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July 3, 1945

10000/120/4122

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Disposal of Italian Army Animals

July 3, 1945 - Nov. 14, 1945

650  
674

FLORENCE COMMAND

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

## OUTGOING MESSAGE

Office of origin: MMIA LO FLORENCE

Date 14th NOVEMBER 1945

Classification: RESTRICTED

(Restricted - Confidential - Secret)

Telephone 1629

(Originating officer)

Precedence: ROUTINE

(Deferred - Routine - Priority - Operational Priority - Urgent)

To: MIKE MIKE ITEM ABLE ROME -- COPY MMIA LO BOLOGNA

RESTRICTED PD REFERENCE YOUR SIGNAL QUEEN SIX SIX FOUR OF 24 OCTOBER SUBJECT  
TRANSFER MULES AND EQUIPMENT PD ATTENDED TRANSFER NEAR BOLOGNA ON 13 NOVEMBER  
OF 1208 MULES AND EQUIPMENT FROM THE 266 CM 267 CM 268 AND 269 PACK MULE COMPANIES  
PD THIS COMPLETES TRANSFER TO ITALIAN ARMY PD

R.C. VAN KIRK

Major, Inf.

Sr. MMIA Lo

Florence

674

Distribution

Content and classification

authenticated by 50

Signal Corps Message Center Number

(Do Not Write in This Space)

033

FROM : M.M.I.A.  
TO : A.P.H.Q. for Q Maint  
INFO : DISTREE - 241 SUB AREA - MMIA LO. FLORENCE  
REF : Q 670

DATE TIME  
31 1400 A

UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT MATTERMANOE 24 ITALIAN PACK TET GROUP (.) REQUEST THIS REMAIN  
RESPONSIBILITY 241 SUB AREA UNTIL DISBANDED FOLLOWING NORMAL PROCEDURE (.)  
TRANSFER OF MILES PROCEEDING AS FACT AS TRANSPORT CAN BE ARRANGED (.)  
CONVERSATION COLVILLE-CURTIS REPIERS

PRECEDENCE  
*Immediate*

AUTHENTICATION  
*W. L. G. G. G.*

Copy:

~~DISTREE~~  
~~241 SUB AREA~~  
~~MMIA LO. FLORENCE~~

Internal G (SD) - ST.

673

SUBJECT: M. INFERNANCE 24 ITALIAN PACK TPT GROUP (.) REQUEST THIS REMAIN  
RESPONSIBILITY 244 SUB AREA UNTIL DISBANDED FOLLOWING NORMAL PROCEDURE (.)  
TRANSFER OF MILES PROCEEDING AS PASSE AS TRANSPORT CAN BE ARRANGED (.)  
CONVERSATION COLVILLE-CURTLES REPEES

*Immediate*  
*Priority*

PRECEDENCE

*Authentication*

AUTHENTICATION

Copy:

~~DISPATCH~~  
~~244 SUB AREA~~  
~~MILWAUKEE-FLORENCE~~

Internal C (SD) - ST.

673

FLORENCE COMMAND

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

## OUTGOING MESSAGE

Office of origin M.H.I.A. L.O. FLORENCE Date 27 OCTOBER 1945  
Classification RESTRICTED (Restricted - Confidential - Secret) Telephone 1629 (Originating officer)  
Precedence ROUTINE (Deferred - Routine - Priority - Operational Priority - Urgent)

To: MIKE MIKE ITEM ABLE ROME

RESTRICTED PD REFERENCE YOUR SIGNAL QUEEN SIX SIX FOUR OF TWO FOUR OCTOBER  
SUBJECT TRANSFER MULES TO ITALIAN ARMY PD ATTENDED SCHEDULED CONFERENCE AT  
AREZZO ON TWO SIX OCTOBER PD ONE THREE TWO SEVEN MULES AND EQUIPMENT WERE  
RECEIPTED FOR AND TRANSFERRED PD COLONEL BERRIDGE WHO IS HERE IN FLORENCE  
WILL NOTIFY ME WHEN TRANSFER OF THE REMAINDER OF THE MULES AND EQUIPMENT CAN  
BE EFFECTED PD

*R.C. Van Kirk*  
R.C. VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. MIA L.O.  
Florence

Distribution

Content and classification

authenticated by

672

Signal Corps Message Center Number

(Do Not Write In This Space)



xxx 650

Request for two horses for two Italian Officers.

JJW/ebf

MMIA LO MMIA 22 Oct.  
Florence 1945

1. Reference is made to your Q/18/2 of 18 October 1945, subject as above, forwarding 2610th QM Remount Depot letter of 25 September 1945, same subject.

2. The sale of Italian Army animals to private individuals is a policy matter on which the Ministry of War must pass. Territorial Headquarters has no authority to make such sales.

JOHN J. WARD,  
Capt., CAC,  
MMIA LO,  
Florence.

671

## Shipping Tickets

RCV/jad

Sr  
MMIA IOMMIA 23 Aug  
1945

For necessary action. These buckets had to be  
used when some of the mules were shipped out.

R.C.VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) IO,  
5th Army

670

mule file



## Shipment of MMIA Mules.

1. 2695 SRMO 16 Aug  
 TS MMIA 1945  
 Regt. Fifth Army

1. Forwarded herewith for your information is report of shipment of MMIA Mules from Miranadia to Naples, Rome and Florence on the 15 August 1945.

JOHN P. BOLAND  
 Major, Inf.,  
 Executive.

2. Sr C.O. 19  
 MMIA 2695 Aug.  
 LO TS 1945  
 Regt.

1. Reference Para. 3 basic communication

2. Suggest that if the 50 water buckets and feed bags obtained from the 212 Vet. Co. were American property that they should be put on a shipping ticket forwarded to me in order that the Italian Government may be charged with them.

R.C. VAN KIRK  
 Major, Inf.,  
 Sr (MMIA) LO  
 5th Army

669

0334

Release of Pack Mule Equipment

RCV/jad

Sr Deposito 14 Aug  
MMIA LO 6 Regt 1945  
Artigliera  
MODENA

Request you release to a representative of the  
20th Pack Mule Group or 2695 TGR the following:

- 200 - Canvas Feed Bags
- 200 - Canvas Water Buckets

to be used in connection with the movement of mules  
from San Martino to South Italy.

R.C. VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

cc: MMIA  
2695 TGR

668

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Q 5-102 GREDI

13 Aug 45

MMIA

MAJOR R. G. VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

MAX E. WARE  
Major, QMC  
Asst G-4

Buckets, canvas, water  
14 qt

ea 0 0 200

Basis:

Ship to MMIA for purpose of transporting mules from  
5th Army Area.

667

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## Release of Pack Feed Bags

RCV/jed

Sr Direz- 11 Aug  
MMIA LO ione 1945  
Artigli-  
era  
Piazza  
Arsenale  
VERONA

You are authorized to release up to 500  
feed bags to a representative of the 20th Pack  
Mule Bn, to be used in connection with the rail  
movement of 500 mules to GROSSETO and FARA  
SABINA.

cc: MMIA

R.C.VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

666

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## Captured Animals.

Sr CG 9 Aug  
MMIA LO Terr 1945  
HQ#7

Attached correspondence forwarded  
for your information and guidance.

CG  
Terr  
HQ #6

CG  
Terr  
HQ #4

cc: MMIA

R.C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

665

## INTEROFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

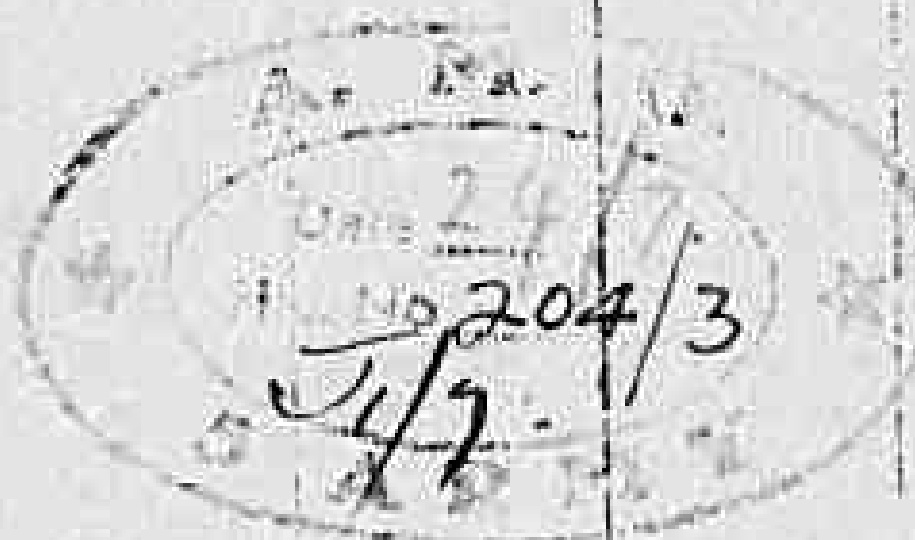
HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

Subject: Captured Animals.

RCV/ebf

IND NO.	FROM	TO	DATE
	ST NMIA LO	G-5 EX	23 Jul 1945

Forwarded recommending approval.



cc: NMIA

*R.C. Van Kirk*  
R.C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Inf.,  
St (NMIA) LO  
5th Army.



## Recovery of Animals

RCV/jad

Sr	Ital	6 Aug
MMIA LO	LO	1945

For necessary information and distribution.

R.C.VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

663

60

San Martino Mules

RCV/jad

Sr MMIA 27 Jul  
MMIA LO 1945

- Left 29 July*
1. Reference your signal Q 469 of 26 July 1945.
  2. Arrangements have been made to obtain the use of German 6 ton vans to ship on or about 30 July:
    - a. 80 mules from S. Martino in Spino to Turino.
    - b. 50 mules from S. Martino in Spino to Genoa.
    - c. 90 mules from S. Martino in Spino to Bologna.

Request the Italian L.O. and MMIA LOs alert the Territorial HQs concerned.

3. It is contemplated to use these same trucks to move the Agricultural Sub Commission mules to Fara Sabina and Grosseto if it can be completed prior to your proposed date for rail movement. Query: What about the remaining Italian War Ministry mules:

60 to Florence  
110 to Rome  
140 to Naples  
250 to Palermo

When do we move these by rail?

R.C.VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

662

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San Martino In Spino Mules

RCV/jad

Sr	C.O.	26 Jul
MAIA LO	2695	1945
	TS	
	Regt	

Request you move by truck 80 mules from San Martino in Spino to Milan, 60 to Bolzano, 80 to Udine, total 220. Further request you arrange rail movement of 333 mules to Fara Sabina and 143 to Grosseto.

R. C. VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MAIA) LO,  
5th Army

661

## Shipping Tickets for Mules

RCV/jad

Sr  
MMIA LO MMIA 25 Jul  
1945

For necessary action. The procedure on the mules was that 5th Army turned the mules over to PBS and the PBS Remount officer delivered them to MMIA or the Italian Army, hence the authorization which I executed giving Col. Oreste authority to sign for the mules to PBS. You will note that some halter chains are on the shipping tickets. It is my opinion that these should not be charged to the Italian War Ministry since we got them from the Italians last Winter when we were at Florence.

R.C.VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

660

30

Captured Animals.

RCV/ebf

Sr G-5 23 Jul  
MMIA LO - Ex 1945

Forwarded recommending approval.

cc: MMIA

R.C. VAN KIRK,  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr (MMIA) LO  
5th Army.

659

## Disposal of Italian Army Mules

RCV/jad

Sr CC 21 Jul  
MMIA LO Terr HQ 1945  
#6

1. Reference attached communication,
2. For your compliance. If the 500 mules which were to go to the Agricultural Sub-Commission have not been removed from the depot at San Martino in Spino and off American forage by midnight tonight this date, you are authorized to dispose of these mules immediately to civilians.

R.C. VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

*cc MMIA*

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Disposal of San Martino Mules

RCV/jad

1      Sr      2695      15 Jul  
       MMIA LO      TS      1945  
                  Regt

1. Reference MMIA signal 0440 of 14 July,  
 copy attached and my buck slip of 14 July.

2. Correction. 60 mules should go to Bolzano and  
 90 to Bologna.

R.C.VAN KIRK  
 Major, Inf.,  
 Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
 5th Army

cc: MMIA

657

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## INTEROFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

Subject: Recovery of Animals

RCV/jad

IND NO.	FROM	TO	DATE	
4	Sr MMIA LO	CG Terr HQ #4	9 July 1945	<p>Inviting your attention to the 2nd and 3rd Indorsements. As explained, 5th Army AMG should put out the directive concerning animals and equipment unless you are specifically designated to do so by AMG officers in certain areas. You should however, render all assistance possible in getting this census made of all animals that have been captured. This census has been ordered by AFHQ and is being carried out by the Army Remount Officer and AMG.</p> <p>R.C.VAN KIRK Major, Inf., Sr. (MMIA) LO, 5th Army</p> <p>cc: MMIA LO Milan</p>

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COPY

COPY

## INTEROFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

Subject: Recovery of animals

RCV/jad

IND NO.	FROM	TO	DATE	
1	Ital LO	Sr MMIA LO	2 Jul 1945	<p>1. Military Territorial HQ #4 has drafted the attached ban, warning civilians to turn in all captured animals to Italian Military Authorities.</p> <p>2. This ban has been brought to the attention of AMG Bolzano, they have informed that 5th Army HQ was responsible for granting the authority of publishing it.</p> <p>3. Will you please request 5th Army approval for the content and publication of said ban?</p> <p>Alessandro Cicogna, Capt, Artillery Italian LO G-4</p>
2	Sr MMIA LO	G-5	3 July 1945	<p>For your consideration. My reaction to the request is that if a directive of this kind were to be put out, it should be by AMG and not by the Italian Military Authorities. Query: Am I right or wrong?</p> <p>655</p> <p>R.C.VAN KIRK Major, Inf., Sr. (MMIA) LO, 5th Army</p>
3	Ag Of 5th A AMG	Van Kirk Sr MMIA LO 5th Army	July 6 1945	<p>Similar orders have gone out from Italian Commands all over Northwest Italy - have forward this to AFHQ and MMIA ALCOM for further explanation. If this policy is persisted in - it will seriously complicate present 5th Army Q Remount Service operations as well as AMG efforts through Prefects in all provinces to do this very thing - this is causing endless confusion besides being a duplication of effort. These orders should be withdrawn.</p> <p>Stanley Andrews, Lt Col Spec Res (5)</p>



## Disposal of San Martino Mules

RCV/jad

Sr  
MMIA LO C.O. 14 Jul  
2695 1945  
TS  
Regt

Request you coordinate the marching of 80 mules from San Martino In Spino to Milan, 60 to Bologna and 80 to Udine. Delivery should be made to the Italian Terr HQs in these cities.

You are authorized to draw sufficient equipment from Italian Depots to complete the movements.

R.C.VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

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## INTEROFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

## HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

Subject: Transfer of Mules

RCV/jad

IND NO.	FROM	TO	DATE
1	G-4 Raer	Sr MMIA LO	2 July 1945

Please advise G-4 Supply as soon as action is completed so that answer to cable may be dispatched.

FOR THE AC OF S, G-4:

MAX E. WARE  
Major, QMC  
Asst G-4

2	Sr MMIA LO	G-4 Supply	13 Jul 1945
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2512 mules according to latest AFHQ signal  
FX 19095 of 7 July 1945 have been delivered to the  
British and receipted for. Transaction is completed  
as far as I know.

R.C. VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

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Disposal of US-ITI Mule Coys

RCV/jad

Sr QM 5 Jul  
MMIA LO 1945  
attn:  
Col.  
Ten Eyck

Reference copy of attached signal.

Request that Capt. Williams be permitted to attend this conference with me. I will need his advice on the spot.

R.C.VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

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Mules

RCV/jad

Sr C.O. 3 Jul  
MMIA LO 2695 1945  
TSR  
Regt

1. Reference attached AFHQ signal FX16309 of 3 July.
2. For your information.

R.C. VAN KIRK  
Major, Inf.,  
Sr. (MMIA) LO,  
5th Army

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