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31

Pack

Sept. 1944 -

10000 | 120 | 4114

31

Pack Mules

(608
614)

Sept. 1944 - Oct. 1945

xxx 650

Forage Releases.

RCV/ebf

Sr C.G. 2 Oct
MMIA LOTerr HQ 1945
Florence # 7

For your information and necessary action.

R.C. VAN KIRK,
Major, Inf.,
Sr MMIA LO
Florence

614

415

File 15/1

INTEROFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

Subject: Equipment for Italian Pack Mule Outfits

RCV/jad

IND. NO.	FROM	TO	DATE	
	Sr MMIA LO	MMIA	11 May 1945	<p>Reference attached buck slip to Italian L.O.</p> <p>Would appreciate any information you have or may get from AFHQ on the possible future employment of the pack mule outfits. The needs of these units for equipment will be largely determined by the nature of their employment. In the meantime, it is my opinion that only maintenance items should be considered.</p> <p><i>R.C. Van Kirk</i> R.C. VAN KIRK Major, Infantry Sr. (MMIA) L.O., 5th Army</p>
		cc: Ital L.O.		
	MMIA	Sr MMIA LO	14 May 1945	<p>Our only information is that the personnel of the pack-mule outfit may be utilized on other duties. Colonel O'Neill may be able to give you some idea as to when the animals and equipment will be returned to the Italian Army. In the meantime, we are not sending forward any more equipment for these mule-pack companies, and I think that the final decision on the entire matter will come from Colonel O'Neill.</p> <p><i>C.P. Kerr</i> C. P. KERR Colonel, Infantry</p>

CPK/lak

INTEROFFICE REFERENCE SHEET
HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

Subject:

~~Equipment for Italian Pack Mule Outfit~~

RCV/jad

IND. NO.	FROM	TO	DATE
	Sr MMIA LO	Ital LO	11 May 1945

1. Reference attached communications for G-4 Supply and Army QM.

2. Suggest that you have Col. Berni canvas the situation with reference to clothing and equipment necessary for the maintenance only of the pack mule outfits and submit requisitions accordingly. Further suggest that you have the Colonel go over the attached list of pack mule material now in Naples and determine whether any of it should be moved forward. I appreciate that it is difficult to determine the needs of these units until we know how they will be employed. See copy of my buckslip to Col. Kerr.

RCV
R.C. VAN KIRK
Major, Infantry
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,
5th Army

cc: MMIA ✓

Muleteers from Sicily

RCV/jad

Sr LFSCAG 12 Feb
MMIA LO (MMIA) 1945

Reference my Buck Slip of 7 February 1945. Here is another copy of the same complaint and translation I sent you. It is my opinion that Gen. Cortese is right and that these Sicilians will not make good muleteers. This situation is not likely to occur again in the future but it is well to remember if it should.

R.C.VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,
5th Army

Pack Mule Equipment.

RCV/jad

XXX		
XXXX		
Sr	HQ	9
MMIA LO	LPSC	Nov
	A.C.	1944
	(MMIA)	

Based upon the enclosed T/O and T/E, will you please indicate what equipment is available from Italian sources for the organization of the two new pack mule outfits here in 5th Army, and what is not. The proposed strength for each one of these companies as you will note, is 9 officers and 379 EM.

R.C.VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMIA) I.O.,
5th Army.

G-4

Muleteer Reinforcements 21 Italian Pack Tpt Gp.

RCV/jad

Sr	HQ	28
MMIA	MMIA	Sept
LO		1944

Forwarded recommending approval. If this has to be cleared with AAI, request you do so, or I can have 5th Army start a request through to AAI.

OPNS. FILE

R.C. VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMIA) L.C.,
5th Army.

Copy: To British Incr. A Branch
Ref 90A of 27 September 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A. P. O. #464, U.S. ARMY

RCV/jad
10 September 1944

24.1
file

Subject: Muleteer Replacements.

To : Headquarters Army Sub Commission (MMIA)
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. Same subject your SD/3 of 3rd September 1944 to the Ministry of War.

2. Being advised that the Italians had already returned 70 replacements to the 210th Division Staging Area, Rome, because of their physical condition and were about to return 70 more, making a total of 140 ineffectives out of 500 muleteer replacements received from Naples, I went to Ponteginori, the Pack Mule Training Center on the 10th of September and made an inspection.

3. Accompanied by an Italian Medical Officer, Lt. Brughera Riccorda, we made a physical examination of these men, their medical certificates having already been completed. The examination disclosed men with one leg shorter than the other, active T.B., aggravated hernias, acute malarial cases, enlarged thyroid glands, varicose veins and diseased eyes and ears. In fact, all ailments were such that a lay-man could determine, that they disqualified them for military service. I approved the return of these men and they are now on their way to Rome.

4. Recommend that the Italian War Ministry be instructed to have all future replacements actually physically examined by an Italian Medical Officer and his examination checked by an Allied Medical Officer before being equipped and sent into forward areas. Such an examination would prevent the further unnecessary waste of clothing, equipment, rations and transportation.

R.C. VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Senior, L.O.
5th Army.

Distribution:
Addressee: 2
G-4 : 1
Army GM : 1
Italian L.O: 1
MMIA File: 1

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