

ACC

10000/120/4148

27/G

3

100000/120/4148

27/G

ITI - Training Instructions

July 15, 1946 - Jan. 15, 1947

1613
1619

81 BLU

27/9

Telephone:
Rome, 489081 Ext. 476

LAND FORCES SUB-COMM, AC (MMIA) CMF

PRG/29/3

15 Nov 46

LIST 'B'

SUBJECT: Italian Officer Training Policy

1. The attached letter G(Trg) G.H.Q. TRG/87 of 20 Nov 46 is forwarded for information.
2. The contents will apply to only a few BLU's e.g. those located in the vicinity of British Formation and Units.
3. Any information received under para 2 of the letter in reference should be forwarded to this HQ as it may be possible to arrange visits for representative of the Ministry of War.

RPC/sb

[Signature]
Lt Col,
GS, MMIA.

1619

SUBJECT:- Italian Officer Trg Policy

C O P Y

CONFIDENTIAL

G (Training)

GHQ CMF

TRG/87

20 Nov 46

Tele: 22255

To Addressees as under

Attendance of Italian Officers at British Training

1. It is the wish of the GOC - in C that officers of the Italian Army should attend Demonstrations and Exercise provided that they are not held in VENEZIA Giulia.

2. Units holding Demonstrations and Exercises likely to be of value to Italian officers should therefore inform the appropriate BLU, with a copy to G(Training) GHQ. The BLU concerned will arrange for Italian Officers to attend.

3. Such Officers will invariably attend on an organized party accompanied by an officer of the BLU.

4. BLUs with the Italian Army are situated as follows:-

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1 BLU Type A (To Italian Territorial HQ Turin Comd | 3 Dist TURIN |
| 2 BLU Type A (To Italian Territorial HQ GENOA Comd | 3 Dist GENOA |
| 3 BLU Type A (To Italian Territorial HQ MILAN Comd) | 3 Dist MILAN |
| 4 BLU Type A (To Italian Territorial HQ BOLZANO Comd) | 3 Dist BOLZANO |
| 5 BLU Type A (To Italian Territorial HQ) | UDINE |
| 6 BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | MONA |
| 7 BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 Dist |
| 8 BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 Dist |
| 9 BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 Dist |
| 10 BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 Dist |
| 11 BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 Dist |
| 12 BLU (For Italian Military School) | RAAC |
| 26 BLU (HQ 2 Pol Corps) | RAAC |
- UDINE
BLOCH
FLORENCE
ROME
BARI
3 Dist NAPLES
TOUR DEL GRECO
ROME
ANCONA

1618

To Addressees as under

Attendance of Italian Officers at British Training

1. It is the wish of the GOC - in C that officers of the Italian Army should attend Demonstrations and Exercises provided that they are not held in VENEZIA Giulia.

2. Units holding Demonstrations and Exercises likely to be of value to Italian officers should therefore inform the appropriate BLU, with a copy to G(Training) GHQ. The BLU concerned will arrange for Italian Officers to attend.

3. Such Officers will invariably attend on an organized party accompanied by an officer of the BLU.

4. BLUs with the Italian Army are situated as follows:-

- | | | | | |
|----|---|---|--------------|-----------------|
| 1 | BLU Type A (To Italian Territorial HQ Turin Comd) | 3 | Dist TURIN | UDINE |
| 2 | BLU Type A (To Italian Territorial HQ GENOVA Comd) | 3 | Dist GENOVA | BIELLA |
| 3 | BLU Type A (To Italian Territorial HQ MILAN Comd) | 3 | Dist MILAN | ROMA |
| 4 | BLU Type A (To Italian Territorial HQ BOLZANO Comd) | 3 | Dist BOLZANO | BARI |
| 5 | BLU Type A (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 | Dist NAPLES | FORTE DEL GRECO |
| 6 | BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 | Dist | ROME |
| 7 | BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 | Dist | ANCONA |
| 8 | BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 | Dist | |
| 9 | BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 | Dist | |
| 10 | BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 | Dist | |
| 11 | BLU (To Italian Territorial HQ) | 3 | Dist | |
| 12 | BLU (For Italian Military School) | 3 | Dist | |
| 26 | BLU (HQ 2 Pol Corps) | | | |

(Sgd) Lieut Gen,
GOC-in-C

Distribution

1 Armd Div
 1 AGRA
 2 AA Bde
 86 Area
 NAPLES Area
 217 Area
 218 Sub Area

ATHQ G 3 Sec personal for Maj WILLIAMS
 88 US Div
 RAAC
 MCIL

Internal Distribution

MA to GOC - in - C
 Chief of Staff
 Brig IC Adm
 Col G.S.
 Col "A"
 Col "Q"

MS

JAG

G(Ops)

G(Air)

G(Int)

G(SD)

GHQ Twd Liaison Sec (TRIESTE)

"A" (8 copies)

OCE (2 copies)

"A" (3 copies)

Arty

Engrs

GSO's Branch

Med

Ord

REMC (3 copies)

REMC Inspectorate

Pro

HQ P.DUA Grn.

8 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

(4)

SUBJECT: Training - 1947

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AC(MMLA)

(TEL EXT:389)

TRG/69

4 Oct 46

TO : List B

1. Attached is copy of a letter on Training sent to Ministry of War.
2. B.L.U. will note that Officer and NCO Training is being stressed.
3. In future Trg conferences with Italian Comds BLU should themselves stress this aspect of Trg.

WLM/nm

Major-General
M. M. I. A.

L. V. Lee
GS

1617

SUBJECT: Training 1947

LAND FORCES SUB-COMM, AC (MFLA)
(489081 Ext. 389) TRG/69

3 Oct 46

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

1. The problem of organising a training-programme for formations and units which receive a new intake of young soldiers from CAR every four months is, as you have already realised, a very difficult one.
2. The solution of the problem that you have arrived at, and set forth in your Directive 4446/3/4 Add of 1 May 46, involving as it does a four monthly training cycle, ensures that soldiers receive continuous and progressive training from the time they join their CAR until they are discharged at the end of their years service.
3. From the point of view of the individual training of the soldiers themselves this system is excellent, but from the wider point of view, that is to say from the point of view of the training of the Army as a whole, the system has certain disadvantages namely.
 - a) That the directive is based on training the individual of the rank and file, and that training of the unit as a homogenous whole can rarely be attempted.
 - b) That training is unlikely under the system laid down to rise higher than the Coy and equivalent level.
as a direct consequence of this:
 - c) The training of Officers and Staffs will be seriously neglected since these can practice in the field what they have learnt in theory only by taking part in exercises of Bns, Regts, and Divs.
 - d) No opportunity will be provided for practicing cooperation between the various Arms.
5. In my opinion it is necessary to think of training under 4616 categories:
 - a) Training of Officers and leaders, and practicing them in command and admin. in the field, and in the cooperation with other Arms.
 - b) Training of soldiers

1. The problem of organising a training-programme for formations and units which receive a new intake of young soldiers from CAR every four months is, as you have already realised, a very difficult one.
2. The solution of the problem that you have arrived at, and set forth in your Directive 4446/2/4 Add of 1 May 46, involving as it does a four monthly training cycle, ensures that soldiers receive continuous and progressive training from the time they join their CAR until they are discharged at the end of their years service.
3. From the point of view of the individual training of the soldiers themselves this system is excellent, but from the wider point of view, that is to say from the point of view of the training of the Army as a whole, the system has certain disadvantages namely.
 4.
 - a) That the directive is based on training the individual of the rank and file, and that training of the unit as a homogenous whole can rarely be attempted.
 - b) That training is unlikely under the system laid down to rise higher than the Coy and equivalent level.
As a direct consequence of this:
 - c) The training of Officers and Staffs will be seriously neglected since these can practice in the field what they have learnt in theory only by taking part in exercises of Bns, Regts, and Divs.
 - d) No opportunity will be provided for practicing cooperation between the various Arms.
5. In my opinion it is necessary to think of training under 4446 in the following categories:
 - a) Training of Officers and leaders, and practicing them in command and admin. in the field, and in the cooperation with other Arms.
 - b) Training of soldiers and exercising them in the field.
6. As regards para 5. sub para (a):
 - a) The problem is the training of the Officer and the NCO. On these leaders, senior or junior, rests the responsibility of command in battle, and it is on them that the notion must rely as leaders and instructors in the event of war or the expansion of the Army.

b) It would appear therefore that the first and most important task your Ministry has before it, is to ensure that material of the highest quality is recruited to fill the ranks of the officer and permanent NCO class.

Secondly it must ensure for both officers and NCOs adequate and realistic training and make provision for this in the curriculum of training for the year 1947 which you will presumably issue shortly.

c) During 1947 I suggest therefore that more attention be devoted to the training of the Regular Officer and NCO and that this should conclude with exercises not lower than Bn level, and, if the training of senior Commanders is envisaged with exercises not lower than Regimental level.

As regards para 5. sub para (b):

a) The recruit is now ensured a sound initial training at the CAR. It is obviously desirable that this training should be revised and continued when he joins his unit, and that he should be exercised in field training in order to harden him and accustom him to rigours of life in the field.

b) The recruit must however be made available at some period of his training to take part in exercises, the primary purpose of which is to exercise the Regular Officer and NCO. It is felt that field training of the rank and file, though of necessity subordinated to the exercising of the Regular Officer and NCO, can be made to achieve the object of hardening the recruit and accustoming him to living under active service conditions in the field and even though he may only recently have joined his unit, he will still benefit and learn irrespective of whether he is taking part in section, platoon, or Regimental Exercises.

8. Approximately 12/14ths of the Italian Army will, under present arrangements, be conscripted soldiers serving a short service engagement and I do not therefore overlook the importance of their training, nor am I unmindful that your present curriculum has been soundly devised to ensure that this training is both progressive and practical.

9. a) The difficulties that have to be overcome before field training of Bns, Regts, and Supporting Arms can be undertaken is fully realized. Some of these, although well known to you, are capitulated below:

b) (i) Specialist Training, as carried out at present, must continue and the flow of specialists cannot be interrupted.

(ii) Consideration must be given to the problem of ensuring that the selection and initial training of NCOs from Conscript Classes does not suffer.

(iii) Training Areas for Unit Exercises are difficult to obtain, and in many places are only suitable for use in the later months of the summer when the harvest has been cleared.

1615

7.

As regards para 5. sub para (b):

- a) The recruit is now ensured a sound initial training at the CAR. It is obviously desirable that this training should be revised and continued when he joins his unit, and that he should be exercised in field training in order to harden him and accustom him to rigours of life in the field.
- b) The recruit must however be made available at some period of his training to take part in exercises, the primary purpose of which is to exercise the Regular Officer and NCO. It is felt that field training of the rank and file, though of necessity subordinated to the exercising of the Regular Officer and NCO, can be made to achieve the object of hardening the recruit and accustoming him to living under active service conditions in the field and even though he may only recently have joined his unit, he will still benefit and learn irrespective of whether he is taking part in section, platoon, or Regimental Exercises.

8. Approximately 12/14ths of the Italian Army will, under present arrangements, be conscripted soldiers serving a short service engagement and I do not therefore overlook the importance of their training, nor am I unmindful that your present curriculum has been soundly devised to ensure that this training is both progressive and practical.

9.

- a) The difficulties that have to be overcome before field training of Bas, Regts, and Supporting Arms can be undertaken is fully realized. Some of these, although well known to you, are capitulated below:

1615

- b) (i) Specialist training, as carried out at present, must continue and the flow of specialists cannot be interrupted.
- (ii) Consideration must be given to the problem of ensuring that the selection and initial training of NCOs from Conscript Classes does not suffer.
- (iii) Training Areas for Unit Exercises are difficult to obtain, and in many places are only suitable for use in the later months of the summer when the harvest has been cleared.
- (iv) Weather conditions in the Country preclude the possibility of holding large scale exercises at all times of the year.
- (v) The present shortage of I.T. spare parts and economy measures imposed on the Army will make the movement of a considerable body of troops from their permanent stations a difficult matter.

3/.....

- 3 -

10. It would appear that the best period for collective training of units is at a time when personnel are at the most advanced stage of training. That is to say at a period immediately prior to the discharge of a class. Under the system of call ups every 4 months such a period will occur three times a year, but only one of these periods is likely to be suitable for collective training due to the condition of the country and the prevailing weather (see para 9. (b) above).

11. Should this suggestion be in agreement with your views it might be necessary to adjust the dates of call up and discharge periods to ensure that the discharge of a class takes place after the period selected for collective training. As an example, if the most suitable period for collective training was considered to be in July and August the discharge periods would need to be in September, January and May.

12. I would suggest that the training can be carried out progressively during the rest of the year by some or all of the following means:

- a) Tactical courses at schools.
- b) Periodical exercises without troops held by Bns and Regts and corresponding units.
- c) A senior Officer study exercise which might subsequently be carried out in the field by one of the Divisions. In this connection the British Army has carried out many study exercises in the winter months at all levels of command and this system is strongly recommended to you.

13. Finally I will be pleased to discuss with you any suggestions for implementing the broad ideas as outlined in para 6.

WIM/sb

G.H. Judd
Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Distribution: List 'B'
PA to GOC

1614

that the discharge of a class takes place after the period selected for collective training. As an example, if the most suitable period for collective training was considered to be in July and August the discharge periods would need to be in September, January and May.

12. I would suggest that the training can be carried out progressively during the rest of the year by some or all of the following means:

- a) Tactical courses at schools.
- b) Periodical exercises without troops held by Bns and Regts and corresponding units.
- c) A senior Officer study exercise which might subsequently be carried out in the field by one of the Divisions. In this connection the British Army has carried out many study exercises in the winter months at all levels of command and this system is strongly recommended to you.

13. Finally I will be pleased to discuss with you any suggestions for implementing the broad ideas as outlined in para 6.

WIM/sb

S. H. Penhryn

Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Distribution: List 'B'
PA to GOC

1614

Mi/ct



Comando Militare Territoriale di Roma
UFFICIO O. A. O. M.

N° 7289 di prot./O.A.O.M.

Roma, li 14 agosto 1946

OGGETTO: Ispezioni da parte ufficiali dello S.M. britannico.-

ALL'8° B.L.U

ROMA

I dati richiesti con foglio all'oggetto "ispezioni dell'addestramento" saranno trasmessi non prima della fine del corrente mese, per quanto si riferisce alla divisione S.I. "Calabria", dato che la divisione stessa oltre ad essere in corso di trasformazione sta assumendo una nuova dislocazione nel territorio della Sardegna.-

d'ordine
IL SOTTOCAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
(Ten.Col. Giuseppe Buonerba)

1613

1943