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Medical - (Ital)

779

NOV. 19-28, 1946

Subject: Inspection Report

Headquarters
4 D L U
Dolzano
Ref: G 25
25 Nov 45

To : Hq 4 Terr. Comd.

Herewith for your information the report on Medical Units in 4 Terr Comd as submitted by DADIS HQ MILA as a result of his recent visit.

It is noted that at the inspection of the Medical CC, at Verona, the Director expressed a wish to retain permanently the services of the present infirmary in Comd of the CC. Perhaps it would be possible also to interest the Ministry of War in the need for the restoration of the theatre and cinema.

Lt. Col. G. 25
Lt. Col. G. 25

25 Oct 45

En route to BULZANO I visited auxiliary hospital TRENTO. Accommodation 150 (expand to 250 - with bedding to 400).

A very pleasant well run hospital put into excellent shape after occupation by Germans. The Director (Lt. Col. MONTECCHI) is a hard working officer and with two other officers leads with about 70 Medical Boards per week.

X Ray plant in need of repair. Equipment is also required for Dental surgery.

As this hospital was not included in my programme, the excellent state found in all departments reflects credit on all concerned.

Visited 4 BMU. No medical points raised. Visited BMU (Lt. Col. BIANCONI x.) was introduced by him to G.O.C. Terr Comd (Gen. NEGRO).

26 Oct 45

En route to Bulungu I visited auxiliary hospital 1777C. Accommodation 150 (expanded to 350 - with bedding to 400). A very pleasant well run hospital put into excellent shape after occupation by Germans. The Director (Lt. Col. J. G. CORRI) is a hard working officer and with two other officers deals with about 70 medical boards per week.

X-ray plant in need of repair. Equipment is also required for Dental surgery.

As this hospital was not included in my programme, the excellent state found in all departments reflects credit on all concerned.

Visited 4 H.M. No medical points raised. Visited H.M.S. (Lt. Col. H. H. H. H. H.) and introduced by him to G.O.C. Terr. Comd (Gen. NEGRONI).

Visited secondary hospital 1777D. Director (Lt. Col. PATTI). Accommodation 150 (expanded to 300).

The hospital was suffered much war damage but works of reconstruction costing lire 3,000,000 are under way.

A well run hospital doing good service under present difficulties.

27 Oct 45

1777

Visited CHEMICAL INSTITUTE, BULUNGU.

The Institute, moved to BULUNGU by the Germans, has nearly completed its move back to BULUNGU. About 60 Railway wagon loads remain to be despatched and this should now be completed. Slight delays were caused by claims of AMAR on some of the stores and the retention of soap making materials by the local factory. These matters are receiving attention and will soon be settled. The move should be completed by early Nov.

The G.O. (Lt. Col. CORRI) has done excellent and hard work in sorting out, completing field equipment and taking inventories of a great mass of returned stores of all descriptions. A very capable officer.

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27 Oct 45

In the afternoon I visited at the request of the G.O.C. Terr. Comd. a Red Cross Hospital at GENANO which is receiving 25-30 P.O.W. cases.

This hospital is situated in a high part of the town in pleasant surroundings and is in a requisitioned hotel. Three accommodations is good and ample in large airy rooms. Three of the volunteer female nursing staff who have contracted D.B. were under treatment in the hospital and appeared to be progressing satisfactorily.

Treatment appeared to be very satisfactory and cases requiring operative treatment were under the care of a visiting specialist.

The physician in charge is energetic and has the hospital well organized.

I gained the impression that although this institution was, under the circumstances quite satisfactory, it would be more beneficial if patients were treated in a properly appointed sanatorium, which I understand will soon be the case.

28 Oct 45

Visited No. 25 Field Hospital of the PRISONI Division at VALCELINE en route to VERONA.

This unit is closed - quarters and equipment satisfactory. As an experiment this unit is running as a small convalescent unit for men of the Terr Comd.

This scheme was initiated by the D.T.M.S. Terr. Comd. and is to be continued, providing as it does for short periods of convalescence required by men who cannot afford to take leave or whose homes are outside Italy.

29 Oct 45. VERONA

Visited principal hospital No: 4 Terr. Comd. accompanied by

D.T.M.S.

Accommodation 100 (expended to 1000).
Occupied 30

The military hospital buildings have been severely bombed

28 Oct 46

Visited No: 82 Field Hospital of the PRUZI Division at
MARCELINE en route to VIKONA.

This unit is closed - quarters and equipment satisfactory.
As an experiment this unit is running as a small convalescent
unit for men of the Terr Cond.

This scheme was initiated by the D.D.I.C. Terr. Cond. and
is to be continued, providing as it now for short periods of con-
valescence required by men who cannot afford to take leave or whose
homes are outside Italy.

29 Oct 46. V E R O N A

Visited principal hospital No: 4 Terr. Cond. accompanied by
D.D.I.C.

Accommodation 600 (expand to 1000).
Occupied 310

The Military Hospital buildings have been severely bombed
and only the administration block, officers' mess and Medical Coy
CQs are habitable. General wards and specialist departments are
situated in the old nearby civil hospital.

Under difficult conditions this Principal Hospital is well
organised under an efficient Director (Lt-Col. BENTON) and Adminis-
tration Officer (Major NICCI). I understand a large ~~table~~ ^{table} for
reconstruction and repairs has received sanction.

The Medical Coy turned out well and the discipline and
technical training is excellent. The Director expressed a wish to
retain permanently the services of the present Infantry Officer in
command of the Coy.

Everything possible is done at this hospital for patients
and Medical Company's welfare but I recommend welfare department
of the Ministry to give assistance in restoring destroyed theatre
and cinema.

A month's supply of fuel is on hand and demands for future
supplies have been submitted.

A good hospital and medical Co. working well under difficult
conditions.

22 NOV 1946

62-14-BLU

Telephone:
Rome 489081 Ext 515

LAND FORCES SUB-COMM, AG (MMIA) CMF

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19.
Nov 461, 2, 3, 4 & 7 BLUs.Subject:- Inspection Reports.

The attached reports by DADMS on his visits to medical installations in No: 1, 2, 3, 4 & 7 Terr. Com. mands are forwarded for information and necessary action in so far as the report concerns your area.

WDP/WE

W. P. D. L. G.
Col.
A/Q, MMIA.

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18 Oct 46. L U C C A.

Visited No: 7 Terr. Command. Secondary Hospital and Medical Coy.
Hospital Director (Lt-Col. BRAGO).
Accommodation. Equipped beds 200 (can expand to 400).
Occupied 175.

The Hospital building is the premises of an old civilian hospital - the structure is very old, though roomy and airy. Staff accommodation is poor - particularly regarding cooking and feeding.

The permanent location of this hospital is at LEONARDI where their building is at present requisitioned by U.S. Forces.

The Medical Coy turned out very well and training by the Technical Staff on the hospital is satisfactory.

I was impressed by the capabilities of the Chief Instructor (Lt-Col. ZICHIELLI) and his Staff.

The men are of good physique and though mostly farmers are responding well to training - about 10% are illiterate and are being given elementary education.

Health is good about 1% reporting sick.

Generally a satisfactory Medical Coy and hospital - which will improve when returned to its permanent station.

Accommodation for Staff and families may prove difficult in LEONARDI.

19 Oct 46. C F N O A.

No: 2 ELD had no medical points to discuss.

I visited the Principal Hospital which is divided between GENOA 100 beds and VARAZZE 200 beds.

The accommodation in GENOA is very cramped and the Hospital Staff work under difficulties - the operating theatre and X Ray Room are very small. There is practically no accommodation for observation cases, consequently the Medical Board is in almost continuous session to allow cases to return home or to their unit the same day.

The Hospital Director (Lt-Col. BRAGO) and officers are working well.

20 Oct 46.

I visited the overflow hospital at VARAZZE - this is a well run hospital - in a building used before the war for a children's holiday hostel and allowed excellent ward space and ample room for dining accommodation for patients and Medical Coy.

19 Oct 46. C E H O A.

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The Hospital Director (Lt-Col. FERRA) and officers are working well.

20 Oct 46.

I visited the overflow hospital at VARAZZE - this is a well run hospital - in a building used before the war for a children's holiday hostel and allowed excellent ward space and ample room for dining accommodation for patients and Medical Coy.

Amputees are admitted to this hospital not requiring any form of hospital treatment and an settlement of their claims to pension or gratuities are long delayed - it is recommended that cases of this nature be sent to limb fitting centres or convalescent homes.

There is an overflow of the Medical Coy at this hospital and they are being trained there.

The C.O. (Capt. SWINER) has this hospital and ⁷⁷⁷777₁ organized in a very efficient manner.

There is an urgent necessity for a light truck for domestic purposes at VARAZZE where there is at present two large ambulances - an economical arrangement should be to exchange one of these vehicles for a light truck.

I inspected the Medical Coy both at GENOA and VARAZZE the turn out was good and training is proceeding on the lines laid down by the Medical Directorate of War Ministry.

The Medical Coy in GENOA has very poor accommodation in old barracks with very poor feeding and dining arrangements.

It is recommended that the hospital and Medical Coy be centralized in accommodation at Quarto Hospital by an agreement with the Civilian authorities similar to that which existed in 1940 - 43.

Staff deficiencies are dealt with in special reports.

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21 Oct 46. T U R I H.

No: 1 BLU had no medical points to discuss.

I visited the D.D.M.S. (Col. CIGCO accompanied by G.S.O. 1 (Lt-Col. ROBERTSON)) and these officers also accompanied me on my visit to the hospital and medical Coy.

The principal hospital is now situated in its prewar building. Accommodation: 400 beds (can expand to 1000).

Occupied : 323.

This building is a modern structure and is in every way a first class hospital - little damaged by bombing.

All specialist departments are well housed and have every facility.

A very excellent theatre has been made by the Staff in the hospital and frequent shows are organised.

There is a large building flanking the main entrance of the hospital with access from the road which could be converted into a cinema which would provide entertainment for the Italian Garrison as well as hospital patients and I recommend that the proposal be given urgent consideration. I think the conversion of this building could be carried out at no great expense. Other welfare requirements are Musical instruments to augment the orchestra i.e., Accordians.

Football and football boots are also required. The C.O. (Lt-Col. TAPPI) and the secretary of this hospital take great interest in welfare generally and I recommend that every assistance be given them by the welfare Branch of the War Ministry.

A problem at this hospital is fuel - where the central heating plant requires 8 tons of fuel per day - by "closing up" in the wards a minimum of 5 tons per day will be required during the winter.

Staff deficiencies are dealt with in separate reports - urgent requirements are:- 1 Surgeon, 1 Dermatologist, 1 Ophthalmologist, 1 Neurologist.

A great help would be the provision of a light vehicle for the use of the C.O. and domestic use generally.

The Medical Coy turned out well the recruits are of a good class and are responding well to training.

The Coy occupies its old barrack block in the hospital compound and though one corner has been damaged by bombs repairs are in hand. Kitchen, dining and welfare facilities satisfactory.

22 Oct 46.

In route to MILAN I visited CASALE C.A.B., No: 84 Field Hospital of the GRENADA Division and the secondary hospital of 1 Terr. Coad. at NOVARA.

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A problem at this hospital is fuel - where the central heating plant requires 8 tons of fuel per day - by "closing up" in the wards a minimum of 5 tons per day will be required during the winter.

Staff deficiencies are dealt with in separate reports - urgent requirements are:- 1 Surgeon, 1 Dermatologist, 1 Ophthalmologist, 1 Neurologist.

A great help would be the provision of a light vehicle for the use of the C.O. and domestic use generally.

The Medical Coy turned out well the recruits are of a good class and are responding well to training.

The Coy occupies its old barracks block in the hospital compound and though one corner has been damaged by bombs repairs are in hand. Kitchen, dining and welfare facilities satisfactory.

22 Oct 46.

En route to MILAN I visited CASALE C.A.R., No: 34 Field Hospital of the GRIMONA Division and the secondary hospital of 1 Terr. Comd. at NWARA.

The hygiene, feeding and dining accommodation at CASALE was very satisfactory - except that dining hall tables should be kept scrubbed. The small reception hospital at this CAR was unsatisfactory and action will be taken by D.D.M. No: 1 Terr. Comd.

34 Field Hospital located at VERCELLI is closed, 7 operators and equipment satisfactory.

The secondary hospital at NWARA is situated in an uncompleted Military Hospital building.

Accommodation 200 beds (can expand to 400), III occupied.

This is a well run hospital and the C.O. (Lt-Col. SALVATI) is very energetic. There is an urgent need for an Administrative Officer, and two Medical Officers.

R.E. works urgently required are Protective fencing surrounding the hospital and storerooms, the mortuary also requires complete redecoration.

There is a fuel reserve for two months and a further two months stock should be authorized.

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23 Oct 46. W I L A H.

No: 3 BLU had no medical points to discuss. I visited the D.D.M.S. (Col. CASTLE H. E.) who stated a Hygiene Officer was urgently required for the Comd. also Marescialli and Sergeants were considerably under Establishment in the Comd. actually 22 deficient. Other Staff deficiencies dealt with in separate report.

The D.D.M.S. accompanied me on a visit to the Principal Hospital and Medical Coy.

This hospital is situated in a splendid modern building the general lay-out, specialist departments, kitchen, pharmacy and stores are all quite up to date and well equipped.

Shortage of Marescialli and Sergeants is seriously handicapping the running of the hospital and Coy.

The Medical Coy turned out well and discipline and training are proceeding on sound lines.

Staff accommodation is a difficulty and furniture is urgently required for proposed Officers Quarters in the main building.

The buildings have only been received back from the British two weeks ago and already everything is working smoothly - the last block was taken over from 36 British S.A.S. during my visit.

A large estimate for R.E. works is awaiting approval which will re-instate the Central Heating system stop and provide for alterations and extension to Coy Dm.

Hospital accommodation 600 - 800 (can expand to 1000), 537 occupied.

A well appointed theatre and cinema and canteen cater for the welfare of Staff and patients.

This is a first class well run hospital.

24 Oct 46.

Visited 339 Field Hospital of 6000th Division at ARONA.
The unit is closed but ready to accept patients if required.
Quarters and equipment satisfactory.

25 Oct 46.

Visited No: 3 Terr. Copt. Secondary Hospital at BRUSCIA en route to BULZANO.

Accommodation 200 (has beds only for expansion to 400)

alterations and extension to Coy Qrs.

Hospital accommodation 600 - 800 (can expand to 1000), 537 occupied.

A well appointed theatre and cinema and canteens cater for the welfare of Staff and patients.

This is a first class well run hospital.

24 Oct 46.

Visited 333 Field Hospital of GUERMA Division at ANOMA.
The unit is closed but ready to accept patients if requires.
Quarters and equipment satisfactory.

25 Oct 46.

Visited Nos 3 Terr. Comd. Secondary Hospital at BUKOLA en route to BOLZANO.

Accommodation 200 (has been only for expansion to 400)

Occupied 83.

The hospital buildings have been used for refugees and requires redecorating and repairs. Part of the buildings are still used by refugees and though this is probably unavailable it is unsatisfactory as access to Stores in the part occupied by the Military is causing anxiety with regard to safeguarding supplies and stores, moreover the sanitary condition of the refugees quarters leaves much to be desired.

Estimated requirements of fuel for winter period is 70 tons, 30 tons only have been approved for delivery in January. 1772

Two M.O.s are required to replace two awaiting release.

A well run hospital under existing conditions.

The director (Lt-Col. KIPARI) is hard working and energetic.

26 Oct 46.

Visited auxiliary hospital THIMO.

Accommodation 150 (expand to 250 - with bedding to 400).

A very pleasant well run hospital put into excellent shape after occupation by Germans. The Director (Lt-Col. WENTRE) is a hard working officer and with two other officers deals with about 70 Medical Boards per week.

X-Ray plant in need of repair. Equipment is also required for Dental Surgery.

As this hospital was not included in my programme, the excellent state found in all departments reflects credit on all concerned.

Visited 4 BLU. No medical prints released. Visited D.D.M.S. (Lt-Col. BIANCHINI A.) and introduced by him to G.O.C. Terr. Comd. (Gen. MERRONE).

Visited secondary hospital MOLANO Director (Lt-Col. PATTI). Accommodation 150 (expended to 200).

The hospital has suffered much war damage but works of reconstruction costing Lire 3,000,000 are under way.

A well run hospital doing good service under present difficulties.

27 Oct 45.

Visited CHEMICAL INSTITUTE, MERANO.

The Institute, moved to MERANO by the Germans, has nearly completed its move back to FILIERICE - about 80 Railway wagon loads remain to be despatched and this should now be completed. Slight delays were caused by claims of ARAR on some of the stores and the retention of soap making materials by the local factory. These matters are receiving attention and will soon be settled. The move should be completed by early Nov.

The C.O. (Lt-Col. SCOTT) has done excellent and hard work in sorting out, completing field equipment and taking inventories of a great mass of returned stores of all descriptions. A very capable officer.

27 Oct 45. MERANO.

In the afternoon I visited at the request of the G.O.C. Terr. Comd. a Red Cross Hospital at MERANO which is receiving Ex-POW T.B. cases.

This hospital is situated in a high part of the town in pleasant surroundings and is in a requisitioned hotel.

Accommodation is good and ample in large airy rooms. Three of the voluntary female Nursing Staff who have contracted T.B. were under treatment in the hospital and appeared to be progressing satisfactorily.

Treatment appeared to be very satisfactory and cases requiring intensive treatment were under the care of a visiting specialist.

remain to be despatched and this should now be completed. Slight delays were caused by claims of JPRK on some of the stores and the retention of soap making materials by the local factory. These matters are receiving attention and will soon be settled. The move should be completed by early Nov.

The C.O. (Lt-Col. SCOTT) has done excellent and hard work in sorting out, completing field equipment and taking inventories of a great mass of returned stores of all descriptions. A very capable officer.

27 Oct 46. B E R A N O.

In the afternoon I visited at the request of the C.O.C. Terr. Comd. a Red Cross Hospital at ARNANO which is receiving Ex-POW T.B. cases.

This hospital is situated in a high part of the town in pleasant surroundings and is in a requisitioned hotel.

Accommodation is good and ample in large airy rooms. Three of the voluntary female Nursing Staff who have contracted T.B. were under treatment in the hospital and appeared to be progressing satisfactorily.

Treatment appeared to be very satisfactory and cases requiring operative treatment were under the care of a visiting specialist.

The Physician in charge is energetic and has the hospital well organised.

I gained the impression that although this institution was, under the circumstances quite satisfactory, it would be more beneficial if patients were treated in a properly appointed sanatorium, which I understand will soon be the case.

28 Oct 46.

Visited No: 22 Field Hospital of the PULI Division at MALCESINE en route to VERONA.

This unit is closed - quarters and equipment satisfactory.

As an experiment this unit is running as a small convalescent unit for men of the Terr. Comd.

This scheme was initiated by the D.D.M.S. Terr. Comd. and is to be examined, providing as it does for short periods of convalescence required by men who cannot afford to take leave or whose homes are outside Italy.

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29 Oct 46. VERNON A.

Visited principal hospital Nov 4. Terr. Cond. accompanied by

D.D.M.E.

Accommodation 600 (expand to 1000)

Occupied 310

The Military Hospital buildings have been severely bombed and only the administration block, officers' wards and Medical Coy Org are habitable. General wards and specialist departments are situated in the old nearby civil hospital.

Under difficult conditions this Principal Hospital is well organized under an efficient Director (Lt-Col. HERTON) and Administration Officer (Major RICCI). I understand a large estimate for reconstruction and repairs has received sanction.

The Medical Coy turned out well and the discipline and technical training is excellent. The Director expressed a wish to retain permanently the services of the present infantry officer in command of the Coy.

Everything possible is done at this hospital for patients and Medical Company's welfare but a recreation and welfare department of the Ministry to give assistance in restoring destroyed theatre and cinema.

A month's supply of fuel is on hand and demands for future supplies have been submitted.

A good hospital and medical Coy working well under difficult conditions.

30 Oct 46. FLORENCE

Visited CHEMICAL INSTITUTE where about 70 tons of stores and equipment from overseas had been received during Oct. I understand that no more of this type of medical stores are required by the Institute, but I have no knowledge of the authority directing these stores to FLORENCE. Enquiries will be made.

I was informed that HILLIER had agreed to hand back to the Institute 5 blocks of buildings that had been used by them - one has already been taken over. The decision to hand back these buildings will greatly help the production side of the Institute.

General Remarks.

I have reduced itemised reports on the units as much as possible, but I wish to say that in all hospitals the hygiene, feeding, comfort

supplies have been submitted.

A good hospital and medical Coy working well under difficult conditions.

30 Oct 46. F L O R E N C E.

Visited CHEMICAL INSTITUTE where about 70 tons of stores and equipment from overseas had been received during Oct. I understand that no more of this type of medical stores are required by the Institute, but I have no knowledge of the authority directing these stores to FLORENCE. Enquiries will be made.

I was informed that ENIGMA had agreed to hand back to the Institute 5 blocks of buildings that had been used by them - one has already been taken over. The decision to hand back these buildings will greatly help the production side of the Institute.

General Remarks.

I have received itemised reports on the units as much as possible, but I wish to say that in all hospitals the hygiene, feeding, comfort and treatment of patients was of a very high order. Everywhere very devoted service is rendered by Nuns who control almost all the domestic life of the hospitals.

I found everywhere a desire to maintain and improve welfare facilities of patients and medical Coys. At some of the smaller hospitals it is almost impossible to do much in this direction. For various reasons occupational therapy is not possible. It is recommended however that the welfare Department of the Ministry continue to give advice and assistance as much as possible to all classes of hospitals in the Commands.

Hospital diets, and their preparation and cooking, is in all hospitals excellent.

In no instance was shortage of medical supplies reported, in fact, good reserves are held.

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Major,
D.A.D., S., F.M.S.A.

MB/fg.

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