c) Accountancy Position.

Satisfactory

General Remarks.

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■ 1020

DATE: 14 September 1945

Officer

Rank

[Signature]
Rase

Copy to:- Commissariato Genoa

13 STG/11

SUBJECT:- IO Report - No. 2 Food Distribution Depot - GENOA.

Land Forces Sub Comm. AC.
(M.M.I.A.).
ST/249

MMIA LO GENOA.

10 Sept 45.

1. Ref para 19, detailed report, Sect D "Physical Warehousing Position (Food)". The employment of civil labor to supplement Italian Army labor is a local problem to be arranged by Depot Commander and local Commissariato. If no laborers are authorized, and you believe Depot Commander's request legitimate, take problem up with Commissariato Directorate.
2. Ref para 22(b). Italian Army responsible for provision of accounting forms. See Appendices of "Supply Organization and Accounting Instructions for Provision of Food to the Italian Armed Forces" for established Italian Army Forms.
3. It is pointed out that only "Appendix 1" Form for Depot reports is required by this HQ. Detailed report; e.g. "Physical Warehousing Position (Food)" is a "memory tickler" or guide for inspections and need not be forwarded to this HQ.

L. Robert Hebson Major
Lt. Col. RASC.
ADST, Land Forces Sub Comm. AC. (MMIA).

KRN/gmc

596/Rest 12.9.45

E 1019

SUBJECT:- Depots N.W. ITALY.

12 STG/11

10

Land Forces Sub Comm. AC.
(M.M.I.A.).
ST/249

3 Sept 45.

AS/9

Ministry of War.

Copy to:- MMIA LO (ST) GENOA
(your STG/11 of 29 Aug 45 refers).

1. Herewith copy of report rendered by MMIA ST LO GENOA concerning depots N.W. ITALY.
2. Your attention is invited to paras 3c, d, and e for corrective action.

K. Robert Helson Major
Lt. Col. RASC.
ADST, Land Forces Sub Comm. AC. (MMIA).

KRV/gmc

NOTE. Ref para 4 your a/m letter, see MMIA letter G/35 of 30 Aug 45.

1018

524/Rev 5. 9. 45

APPENDIX 1

STG/11

File

11

WORLD WAR II AREA OFFICER REPORT
ON INSPECTION OF DEPOT

Name of Depot Inspected	Date	Type of Depot : 1. c. Bulk, D. P. : P. O. L. OR Storage	Rank and Name of Inspecting Officer
2 Deposito Distribuzione Viveri, Genova	5 Sept 45	Distribution Depot	Capt A. Cotton

(a) Maintenance of Sector position.

Satisfactory

(b) Physical Warehousing position.

Satisfactory

(c) Accounting position.

Fair, please see attached para 17.

DATE: 5 Sept 1945

Signature of Inspecting Officer **1017**
[Signature]
 Rank Captain, RA3C

C. Physical Warehousing Position. (Food)-

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Are supplies properly and neatly stacked? | Yes |
| 2. Are stacks internally ventilated and on suitable damage? | Yes, but no damage for cased commodities. |
| 3. Are stacks tall to boards in existence and in use? | Yes, of each commodity. |
| 4. Are cartons packed & sacked goods under cover? | All supplies under cover. |
| 5. Are goods marked with Warranty Expiry dates? | Yes, except Italian Items. |
| 6. Is turnover assured by issuing from oldest stocks first? | Yes |
| 7. Are mutually contaminating goods kept well apart?
(eg. Onions & Flour) | Yes, Separate Stores for wine, Olive Oil, etc. |
| 8. Are outdoor stacks on firm ground which will stand up to truck traffic in wet weather? | see 4 above |
| 9. Is there a Recovery & Salvage Section to sort & recase broken stock? | Yes, one available byt at present no broken cases. |
| 10. How much stock is there awaiting disposal as suspected unfit for human consumption? It is secured that it cannot reach civilian black market? | None, but separate store available. |

1016

4. Are carton packed & sacked goods under cover? All supplies under cover.
5. Are goods marked with Warranty Expiry dates? Yes, except Italian Items.
6. Is turnover assured by issuing from oldest stocks first? Yes
7. Are mutually contaminating goods kept well apart? (eg. Onions & Flour) Yes, Separate Stores for wine, Olive Oil, etc.
8. Are outdoor stacks on firm ground which will stand up to truck traffic in wet weather? see 4 above
9. Is there a Recovery & Salvage Section to sort & recase broken stock? Yes, one available byt at present no broken cases.
10. How much stock is there awaiting disposal as suspected unfit for human consumption? It is secured that it cannot reach civilian black market? None, but separate store available.
11. Is depot clean and tidy? As well as can be expected in view of the shortage of labours.
12. What anti vermin measures are used? No sign of vermin in depot.
13. Is Depot adequately protected against theft by barbed wire, night lighting, etc.? Steps have been taken to improve protection since the pilferage of 26th August 45.
14. What guard arrangements exist, & do you consider them adequate?
- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1 NCO & 15 men: | 3 beats by day |
| 4 " | " " night |
- Considered adequate

F016

C. (continued)

15. Are orders for sentries posted up where sentries can see them?

Guard Orders are read to Sentries by Guard Commander. Guard provided by 519 Guard Bn.

16. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

No. being dealt with by O.C. Depot.

17. "Spot check?"

Commodities Checked	Surpluses found	Deficiencies found
Records not complete and Depot doing detail issue at time of inspection; Capt Zanelli only took command of the depot on 1st September and is at present endeavoring to get records up today; previously Lieut Miranile was responsible and account have not been kept in accordance with Supply Accounting Instructions.		

Remarks: -

18. What is the handling capacity of depot in 2 1/2 ton truck per hour for:

a. Receipts	(a)	5 tons
b. Despatches	(b)	5 tons

19. Any labour problems?

Italian Army Personnel are unexperienced and require more training in supply work. Genoa Comm. have previously been informed of this but no improvement is shown. It is suggested that the depot be authorized to employ 3 civilian labours.

20. Are rail cars loaded from depot properly documented & sealed?

21. Any difficulties regarding provision

1015

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20. Are rail cars loaded from depot properly documented & sealed?

21. Any difficulties regarding provision of trucks or rail car guards?

22. General. (a) - Guard: - A member of the Guard stated that they were not receiving their full rations whilst on Guard Duties at the Depot; this was investigated and there appears to be a certain amount of truth in the statement. Territorial Command have been requested to enquire into this and inform this office.

1015

1015

:/:

(b) Manuscript Books are being kept for Stock transactions; can the Ministry of War provide proper printed Army Forms ? O.C. Depot was instructed by Commissariato Genoa that no forms are available. Is this correct please ?-

(c) There are approx 100 wine barrels in the depot; the O.C. informed ~~that~~ the Commissariato Genoa and was told to wait further instruction. Instructions were issued for these to be returned to Bulk Depot forthwith.

/bhm
Captain, RASC.
ST/EMIA IO., NW ITALY

1014
1013

Subject:- Report.

M.M.I.A. L.O.,
GENOA

STG/11

29 August, 1945

To:- Hq. M.M.I.A. ROME

Set out below are notes regarding S&T Matters affecting N.W. Italy which are passed to you for action as deemed necessary.

Milan -

a) A visit was paid accompanied by Major Kyle to Milan Distribution Depot, and it was found that the various points raised in Major Kyle report of the 20th August are at last receiving attention.

Turin and Alessandria - Satisfactory.

Genoa -

a) Visit to Bulk Depot and Distribution Depot was made yesterday and the condition of these depots is satisfactory.

b) Loading for September maintenance commences 30th August, and in view of the fact that Depots are not holding reserves it is difficult to even out despatches, it is hoped however to spread out despatches after the first 15 days of September Maintenance has been completed.

c) 12x5 Ton Lorries will be required daily if (b) is put into operation. It is pointed out that the transport situation when 3 G.T. Coy is disbanded will be serious as the Administrative Transport Coy 2 Territorial Command have only at present 3 serviceable vehicles.

d) A pilferage occurred at Genoa Distribution Depot on the night 27/28 August in which 2000 lbs. of tinned Cheese was stolen. It is my opinion that it is an "inside job". The Italian Police and Commissariato are investigating and a report is awaited.

e) Personnel - At the present both the Bulk and Distribution Depots are working reasonably well but if the standard is to be maintained or improved steps will have to be taken to make up the deficiencies of personnel under

Bulk Depot: NCO's 7
Privates 2

Dist. Depot: NCO's 4

4013

Milan -

a) A visit was paid accompanied by Major Kyle to Milan Distribution Depot, and it was found that the various points raised in Major Kyle report of the 20th August are at last receiving attention.

Turin and Alessandria - Satisfactory.Genoa -

a) Visit to Bulk Depot and Distribution Depot was made yesterday and the condition of these depots is satisfactory.

b) Loading for September maintenance commences 30th August, and in view of the fact that Depots are not holding reserves it is difficult to even out despatches, it is hoped however to spread out despatches after the first 15 days of September Maintenance has been completed.

c) 12x3 Ton Lorries will be required daily if (b) is put into operation. It is pointed out that the transport situation when 3 G.T. Coy is disbanded will be serious as the Administrative Transport Coy 2 Territorial Command have only at present 3 serviceable vehicles.

d) A pilferage occurred at Genoa Distribution Depot on the night 27/28 August in which 2000 lbs. of tinned Cheese was stolen. It is my opinion that it is an "inside job". The Italian Police and Commissariato are investigating and a report is awaited.

e) Personnel - At the present both the Bulk and Distribution Depots are working reasonably well but if the standard is to be maintained or improved steps will have to be taken to make up the deficiencies of personnel under

Bulk Depot: NCO's ?
Privates 2

Dist. Depot: NCO's 4

General

Could I be informed please as to my position as ST Liaison Officer with that of Senior LO N.W. Italy (Major Bird). Also am I permitted to utilise LO's at Turin, Genoa and Milan for any urgent ST queries, it appears that Milan has no LO if this is not the case may I be informed who the LO is? (Telephone conversation Major Nelson - Capt. Cotton refers).

40/17

ALH
Capt. RASC.
ST. MILIA. LO., GENOA.

4013

SUBJECT:- Depot Inspection - MILAN.

Land Forces Sub Comm. AC.
(M.M.I.A.).
ST/249

Ministry of War.

Copy to:- MILIA LO's:

GENOA MILAN.

1. An extract of a report made by ST MILIA LO N.W. ITALY appears below:

Yesterday 1st August inspection was made of Distribution Depot, Caserma BESOZZI, 59 Vincenzo Monti, MILAN, with Maggiore CARTALISANO of the Direzione of Commissariato, MILAN.

A quantity of hitherto undisclosed supplies was found; some acquired by local purchase. These are in complete confusion and no preparation has been made or was being made for the receipt and issue of supplies, which were then arriving ex train.

The area and buildings were on the whole very dirty and untidy; and as far as could be seen organization and/or accountability was non-existent.

Maggiore CARTALISANO mentioned when questioned that supplies were also being placed in another depot, rail served, which he inferred was larger. Accordingly, at my request, a visit was paid to this depot. The Magazzini Generali Docks, Via Delfico, MILAN. This was found to be a general foodstuffs warehouse, one half of which has been requisitioned by the U.S. Army and is operating as a food Depot.

It was found that the Italian Army supplies, ex 42 BSD were being unloaded into the civil portion of the warehouse and stacked amongst the civilian foodstuffs.

Instructions were issued that the Italian Army foodstuffs should be moved immediately to the Caserma BESOZZI, and reconnaissance made for another Depot."

2. It is desired that necessary action will be taken by you promptly to correct this situation.

1011
1012

1. An extract of a report made by ST MILA 20 N.Y. ITALY appears below:

"Yesterday 1st August inspection was made of Distribution Depot, Caserma BESOZZI, 59 Vincenzo Monti, MILAN, with Maggiore CARTALISANO of the Direzione of Commissariato, MILAN.

A quantity of hitherto undisclosed supplies was found; some acquired by local purchase. These are in complete confusion and no preparation has been made or was being made for the receipt and issue of supplies, which were then arriving ex train.

The area and buildings were on the whole very dirty and untidy; and as far as could be seen organization and/or accountability was non-existent.

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It was found that the Italian Army supplies, ex 42 RSD were being unloaded into the civil portion of the warehouse and stacked amongst the civilian foodstuffs.

Instructions were issued that the Italian Army foodstuffs should be moved immediately to the Caserma BESOZZI, and reconnaissance made for another Depot."

2. It is desired that necessary action will be taken by you promptly to correct this situation.

1011
1012

KRM/gmc

K. Robert Leland
ADST, Land Forces Sub (Lt. Col. RASO, AG. (MILIA)).

'8

2448.45

Subject:-- Depot Inspections

CONFIDENTIAL

M. M. I. A. L.O.
GENOA

STG/II

2 August 1945

To: M. M. I. A. HQ. ROME.

Copy to :-- M. M. I. A. L.O. E.W. Italy

Yesterday 1st. August inspection was made of Distribution Depot, Caserma DESOZZI, 59 Vincenzo Monti, Milan, with Maggiore CARTALISANO of the Direzione of Commissariato, Milan.

A quantity of hitherto undisclosed supplies was found; some acquired by local purchase. These are in complete confusion and no preparation has been made or was being made for the receipt and issue of supplies, which were then arriving ex train.

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Maggiore CARTALISANO mentioned when questioned that supplies were also being placed in another depot, rail served, which he inferred was larger. Accordingly, at my request, a visit was paid to this depot. The Magazzini Generali Docks, Via Delfico, Milan. This was found to be a general foodstuffs warehouse, one half of which has been requisitioned by the U.S. Army and is operating as a food Depot.

It was found that the Italian Army supplies, ex 42 B.S.D., were being unloaded into the civil portion of the warehouse and stacked amongst the civilian foodstuffs.

Instructions were issued that the Italian Army foodstuffs should be moved immediately to the Caserma DESOZZI, and reconaissance made for another Depot.

It is my opinion that:--

- a) The Distribution Depot Commander and the responsible portion of the Commissariato staff are completely inefficient and useless,
- b) That the only explanation for the unloading of Army supplies to the civil warehouse is that illicit and unauthorized disposal of these supplies was being effected or attempted.

Please take any action you deem necessary.

Yesterday Ist. August inspection was made of Distribution Depot, Caserma BESOZZI, 59 Vincenzo Monti, Milan, with Maggiore CARTALISANO of the Direzione of Commissariato, Milan.

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Please take any action you deem necessary.

Prabhu
Major
ST. MARIA LO
N. W. ITALY-GENOA

..... Depot inspections

CONFIDENTIAL

M. M. I. A. L.O.
GENOA

STG/II

2 August 1945

To: M. M. I. A. HQ. ROME.

Copy to: M. M. I. A. L.O. N.W. Italy

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- b) That the only explanation for the unloading of Army supplies to the civil warehouse is that illicit and unauthorised disposal of these supplies was being effected or attempted.

Please take any action you deem necessary.

1010

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1010

- a) The Distribution Depot Commander and the responsible portion of the Commissariato staff are completely inefficient and useless,
- b) That the only explanation for the unloading of Army supplies to the civil warehouse is that illicit and unauthorized disposal of these supplies was being effected or attempted.

Please take any action you deem necessary.

W. W. W.
Major
ST MMIA LO
M. W. ITALY-GENOVA

2 copies
1 ✓
H.A.M.M. (R) R.M.
M.M.I.A. NO MILAN 22/8/45

"APPENDIX 1"

SG/11

(5)

ANALYSIS OF LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS
ON INSPECTIONS OF DEPOTS

Name of Depot Inspected	Date	Type of Depot i.e. Bulk, D.P. or other	Name and Rank of Inspecting Officer
2 Bulk Food Depot Genoa	21.8.45	Bulk	Major B.B.Kyle

(a) Maintenance of Stock Position.

15 days to Distribution Depots despatch completed.

No reserves held.

(b) Physical Stockholding Position.

Generally fair; requires tidying up, which will be done within next few days when present emergency over wine stocks N.W. Italy has passed.

(c) Accounting Position.

Good.

1009

DATE 21st August 1945

Signature of Inspecting
Officer

Rank

C. Physical Warehousing Position (Food)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Are supplies properly and neatly stacked? | No. Insufficient systemization and supervision. |
| 2. Are stacks internally ventilated and on suitable dunnage? | Not internally ventilated in every case |
| 3. Are stacks tally boards in existence and in use? | Yes. |
| 4. Are cartons packed & sacked goods under cover? | Yes. |
| 5. Are goods marked with warranty Expiry dates? | Italian items not yet marked. |
| 6. Is turnover assured by issuing from oldest stocks first? | Insufficient stocks held to be considered yet. |
| 7. Are mutually contaminating goods kept well apart?
(e.g. Onions & Flour) | Yes. |
| 8. Are outdoor stacks on firm ground which will stand up to truck traffic in wet weather? | None. |
| 9. Is there a recovery & Salvage Section to sort & re-case broken stocks? | No: this is responsible for untidiness etc. in the depot. Lack of space is one reason why this has not been done. |
| 10. How much stock is there awaiting disposal as suspected unfit for human consumption?
Is it so secured that it cannot reach civilian black market? | None. |
| 11. Is depot clean and tidy? | Due to arrival of ex German stocks in broken condition, and loading of wine in progress, could have appeared tidier. |
| 12. What anti vermin measure are used? | Cats are used, but no vermin apparent. |
| 13. Is Depot adequately protected against theft by barbed wire, night | Yes. |

1008

- Are goods marked with Expiry dates?
6. Is turnover assured by issuing from oldest stocks first?
7. Are mutually contaminating goods kept well apart?
(e.g. Onions & Flour)
8. Are outdoor stacks on firm ground which will stand up to truck traffic in wet weather?
9. Is there a recovery & Salvage Section to sort & recase broken stocks?
10. How much stock is there awaiting disposal as suspected unfit for human consumption?
Is it so secured that it cannot reach civilian black market?
11. Is depot clean and tidy?
12. What anti vermin measure are used?
13. Is Depot adequately protected against theft by barbed wire, night lighting, etc.?
14. What guard arrangements exist, & do you consider them adequate?
- Insufficient stocks held to be considered yet.
- Yes.
- None.
- None.
- None.
- Due to arrival of ex German stocks in broken condition, and loading of wine in progress, could have appeared tidier.
- Cats are used, but no vermin apparent.
- Yes.
- Adequate.

1008

C. (continued)

15. Are orders for sentries posted up where sentries can see them?

Yes.

16. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

No. Engineer services have not yet carried out requests.
No telephone

17. "Spot check"?

Commodities checked	Surpluses found	Deficiencies found
Coffee 6563.970 Kilos		correct
P/Meat 26.679.888 Kilos	80x12 oz.	

Remarks:-

18. What is the handling capacity of depot in 2 1/2 ten truck per hour for:

(a) 16 x 3T per hour

(b) 12 x 3T per hour

19. Any labor problems?

No

20. Are rail cars loaded from depot properly documented & sealed?

Yes

21. Any difficulties regarding provision of truck or rail cars guards?

Not at present.

22. General

1007

Present state of untidiness appears in a large part due to large commitments for small number of efficient personnel. Three officers, one employed in accounting duties appear insufficient, especially as many of the OKs are unsuitable because of a low educational standard. Lt. Col. Pelizza has been instructed to take immediate action to rectify the

Commodities checked	Surpluses found	Deficiencies found
Coffee 6563.970 Kilos		correct
P/Meat 26.679.888 Kilos	80x12 oz.	

Remarks:-

18. What is the handling capacity of depot in 2 1/2 ton truck per hour for:

- a. Receipts
b. Despatches

(a) 16 x 3T per hour

(b) 12 x 3T per hour

19. Any labour problems?

No

20. Are rail cars loaded from depot properly documented & sealed?

Yes

21. Any difficulties regarding provision of truck or rail cars guards?

Not at present.

22. General

Present state of untidiness appears in a large part due to large commitments for small number of efficient personnel. Three officers, one employed in accounting duties appear insufficient, especially as many of the ORs are unsuitable because of a low educational standard. Lt.Col.Pelizza has been instructed to take immediate action to exchange inefficient personnel for men more suitable for accounting and supervision of civil labour.

General impression - fair

1007

Subject:- Inspection to Distribution Depot, Milan.

MMIA.LO.
GENOA

STG/11/4

20 August, 1945

To:- HQ. MMIA ROME

Copy to:- Sr MMIA.LO. N.W. Italy MILAN

(1) On 18 August 45 an inspection was made of Distribution Depot, Caserma Besozzi, Milan, as attached report.

(2) It will be seen from the attached report that this Depot is still "operating" in a most unsatisfactory manner.

(3) The attitude of the officers can hardly be disclosed as cooperative. For instance two different statements were made as to who was officer i/c Distribution Depot:

(4) It is considered that:

- a) The Depot Officers are inefficient, lacking elementary organising ability, initiative and power of discipline.
- b) Insufficient supervision is being carried out by Direzione di Commissariato.

(5) It is recommended that an immediate change of officers be effected.

Prosser
Major.
ST MMIA.LO.
N.W. Italy, GENOA.

BBK/lr

1006

"APPENDIX 1"MILIA 542 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTSON INSPECTION OF DEPOTS

Name of Depot inspected	Date	Type of Depot i.e. Bulk, D.D. P.O.L. OR Forage	Rank and Name of Inspecting officer
Distribution Depot MILAN	18.8.45	Distribution	Major B.B.Kyle

(a) Maintenance of Sector position.

15 days maintenance for 21st Aug - 5th Sept Now arriving
No Reserves held.

(b) Physical Warehousing Position.

Insufficient space available for storage of reserves
other than for this Depot.

(c) Accounting Position.

Owing to confusion reigning supreme at the time of inspection,
no check was made of the accounting.

Signature of Inspecting
Officer

Rank

DATE: 18th August, 1945

1005

C. Physical Warehousing Position (Food)

1. Are supplies properly and neatly stacked? Unsystematic and untidy.
Generally unsatisfactory.
2. Are stocks internally ventilated and on suitable dunnage? One stack only was pillar stacked; available dunnage was not used to best advantage.
3. Are stacks tally boards in existence and in use? In existence, but not on stacks. There does not appear to be one for each stack.
4. Are cartons packed & packed goods under cover? Yes.
5. Are goods marked with Warranty Expiry dates? Yes.
6. Is turnover assured by issuing from oldest stocks first? Only bare maintenance stocks available for issue.
7. Are mutually contaminating goods kept well apart? Wine and flour stored in same shed.
8. Are outdoor stacks on fire ground which will stand up to truck traffic in wet weather? None **100%**
9. Is there a recovery & Salvage Section to sort & recase broken stocks? No; although previously mentioned no attempt has been made to establish one.
10. How much stock is there awaiting disposal as suspected unfit for human consumption? Is it secured that it cannot reach civilian black market? Small quantity of Pres. Meat from stocks now arriving.

Yes.
11. Is depot clean and tidy? No.

4. Are eastern produced & smoked goods under cover? Yes.
5. Are goods marked with Warranty Expiry dates? Yes.
6. Is turnover assured by issuing from oldest stocks first? Only bare maintenance stocks available for issue.
7. Are mutually contaminating goods kept well apart? Wine and flour stored in same shed.
8. Are outdoor stacks on firm ground which will stand up to truck traffic in wet weather? None
9. Is there a recovery & Salvage Section to sort & recase broken stocks? No; although previously mentioned no attempt has been made to establish one.
10. How much stock is there awaiting disposal as suspected unfit for human consumption? Small quantity of Pres. Meat from stocks now arriving.
- Is it so secured that it cannot reach civilian black market? Yes.
11. Is depot clean and tidy? No.
12. What anti vermin measure are used? Cats and poison against rats, with which Depot is infested.
13. Is Depot adequately protected against theft by barbed wire, night lighting, etc.? In course of being improved.
14. What guard arrangements exist, & do you consider them adequate? I.N.C.O. and 12 ORs permanent guards. Considered adequate.

1004

13. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

14. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

15. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

16. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

17. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

18. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

19. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

20. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

15. Are fire precautions adequate & is depot on the telephone?

No, Extinguisher tested was empty.

17. "Spot check?"

Owing to confusion, said to be due to arrival of supplies ex Genoa, no check was possible.

Commodities Checked	Surpluses found	Deficiencies found
	---	---

Remarks :-

18. What is the handling capacity of depot in 2 1/2 ton trucks per hour for:

(a) 6 - 8

1003

a. Receipts
b. Despatches

(b) 70-80 units per day.

19. Any labour problems?

No

20. Are rail cars loaded from depot properly documented & sealed?

None

17. "Spot check?"

Owing to confusion, said to be
due to arrival of supplies ex Genoa,
no check was possible.

Commodities Checked	Surpluses found	Deficiencies found
------------------------	--------------------	-----------------------

Remarks :-

18. What is the
handling capacity
of depot in 2 1/2
ton truck per
hour for:

a. Receipts
b. Despatches

(a) 6 - 8

(b)

70-80 units per day.

19. Any labour
problems?

No

20. Are rail cars
loaded from depot
properly documented
& sealed?

None

21. Any difficulties
regarding provision
of trucks or rail cars
guards?

None

22. General

This Depot was in a most unsatisfactory
state of confusion, as far as could be seen
none of the recommendations made on my pre-
vious visits have been acted upon e.g.,

p.t.o.

1003

Subject:- Depot Inspections

CONFIDENTIAL

M. M. I. A. L.O.
GENOA

STG/II

2 August 1945

To: M. M. I. A. HQ. ROME.

Copy to :- M. M. I. A. L.O. N.W. Italy

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A quantity of hitherto undisclosed supplies was found; some acquired by local purchase. These are in complete confusion and no preparation has been made or was being made for the receipt and issue of supplies, which were then arriving ex train.

The aerea and buildings were on the whole very dirty and untidy; and as far as could be seen organization and/or accountability was non existent.

Maggiore CARTALISANO mentioned when questioned that supplies were also being placed in another depot, rail served, which he inferred was larger. Accordingly, at my request, a visit was paid to this depot. The Magazzini Generali Docks, Via Delfico, Milan. This was found to be a general foodstuffs warehouse, one half of which has been requisitioned by the U.S. Army and is operating as a food Depot.

It was found that the Italian Army supplies, ex 42 B.S.D., were being unloaded into the civil portion of the warehouse and stacked amongst the civilian foodstuffs.

Instructions were issued that the Italian Army foodstuffs should be moved immediately to the Caserma BESOZZI, and reconnaissance made for another Depot.

It is my opinion that:-

- a) The Distribution Depot Commander and the responsible portion of the Commissariato staff are completely inefficient and useless,
- b) That the only explanation for the unloading of Army supplies to the civil warehouse is that illicit and unauthorized disposal of these supplies was being effected or attempted.

1002

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- 1002
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Please take any action you deem necessary.

W. H. W.
Major
SE MILA LO
N. W. ITALY-GENOA